

**CUMBERLAND NETBALL CLUB
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
MINUTES**

**7pm Monday 14th June 2010
La Caponata, 3-7 Delancey Street, Camden**

Apologies from committee members: Joanne Studholme

1. Chairman's Welcome

Welcome everyone to the AGM.

This year has been a very special year for me in my role as Club Chairman, for so many reasons, but primarily because it has been the 10th anniversary of the Club.

Cumberland Netball Club was formed in 2000, by Rhiannon Hamilton (nee Leyshon) and started as a small group of friends (approximately 10) most of whom had played University netball together. I joined the Club in 2001 and since then I have seen the Club grow into one of the most successful clubs in London, an achievement I feel very privileged and proud to have been a part of.

Year on year our A teams have out-performed themselves, gaining promotion through the NLNL divisions until we won the League, gaining entry into and winning the County League, winning the invitation Poly League, winning both the County and Poly tournaments, and gaining promotion in consecutive years in the Regional League to find ourselves in the National Premier League! Wow, what an achievement in 10 years!

This success has been duplicated throughout the whole Club's teams, with some significant achievements, developments and improvements over the last 10 years, with many teams winning promotions in the local and County leagues. A special mention must go to the B team who this year won the County league and gained promotion into the Regional League.

I feel it is very fitting that in our 10th year the Club has become a Premier League Club, A Regional League Club, a County League Club and a local league Club – thank you and congratulations to all of you that have helped to achieve this success. I look forward to celebrating with you all properly at this year's special 10 year anniversary ball on 23rd July.

However, I'm not only proud of our competitive achievements, I am also proud of the community we've created. When you join Cumberland Netball Club you are not just buying a membership to play netball, you are buying a membership into an amazing Cumberland community that offers a huge variety of opportunities to you. This community offers life long friendships, personal and professional development, support and guidance, team work, travel, and a whole lot of fun and laughter.

George and I received a letter recently from Leanne (who sadly is leaving us this year to return home to Australia) which I would like to share with you all and is attached to my report. Her letter illustrates so clearly this Cumberland community, an achievement I feel is



actually greater than our competitive achievements.

Whilst we have achieved competitively and socially, we have however not done so well financially this year. We predicted last year that we may make a loss this year, and this predication came true, despite bringing in substantial amounts from sponsorship and fundraising. The treasurer's report to come will provide more details, however there are some hard financial decisions to be made this year (I apologise for sounding like the new government!).

And finally I would like to acknowledge and thank those members of the Club, who work tirelessly for the benefit of all the Club's members and without whom the success the Club has achieved would not exist. They work tirelessly both on the front line and behind the scenes, to develop players, to provide opportunities to all our players and volunteers, to ensure training and matches go ahead, to ensure the often complicated administration of the club is completed, to ensure we are promoting the Club and bringing in funding and sponsorship, to ensure we are solvent and financially secure, and to ensure we all play and compete in a safe and enjoyable environment.

First of all I would like to thank the Clubs umpires and coaches. Without umpires there would be no matches and without coaches we would not be as good as we are.

Thank you to all the coaches – Krista Priscott, Kim North, Georgina Partridge, Leanne Bland, Rachel Urquhart, Chaz Blythe, Lois Tucker, Jane Spalding, Caroline Chiltern, Nia Prys-Williams, and Shaheen Lodhi

Thank you to the umpires - Rachel Zillwood, Rose McCarter, Claire Graham, Nia Prys-Williams, Clare Bacon, Sarah McIntyre, Zoe Lane, Rosie Bayman and all those that umpired junior games.

You have all have spent considerable time studying, learning, practicing, planning, delivering and putting yourselves out there for the Club's benefit, and I'd like to acknowledge the Club's gratitude, appreciation and thanks.

Secondly thank you to the Committee, a group of outstanding volunteers, who donate their skills, expertise, hard work and commitment to the running of the Club and prove that our competitive and social achievements are well and truly matched by our administrative achievements. I would like to thank each and every one of you for your hard work.

Georgina Partridge (Club Secretary) - for all her tireless work as club secretary and the huge amounts of admin and responsibility that come with this role.

Kim North (Coaching and Umpiring Secretary) - not only does she coach and umpire herself but she has made a huge contribution to the co-ordination, recruitment and development of the coaching and umpiring teams at Cumberland

Rose McCarter, Elaine Thompson and Emma Clark - for assisting Kim in the umpiring role and organising all our umpires for all the leagues the teams compete in, an unenviable job.

Kirsty Smith and Andy Johnson (Club Development Officers) - for working so hard this year to maintain and develop our Silver Caps award and starting the work towards for next year's



Gold Award (which we will achieve!)

Chaz Blythe (Affiliation and Membership Secretary, Rallies Secretary) – for her genius organisation of the many complex league registrations, EN affiliations and of course our own membership requirements, as well as her contributions to the Rallies secretary role

Joanne Studholme (Treasurer) - who has done an immense job managing our finances and keeping us all in check

Sam Howlett-Bolton and Rose McCarter (Social Secretaries) - for the renowned Cumberland socials many of us have enjoyed.

