



Netball Dorset
Development Officer Report
March 2025

- **Festivals**

Walking Netball Festival on 2 February 2025 at Clifton, Bristol included 20 teams but there were no entries from Dorset.

The next Walking Netball Festival is scheduled for 13 July 2025 in Somerset (probably Taunton).

The next Walking Netball Super Session will be held on 18 May 2025 and following feedback the session has been extended to 4 hours to build in more times for breaks and chatting. It will be of a similar format: learning new drills, game and player adaptations, umpiring and some non scored match play.

- **Netball Youth Camps**

February 2025 – Dorchester had 20 participants.

Next planned camp : April 2025, Dorchester.

- **Participation**

New Walking Netball session started January 25, Wimborne (Dumpton School).

Still looking for a Bournemouth venue in order to start a new Walking Netball.

Walking Netball sessions: Sturminster Newton, Piddlehinton, Weymouth, Bridport, Ashley Heath, Wimborne, Blandford.

Back to Netball sessions: Weymouth, Bournemouth, Wimborne.

Netball Now sessions: Feb 2025 and April 2025, Bournemouth (restricted to participants of ethnically diverse groups).

It has been an enormous pleasure to work with the [INARA PROJECT](#) to make this session happen. The group empower women from ethnically diverse backgrounds and they wanted to provide netball sessions as part of the project. With coaches and suitable indoor venues a scarce resource in Dorset, getting these sessions off the ground was not an easy task.

- **Officiating**

England Netball trialled 18+ sessions for Into Officiating and these have continued for last release of sessions on 11 December 24.

The 11 December release of Into Officiating courses was not advertised publicly and all those that had filled out an Expression of Interest were emailed about the availability of courses. This approach was much more successful and whilst the courses did sell out quickly, they did not sell out immediately.

The next batch of Into Officiating and C courses will be released towards the end of March – again it is important to fill out the EOI form.

- **Schools**

Atlantic Academy are hosting a Bee Netball festival aimed at years 3 and 4 on 25 March 2025. Local schools have been invited to send participants. The day will consist of netball stations, run by sports leaders at Atlantic Academy. Teachers will be offered Bee Netball resources to support Bee Netball in schools and also links to local netball clubs will also be provided to encourage participants to continue netball outside of school.

- **Membership**

Taster Rates are half-price membership, perfect for new or returning members who wish to sample a registered netball experience for the first time or after a three-year absence before committing to a full year's membership in September. (This means that the player's last membership must have expired on or before 31 August 2021).

- **Coaching**

I have been working with 2 Dorset clubs to try and ensure that they are able to continue to provide netball sessions to junior netballers in Dorset. Finding people willing to step up to be coaches and then getting them onto courses is a huge problem.

A reminder to all clubs that teachers with QTS status England Netball | Insurance FAQs and relevant netball experience England Netball | Insurance FAQs are still recognised as being able to be a lead coach if a level 2 coach is not available.

Level 2 Coach courses will now be released at 3 points during the year (instead of 2) and the duration of the course will be compressed to 12 weeks. This will mean that a coach, with DBS, First Aid and safeguarding in place could become qualified in 12 weeks rather than the current 5-6 months.

The next batch of coaching will be released towards the end of April 2025 – again it is important to fill out the EOI form.

The Europe Netball Level 2 course is intended for coaches who live in the Europe Netball region but who reside in countries where the courses or workshops on offer are not part of the formal learning and development offer in the country of affiliation. As such, coaches residing in England should complete the England Netball Level 2, which is a regulated qualification and therefore meets the quality assurance we use for insurers through our membership terms and conditions. England Netball coaching qualifications have been mapped against the CIMSPA professional standards for coaching so the CIMSPA logo will be on the Coaching qualification certificates sent out by our Awarding Body now. England Netball are currently working with Europe Netball to ensure that communication around their awards is clear and I am expecting an update soon.

- **Team Bath Next Generation**

Team Bath may not be one of the 8 Netball Super League teams for 2025 (and the next few years) but they are committed to returning to the NSL. They need the help of our South West netball community to make this happen so I encourage you to promote the online and in person viewing opportunities. I went to the Cardiff Dragons match and

whilst there are less seats, the atmosphere was still great and the netball an awesome watch. They have sold out for the first 3 home matches and spectators had plenty of opportunities to interact with players who are role models for our young netball community.

Sarah Clark

Dorset Netball Development Officer