



A G M MEETING MINUTES - 13th MAY 2026

In attendance : Lucy Marsden, Molly & Daisy Savage, Anita King, Jen Paulley, Katie Phillips, Chloe Phillips, Jess Rainbow, Victoria Stevens, Carole Payne, Caron Ogden, Lucy Orton, Annis Pears, Charlotte Pinkham, Summer Ashley, Fran Tomassoni, Cara Stuckey, Emma Draycott.
Arrived later : Karen Malkin, Ann-Marie Copple, Amy Stuckey, Maia Corbett & Amber Nixon

Apologies received : Holly Hemsley, Claire Cousin, Anna Sue & Kim from C team.

1.	SIGN OFF LAST YEAR'S AGM MINUTES – 14th MAY 2025 Proposed : Caron Ogden Seconded : Katie Phillips
2.	ANNUAL REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS
2.1	➤ Chair - Lucy Marsden To start with a huge thank you to our Committee this year, as always I really appreciate how hard everyone works and how much support we all give each other. This job would be 10 times harder if it wasn't for everyone else being so on it with their roles, it doesn't go unnoticed.
2.1.2	<u>Chair Objectives/Aims for 2025/26 season:</u> 1. Continue to promote a strong, inclusive, and positive club culture where all members feel valued, supported, and motivated to contribute. • With continued promotion of Netball Saturdays and use of the Club House after games. 2. Develop an approach to increase coaching and umpiring numbers in a sustainable way that meets the club's growing needs. • To be able to progress to 6 senior teams in the future, if the demand is consistently high. 3. Conduct a review of the club's current practices and processes across all areas of the club. • With particular focus on the Trials Process, Team Structures, Club Fees, Funding Courses.
2.1.3	<u>What we did:</u> ✓ A major focus for last summer was the oversight of the contracts with Fosse, resulting in the successful resurfacing of the courts. Additionally, four sheltered benches were installed providing much needed shelter for both players and spectators this season. We also received bonus coat pegs due to delays in the works that pushed completion from August to late September. They've been a big hit. Big shout out thank you to Caron, Daisy & ? ✓ Efforts were made to foster a positive club culture by encouraging attendance at other teams games on Saturdays and mid-week games. I attended as many matches as I possibly could to offer support and encouragement to players across different teams. ✓ More informal check-ins took place this year with captains, trying to reduce time pulled aside at training and instead trying to have quicker chats with captains when I could catch them at training or matches. With the aim of hopefully providing a channel for open dialogue and addressing any concerns as they arose. ✓ Conducted a thorough Trials Review this year, asking the club for feedback on our trials process, selectors and results. This review has led to several policy changes and proposals for other changes aimed at improving fairness and transparency:

- Staggered release of trials form to ensure priority access for current members to try and mitigate anxieties current members have during the whole trials process.
- Rotation of selectors every few years/every year to mitigate bias and provide varied perspectives.
- Review of super sub criteria, stricter enforcement of policy in terms of criteria, and potential restriction on numbers per team.
- Review of feedback process given to players.

- ✓ In response to unforeseen circumstances, notably pregnancies within the club, two impromptu retrials were arranged. This proactive approach allowed opportunities for players in the club to progress to higher teams and ensured all teams were able to remain competitive in their respective divisions. Thanks to all members for being so patient during the training sessions which were interrupted for re-trial sessions and for affected players for being so understanding as we navigated a very unfamiliar scenario.
- ✓ Helped coordination of our entry into the end of season tournament, which provided a fun conclusion to the season. HLNC entered two teams this year, and HLNC Navy were runners up for division 3 which will be awarded at the League Presentation Evening.

2.1.4

Member & Team details:

Note on attendance being mainly good and as predicted for the season :

Senior Teams

- A - 96%
- B - 90%
- C - 81%
- D - 79%
- E - 83%
- ❖ Gold - 4 Seniors / 2 Juniors
- ❖ Silver - 2 Seniors / 4 Juniors
- ❖ Bronze - 11 Seniors / 10 Juniors
- ❖ Seniors with <75% - 8 Seniors

League table results overview :

- ❖ A - 4th [73 Points from 13 Wins & 5 Losses]
- ❖ B - 5th [58 Points from 9 Wins & 9 Losses]
- ❖ C - 5th [58 Points from 9 Wins, 1 Draw & 8 Losses]
- ❖ D - 3rd [69 Points from 13 Wins & 5 Losses]
- ❖ E - 2nd [55 Points from 10 Wins & 4 Losses] PROMOTION

2.1.5

Trials Review Outputs

Section 1: Club Feedback

➤ Overall Satisfaction:

The core experience is working well. Concerns aren't systemic, but there are repeat themes around variety of rotations, opportunities to "play up", and perceived (un)bias of selector mix.

➤ Dates & Notice:

Preference to keep trials in June; current notice timelines are landing well.

➤ Opening Trials Externally:

There's appetite for external openings after an internal-first window to protect the club's "family

feel” and reduce anxiety for existing members.

➤ **Squad Structure:**

Minimum of 8 and maximum of 11, with an average of 9 across teams.

- Need to allow a buffer for availability and also enable the ability to “play up without raiding”.

➤ **Super-Subs**

Retain super-subs, but cap per team and publish usage guidance so expectations are clear and loads are manageable.

➤ **Selector Composition**

A “1 external + 1 senior + 1 junior” model (with non-trialling preference where feasible) maps closely to stated preferences.

➤ **Repeated Quality Themes:**

- **Commitment/attendance expectations:** requests to factor prior season attendance/commitment in selections to boost reliability.
- **Feedback loop:** players want selector feedback shared back to teams (combinations that worked) rather than staying only with captains.
- **Bias (perception):** small signal, but suggests you keep external presence and role clarity to defuse perception issues.

Section 2: Recommendations & Further Questions

➤ **Dates & Notice**

- ✓ Keep June for trials; continue current notice period practice (it’s working).
- ✓ Trial dates are chosen based on selectors availability once they’ve been determined.
- ✓ Trials dates typically fall in June of each year.

➤ **Entry Policy**

- ✓ Internal-first window (e.g., 2 weeks), then advertise externally if capacity remains.
- ✓ Trial dates and sign-up are communicated to the club through Whatsapp first, then shared externally through the website, and if needed instagram and facebook.
- ✓ If we are at capacity after internal comms and decide not to advertise we shouldn’t discount those who reach out to us directly without advertising. We attract new members each year that develop the club and the sport. Some of these members go on to be long standing contributors to the club that we would have missed out on if we didn’t go external.

➤ **Selector Panel**

- ✓ Roles to cover external, senior coach and junior coach. Roles can cross over.
- ✓ Publish selector roles (lead, junior-focus, note-taker) so contributors and players know the process is balanced.

➤ **Team & Roster Sizes**

- ✓ Target 5 teams.
- ✓ Set baseline 8/9 per team (A–D), 10–11 for E to protect availability and reduce upward borrowing.
- ✓ If we go with smaller squads we will have to turn more people away.
- ✓ In review against other clubs our current structure isn’t an outlier.

➤ **Super-subs**

- ✓ Keep the scheme, but cap per team.
- ✓ Allow training attendance (possibly fee-adjusted) so combinations are practiced.

	✓ Publish captain guidance for fair deployment. ➤ Commitment signal ✓ Include a commitment declaration in sign-up (expected training and match availability). ✓ Optionally weigh prior-season attendance in borderline selections. ➤ Transparency & Feedback ✓ After trials, circulate a short “combinations that clicked” note per squad (doesn’t name individuals negatively) so players see the pathway from trials to selection.
2.2	➤ Vice Chair – Molly Savage It has been a calm role for me this year and it has been down to having such a proactive and hard-working chair. My main job included validating decisions that Lucy was making and any that she was uncertain on. My main response has “yes you’re absolutely right” and I think we can agree that she has not put a foot wrong. I would like to say that my role in confirming our decisions is what made the club run so smoothly, but that would be far from the truth. This season has brought many achievements, from competitive successes to increased participation and entries in trials and development opportunities for our members. None of this would have been possible without the hard work of our committee and volunteers who give their time so generously. Here’s to 26-27!
2.3	➤ Secretary (Administration / Membership) – Anita King / Amber Nixon As a committee, quarterly meetings are held to review key matters and ensure the club continues to run smoothly. These meetings are formally minuted, with clear actions assigned to relevant members, and the records are kept for reference and follow-up. As the club continues to be at full capacity (a great accolade for us), new enquiries seem relatively quiet. However the few external queries we do receive are responded to and are provided our link to log their interest should spaces become available which is monitored by Chair and Vice. League communications continue via email and WhatsApp. The league has an upcoming council meeting and AGM, both of which clubs are required to attend in which voting on various items are covered by all, so clubs have the opportunity to have their say : • League Council Meeting – Monday 18th May, 7:00pm – Anita to attend. • League AGM – Monday 29th June, 7:00pm – Lucy to attend. Updates from both meetings will be shared at the next HLNC committee meeting. I’d like to extend a big thank you to Amber for continuing with the other half of the secretary role, particularly handling registrations and club affiliations at the start of the season, and for monitoring emails whenever I’m away. Finally, I would like to thank all fellow committee members for their hard work and commitment for the fantastic job they do in ensuring HLNC continues to thrive throughout the season. Special thanks go to Lucy for keeping the club running smoothly with everyone coordinating together. Those members and parents who only attend training and matches may not see the time and effort that goes on behind the scenes, but it is this dedication that enables the club to operate successfully and keep moving forward and with special focus on our ever growing junior section. Well done everyone!