Natalie Cowie (Marketing and Publicity Secretary) – for getting us included in the Camden New Journal and reports on the website

Caroline Chiltern (Enquiries Secretary) – for dealing with unending enquiries and new members that contract the Club

Lois Tucker (Equipment and Kit Secretary) - for doing a brilliant job of the very difficult task of organising, ordering and distributing all our Club kit and equipment

Karen Carter (Sponsorship Secretary) – Karen stepped into this role, after it had stood vacant for a number of seasons and has done brilliantly in her first year, bringing in over £2000 worth of funding.

Eve Turner (Junior Representative) – for attending those boring committee meetings and ensuring the Committee is considering (appropriately) the needs of our younger members

Rachel Urquhart and Laura Jane Paulin (Welfare/Safeguarding Officers) – for all the work you are doing with and for our junior members ensuring the club is catering for them and looking after them

Claire Risk (Volunteer Coordinator) – for taking on this unknown and new role at such short notice and already making a big impact

Rosie Bayman (Webmaster) – for keeping our website up to date

Team Captains - Polini, Nat, Hannah, Sam, Jane, Elaine, Rose, Chaz, Rachel, Nia, Kirsty and Shaheen – I hope your team's appreciate you all as much as I do, because without you we'd all be

I would like to also give particular and personal thanks to George who has been a brilliant secretary over the last few years, and has supported me massively in my role as Chair this season. To Joanne who has worked incredibly hard to bring our finances into check and to guide and help us through some difficult decisions (some still to come). And to George (again) and Leanne who I've loved coaching S2 with this year. Thank you.

There a small number of people standing down from their positions this year, mainly due to family or work commitments. **Sam, Rachel, and Rosie** your invaluable contributions shall be sorely missed, thank you again. And I would like to take this opportunity to encourage all members of the club to think about joining this excellent group of volunteers.

And finally, I'm almost there I promise, there are three special people I would like mention who are all leaving the Club this year.



Petra Keogh has been playing with the Club for almost as long as I have and has made a significant contribution to the success of the A team. She's seen the team through from those early NLNL and Acton League days right through to our current entry into the Premiership. Despite dabbling with Academy and Brunel Hurricanes she always returned to us, sometimes with a player or coach or two in tow. Petra is leaving us this year to live in Australia, and I shall be very sorry to see her go, we shall miss you in the A team, particularly in the Premier League and what a shame you couldn't stay for one more season to play with us on a National level. I wish you and your family lots of love and luck in your new life in Aus, keep in touch and keep on playing.

Krista Priscott and Leanne Bland, two fantastic coaches, who have had such a big impact on the Club and our teams over the last few years. Krista has been a fantastic player and more recently coach to the As, I know the whole team are gutted about your departure. Leanne, you have also been a great coach (and sometimes player) and I've seen lots of messages from S2 about what a difference you've made to them. I shall miss you both very much, and I know this is shared by many in the Club. Thank you so much for your contributions over the years you've been with us, we shall miss you very much and hope one day you will return to the Cumberland Community.

2. Minutes of the AGM held on 28th June 2008 and matters arising

Minutes agreed. Proposed by JC and seconded by TK

3. Treasurer's Report

The purpose of the club is to break even each year, with all funds being raised (from membership fees and fundraising) being fed back into the development of the club and its players. To do this however, the club needs to have a certain amount of ring fenced money to pay for affiliations, enter leagues and purchase equipment -in addition to purchasing kit which happens prior to payment being received from members.

Fees set last year were based on 176 members. Actual members including (including juniors and part year joiners etc) were around 127 - and hence the reason that costs were not covered.

Going forward, the club faces an exciting year in terms of progress and development but a tough year in terms of determining the future security of the club.

Increases in the court fees at Camden, the lack of secured sponsorship and the chance that league fees may not be funded means the club needs to set its fee level carefully.

I appreciate that this is a large increase on last year, however, it can be seen from this and last years results that the fees were subsidised by monies accumulated by the club in prior years and by donations from Des Grech. The proposed increase to the cost per member per week is £1.28 to ensure that the club continues as an entity, and continues to strive to achieve the best for it's players. In additional, in setting this level I have reviewed the fees of



other similar clubs such as Blaze, Hyde Park and Palmers Green (for which the information is available on their websites) and found that Cumberland is still at the lower end of this array.

As mentioned, the purpose of the club is not to make a profit - it is to ensure that there are enough funds to provide the coaching, facilities and equipment the club needs in order to develop the club and its members. If membership numbers increase and therefore the funds in the club increase - this will be fed back to the members as a benefit either through subsidise membership next year or through other club funded events in the year.

I would like to take this opportunity to stress to you all that we should be looking to all avenues to try to obtain external funding for the club - be it a new ball, a set of bibs or a cash donation - every little helps.

You will also see that the club has a large amount of stock at the year end - if you want to purchase any new kit, please speak to Lois and do this asap - and do your bit to free up some cash for the club.

