



Minutes of 1st Council Meeting

Wednesday 24 April 2024

Meeting Opened: 7:03pm

1. Attendance and Apologies - as per attendance sheet
2. Confirmation of Minutes of the Council Meeting held 18 November 2023
**Moved Jennie Thompson (Life Member), Seconded Sophie Koutchavlis, (Executive),
Approved by Council**
3. Business arising from the minutes - nil
4. Executive Committee Reports for the meetings held in December 2023, February 2024, March 2024 and April 2024

**Moved Clare Ashpole (Executive), Seconded Simon Townsend (PHNC), Approved by
Council**

5. Business arising from Executive Committee Reports -nil
6. Correspondence as listed in the Executive Committee Reports - nil
7. Business arising from Correspondence - nil
8. Executive Committee Reports

Lisa welcomed Doug MacColl who has offered to step in as Treasurer for the year while we are still looking for a replacement for Linda.

Moved Dom Newman (Committee), Seconded Nicci Skene (Executive), Approved by Council.

a) Treasurer:

- Thank you to Doug for helping HDNA and stepping into the role of Treasurer.
- The financial report for the last three months are all in the previous executive reports.
- Our financial position as at the end of March is in line with the previous year, excluding the timing of Insurance payment, and that receipts from Netball NSW are deposited monthly instead of daily.
- We are finalising the rollover of term deposit in the next week.

b) Umpire Convenor

2024 Rule Changes

- Rule changes as per the email which was sent to all clubs. Most importantly rolling substitutions will be played in replace of the tactical changes. This will not be played in NSG.
- Rolling substitution rules were attached to the email and available on the website.
- Rolling subs to be carried out In line with the centre circle. One player must come all the way off and tag hands before the new player goes on.
- Rules regarding nails and earrings remain as per previous years.

Successful Beginner Day and Returning Umpire Day on April 6

- Over 180 participants spent the day with our committee and senior umpires who volunteered their time to train new umpires and upskill returning umpires. Thank you to the Umpires Committee and Senior Umpires who held the Umpire Convenors on the day.

Woolworths NetSetGO

- As per previous years, umpires will operate with two per court on the Go Division, with one per court on the Set Division.
- Umpires are moving away from implementing the Rule of the Week from an umpiring perspective at NetSetGO, towards a more holistic approach across all rules all weeks. Thank you to Nat and Hannah who have worked on a new "How to Umpire NSG" program.
- Coaches can still use the rule of the week format from a coaching perspective, but the umpires will not be applying the rules in the same way.

New Umpires

- We are trialling this year the introduction of umpires switching at half time instead of umpiring every second week. This will be both sides of the court and occur on the 10/1, 10/2, 10/3, 11/2 and 11/3 divisions. Please be patient with the umpires as they are still learning.

Uncovered Games

- We are extremely short on senior umpires this year (umpires that can umpire the three afternoon timeslots). From 2023, we lost over 1/3 of our senior umpires. As of today, there are still multiple games at 3:45 which do not have an allocated umpire.
- If there is no umpire, a player will need to come off the court to umpire otherwise teams will have to forfeit. Clubs will be made aware if their team is affected by having no umpire very soon.
- Umpiring allocations are not finalised yet and The HDNA Umpire Convenors are working hard with Club Convenors to fill the empty spots at 3:45.

Captains and Complaints on Saturdays

- As with previous years, only the captain (and sometimes player involved) can approach the umpire to clarify rules in the breaks. Please do not send everyone up to the umpires or back chat them during the game.
- If there are issues on the games, please come and get someone to come to the court at the time it is happening. We can support the umpires at the time it is happening.
- We do not want to come down to courts because players are behaving poorly towards the umpires, especially the afternoon umpires. There is a chance these umpires are only 16 years old on the senior games and we will not tolerate adults whose behaviour is affecting their wellbeing.

c) Senior Representative Convenor

- Dooleys Metro League competition commenced three weeks ago. Played at Netball Central on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights, HDNA has four teams competing across the six divisions.
- Hills will have an U17s and an Opens team competing in the Championship Division of Senior State Titles on the June long weekend.

d) Junior Representative Convenor

- Permission is sought from Council for Maragret to fill positions within the 15s squad team with two players from other associations whose teams have disbanded, without the need to play in an HDNA affiliated club (as required by the HDNA by-laws).
- Discussion included :
 - Robyn Tamsett (Beecroft) had concern that it might set a precedent for future events.
 - Andrew Jeffries (Carlingford) asked what can we do moving forward so that there isn't a repeat situation in the future?
 - Doug MacColl (Executive) mentioned that Hills has helped other associations in the past in this situation. It's more about the girls that are still in the team than it is about those coming in.