2.4 ➤ **Treasurer – Jen Pauley & Karen Malkin**

2.4.1 **Introduction**

Firstly, thank you to everyone across the club who has contributed to another successful season, both on and off the court.

This has been a significant year financially for HLNC. Alongside the usual running costs of the club, we have also managed substantial investment into the future of our facilities, whilst continuing to maintain a stable overall financial position.

As Treasurer, one of my main focuses this year has been improving financial visibility, modernising our systems and beginning to automate areas that have historically relied heavily on manual processing.

As part of the AGM process, I am formally standing down from the Treasurer role as required under the constitution, however I would be very happy to continue in the position if re-elected.

I would also like to note that Karen (Kaz) will be stepping down from the Co-Treasurer position. Kaz has spent a huge amount of time this season supporting the manual processing side of the accounts, particularly incoming payments and reconciliations, and this support has allowed me to focus more heavily on developing the automation, dashboarding and reporting side of the club finances. Her help throughout the season has genuinely been appreciated.

2.4.2 **Financial Position Overview**

Account Balances

The club remains in a stable financial position overall.

As at May 2026:

Account	Balance
Main Current Account	£7,560.47
Savings Account	£10,698.92
Total Club Funds	£18,259.39

The current account balance is naturally lower than previous years due to the major investment made into the court resurfacing project and associated facility improvements during the year.

The club previously committed significant reserves toward:

- Court resurfacing works
- Associated maintenance improvements
- Seating / shelter investments

Invoice values included:

- Court resurfacing works: approximately £30,590 + VAT
- Shelters and benches: approximately £15,300 + VAT (pending completion at time of invoice)

These investments were substantial but necessary in order to protect the long-term future and usability of the club facilities.

2.4.3 **Operating Position**

Using the new financial dashboard and transaction categorisation system, we now have a much clearer breakdown of the club's operating position.

Current dashboard figures (data running to 4 April 2026) show:

Metric	Amount
Total Income	£58,340.59
Total Spend	£75,099.44
Core Operating Income	£28,340.59
Core Operating Spend	£20,031.44
Operating Profit Position	£8,309.15

The overall spend figure is heavily impacted by the court resurfacing and facilities investment projects.

Importantly however, the club continues to operate at a healthy underlying operational surplus.

One of the clearest early findings from the dashboard analysis is that membership subscriptions alone would not comfortably sustain the club long-term if we were only relying on core fees.

Fundraising, sponsorship, events, banner advertising, summer activity income and wider club engagement continue to play a hugely important role in maintaining financial stability and building reserves for future large-scale maintenance commitments.

2.4.4

Dashboard & Financial Reporting Improvements

One of the major projects this season has been the development of a new HLNC financial dashboard.

The aim of the dashboard is to move away from purely spreadsheet-based reporting and provide:

- Clearer financial visibility
- Easier year-on-year comparison
- Improved transparency
- Faster reporting capability
- Better long-term financial planning

The first live dashboard overview page currently includes:

- Total income to date
- Total spend to date
- Core operating income vs operating spend
- Operating profit tracking
- Current account balance trends over time
- Income and spend by category

Additional dashboard pages are planned over the coming months covering:

- Fundraising performance
- Umpire fees
- Summer league analysis
- Pay & Play tracking
- Year-on-year comparisons
- Reserve forecasting
- Long-term maintenance planning

The dashboard currently runs to 4 April 2026 and therefore does not yet include the most recent transactions and balances shown elsewhere in this report.

2.4.5	<u>Automation & Modernisation Progress</u> Strong progress has also been made on automating transaction coding and payment recognition. Historically, a large amount of Treasurer time has been spent manually importing, categorizing and reconciling payments. The new system is now beginning to automatically: • Recognise member payments • Categorise transaction types • Identify subscription payments • Track payment references • Reduce duplicate handling • Improve reporting accuracy The aim is for automated subscription tracking to be fully operational for the 2026/2027 season. This should significantly reduce manual workload whilst improving consistency, transparency and reporting speed.
2.4.6	<u>Cashless Recommendation</u> Following discussions at committee level, I would formally recommend that HLNC moves fully cashless going forward. This would mean: • No routine cash collections • All payments made directly via bank transfer or card reader • Improved audit trail and reconciliation • Reduced risk of lost or untracked cash • Faster financial reporting Where cash is occasionally generated during events (for example cake stalls or fundraising activities), funds can simply be transferred into the HLNC account immediately afterwards. The committee also agreed that the card reader can continue to be utilised during fundraising events where appropriate.
2.4.7	<u>Payment Reference Process</u> A further recommendation for next season is that all organised collections are coordinated through the Treasurer team before payment instructions are issued. This includes: • Tours • Summer league • Pay & Play • Events • Fundraising • Kit orders • Any other member collections Organisers would simply provide: • What the payment is for • The amount being collected

Treasurers can then provide the exact payment reference format members should use. Although small anomalies will always happen, this process will massively improve automated coding accuracy and reduce the time currently spent manually correcting unclear references.

2.4.8 Fundraising & Additional Income

The dashboard analysis has already highlighted the importance of non-subscription income streams.

During the reporting period, approximately:

- £2993 + was generated through fundraising activity
- £7,400+ was generated through wider club activities and events

This additional income is a major contributor to maintaining healthy club operations whilst avoiding significant increases to membership fees.

Continued support for the below points, will remain extremely important moving forward :

- Fundraising events
- Sponsorship
- Banner advertising
- Summer activity participation
- Club events.

2.4.9 Reserves & Future Planning

Now that the major court resurfacing project has been completed, I believe the club should begin rebuilding dedicated maintenance reserves again.

Historically, the annual £3,500 transfer into savings was paused due to the immediate financial demands of the resurfacing project.

I would recommend that the club now considers restarting annual reserve contributions from June 2026 onward.

Given the current financial position following the resurfacing investment, a phased restart may be sensible initially, potentially:

- £1,500 to £2,000 annually for the next 1 to 2 seasons
- Followed by a return toward the previous £3,500 annual target as reserves strengthen again

This would help ensure the club continues building long-term provision for:

- Future court resurfacing cycles
- Facility maintenance
- Equipment replacement
- Emergency contingencies
- Strategic investment opportunities

I would also recommend that a specific annual kit replacement reserve budget is formally introduced into next season's budgeting process.

A suggested starting point would be approximately £1,000 to £1,500 annually ringfenced for:

- Training kit
- Bibs and equipment
- Goalpost and training equipment renewal

2.4.10	This creates a more proactive replacement cycle rather than relying on reactive spending when equipment becomes unserviceable. <u>Final Thanks</u> Finally, thank you to everybody involved in keeping HLNC running throughout the season. The committee, coaches, captains, volunteers, umpires, fundraisers and members all contribute enormous amounts of time behind the scenes that often goes unseen. The club continues to be in a stable position because of that collective effort. I would particularly like to thank: • The wider committee team for their ongoing support • Everyone involved in fundraising and sponsorship efforts • Those helping chase subscriptions and maintain payment visibility throughout the season • Kaz for her support this year as Co-Treasurer There is still plenty more to develop over the next year from a reporting, automation and planning perspective, but I believe the club is now moving toward a much more modern, transparent and sustainable financial structure.
2.5	➤ Fixtures & Umpires Secretary – Carole Payne Another season over, another report to write. The end is in sight! Once again, I'd like to thank the hard-working committee for everything they do for this club. The Umpires for their continued commitment and the captains for their support, understanding and help throughout the season. I thought about using AI, or Copilot or one of those Apps to write my report but it just didn't sound like me 😊 We have had a bit of everything this season, snow, ice, wind and a lot of rain. A fair bit of sunshine too. But the biggest problem was still Wildcards - Especially for the A team. Increased to two per team and to be honest, I think extending the play by date to the end of the season instead of play within 4 weeks of original fixture date, caused the most problems. It gave a lackadaisical attitude towards getting dates together and confirming dates to fixtures secretaries. Not from our club though. I can honestly say you guys have been amazing and I thank you for that. It makes my job a lot easier when the captains are all so efficient. My goal again, to have the fixture times nailed in by Tuesday morning, was, on the whole, achieved. Just the odd day when we had some issues when unusually, the A and B teams were away on the same day and the B and the C were away on the same day. We only needed external umpires on a couple of occasions, Sorry about that, but having playing umpires always has it's downsides. On the Umpires side, I would like to congratulate Jen on achieving her C award, Leanne on Prem assessed and Holly who has completed IO and C award all in one season. Round of applause! We couldn't all play without our wonderful umpires, if you would like to join Team White then please look out for England Netball course availability on Engage or just come and chat to one of us and we will point you in the right direction. We have had the Lovely Lucy join us this season and it has been a pleasure to have you on board, we wish you all the best in your move to Windsor, we will miss you. Next season my role may change to Re-arranged Fixtures Secretary with fixed game times potentially being trialled. You never know, I may be able to retire earlier than planned after all.