In order to ensure we can provide the committee with the most up to date financial information, I would like to propose Becky Salmon is appointed as Assistant Treasurer and thank her for her interest in contributing her time to the club.

4. Secretaries' Reports

Club Secretary – Georgina Partridge

Yet another successful ,netballing ,year for Cumberland.

One of the great things about tonight is that everyone gets to hear about people that work hard for the club and their team, who perhaps might go under the radar. Starting from the top, as most of you will know the A's have been promoted again, this being the 3rd year running. Cumberland can now proudly say we are a National League Netball Club. We are looking forward to seeing what happens next season and whether a fourth year of promotion is on the cards. The Bs had a fantastic season and set themselves the target of winning Middlesex County League to secure a place in the Regional League playoffs. It's great when a plan comes together. I'm looking forward to hearing the targets for next season. The Cs now have the opportunity to be the new rising stars of North London and Middlesex next season.

Competition in the North London League and Middlesex was challenging, but we've had some excellent results. I had the pleasure of coaching the Ds, Es and Fs this season and have really seen some huge progress and success amongst the teams. The Ds and Es certainly had a bit of a stormer!

Much of today will be recognizing players and their achievements so I would like to use this spot to thank everyone on the committee. The committee meets up every six weeks or so to muse and discuss the new and topical issues at Cumberland HQ. Once the meeting is over the work begins, with netball admin taking over individuals spare time. There is a lot of



work done behind the scenes to make Cumberland run smoothly; to maintain our caps status, enter into all our leagues and divisions, affiliating members organize umpires and coaches and volunteers, manage our junior section, collect subs, make sure everyone is kitted out and importantly making sure that our netballing social lives are on track! A big thank you to all.

There are a couple of names I would personally like to mention for this season:

- Jo. There has been a lot of work done by Jo behind the scenes and delving into our financial situation. I wanted to thank you for being super efficient helping to manage a few issues recently.
- Andy & Kirsty. Who quietly get on with their committee role in an efficient and diligent way and provide important advice and experience on committee decisions.

On a final note

I have really noticed our relationships and interaction with leagues, umpires and other teams alike is extremely positive. It is testament to all of us that make up Cumberland and our positive and enthusiastic attitude to netball and each other.

Well done Everyone!

Membership & Affiliation – Chaz Blythe

In the 2009/10 season our numbers of members has shrunk since last year, from 139 to around 93, mainly due to the fact that we are no longer running the development squad. We still have an active junior section, with more than 30 11-16 year-olds.

The related administration has run quite smoothly this season: membership forms and fees have come in from new members without the need for us to chase in too many cases, (in fact it's been more of a task chasing form from existing members!) and I'd like to remind everyone that we do need new membership forms filled in each season to ensure we have up to date contact and emergency contact information.

England Netball's affiliations process has been a mixed bag with their online system frequently crashing or locking us out having not registered our payments, however there have been assurances that there will be an improved system next season so I'm looking forward to less hassle there!

On league registrations, we've had an excellent season. Cumberland has 6 adult teams playing in 5 different leagues, and it's a true team effort between myself, coaches, umpiring secretaries and all of the captains to make sure we stay on the right side of their different rules for registering players, for play-ups, promotions, etc. Everyone has worked really hard with me this season, and I'd like to thank them for all their patience and prompt replies when I've been calling them up on Thursday afternoons before the weekend's registration deadlines! I am very proud to say that all this hard work has really paid off, and throughout the entire season (despite one close shave!) we haven't incurred a single penalty point in any of the leagues for our senior teams! And in Middlesex (where penalty points are



published) no other club with more than 1 team in the league (we have 4) has managed a clean sheet – so well done everyone. Let's replicate this next season.

Enquiries – Caroline Chilton

Enquiries have been down slightly on last year, with 253 emails received enquiring about joining our club since I took over in March, and 138 received since the season started in September. The newly introduced 'New Members Training sessions' have mostly been very successful (thanks Yvonne, George, Kim and Leanne for running them), although I think the final one of the season was only attended by 2 people. Not everyone attending has joined, but there are a number of players who joined mid-season who are now key members of many of our teams (and very much appreciated!).

The SPAM problems of last year have been minimal, although we have won a number of French Lotteries. I also keep receiving promotions inviting us to appear on reality TV shows.

Any other enquiries are generally passed on to higher authority (i.e. Kim) including the two messages received threatening to take the club to court (1 from a kit supplier and one from the Olympic 2012 committee). However, I believe all issues have now been resolved, so we can move into next season crisis-free!

Kit & Equipment – Lois Tucker

2009/2010 season saw the new exclusive Cumberland Kukri netball dresses rolled out to the A squad. The dresses are navy and white, racer back with Cumberland branding on the front and back.

The dresses have proved popular with the team and we've had a lot of positive comments about them. The kukri dress will be rolled out to the senior members of the club for the 2010/11 season.

