

The first games of the summer season are under our belts, 22 teams have entered across the three divisions and, weather permitting (!) the season is set to run until July.

Last week we felt some of the warmth we have missed over winter, and it was a lovely evening on the courts with some fantastic netball on display.

Junior athletes from the league continue to progress in performance pathways, with Team Bath and the County, and within regional under 16 teams for Bournemouth and North Dorset. Huge congratulations to those who were successful in qualifying for the 2024/25 season at the recent under 16 playoff tournament and good luck for the seeding event at Bath University in June.

The league also has athletes from clubs representing regional adult teams further afield, showing the high standard of athlete we can support and providing inspiration to the younger athletes coming through.

Local non-affiliated leagues show there is a growing interest in netball in the local area, something that will only benefit the league with potential for growth in the number of teams entering going forward.

With the improvement in weather comes our first summer tournament on the 2<sup>nd</sup> June, funds raised for the tournament are going towards supporting one of the junior athletes in the league, Nancy, with her trip to Malaysia focusing on turtle conservation. Although the closing date has passed, if any teams from further afield are interested in entering then please email [linzigardner@gmail.com](mailto:linzigardner@gmail.com)

Sam.