2.6	➤ Safeguarding Officers – Molly Savage & Cara Stuckey All junior and senior sessions were attended by Molly or Cara should anyone have wished to discuss anything. This season, we made sure we were safeguarding compliant with England Netball which has successfully been done by both safeguarding officers. During committee meetings, safeguarding is always included on the agenda, and we are working towards all our coaches getting EN approved DBS checks for the future. We are happy to say that no concerns have been raised this season and we are both happy to continue in the role with the aim of sharing more safeguarding messaging that comes through Netball Her and England Netball, in the upcoming season. A reminder that England Netball's website contains information and support concerning safeguarding for juniors and vulnerable adults as well as advice for parents which can be accessed by all should any player or parent have any concerns.
2.7	➤ Juniors fixtures and umpires secretary - Holly Hemsley Another new role for me this season, and one the logistics side of me really enjoyed. It might sound boring to some, but trying to schedule in Sunday league games for our juniors whilst considering a multitude of external factors was actually really fun. The first hurdle was for us and the other clubs in the league to confirm how many teams we were each entering, and then deciding how best to format the league so that it was a fair contest based on age/ability. In the end, we decided it was best for our two older teams (Feathers & Thistles) to be in a separate division with Ambleside, whilst our younger two teams (Roses & Warriors) were against similar aged players from Griff and Synergy. The next hurdle was deciding how many games should be played and when. With one division containing four teams and the other containing five, that made it extra fun to try and ensure each team got a good amount of games but then also that the season finished at a similar time for both divisions. Each team ended up playing 8 fixtures in total; home & 'away' style, plus a couple of games for the older division based on their position in the league table. I decided to try and spread the fixtures out so that there were roughly two a month and avoided school holidays. I had the added element of trying not to clash them with Hinckley Hornets fixtures, as this impacted volunteer availability for half of us. Following that I had to liaise with the other clubs in our junior league to check they were happy with the dates/times I'd suggested, and also to assist them in sourcing umpires during the weeks that they were short. Thankfully they were all happy with the suggestions and only needed umpire help for a couple of matches, so that was easy! Once the fixture dates & times had been confirmed, I was then able to allocate our junior coordinators to each fixture and also arrange umpires. Thankfully this season we were never short of volunteers to rep/coordinate our junior teams - I think the junior coordinator roles worked really well and hopefully we get even more volunteers for next season 😊 When the season was underway it was just a case of sending out reminders each week of the fixtures/umpires, ensuring the relevant people had keys to access the courts, and that the umpires were paid - which I only forgot to do once... Something to consider for next season would be for the fixture times to have a slightly longer gap between each one so that the teams playing later have more time to warm up on a free court - there were some questionable sideline warm ups witnessed this season! In addition to organising the league matches, I also planned the junior's end of season tournament (again, juggling timings that would work around our Hinckley Hornets fixture lol). This was held

	on Sunday 19th April and was a beautiful sunny morning filled with some exciting netball! The tournament was really fun and tightly contested. I'd calculated an 'advantage' number of goals for teams to start each game with based on their performance during the season, and so this meant that the results of each game were extremely close and added an element of competitiveness. Unfortunately, not everything went to plan; our professional photographer and also the special guest who was supposed to present the medals/trophies were unable to make it. Big thank you to Lucy who stepped in as chief photographer and captured some great pics of all the players. Our special guest, Jean Hornsby, has since apologised after getting lost trying to find the courts and somehow ending up in Melton Mowbray! She's confirmed she's keen to attend a future junior fixture and so we'll try again next season! Congratulations to our two winning teams at the tournament Ambleside U16's & HLNC Roses, who were also our league division winners for the season! Apologies that the trophies I'd ordered had an orange netball on which made them look a lot like basketballs...the medal ribbons were cute though! I want to say a big thank you to everyone for volunteering to help run our junior section this season: Ann-Marie, Chloe, Daisy, Katie, Lucy M, Lucy S and Molly. A big thank you to those who helped with umpiring as well: Cara, Caron, CP, Jen, Kaz, Lucy M, Molly, and Lucy S. The junior section is an incredibly important part of our club, and it's so good to see it thrive for yet another season.
2.8	➤ Junior general secretary - Katie Phillips The 2025/26 season has absolutely flown by, and somehow we've already reached another AGM. As Junior General Secretary, my role has mainly involved helping keep the junior section organised behind the scenes which as most of you with similar roles will understand, is often easier said than done! Having previously been Joint Junior Chair for four years, I've definitely appreciated the decision to split the role into smaller positions this season, all thanks to the offers of support and an increase in volunteers and interest within running the junior section. Introducing the Junior Fixtures & Umpires Secretary role made a huge difference in helping manage the workload in what is the busiest period of the year, and has allowed me to focus more on the less exciting, but very necessary, admin and organisational side of the junior section. My role for the season began long before the first training session in September. Preparations were already underway from May onwards, with months of behind-the-scenes organisation needed before the junior season could even begin. From having a Junior Committee meeting shortly after the AGM, to organising trial forms and coordinating communications with parents, schools, current members and our waiting list, to preparing all of the registration documents such as forms, registers, heja pages, the parents whatsapp group, and answering endless questions along the way, the summer months are definitely the busiest parts of the role. September was particularly busy, with registrations for both team players and training-only players needing to be organised and monitored to check everyone was ready for the season — totalling nearly 60 junior members altogether. There were spreadsheets, forms, payments and messages flying around constantly, but somehow everything came together in time for the season to begin, thanks to the fantastic support of everyone around me. Since then, a huge part of the role has been managing communication across the junior section. This has included responding to joining enquiries and signposting players to our waiting list... which now sits at nearly 60 people! It's fantastic to see so many girls wanting to join HLNC, however it definitely shows both the popularity of the club and the ongoing need for more volunteers and support to help us continue expanding - that's the chance for me to drop in a reminder to pretty please complete the short survey sent out to all senior teams last week!! Throughout the year, I've helped coordinate communication across the different junior teams, asking Team Representatives to share important updates through Heja and making sure

	information reached players and parents as smoothly as possible. Alongside this, I've liaised with the fundraising, events, treasurers, communications and media officers to help promote events & fundraising, share updates and make sure the juniors felt involved in the wider club. Although a lot of my role happens quietly in the background, it's been really rewarding seeing another successful season come together. From new players joining for the first time, to older juniors stepping up and becoming leaders within their teams, it's been brilliant to watch. Next on to my thank yous; - The fantastic junior committee for everything you've done - organising squads so well each week and helping keep communication flowing across the teams. The junior section genuinely relies on people quietly getting jobs done behind the scenes, and your support has made a massive difference this season. - Jen & Kaz for keeping on top of payments, updating who's joined or left, and taking over the chasing of outstanding payments for membership fees - doing this has massively helped me with my ongoing to-do list! - The wider committee for all your support, to arranging fundraising and events the juniors feel engaged and involved with, to all of our discussions at committee meetings on what we can do to improve the junior section of the club. - The parents of our junior members for answering messages, completing forms and generally keeping on top of the communications - I appreciate it can be a lot but it's all necessary in making sure the juniors feel valued in being a member of HLNC. Finally, I'll finish with another plea, just like I did last season! The junior section has the potential to grow to almost twice the size of our current capacity based on current interest, which is fantastic, but it also means we need much more support. Whether that's coaching, umpiring, admin help, or simply volunteering where you can, every little bit genuinely helps and keeps the club running successfully. The club's income from subs alone is £16,000 - £6,000 of which comes from our junior section - thank you to Kaz for the figures! Imagine how great our facilities could be with an extra bit of income, and how great our club could be with a bigger pathway from juniors to seniors! Thank you again to everyone for all your support throughout the season, and I'm already looking forward to seeing what next season brings for our juniors.
2.9	➤ Junior Coaching manager - Chloe Phillips The 2025–2026 season has been another positive year for junior coaching at the club, with a continued focus on delivering enjoyable and productive training sessions for all of our junior players. Throughout the season, the aim has been to create a friendly and supportive environment where players can improve their skills, build confidence, but mostly to simply enjoy being part of the club and playing netball. Attendance at weekly training sessions has remained strong, and it has been encouraging to see a good mix of returning players alongside new juniors joining throughout the season. The enthusiasm and effort shown by the players each week have contributed greatly to the positive atmosphere during sessions and club activities. The coaching team has continued to work hard to provide structured and enjoyable sessions across all junior age groups and abilities. Support from the junior committee and assistant coaches has been extremely valuable in ensuring sessions run smoothly and that players receive guidance and encouragement throughout training. The commitment shown by everyone involved in coaching is greatly appreciated and has played an important role in the continued development of the junior section. There has been clear progress from many players during the season, both in terms of technical ability and overall confidence. It has been rewarding to see juniors improving week by week and becoming more comfortable and engaged during training sessions. Several players have also progressed into more competitive opportunities and represented the club positively at events and matches throughout the year.