This season also saw the introduction of the Cumberland hoodie which proved a popular alternative to the Gilbert tracksuit top and the Running Bare long sleeve tops which I know were appreciated in the colder months to wear under dresses.

New training aids were used including floor spots and tennis balls for fresh ideas reaction drills.

Next season we are looking in to more training balls and better storage for them, branded kit bags and other accessories. This will be dependent on deals and sponsorship as to ether we get subsidised prices.

Sponsorship – Karen Carter

It's been a fairly successful first year of securing additional funding for the club. Although we do not have an official sponsor in the traditional sense, we have received the following:



1. Over the season, we have received 2 incredibly generous personal donations from Des Grech, totalling £2,000. As a close friend, he is happy to support the growth and development of Cumberland and doesn't wish to appear as an official sponsor. Should we need this on a continual basis, Des is happy to donate a further £1,000 every 6 months to ensure we have sufficient funds as a club to continue to progress. Although nothing formal has been done to thank Des for his contribution and outward generosity, I would like to suggest that we thank him officially at the Black Tie Ball and present him with a small token of our gratitude and appreciation.
2. We ran a fundraising event in April this year which was a 'Comedy Night' in Camden. I would like to personally thank everyone who attended and particularly those who sold numerous tickets. I hope you all agree that it was a really fun night and we raised £450 as a result. Great work girls!
3. Running Bare (sports clothing brand) have continued their links with Cumberland this season and they have reconfirmed the following:
 - a. They have maintained a 10% discount across all of their clothing and product lines for all Cumberland members
 - b. They have kindly donated the prizes for the AGM this evening
 - c. They will be hosting a stand at the weekend of our trials in August to offer additional discounts across all products
 - d. They will not be able to offer actual funding this season and will re-address the situation at the end of the year
 - e. For further details, please refer to www.runningbare.co.uk
4. Additional events organised this season have included a winter and spring BMF session that ran at Hampstead Heath. They were great fun, yet exhausting(!) events and between 35-40 girls attended each session. BMF ran these closed events for us at a highly discounted rate and if anyone would like to officially join up as a member, we have a corporate discount through Cumberland Netball Club of £40 per month for unlimited attendance. Further details can also be found at www.britmilfit.com

Initial plans for next year include the following:

- Confirm meeting with The Cumberland Hotel based in Marble Arch to discuss official sponsorship opportunities. I have had an initial discussion with the Sales Manager and the Marketing Director and I now need to establish next steps.
- Run 2 more fundraising events similar to last year throughout the season to include another Comedy night and a day at the Races (other options are available). Both present us with an opportunity to raise circa £500 per event.
- Explore further links with the UCS Rugby Club. Joint events have taken place already this season and they are currently talking to the 'Walkabout' bars regarding official sponsorship and there is a potential opportunity to join forces with them.
- As discussed, Des Grech is happy to continue to provide his financial support should this be needed.



- Continue discussion with 'Sweaty Betty' for official funding. I did approach them at the start of this season but we lost momentum, so I need to pick this up again.
- Liaise closely with the new PR Secretary to establish what additional publicity may be possible this year in light of the clubs promotions into the National and Regional leagues (in order to make us an attractive prospect for potential organisations).

Finally, one request from me is to ask if anyone who has branding or marketing experience can support me initially over the next month or so to update the sponsorship pack again following all the changes this year. Payment of gratitude and Pinot is promised!!

Also, if anyone has any ideas for other ways to increase our funding or any contacts that may prove beneficial, then please let me know at karen.carter@qa.com.

Thank you and here's to a fabulous and lucrative new season!!!

Publicity Report – Natalie Cowie

Cumberland has maintained its good relationship with Camden New Journal this season with match reports published early in the season for Cumberland A team and a season round up focussing on the success of the A & B team promotions in particular currently being written. We continue to contribute to the Middlesex newsletter and local Camden magazines when the opportunity arises.

The current focus in publicity is on sponsorship for the 2010-2011 season. We are currently in contact with both the Camden New Journal and London Metro in an effort to find a sponsor for the A team for the 2010-2011 season to cover the elevated travel expenses due to playing in the national league. A sponsorship deal for the national league team would help raise the profile of the club in the long run and help secure future sponsorship opportunities in the future.

Development – Andrea Johnson & Kirsty Smith

The club achieved re-accreditation of Silver Caps status this year, and we hope to gain Gold next season pending on the club acquiring a level 3 coach.

Two of the new requirements for CAPs were the appointments of a Club Volunteer Coordinator, which Claire Risk has accepted, and Safeguarding Officer, which LJ Paulin has taken on. We are very happy to have these new additions to the committee.

There is a lot of work involved in maintaining our CAPs status, so thank you so much to all those committee members who have helped us achieve our requirements.

Rallies Secretary – Chaz Blythe

No additional rallies were held next year. Will work in conjunction with Social Secretary for the start of next season.

Social Secretary – Rose McCarter & Sam Cornick

Each year the attendance at the social events has increased which is a real credit to the



Cumberland social spirit!