	The club has continued to encourage participation, enjoyment, teamwork, and good sportsmanship throughout the season. Friendly competitions and club events have given juniors valuable experience and helped keep engagement high across the year. The behaviour and attitude shown by the players during these activities have reflected very positively on the club. A huge highlight was Carol's Tournament, where juniors and seniors mixed together to play as part of the same event. It was great to see so many senior members encouraging the friendly and welcoming atmosphere of the club and helping the younger players feel included and supported. It's important to remember that the junior section is the future of the club. The juniors training and playing today will become the senior players, members, volunteers, and committee members of the future. Creating a positive and welcoming experience for them now helps encourage long-term involvement and ensures the club continues to grow and thrive in the years ahead. That is why support from current members is so important. Giving a bit of time to help with training sessions, events, or simply encouraging younger players can make a huge difference to their experience at the club and helps build a stronger future for everyone. Now on to thank yous. Firstly, a huge thank you goes to Molly, Lucy, Holly, Lucy, Daisy, and Katie for their coaching on Wednesday evenings. Their effort and commitment are hugely appreciated and play a massive role in keeping junior training running successfully. Thank you also to those who get up early on Sunday mornings to give the girls opportunities to play competitively and continue developing through matches and tournaments. Thank you as well to the wider committee for everything they do to keep the club running. Whether it's putting posts out on social media, organising fundraising events for all club members to enjoy, or doing the countless jobs behind the scenes that most of us probably don't even realise are happening, all of that work plays a huge role in keeping the junior section running smoothly. And finally, thank you to all of the players who commit to training each week and bring enthusiasm, effort, and positivity throughout the season. Your attitude and energy are what make coaching so enjoyable and are a huge part of what makes the club such a welcoming place to be.
2.10	➤ Junior team reps - Molly Savage, Holly Hemsley, Katie Phillips, Chloe Phillips Reports below in team reports
2.11	➤ Facilities Officer – Daisy Savage Thanks to Emma and Caron for the handover, Molly for helping with kit bags, Jen for always providing the money when required As I stepped into the facilities role (Aug/Sept time) our courts were being resurfaced and our lovely shelters were installed. It's fair to say the shelters make netball Saturdays a lot more enjoyable in the worse weather - especially for our monies worth out of them during the A teams Copsewood evening game! The following have been done throughout the season : ✓ Started with collecting in kit bags and ensuring everyone kit bags were fully stocked ready for the new season ✓ Did a big cull of old balls ✓ Sorted through the key list and by the end of the season actually managed to find at least 2 more sets! ✓ Lucy and Holly helped to 'de-spider' the shed and had a big sort out and we re-arranged the shed so hopefully it's a lot easier to find things in there now! ✓ Installation of the bins meant we could keep the shelters nice and tidy. ✓ Had the idea to sell off old stock at the Xmas party which helped to raise some more money for the club ✓ Maintained our regular booker on a Monday night.

	✓ We increased our court hire charges from 2024 to now £20 per hour, £50 half a day and £100 full day. ✓ Next year aim to continue to advertise our courts to encourage more people to hire them ✓ Aiming to get us all flyhawk match balls (if funding approves)
2.12	➤ Tournaments/Events Officer – Victoria Stevens (2nd season) & Cara Stuckey (1st season) This season started off how it normally does with several friendly matches against other clubs in the league. Each of our teams played at least two friendlies against a team in their division and it is something we will continue to plan into the calendar at the beginning of each season. We also attended Stockton tournament again this year in September where we mixed all the senior players into various teams and secured ourselves runners up too which was fab. A few players also took home some very good raffle prizes! All events were marked into the calendar at the very beginning of the season so a ‘save the dates’ was the first piece of comms to be sent out in the hopes of people marking themselves as busy and us having high attendance at each event. The first event of the season was the HLNC Christmas Party which took place at Green Towers in Hinckley and consisted of party games and a quiz. Turnout for both juniors and seniors was great and it was a lovely evening overall. Then, there was Carol’s tournament with over 70 players across our senior and junior sections in attendance which was fantastic. Following that, our end of season presentation evening was held at The Green Rooms in Hinckley with a lovely buffet and some well-deserving award winners. Preparations for both the Griff & Coton summer league as well as Copeswood summer league are complete, and we have lots of players looking to carry on their netball throughout the summer. Beth’s tournament has unfortunately been postponed/cancelled this year due to lack of availability in May so we will aim to move this to August / September to improve availability. Tour is set to be an absolute blast as 19 of us are heading to Condoover Hall for a fun weekend of netball, activities and immaculate vibes and our I’m A Celeb outfits are at the ready. Events have been incredibly fun to sort this season and next season, we hope to add another event in the calendar around Galentine’s with some fun paint / sip ideas floating around the table.
2.13	➤ Communications & Media Officer – Cara Stuckey After a short break away galivanting across Southeast Asia and Australia, I’ve loved picking the comms role back up again this season. All fixtures for both juniors and seniors were shared on our socials each week and given the success last season, match highlights were posted to our Instagram story after every senior game by one volunteer from each team – thank you to all these individuals for giving up a couple of hours at the weekend to sort these. Unfortunately, Hornettes fixtures have fell awkwardly on Sundays so I haven’t been able to get down to as many junior games as I would have liked to film clips however, junior reps have been brilliant at providing team and POM pictures this season. Talking of POMs, our scores on the doors including POM’s were a weekly feature on our social media channels where we also spotlighted our social media sponsor winner, Peppervines Tapas.

	Other fun content and cute memories have been posted throughout the season and I've even managed to rope people in for the odd Tik Tok here and there. This season for comms also saw the return of our Netball Wrapped which is always a nice way to wrap up the season in style and show off to other clubs. We've kept our great relationship with the Hinckley Times this year with them holding a space for us on match weeks – thank you to CP for buying the most expensive newspaper on the planet to make sure we could see these. Photo challenges have been a great success with 1 challenge every month, lots of fun & creative submissions each week. It was great to be able to get ideas from the whole club of challenges they would like to see ahead of the season. This will be done again for the season ahead. That's everything from me!
2.14	➤ Fundraising officers – Jess Rainbow, Charlotte Pinkham & Summer Ashley We've had a fantastic year for sponsorship and fundraising, and I want to start by thanking every member who contributed to the club. Our initial goal was to raise £3,000. We've been busy this year with everything from social media sponsors and 'Mini-Me' dolls to our Traitors night, the Easyfundraising app and of course lots of sweet sales. Our biggest wins were the Quiz Night, which raised £345, the Christmas Jumper night at £178 and the Easter Raffle, which raised a massive £1,390. We have had to replace the sponsor boards at the court due to bad weather, these new ones are more robust so we hopefully won't have any other issues with this. Our final total for the season is £3,070. Thank you all so much for helping us hit that target. There are still a few ways to get involved: we have the Wolf Run on June 14th, the Beth Richards tournament—which includes a bake sale (date to be confirmed) and you can still download the Easyfundraising app to support us while you shop. Thank you again!
2.15	➤ Senior Coaching manager – Holly Hemsley I have enjoyed taking on this new role and am glad that it has lightened the load slightly from the Chair responsibilities - every little helps! I started the season by drafting a training calendar based on when I predicted the league fixtures would fall. Using feedback from previous seasons, I then slotted in suggested training focus' for each session and allocated these to our senior coaches based on their speciality and preference. Our external coaches received some really positive feedback last season, so it was great to be able to confirm Katie Jones as a returning coach. I had also booked in Cheryl from Synergy to coach a couple of sessions; she couldn't make any of them in the end but hopes to be more available next season. Once the fixture dates were confirmed, I finalised the training calendar with Lucy, checked my idea of when various events/tournaments were scheduled with Cara & Vic, and then logged everything on each team's Heja schedule (apologies for messing up the time zones on a couple of them!). Following previous feedback, I tried to include a good variety of training formats this season; some en masse, some in teams, some in positions etc. I also tried to include a good focus spread in each session, covering all areas of the court, and also running more gameplay sessions. We did have to cancel a couple of training sessions due to the cold weather, however I tweaked the coaching calendar and ensured that any sessions missed were delivered at a later date. Having not received much feedback during the season, I created a detailed feedback form and asked that this was completed by all players before the end of May. This was completed by 36 players and the main key points to takeaway from the results were:

	• Satisfaction with the frequency of training = 4.61/5. • 69% of people would be interested in attending more training sessions, dependant on date/time/frequency. • Of those 69%, 88% wanted extra sessions to run on an evening midweek (Mon-Fri). • Of those 69%, the preference of focus for these extra training sessions was equally spread across: team specific, position specific and fitness specific. • Satisfaction with the duration of training = 4.78/5. • Satisfaction with the format of training this season = 4.44/5. • 87% were satisfied or very satisfied with the length of time spent delivering each element of training (warm-up, skills/drills, and gameplay). • Players' most preferred format of training was equally spread across: team specific, half skills/drills half gameplay, and position specific. • Players' least preferred format of training was en masse. • We received mixed suggestions on how best to split teams - some wanting it to be more split (A&B, C&D, E&Trainers), others wanting less of a split and more mixing. • A substantial number of people suggested different drills/progressions for different teams; based more on ability. • Satisfaction with the variety of training session aims/focus' = 4.31/5. • Most were happy with the same frequency of session aims/focus' across all areas, apart from fitness & set-plays - majority would prefer more netball fitness and set-play sessions. • A few suggestions for sessions to cover umpiring; adapting play to the umpire, and shadowing a more confident umpire to gain confidence to pick up a whistle. • Satisfaction with the coaching received this season = 4.42/5. • Suggestions for coaching improvements was mostly to continue with having external coaches, specifically Katie Jones. A couple of mentions of having a specific 'defensive coach'. Following this feedback, I circulated another form to gauge more detailed responses regarding the potential for having more coached sessions midweek. Thank you to everyone who completed the initial feedback form and those who have already completed the follow up form. Your input will be considered and any changes made in the upcoming season - watch this space! Final note from me - all coaching payments were made promptly at the end of each month; big thank you to our treasurers for their swiftness! Not much else to report aside from the above! I look forward to the 2026/27 season 😊
2.16	Sign off annual reports 2026 Proposed: Emma Draycott Second: Kaz Malkin
3.	CAPTAIN'S REPORTS
3.1	U16 Thistles (Juniors) – Molly Insley This has been my first season being a junior rep for the U16 Thistles squad. I had to regularly

	remind myself and only one of the squad members was of appropriate age for this team and the rest are younger – however they play like U16's on their way to senior netball. An extremely strong and versatile team made up of 10 young ladies who, between them, cover every position on court. Their season was made up of 50% of wins with 50% very close losses. The team has shown great commitment, teamwork, and determination throughout both training and matches. The players have developed their skills significantly, improved their communication on court, and consistently demonstrated a positive attitude and strong sportsmanship. Across the season, the team achieved some excellent performances and continued to grow in confidence with each game. Their hard work and willingness to support one another created a strong team spirit that was evident both on and off the court where it is clear great friendships have been made. The progress made by the squad has been fantastic, and the future looks very promising for this talented group of players. I am sad to be standing down to raise my own junior but I believe I will soon see these girls on Saturdays.
3.2	<u>Juniors Representative / HLNC Feathers Report – Holly Hemsley</u> Once again I have had a lovely season being a team rep for one of our fabulous junior squads - Feathers. A mixed team of 'old' and new members; not just to the club, but some new to netball in general! Arguably our most 'netball looking' player on the squad, Indigo, had only just started to play netball at school when she joined our club at the beginning of the season. Now, you can ask her to play in either attack or defence and she slots into that position with ease; giving 100% effort and showing great development in her knowledge for the sport. Her footwork as a goal shooter has massively improved as the season has gone on, including her confidence to turn to post and sink those far out super shots. Her defensive alter ego comes out in full force when she puts on the goal defence bib. She intercepts passes as soon as they leave the players hands, puts incredible pressure on each shot, gets her hands on every rebound, and then offers a safe option down the court for her team. Another incredibly versatile player in our squad is Captain Ava-Rose. She primarily trialed as a shooter in pre-season, however has mostly played in our defensive circle since. Ava has improved her positioning on court in all three defensive areas, and has perfected an effective block to keep attackers outside of the circle and away from goal. She is always cheering on her peers and offering clear verbal instructions when on the court, providing good advice and encouragement to the squad. Recently, Ava has revisited the shooting circle and proven that she hasn't forgotten those skills either. Her timing on her dodge along the goal line is enviable and she never shies away from the ball. She has great confidence on her shots, but also isn't afraid to pass out and work the ball closer to goal if needed. Whilst we're in the shooting circle I'll move on to our fast moving goal attack, Bethany. Bethany has really shone this season in the goal attack position. Her drives out for centre passes are decisive and clear, making it easy for our midcourt to offload the ball. The next drive down into the attacking third is fueled with intent and she rarely creates congestion around the circle. Once she's in the circle, her split landings are solid and her vision to goal is unparalleled; whether she offloads to her shooting partner for a closer shot, or takes one on herself. On the defensive she executes an incredibly effective lean and pressure over each pass. Her improvement this season has really impressed me, and I am excited to see her progress further over the coming seasons - she's definitely one to watch! Edging slightly further out of the shooting circle, we have Evie. Evie is an effective attacker, with the ability to slip into the shooting circle for a stint at goal when required. Her cutting in dodge on the centre pass is perfection and always ensures a safe option to start the game. Her confidence to feed a high ball into the shooting circle has improved this season, and she always works hard to get the ball to circle edge for more accurate feeds. As one of our longer term members at the club,

	she has cemented herself as a reliable constant in the team, and puts 100% into every game she plays. Moving on to another long term member of the junior section, Bea. Bea has grown a lot this season, not just in her netball but also in height! Her work rate at centre is admirable and despite covering a lot of area on the court, she barely breaks a sweat. She's our centre court queen, playing all three midcourt positions with ease and never complains. Bea has also had to adapt some of her feeds into the circle this season depending on shooting partnerships, and she has worked hard to make them effective. She is able to turnover ball in any area of the court, and then washes her calming presence over the team so that they safely reward their efforts. Partnering up with Bea in the centre third, we have Co-Captain Anaya. Anaya has been a fabulous addition to the club this season, and it's been great to watch her confidence grow in the squad and in her captain role. She has excellent comms on court, always offers for passes and isn't afraid to get stuck in. Her high ball feeds into Indigo have become incredibly effective and the link up between these two players has really grown over the season. She has mainly been playing WA but has also given Bea a break and covered the centre bib like a duck to water. A special mention must go to Anaya's efforts in the team hamper challenge - the hamper & accompaniments selected were stunning, she even got little mini carrots for decoration! Her encouragement and enthusiasm for the team to get involved was infectious, and they produced a really cute Easter themed hamper. Our final member of the midcourt squad is the wonderful Daisy. Daisy has been a pleasure to coach and has really come out of her shell this season in making the WD bib her own. Her leans and pressure over the ball is really effective, she's worked on holding them for 3-seconds and has been rewarded for this countless times. Her improvement in tracking her player and dictating them to space has been noticeable and has impacted the game when we've needed it most. She is always the player you see chasing for loose balls and trying to get a turnover for her team wherever she can. Now we're heading into the defensive circle, and first up we have Isla. This is Isla's first season as a squad member at the club, previously she has been playing as a training only member, so we were really pleased to see her take that next step. I can ask anything of Isla and she will put on a show. She is incredibly athletic and versatile, having played in a variety of positions this season, including GK, GD, and C. She already has a mature netball brain which she uses to her defensive advantage; easily plucking intercepts out of the air and making countless gains. She has often analysed a game and requested positional changes based on where she feels she can make the most impact - in my opinion, anywhere on court! Isla is a very talented player and I am looking forward to seeing how her netball career progresses. Last but by no means least, we have Ava T. Ava is a very talented young netballer with an eye for the sport. She reads the game really well and that helps her to be a very effective defender. Often she has asked me how she can better her performance and then immediately implements the advice offered. This season she has started to try and add another string to her bow by practicing the roll round defensive move when marking a taller player. As a coach, it is so rewarding to see Ava's level of enthusiasm and drive in trying to improve her skills in her favoured position. She has come up against a variety of attacking styles this season and has adapted her play beautifully, not only disrupting their flow but gaining experience herself to improve in future games. Overall HLNC Feathers have not had the results they wanted this season, and it's definitely been a season of 'the score did not reflect the game'. However, I am incredibly proud of each player's commitment and perseverance during a tough season. They are a great bunch of girls and I look forward to seeing them progress on their netball journeys 😊
3.3	U14 Roses (Juniors) – Chloe Phillips It's been an outstanding season for the U14 Roses, with the team showing incredible progress, commitment and teamwork throughout the year. The squad has included a mixture of players

	returning from last season alongside several girls new to the club this year, and it's been fantastic to see how quickly they have come together to form such a strong and supportive group. The girls should all be extremely proud of what they have achieved together, finishing the season as league winners after an unbeaten campaign. Across the season, the team scored an incredible 280 goals whilst conceding just 54 goals, highlighting the strength of the squad at both attacking and defensive ends of the court. Not only were the results impressive, but the way the girls approached every game and training session was equally pleasing to see. Their work ethic, determination and attitude throughout the season have been exceptional, and they have continued to improve week after week. The girls have played with confidence, intensity and maturity beyond their years, whilst always supporting and encouraging one another on court. Every player has contributed to the team's success this season. Effie has brought fantastic energy and positivity to the squad and is always keen to ask questions and look for ways to improve her game. Frankie has worked tirelessly throughout the year and consistently gives maximum effort at both training and matches. Harriet has shown great effort in defence and continued to develop her confidence on court. Kianna has made huge improvements across the season and should be really proud of her progress, especially in the shooting circle. Sienna has been a constant source of positivity and energy, always bringing a smile to training and matches. Sophia, despite leaving partway through the season, gave great effort whilst involved and it was lovely to see her return for Carols tournament. Violet has been an outstanding player throughout the season and has shown great adaptability, often playing out of position for the benefit of the team. Anya has once again shown exceptional commitment with 100% attendance for the second year running, alongside demonstrating fantastic leadership qualities throughout the season. Dee Dee has consistently shown great effort and positivity, whilst always asking questions and looking to improve. And finally, Eleanor has been a brilliant all-rounder for the team and has brought great energy and versatility throughout the season. They should all be proud of the role they have played in getting their team to the top of the table. Congratulations as well to those who received awards at the presentation evening and to every single player for representing the U14 Roses so positively throughout the year. A huge thank you goes to all of the parents and volunteers for their continued support throughout the season, whether through transport, support on the sidelines, helping at matches or getting involved in club events and fundraising. Your support is always hugely appreciated and plays such an important role in making the season successful for the girls. Finally, thank you to all of the U14 Roses players for your hard work, commitment and enthusiasm this season. Winning the league is a fantastic achievement and one you should all be incredibly proud of. It's been a pleasure to watch you develop and succeed together as a team, and I look forward to seeing you continue to grow and enjoy your netball next season.
3.4	U14 Warriors (Juniors) - Katie Phillips It's been a positive season for the U14 Warriors. The squad has been made up of a mixture of Year 7-9 players, including those who are newer to netball, younger within the age group, still developing confidence, or continuing to build their understanding of the game. Because of that, the focus this season has very much been on development, enjoyment and creating a positive environment for the girls to learn and grow in. The team finished 3rd out of 5 teams, with 3 wins, 5 losses and 20 points overall, but for this group there have been so many successes away from the results themselves. At training sessions, it's been great to see the girls grow in confidence, improve their communication, and become more willing to back themselves on court. Their effort and attitude each week has been fantastic, and the girls have always brought plenty of energy, positivity and humour to sessions. As a group, they've worked hard, listened well and shown a real willingness to keep learning and