After 3 seasons Sam Howlett-Bolton is standing down as one of the Social Secretaries. I can say hand on heart that Sam will be missed. It's been an absolute pleasure working with her and I will really miss all her help, support, ideas and never-ending energy to get events for the club organised. I think you'll all agree we have had the most awesome socials from start of season parties, Christmas dinners and the Black Tie's etc etc. I know that the restaurant owners would also like to thank her for all the pre food order spreadsheets and table settings – organisation beyond belief for the Christmas parties! I know how much time it takes to organise these things and she managed to fit that in around organising a wedding, having a baby, a career, playing and Captaining the B team!

I would like to welcome Rachel Biles from Squad 2 on board as one of the new Social Secretaries. She was a great help to me organising Bournemouth 7's and brings with her lots of drive and bounds of energy and enthusiasm.

I would also like to welcome Polini Langi from Squad 1 another great addition with plenty of energy, enthusiasm and lots of netball contacts too!

Black Tie – September 2009

The black tie was held at The Priory in Farringdon with over 90 guests it was resounding success we raised over £1000 for the club. It was an awesome night with a live band, great food, drink and lots of Jaeger Bombs!

Christmas Party

Another great turn out with 45 members from the club in attendance. An even split from all the teams. A great night had by all in La Caponata and then for a dance afterwards in the Electric Ball Room in Camden.

International Netball

30 members attended to watch England v Australia in the final test at the O2. Another great turnout for Cumberland and an amazing turnout for netball with 10,000 spectators.

Bournemouth 7's

Wow, what an amazing weekend! We took 5 teams. A, C, D, E, F and with a guest appearance from the B team hot off the Regional playoffs. A big thanks to everyone who came and took part and too.

10 Year Anniversary Black Tie – 23rd July 2010

The 10 Year Anniversary Black Tie on Friday 23rd July is important for 2 reasons. Firstly because it's a great opportunity to raise much needed funds for the club and secondly because it's celebrating 10 years of Cumberland and its wonderful community. I urge everyone to help us sell tickets to make this the biggest and the best Black Tie yet (and I know that is a tall order!).

Youth – Eve Turner

I took up the role of youth representative in spring 2010. There have been some issues with attendance in the under 16 squad and we have already tried to do something about this. Having spoken to some of the under 16 team members, they said that they found training with the under 14 team was not challenging enough. In response to this, we made the under 16 training later so the team could take part in the match play with the D,E and F teams.



However this did not result in a greater turnout. I will continue to liaise with the team and find out what might inspire them to come more regularly.

I am looking forward to continuing this role next year and reporting back what the youth teams have to say. Hopefully, some of the sports teachers at Cumberland will be able to scout some players to fill the holes in the under 16 team.

Volunteer Co-ordinator – Claire Risk

I have taken on the new role as Club Volunteers Coordinator. My role is to ensure that we recruit, retain, and train our volunteers so that Cumberland Netball Club can fulfil its CAPS requirements, but most importantly continue to thrive as a club. I created an Action Plan for Cumberland to ensure we do this and meet our CAPS requirements. Some of the main actions that needed or need to take place include the recruitment of a new A Team and C Team Coach. We are also looking at recruiting a Junior Administrator to help deal with communication and coordination for teams each weekend and a Webmaster to assist with website design and updating Cumberland Netball Club information.

Cumberland Netball Club regularly sends out emails to advertise courses to develop and train our volunteers in their special role, whether it be umpiring, coaching or performing one of the various roles on the committee. I would encourage Cumberland members to continue to take advantage of these opportunities. Congratulations to those members and volunteers who have completed some level of training this season.

I would like take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all the volunteers within the Club who give an amazing amount of time and energy into ensuring Cumberland is a fantastic netball club to be a part of. Whatever your role is as a volunteer, be it a Coach, Official, or behind the scenes Committee Member, thank you so very much for giving so much to the club and allowing us to play the game we love – netball! I would like to say a special thank you to Yvonne, our Chair, for her outstanding work behind the scenes, George our Club Secretary for her excellent communication, Chaz for her endless enthusiasm and effort as Head Junior Coach and committee member, Kim for the hours of work she spends being the Club's Umpiring and Coaching Secretary as well as the Coaching the B and C Team, not to mention all the umpiring she does.

I would be interested to hear from any Cumberland volunteers who feel that they need more support/training to fulfil their role, or any members who feel they have something to offer or feels that we need more volunteers working in some area of the Club.

Coaching – Kim North

Undoubtedly the 2009/2010 netball season has been a very successful one for Cumberland, its coaches and its players. More coaching awards have been gained, new coaches have come forward to offer their expertise to Cumberland players and new players have been attracted to the club due to the high level of coaching and play (plus the social!).

The coaching team for the season has been:



Krista Prescott who has taken the As through to a National Premier division place for the first time.

Kim North who has taken the Bs through to London and South East regional league for the first time as Middlesex champions and has helped the Cs maintain a Middlesex 1st division place and in a high standard league has seen the Cs move to North London division 1.

Yvonne Beadle working with Georgina Partridge and Leanne Bland has guided the Ds to win both North London division 2 and Middlesex division 2 an excellent achievement by the team. The Es has a splendid second half of the season finishing in North London 3rd in division 3 and 4th in Middlesex division 2. The Fs had an interesting season in North London division 4 and show great potential for next season.

Rachel Urquart working with Chaz Blythe, Jane Spalding, Caroline Chilton, Carla Tanis (for half a season) and Nia (for a part of the season) have guided the U14s and U16s to enjoyable games in the north London league. Cumberland is lucky to have has an extremely promising group of under 12s who have been competing in the under 14 league where sometimes the height differential is the only difference between the teams.

Next season the teams will be playing in:

- As: National Premier League division 3 and Poly division 1.
- Bs: London & South East regional league division 2 and Poly division 1.
- Cs: Middlesex 1 and North London 1
- Ds: Middlesex 1 and North London 1
- Es: Middlesex 2 and North London 2
- Fs: North London 4
- U14s and U16s : North London junior league

I'm sad but pleased to announce that both Krista and Leanne are returning home and will be greatly missed both as excellent coaches, wonderful attacking players and both have been very supportive to us all throughout the season – a big thank you to you both from all of Cumberland.

The structure for next season's Cumberland coaches is to be finalised after selection but the intention is as follows:

Two new coaches are to be found to coach the As and the Cs.

- Kim (L2-L3) is to remain with the Bs
- Yvonne (L2-L3) and George (L2) with Squad 2 with Jane (L1) and Caroline (L1) and Lois (who will gain a coaches qualification through the season).



- Chaz (L1-L2) is to head the junior coaching working with Rachel (L1) and Shaheen (L1) with more volunteers to be found from existing club players and parents.

All the Cumberland coaches were CRB checked successfully and we introduced Match day Managers for the first time whilst although difficult to administer did add some benefits to many of the teams.

The selection for the 2010/2011 season will be led by Yvonne on 14th August for squad 2 and new players and Krista on 15th August for squad 1. Please inform any other players you know who would enjoy Cumberland to mail the club through the enquiries section on www.cumberlandnetball.com.

I'd personally like to thank all the coaches, Match day managers and volunteers who have helped with coaching (there are many of you) and the committee for the support given to Cumberland coaching which has resulted in fantastic results, Cumberland becoming a well loved team by opponents plus officials and making our club one of the clubs with the highest reputation in the South East of England and further afield.

Umpiring – Kim North

The 2009/2010 netball season has been a very successful one for Cumberland, particularly its umpires. More umpiring awards and valuable experience have been gained, new umpires have come forward to offer their expertise to the leagues and new players have been attracted to the club due to the high level of umpiring, coaching and play (plus the social!). We all know that no great netball game can take place without competent umpires. The umpiring team for the season has been:

- Emma Clark who has sourced and supplied all the Middlesex umpires and Cumberland has been one of the only big clubs who have not lost points in Middlesex due to not providing umpires of the right qualification or late/ absence in attendance.
- Elaine Thompson has sourced and supplied all the North London league umpires who have also always turned up and are of the right qualification.
- Rose McCarter has been an excellent back up when either Elaine or Emma have been on holiday or are unable to find umpires for certain North London, Middlesex or Poly games.

The internal Cumberland umpires during the season have been:

- Rachel Zillwood – the first A grade Cumberland umpire. *Congratulations* Rachel has umpired at the highest level in the London & South East regional and umpired two of the Cumberland A Premier league playoffs in Loughborough. Premier league welcomes Rachel and she is such an asset to the club both as a player a top level umpire.
- Rose McCarter who is on her way to A grade the only Middlesex umpire being part of the flag ship Hertfordshire mentoring scheme. Having umpired Super league Bath



v. Brunel in the final of the fast net national tournament with an international umpire, including England players such as Pamela Cookey certainly puts Cumberland on the netball map.

- Yvonne Beadle who has umpired London and South East regional games and attended the national B to A course in Nottingham.
- Kim North who having gone through the Hertfordshire B to A mentoring scheme umpired 10 of the top East region division 1 games and was the first Middlesex umpires to be signed off as an EN umpiring mentor. Following this she was asked to be head of North Middlesex umpiring mentoring.
- Claire Graham who is an outstanding umpire who has been identified as becoming a B umpire next season.
- Nia Prys, Clare Bacon, Sarah McIntyre, Zoe Lane, Rosie Bayman, Liz Williams are all Cumberland players who hold a C umpiring award and have been fabulous in umpiring on behalf of Cumberland in the Middlesex and North London leagues both senior and junior. Thanks also to those that have umpired Cumberland Junior league games, there are too many to mention.

As always we have invited outside umpires to help us with Cumberland games and our gratitude lies with firstly the internal Cumberland umpire organisers and the umpires, the majority who are Cumberland players. Our gratitude to external umpires is evidenced by Elaine buying Easter Eggs for their support out of her own pocket. All Cumberland teams have been thanked for paying umpires promptly with a decent cash reward for their qualification, time and travelling expenses.