	improving throughout the season. One of the biggest positives this season is seeing the relationships develop across the team. With a mixture of ages and experience levels, the girls have supported each other really well and created a welcoming environment where everyone feels included. It really does feel like the entire team have formed relationships to support one another, with some great friendships blossoming. Although I haven't been at Sunday matches, I've continued to support the team through communication with players and parents, as well as planning rotations and game plans for each match. A huge thank you goes to the match co-ordinators for all of their help and support on Sundays throughout the season. I really appreciate the time and commitment they've all given to the team each week. Whilst I provide rotations and a game plan beforehand, they've also had the flexibility to make changes based on what has or hasn't worked against different opposition, and their support with this has been invaluable. As always, thank you as well to the parents for their continued support throughout the season with transport, encouragement and everything else that goes on behind the scenes. Congratulations to those in the team who won awards at the presentation evening, and thank you to those who really get involved with the social aspect of the club, attending events and getting involved in fundraising efforts. Finally, thank you to all of the Warriors players for your effort, enthusiasm and commitment this season. It's been lovely to watch your confidence grow throughout, and I hope you all continue to enjoy your netball and keep developing going into next season.
3.5	E Team Report – Anita & Charlotte So first things first- we got PROMOTED!! What an incredible season this has been. We are both so proud of how well this squad of ladies/girls has come together: Claire, Amy, Rose, Niamph, Charlotte, Summer, Ellie, Ivy, Anita, Emma, Sofia and Ann-Marie. Having a squad of 12 was sometimes tricky to manage, especially with such great availability for matches. Six players were new to the club, while the rest were existing or returning members. Unfortunately, injuries to Niamph early in the season and Charlotte towards the end meant we had to adapt at times, but thanks to everyone's commitment we consistently fielded full teams with strong substitutions available each week. This allowed us to rotate players where needed and bring on fresh legs to make an impact. And yes... did we mention we got promoted?! We played 14 matches and won 10, finishing second in Division 8 with 55 points — just three behind Bulkington D on 58. Third place went to Ernesford H with 51 points, and Cov NW G finished fourth with 49 points, so it was incredibly close at the top of the table. Thankfully, we kept our cool and secured our place in Division 7 next season. ✓ We scored an incredible 460 goals. ✓ We had the strongest defensive record in the division, conceding just 391 goals - the lowest across all teams — so a huge shout out to our defenders. ✓ We fielded a full team for every match and, on most occasions, had at least nine players available each week. With several new players joining the squad, it did not take long for everyone to settle into their roles. The flexibility shown by everyone to play in different positions for the good of the team was fantastic, and each player's strengths really began to shine throughout the season.

	As mentioned above, our defence has been outstanding. Claire, Amy and Rose have predominantly commanded the circle and been formidable throughout the season. Their energy, communication and countless interceptions made it incredibly difficult for even the strongest opposition to score. Centre court has also been incredibly strong, with Charlotte, Summer, Niamh, Ellie and Ivy bringing energy and versatility throughout the season. As mentioned despite injuries to Niamh and Charlotte, we adapted brilliantly and utilised every player effectively with different combinations. In the shooting circle, Emma, Sofia, Ann-Marie and Anita have all played key roles. Emma and Sofia have both developed tremendously in their first year of senior netball, showing great determination and strength against some very tough defenders. Ann-Marie has continued to be a reliable shooter under pressure and has improved her holding play even further this season. Anita as always brings the experience and keeps the circle options open and calm, especially in the tense moments we have had in some down to the whistle matches. Everyone's positivity towards sharing positions has been commendable. Despite not always playing full matches, there were no eye rolls or disgruntled faces — we genuinely became a proper team, and it always felt that way. As captains, that is incredibly rewarding when trying to be fair whilst remaining competitive. We also had a brilliant social night at the beginning of the season and discovered some very interesting facts about our team! One of our favourites has to be that Sofia is half Swedish and regularly left us all confused when she suddenly started speaking Swedish to her mum on the sideline during matches! Support at all our matches from Sofia's parents and Rose's mum was very much appreciated. A big thank you to Lucy for all her help and advice throughout the season, to our coaches for their continued support, to CP for organising matches and umpires, and of course to the committee for everything they do to keep HLNC running. Finally, a special thank you also goes to Amy for her ongoing support as Vice-Captain whilst we worked through team selections each week — and for her pre-match pep talks that always inspired everyone and got us fired up for the match. It's been a great season and we say bring on season 26/27! Thanks all — Charlotte & Anita
3.6	D Team Report - Jen Paulley I will start this in a fairly standard way... This season, the D team came together as a largely new squad, with many of us not having played together before. There was definitely a settling-in period at the start as we figured each other out, built combinations, and worked out what actually worked on court. But as the season progressed, something really started to click. We became more consistent, more connected, and a lot more confident as a unit. We pushed some strong teams, picked up some great wins, and in the end narrowly missed out on promotion... finishing 3rd in Division 7, and what I like to call... best of the rest. A few stats from our side... • We played 18 games, won 13, lost 5, scored 715 goals and finished with a goal difference of +189. • We also won 14 out of 18 final quarters, which either means we got stronger as games went on... or it took us three quarters to fully wake up. • Our highest score was 54 goals, which we managed twice, and in the second half of the

season we scored 47 more goals than the first half!

But alongside the official stats, there are also some less official team stats that deserve recognition...

- Fastest team decision of the season: opting out of the hamper challenge
- Most commonly ignored phrase in the group chat: "please can everyone update Heja"
- Number of team socials attempted to organise: 4
- Number of team socials executed: 1 (pre-season in September) at 81% attendance.
- Number of fines: 1 (me!)

I've also come up with some individual accolades for each player:

Starting with **Tracey**.

1 of our co-vice captain, voice of reason, and the person who has genuinely kept me sane at times this season. Also picked up the most Player of the Matches from opposition, and thoroughly deserved!

Award: Most likely to actually respond in the group chat.

Jasmin.

The 2nd co-vice captain. Strong across all midcourt positions and navigated a full mid-season position identity crisis before coming out the other side playing some of her best netball. Her feeding and timing improved massively as the season went on. Voted Player's Player of the season for her positivity for consistent team contributions... and thoroughly deserved!

Award: Most likely to be mid-game and mid-thought at the same time.

Bridgette.

First season at HLNC and has slotted in really well. Always willing to learn, always listening, and has worked hard on her positioning, which improved massively over the season.

Award: Most likely to be late, but possibly with Percy Pigs involved.

Lucy Orton.

Special mention, even though we only had her for about five minutes before she got promoted to the Bs. She had a great stint with us and we definitely felt the loss in that trusty WA role afterwards.

Award: Shortest but most impactful cameo.

Ellie.

Probably our fittest player by a mile. Hyrox, gym, netball... it shows. Can play across all midcourt positions and genuinely does not stop running. Ellie also did a great job at being our social media rep alongside Beth, coming up with great ideas for challenges and pulling them all together.

Award: Successfully organising a bunch of mostly millennials for the team challenges.

Beth Swain.

Our super sub, who somehow turns up, slots in seamlessly and just gets on with it every single time. Unfortunately missed the end of the season through injury from work, because casually being a paramedic apparently wasn't chaotic enough already.

Award: Least phased by absolutely anything!

Caron.

A very experienced player who's played at much higher levels, but also one of the kindest and most supportive teammates. Always helping behind the scenes, always staying behind while I'm locking up, always making sure things are sorted.

Also personally responsible for about 90% of the team's sweet supply.

Award: Owner of the only ball pump that actually works!

Maia.