The necessity of proving scorers has proved very useful in equipping players with a detailed knowledge of keeping time and score and by default a deeper insight into the job of a netball official.

The 2009/2010 season has been all about getting the active internal umpires and scorers on games and helping them develop. Next season there will be an open umpiring night where support and instruction will be given.

I'd personally like to thank all the umpires, Elaine, Emma and Rose the organisers and the committee for the support given to Cumberland umpiring as it has been a great season for the umpires and scorers. Cumberland has become a well loved team by opponents plus officials making our club one of the clubs with the highest reputation in the South East of England and further afield, no small part by the quality and wiliness to help and apply the trade of an umpire, scorer and of course, the umpire organisers.

Captains Reports

A Team – Polini Langi & Natalie Cowie

Overall, it was another successful season for the Cumberland A team having progressed from Regional 1 to the National Premier League 3 (our third successive promotion) and finishing second in Poly.



We suffered a few unexpected losses at the beginning of the season, although the more noteworthy losses were through major injuries of several players. However, in true Cumberland style the entire squad pulled together with a number of players playing outside their normal positions, namely Petra, Risky and Lois. New comer Diane did remarkably well to fit in with Andy in the shooting circle and a special mention must be made of LJ's star quality performance all year round.

A huge thank you must go to Krista for her commitment and exceptional coaching. She was a true inspiration with her outstanding ability to pass on her extensive knowledge and experience to the team. It was an honour to captain this amazing team.

B Team – Sam Howlett- Bolton & Hannah Goodey

This season has finally confirmed that the strength and commitment of the B team is that of one which is ready to play at a regional level. We have grown throughout the past few seasons with great consistency of players and an enormous sense of loyalty and cohesion to achieve our common goal of becoming Middlesex Champions.

Our coach, Kim North has shown such commitment and enthusiasm throughout this season, turning up to almost every match and training, even with the worst hang-over's or a fractured arm! Her goal at the start of the season to make Middlesex Champs was doubted by some at first but through great determination from all members of the team we didn't let her down.

Each member of our team played a fundamental role in our successes this season and these should be recognised:

Sam who has lead the team, giving a running commentary during every game and finally managing to lose her voice at the end of the season, also achieving a high goal percentage alongside super scorer Julia.

Hannah has been a key player and co-captain using her versatile attributes to play a solid WA, GA and defender, closely working with Tiff, whom fitness has shone this season whilst taking a number of centre court bibs.

Jane has really worked hard this season to get on court and showed her true potential at the Middlesex Rally, taking ownership of the WA bib.

Karen, a key centre within our team, her accuracy of feeding and passion on court has helped to turn many games around, and not failing to mention her unfortunate fall in the first game of the Regional play-off's which to some may have hindered their spirits, but not Karen, who encouraged from the side-line and still managed to make it to Bournemouth!

Gemma joined our team half way through the season and has really started to make her mark on the centre court, particularly shining at the regional play-offs.

Caroline, who achieved most improved player last season, has been so consistent in her performance this year, amazing intercepts and demanding a great presence on court,



particularly in the WD bib.

Our defence this year has been extremely strong and versatile, all individuals playing in a variety of combinations but still achieving great domination within the circle. Tara, our star rebounder, Anne provides great strength and intelligence on the court, with only a rare blonde moment, Naomi returning from injury with a confidence and strength to be admired,

Helen joining us from the C's has been a real asset to the team, both on and off the court and finally Chi Chi, who has yet again shone this season, achieving intercepts some of us can only dream about and we are proud of her achievements within the A team.

Overall, an outstanding season, we are Middlesex Champions, Third in North London, Finalists in the Poly and Middlesex Rallies' coming second to Academy by only one goal! Most importantly, we came second in the regional play-offs and are very excited at the prospect of playing at Poly and Regional levels next year – bring it on!

C Team – Elaine Thompson & Jane Whitefield

The C team had a testing season with a tough start with major injuries to GS Jane our captain and GA Grace Cullen in her first game for Cumberland. However no major concerns as Jo Stevens, Becky and young Grace Barber took the attacking bibs when needed. The centre court positions were rotated between Elaine (who also needed to take defensive bibs), Emma, Gemma (who was promoted to the Bs at Christmas), Rosie and Sarah. The Team's flexibility and team spirit kept us going and upbeat.

Vicky, our amazingly versatile player covered the GK position until the arrival of Helen Fish from Minchenden (promoted to the Bs at Christmas) and then our newer & continually improving Jo Lanning who joined us as a great GK later in the season resulting in a wonderful determined defensive unit of Jo and Claire Graham.

Fabulous performances by the whole team enabled us to finish mid table in Middlesex 1st division even when often playing against regional players! (not naming any names...Palmer's, Hyde etc). In North London with so much change within the team we were beaten by a tiny margin in too many games and were unable to keep our Premier division spot at the end of the season – we will definitely keep it next year...

Congratulations to Louise who had a beautiful baby girl called Mabel last month, look forward to seeing Louise back on the netball court in September.

And finally the C team want to say a big thanks to Kim who was there as coach for almost every game to drive us on and to make sure we had enough players, thanks to the Ds for playing, subbing and sticking around to support us in key games. Looking forward to the next season now we have the opportunity to win both in Middlesex and even North London Prem!

D Team – Rose McCarter & Chaz Blythe



It's been an amazing season for the D Team! It started off tough after losing a number of our key players through promotion.

The new team soon gelled though at training and on court. We got off to a good start with just two losses in the Middlesex League one of which was to Charville our closest contenders.

In the NLNL league we were undefeated - we had some tough and very close matches.

We have finished the season coming top in Middlesex Division 2 and in NLNL Division 2.

We are looking forward to the new season and playing in Middlesex Division 1 and NLNL Division 1.

I would like to thank all the D Team players for their commitment, drive and energy! It's been a fab season and I am proud to have been Captain.

Extra thanks too to our coaches Yvonne, George and Leanne.

E Team – Nia Prys-Williams & Rachael Biles

The E Team, it can be said have had a very successful season both off and on the court! Firstly on court, after a shaky start in September finding our feet and getting to know each other's moves and style of play we clicked and proceeded to spank team after team under the close and watchful eye of super coach Blandy, who we are devastated to be losing!

The E's were definitely disappointed not to have been promoted after narrowly missing out however we are really pleased for Cumberland A's and B's who have been promoted and are equally happy to be being shifted up to the higher divisions as a result. Everyone has performed brilliantly this season making it incredibly difficult to choose player's player!

The awesome defensive combination of Caroline O'Neill and Gemma Murray was like a brick wall for the whole season which just got more impregnable as the season progressed.

Another notable new and valuable asset to the club has been Laurie MacMahon whose terrier like qualities on court have earned her player of the match on numerous occasions.

The silent intercepting assassin a.k.a. Becky Salmon has also been pivotal to our winning streak. And a netball match will never be the same again without netball organiser extraordinaire Rachel Biles shouting 'Send it' as she charges down the court!

Shooting has also been of a very high accuracy and consistency throughout and everyone on the team has significantly improved their standard. We look forward to next season, again both on and off the court but we're not sure whether our livers can cope!

Congrats to all at Cumberland for a very successful season.

F Team – Kirsty Cantrill & Shaheen Lodhi



The F team had quite a tough start to the year, with mostly centre court players available, but we rallied together and had players happy to play out of position.

We came 4th in the Acton League in the end which we were happy with, one place better than last year. We weren't as successful in the North London League, but had a lot of close matches.

Just wanted to thank all the players for their hard work, Lucy, Gemma, Eve and Liz with their amazing intercepts and blocking in defence, Shaheen for her endless energy in WD, Tracy for her feeds and drives in WA, Anesha, Amelia & Nyssa for their great shooting and passing in circle and Liz W for being happy to fill in wherever we were short on the court and she did end up playing every single position last year!

Looking forward to next season!

5. Proposed Change to & Agreement of Constitution

Proposed changes agreed. Proposed by AJ and Seconded by KP.

6. Election of Officers for 2010/11 Season

Marketing & Publicity: Hannah Goodey, proposed by CC, seconded by KC

Rallies: Polini Langi, proposed by ET and seconded by LT.

This is to be combined with the Social Secretaries and suggested that the role now be Social and Rallies Secretaries, of which Rose, Rachael and Polini hold positions.

All other officers are remaining in their current role;

Chair: Yvonne Beadle

Secretary: Georgina Partridge,

Affiliations/membership: Chaz Blythe

Kit & Equipment Secretary: Lois Tucker

Sponsorship Secretary: Karen Carter

Safeguarding Officer: Laura Paulin

Volunteer Coordinator: Claire Risk

Social Secretary: Rose McCarter & Rachael Biles

Webmaster (non-exec position): Rosie Bayman Rosie will babysit this role for time being.

All of the above proposed by RS and seconded by SM

7. Any Other Business

Sarah Hyde and Geraldine Davies (ex Cumberland members) are pregnant

8. Presentation of Awards

Coaches Awards (awarded by Yvonne Beadle, Georgina Partridge & Leanne Bland for Squad 2 and by Krista Priscott and Kim North for Squad 1).



Squad 1	Most Outstanding Most Valuable Most Improved	Laura Paulin Sam Howlett-Bolton Claire Graham
Squad 2	Most Outstanding Most Valuable Most Improved	Caroline O'Neill Clare Denham Kirsty Cantrill

Players Player of the Year (awarded by Yvonne Beadle - Chair)

A	Laura Paulin
B	Caroline Chilton
C	Rebecca Gwilliam
D	Donna Murray
E	Caroline O'Neill
F	Shaheen Lodhi

Speech given by Laura Paulin, key points; she can't wait to call her mum and she loves Cumberland.

Team of the Year

B Team