Started the season injured but still showed up to support when she could! Came back with a bang and produced some brilliant defensive performances, even if staying upright became optional

	towards the end of the season. Award: Most likely to roll an ankle but still carry on. Ella. Solid, reliable, and always delivers. Strong in GK but flexible enough to play out when needed. On a side note, was a fantastic Traitor! Award: Most likely to be @-ed in the group chat for not answering a poll or updating Heja. And finally, Hannah. Covers so much ground at GDWD against some very nippy attackers and just does not stop working. And of course... Award: Most iconic one-word court call... "YUP". What's been great about this team is how much we've grown together. We've gone from a group still figuring things out... to a team that competes, supports each other, and genuinely enjoys playing together. The progress across the season has been huge, both individually and collectively. I'm very proud of what we've achieved this season. And if this is what we can do in year one as a squad... I think next season could be even better and hopefully many of us will continue to play together (Trials pending!).
3.7	C team Report – Karen Malkin The C team lost a couple of players this season but gained some valuable new ones in Sue, Amber, Alice, Kim and Dara. Unfortunately, throughout the season we lost Alice to the B's and Dara left us towards the end of the season and to cap it off Kim sustained a nasty injury to her ankle which put her out for quite a few weeks too. However, we didn't let any of this bother us and continued to turn up and work hard for every game. Katie, Chloe, Sue and Alice (before she moved on) made for a strong attacking combination and Kim, Anna, Amber and myself (when I played) held our own in defence, especially against some tough opposition in the 2 Ernesford teams and Godiva. Dara and Velvet had a shaky start but were starting to work better together when Dara left I've left Velvet until last because as Captain (and I'm sure my co-captain will agree) I could not be prouder. She has gained so much confidence this season, in her personality, her skill and resilience on court. She's faced some pretty tough defence but stood her ground and excelled. The whole team have really pulled together and worked for each other, I think we can be proud of the 5th place position in the tables. Just to end I'd like to thank my co-captain, Amber, we've worked well together and supported each other through the good games and the bad. Also : ➤ The committee for ensuring that Hinckley remains the same great club it's always been ➤ The umpires for ensuring the games can go ahead ➤ The coaches for ensuring we have the knowledge and skills to kick ass ➤ And lastly the team for being totally awesome and smashing the 25/26 season
3.8	B Team Report - Cara Stuckey This was my first full season back at Hinckley Ladies after my travels last year (don't worry, I'll

	stop mentioning it now), and honestly, what a season it's been. We came into Division 3 off the back of a brilliant promotion last year, and aside from a pretty settled squad, we welcomed some fantastic additions. Lucy Steele joined us bringing not only great netball knowledge but also top-tier positivity and Jess Rainbow came in after trials ready to boss the midcourt. I genuinely couldn't be prouder of this B team. There's so much talent in this group, and a huge highlight of the season has to be staying up in a brand-new, more competitive division. That was always going to be a challenge, and finishing 5th with 9 wins and 9 losses is something we should all feel really good about. One of our biggest strengths this season has been versatility. Players have switched positions, adapted, and stepped up whenever needed which really shows the depth and flexibility we have as a team. That said, it definitely hasn't all been smooth sailing and we've had more than our fair share of challenges this season. First came the A team retrial after D'arcey's lovely pregnancy news, which meant we lost Jess Rainbow, but in true B team fashion, we rolled with it and gained Lucy Orton from the D team, who despite initial reluctance, came in and absolutely proved her worth. Just when we thought things had settled, along came another baby announcement from Molly which meant another reshuffle. This time we lost Erika Payne, but gained Alice Bates from the C team, who has been an equally brilliant addition. Both Lucy and Alice have slotted in seamlessly and brought so much to the squad. A big mention also to our other midcourters, especially Annis Pears, who has spent a lot of time this season bravely donning the WD bib instead of her usual GD position and doing an amazing job. Our other defensive unit made up of Emma Draycott and Lucy Chapman, our favourite 6-footers, made it their personal mission to stop the ball entering the circle. The rebounds they've picked up without even seeming to move have been nothing short of impressive, and it's no surprise we ended up with one of the lowest goals conceded in the division. If there's one area where we've had consistency, it's been in attack. I've loved watching CP and Hannah grow into such a strong, confident shooting partnership. Week after week they've held their nerve, handled the pressure, and delivered. Training attendance has been a bit hit and miss at times, which is something we can definitely improve on going forward but I just want to say a huge thank you to every single B team player. Your patience, resilience, and willingness to step up has been incredible. I'm really excited to see what happens in the season ahead.
3.9	A Team Report - Holly Hemsley Where to begin... Not many teams can say that they started the season with 8 players and then finished with a squad of 12 (albeit two members "in womb" and the majority of the rest a slightly broken bunch). I want to start by saying a massive congratulations again to both D'arcey and Molly, who definitely have the best reason for missing out on game time this season. Between them they are 2/7ths of the way there in creating our mixed NXT Gen team at HLNC – only 5 more spaces available! However, if everyone could coordinate future signings to arrive outside of netball season that would be perfect. We're all super happy and excited for you both and can't wait to meet our new members 😊 After losing both D'arce and Mol, we made the decision to dip into our club's deep pool of talent and run trials for both squad positions in our team. This had a knock-on effect on our B team, who then in turn took multiple dips into our club's talent pool. I wanted to say a massive thank you to everyone who signed up to a retrial and commend them on putting themselves forward; they made the selectors decisions really difficult and that speaks volumes to the quality of talent we have in our club. I personally feel our retrial procedure was spot on and have since received

feedback from multiple members of another club to say that they wished they had a similar process to follow. Special mention goes to Lucy Marsden & Molly Insley, who I feel managed the entire process flawlessly and with professionalism.

Performance-wise the first half of the season was mixed but pretty solid. Matches in division 1 are always pretty crazy, you can never take your foot off the gas as teams are so unpredictable. We won't dwell on our first game loss to Cov & NW, because that was overshadowed by a smashing win against Henley 77-50 and the start of our winning streak. We went on to beat Ernesford by 13-goals and then Bulkington by 1 in a tightly contested game. Fun fact: in all 3 fixtures the other teams each scored 50-goals – our magic defensive number?

I had begun to write a scathing report of our next game, but I realised it was just a regurgitation of our complaint to the league, so instead I've erased it all and will simply state that our winning streak took a slight hit after playing the delightful Copsewood. Note: a copy of the complaint in addition to video evidence can be accessed at a price of £5 per view, all funds raised go to HLNC. Our magic defensive number was back in play for our next game, where we beat Highway at night, 56-50 – my notes from this game include: "everyone was on fire", "10/10 would recommend", and "insane performance". A tight loss followed when we played Ambleside, but we finished the first half of the season with a nice win against Harbury, which pushed us to a comfortable 4th position on the league table.

A lot of exciting things happened in the first half of the season, and so I wrote on my Christmas list to Santa that I would love a drama-free second half...Santa did not deliver.

We returned a little tentative after Christmas, having not played for a few weeks and our first match being a night game, however once we got stuck in we really took off. We played Bulkington on the 12th Jan and it started pretty evenly, with us narrowly edging ahead at half time by 5-goals. Then the third quarter fire kicked in and we slayed them 17 goals to 6 in just those 15-minutes. Fun fact: based on averages per quarter, we performed better in both attack and defence in the third quarter of every game. With an average number of goals scored of 14.56 and an average number of goals conceded of 11.

Our winning streak continued, and we left the court the following week feeling rejuvenated after taking revenge on Cov & NW, smashing them 68-45. Spirits were high and that boded well as we came face to face with Synergy the following week. A game plan was prepped, and all players were briefed and confident in their role to disrupt Synergy's secret weapon... Steph. They had the home advantage, but we arrived buzzing after back-to-back wins the previous weeks and hungry for another. Clinical play and teamwork meant that we were able to prevent the 'blue giant' from gaining possession and provided our attackers with plenty of opportunities at goal. Special mention goes to Daisy for her flying performance and strong hands, making easy work of Synergy's misfeeds and turning over countless ball. We earnt the 8-goal win and I'd say that was probably one of my peaks for the season as a proud captain 😊

The remainder of the season was a blur. Made up of more wins; some scrappy (Henley), some clean (Copsewood, shock!), a couple of hard fought losses (Ernesford & Synergy), a variation of playing conditions (hail, rain, sun, wind etc.), a 6-week break due to one thousand wildcards, and the most injuries in one team that I have ever witnessed in my 20-years at this club.

First, we had Jess' carpal tunnel operation, which meant that she was out for a couple of games whilst her hand healed. At some point in the 6-week break I tripped over at pay and play and sprained my wrist, but didn't visit the doctors until about 4-weeks later, where I was told to rest for at least 2-weeks - LOL. Instead, my solution was to strap it up and crack on because... illness struck Vic in our top of the table clash with Highway, so we were down to 6. Cara made her debut for the A team, playing the entire 60-mins at WD and absolutely smashing her first game...and Daisy's nose... Another player down, with a non-displaced fracture to her nose and suspected concussion, meant that there was a consistent plea in the captains chat each week for all players planning to spectate to come in kit and be ready to play. Roll on the following week where we faced Ambleside. Before the game, I was umpiring the E team away at Highway and found in the

fourth quarter that I couldn't turn my head to the right nor lift up my right arm without a shooting pain in my shoulder. I managed to finish umpiring one handed, drove home, drugged up on cocodamol, and got Tom to shove a wine bottle nozzle in my shoulder blade to loosen the tension. Happily loosened, and mostly pain free, I headed over to Ambleside where we won by a clear 10-goals. Vic was back from illness for that game but suffered a tumble in the second quarter, rolling her ankle. She was down for a worrying amount of time but eventually got up and excused it for shock rather than injury, so she played the remainder of the game without noticeable limitation. Feeling pleased that we had narrowly escaped another match seemingly injury free, I skipped off the courts to my car to journey over to Nottingham for one of the Loughborough Lightning games. I get to my car and find Lucy, feet up on the dashboard with an icepack around her ankle – she'd rolled it in the first quarter. A couple of days later I then get a text from Vic that her ankle has ballooned and is actually far worse than she initially thought. Vic's ankles don't snap back quite like Lucy's do, and so she was ruled out for 4-6 weeks with ligament damage. Pass me the 'shoulder loosening' bottle of wine.

Jess made an early return in our next match, so thankfully the entire defensive end wasn't out of action simultaneously. Despite it being a night game, we had plenty of support and subs from the B's, who shouted encouragement in a manner and frequency wholly dictated by the umpires... We suffered an unlucky loss against Ernesford which unfortunately meant our path to promotion became nearly impossible. A lovely win against Harbury the following weekend (only one nosebleed suffered) meant that it all came down to our final match vs Synergy. They are the perfect team to come up against in a promotion battle; skilful, strong, clean, and equally deserving of one of the top spots. We solidified a gameplan again and worked tirelessly to execute it. Unfortunately, Synergy had adapted their play since our last encounter, and patience in their attack meant it was a goal for goal game right up until the final whistle. We fell short of the 6-goal win needed for promotion, but Synergy's 5-points meant that they finished top of division 1 (above Copsewood), so it was a loss that we could accept with some satisfaction.

Despite missing out on promotion by 6-goals, I can wholeheartedly say that we have bloody slayed this season. We dominated, we persevered, we adapted, we were versatile, and I feel that everyone has improved themselves as players over these past months. We finished our 2025/26 season in a respectable 4th, despite playing a third of our "Saturday league" matches on an evening midweek, and against very competitive teams. It wasn't meant to be this year, but I have full confidence we'll get that promotion spot next season.

I would now like to take this opportunity to say some thank yous:

Firstly, a huge thank you to my fabulous Vice Captain Mol for all the hard work she did on and off the court this season. She's been my kit bag carrier, voice note extraordinaire, sense checker, eyes from the sideline, and a massive support to not only me but the team and club as a whole. She always has something positive to say in team talks and brings all round good vibes. I have especially enjoyed her incorporation of Chinese Whispers to her role from the sideline - she's had to utilise this method frequently when trying to sneak me messages on court whilst I'm in my own little world - classic.

Thank you to the queen that is D'arcey; for being our terrific team social secretary, offering constructive advice and solid support from the sideline, and for waiting until after you got player of the match before tapping out for the season. I've missed seeing my Thanos quoting sister on court, so I'm extra buzzed to start the new season.

Thank you to Franny for carrying basically all of the shooting pressure this season, putting up with me bossily telling you to be more bossy, providing us all with great footage on the gram, humiliating the Copsewood defence in our return fixture, and reminding me which elements of the warm up I miss each week.

Thank you to Miss Lucy Marsden for: smashing it in every position I chuck you in, having "indestructible ankles", perfectly demonstrating an excellent bend & snap, proving you can catch a ball with any body part, keeping heads high & never giving up, and for being an all-round legend.

	Thank you to Beth for your ability to jump higher than people twice your size, changing your tone of voice so that some teammates can hear you better, turning over the most ball a midcourt player has ever done ever, providing important coaching advice and vision in team talks, and for not breaking your nose in our second to last game because if you had then I might have just quit there and then. Thank you again to Erika & Jess for both signing up to retrial and gelling with the squad super quickly. Erika, your work rate is insane and your ability to take on coaching and adapt your game so fast is admirable. We do need to work on your eagerness to put the “fight” in “fight or flight” when faced with an overly physical opposition – thank god you didn’t have to deal with Copsewood in round 1! Jess, thank you for your incred commitment, playing in not one but two games some weeks during the transition period, being flexible and adapting to everything I’ve asked of you, and also for being part of the fundraising squad who put on an incredibly fun Traitors evening which I for one, thoroughly enjoyed! “The Boy” also asked me to pass on his thanks. Thank you to Vic for being the loveliest person ever, for remaining supportive from the sidelines whilst injured, for putting up with me pushing you around the circle in every direction I cba to reach, and for remaining composed when hearing me shout across the court “Stick Vic!”. Thank you to Daisy for being iconic, easily keeping attackers out of the game and making it look effortless, for being pivotal in taking down the “blue giant” & for returning in time to face her for round two, and finally for filling the kitty with fines (lol defensive breaking). A big thanks to every member of the club who has come along to sub, spectate, or support us in any way this season. It feels like it’s been a whole club effort, and we should be super proud of our results across each division. Special thanks go to the gals who got on court and made it possible for us to field a team of 7 every week: Anna Clayden, Annis Pears, Cara Stuckey, Hannah Wallace, and Lucy Chapman. You’re all fabulous. And finally, a big thank you to our club committee, without whom we wouldn’t be able to play the sport we love. Thank you all, loves ya xox
3.10	Sign off Captains reports Proposed: Cara Stuckey Second: Jess Rainbow
4.	REVIEW OF HLNC CONSTITUTION 2025/2026 & HLNC POLICIES
4.1	Couple of policy decisions – as per the power point presentation shared with all. Lucy also sending to all committee after the meeting. ➤ AGM to be compulsory as a mandatory date – voted on and agreed. ➤ Split tournaments and events officer roles – propose (see slide) - voted on and agreed. ➤ Squads and selections – supersub section as per slide – add max 2 for each squad ideally 8 full time members and keep flexibility - voted on and agreed. ➤ Upgrade training – super sub members to be agreed on a case by case basis and re extra training – Caron suggested that they ‘ pay extra’ and not specify an amount. In the Criteria, we will also add in ‘injuries’ to policy - voted on and agreed. ➤ Feedback from trials – this can be requested as per wording from slide – a voted on and agreed.

5.	ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2025/26 SEASON HLNC runs entirely thanks to its volunteers – including the committee members who work behind the scenes making sure HLNC is operating effectively for all club members We are always keen to have new committee members to bring their enthusiasm & new ideas into the club. Most activity is completed outside of committee meetings, however we do have 4 meetings per year of c2.5hrs duration. Executive roles are required to attend all committee meetings. Non-executive roles are not required to attend all meetings but are welcome to do so, and are asked to attend when specific agenda items require their input. When not attending, information can be submitted into the meeting via the Secretary.
-----------	---

The roles were briefly discussed and the new Committee was voted in as follows :

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ROLES

	Name	Proposed & Seconded
• Senior Chair	Lucy Marsden	Role for a 2 year period (second year)
• Vice Chair	Molly Savage	Role for a 2 year period (second year)
• General Secretary	Anita King	Lucy Marsden Daisy Savage
• Membership Secretary	Amber Nixon	Emma Draycott Anita King
• Treasurer	Jen Paulley	Molly Savage Jess Rainbow
• Fixtures & Umpires Secretary	Carol Payne	Caron Ogden Amber Nixon
• Safeguarding Officers	Molly Savage & Cara Stuckey	Katie Phillips Fran Tomassoni

NON EXEC COMMITTEE ROLES -

	Name	Proposed & Seconded
• Juniors fixtures and umpires secretary	Caron Ogden	Lucy Marsden Katie Phillips
• Junior general secretary	Katie Phillips	Lucy Marsden Jen Paulley
• Junior Coaching manager	Chloe Phillips	Anita King CP
• Junior team reps	Lucy Marsden, Holly Hemsley, Cara Stuckey, Chloe Phillips	Amber Nixon Emma Draycott
• Junior match Sunday co-ordinators	Ann-Marie Copple, Amy Stuckey, A further request for an extra 1 or 2 persons to be put out to the club	Lucy Marsden Molly Savage
• Facilities officer	Daisy Savage	Katie Phillips Caron Ogden
• Tournaments	Victoria Stevens Amy Stuckey	Molly Savage Jen Paulley
• Events	Cara Stuckey Kaz Malkin	Fran Tomassoni Jess Rainbow

	Emma Draycott	
• Fundraising officer & co-ordination of fund raising events	Jess Rainbow Charlotte Pinkham Summer Ashley	Lucy Marsden Amber Nixon
• Communications & Media officers	Cara Stuckey	Victoria Stevens CP
• Senior Coaching Manager	Holly Hemsley	Lucy Marsden Anita King
6.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS & ACTIONS ARISING	
6.1	Lucy raised some points that the League are discussing in a forthcoming Council meeting and then League AGM concerning the setting of times for fixtures. CP raised concerns for those clubs that do not have regular use of courts and who will not be able to provide the team venues at the beginning of the season – conversations took place. We decided to vote on this suggestion, results from meeting : ➤ Stay with current timings & practice – 12 voted in favour ➤ Go with new proposals and have times fixed at beginning of season - 8 voted in favour Anita to attend Council meeting and feedback any further concerns and messages ready for voting on at the League AGM.	
6.2	Following the Treasurers report, Caron mentioned there was a previous spreadsheet used for Budget purposes that may be useful to forward to Jen – Lucy also acknowledged that there was one so look will look at previous notes – it includes information on various items and planning for budgeting. Action – Lucy to locate and forward to Treasurer.	
7.	SET PROVISIONAL DATE FOR NEXT YEAR'S AGM - ALL TO HOLD WEDNESDAY, MAY 5TH 2027	