- Jennie Thompson (Life Member) mentioned that it's not just this age group but that Hills has struggled with 15s squad for many years.
- Discussions were had between Council about how the priority should be focused on the girls that have not pulled out and giving them a chance to play, and not making other girls in other associations leave teams they have already registered with. Additional discussion was had about what was done internally within Hills and if we had the players, we could fill the spots with first.

- **Moved Margaret Coe (Executive), Seconded PHNC, Approved by Council – one vote against**

e) Senior Registrar

- In 2024 we have 86 teams (in 2023 we had 81). 53 teams and 7 grades in Senior Grades (being an increase of 4 teams from last year) and 33 teams and 5 grades in Cadets (being an increase of 1 team from last year but does not account for the loss of MSB teams).
- There were 6 appeals this year, 4 were denied, 1 was withdrawn and 1 was upheld.
- 11 senior and 3 cadet late regos so far.
- Reminder that all piercings must be removed to play. This includes the sneaky ones that players try to hide from Umpires.

f) Junior & NSG Registrar

- NSG has 35 teams in 5 grades
- Juniors has 126 teams in 24 grades
- 1 appeal that was not upheld
- Late regos are trickling through - any from tonight onwards will be eligible to play in Round 2. They will not be on the sign on sheet in Round 1.
- All players must be in approved uniforms - let us know immediately if there are any issues with suppliers and getting uniforms.
- Any issues MUST be raised with control during the game so HDNA can assist on the spot as needed.
- The Winter Information book is being finalised and will be sent to clubs shortly.
- Sign on this year: NSG and Junior coach/managers to do the team sign on with ticks.

g) Netball NSW Delegate

- Nil

h) Night Competition Convenor

- Our very successful Summer Night competition finished this month, with a massive 60 teams competing across 10 rounds – our largest summer competition to date. Unfortunately, extreme weather conditions meant that we had to call off our grand finals, with teams in first place after the end of the season awarded the premiership in each division.
- This was also our first season with a full night comp committee, which has been a very successful transition with Georgia Buckle, Cassidy Martin and Dom Newman coming on officially in these positions to support Jess and myself.
- While we look forward to offering an even bigger Spring Night Competition than last year (with a record 82 teams), we also had a number of teams express interest in competing in a shorter-form Winter Night competition, which we will look into hosting in term 3, pending umpire and volunteer availability.

9. General Business

a) Hornsby Lions – uniform change

Hornsby Lions presented an inclusive uniform option.

Moved Hornsby Lions, Seconded North Rocks, Approved by Council

b) Incident reporting

Lisa thanked the sub-committee team who have been working on an incident reporting framework and document to assist clubs in information gathering and handling of incidents at the court. This committee consisted of Lisa (President), Pete (Vice President), Simon (PHNC), Robyn (Beecroft), Vicki (Life Member), Madi and Kirsten (Umpire Convenors).

Lisa explained to the clubs the creation of the framework is there for all incidents no matter how small or large and reiterated that if there is an issue at the court, then it needs to be dealt with at the Courts. The document will be finalised shortly and made available to all clubs. Lisa and the executive are willing to have informal chats to players, coaches, parents or anyone who is a part of the incident at the courts at the time of/the next week to resolve issues in a face-to-face manner.

c) Club Rosters

Club rosters for NSG and Juniors will be happening again in 2024 and the HDNA Executive appreciate the support of clubs in this way as it enables them to be doing other things on a Saturday knowing there will always be someone in Control.

d) Court Upgrades

Lisa thanked Madi for all her hard work and time spent communicating with Council on the upgrades of Courts 1 and 2. These can now be used and will be used from Round 1. Plans are in progress for an official opening ceremony with invited dignitaries approximately Round 3. Correspondence will be had with clubs when further details are available.

e) Executive Members Being Away

Lisa advised the Council she will be away for 5 weeks from June 1 as she will be on holidays. Pete will fulfil the President role whilst she is away.

Madi also advised the Council that a member of the Umpires Committee is getting married on Round 1 so many the Umpires Committee will not be around Round 1. Please be patient with the Umpires Committee and their helpers in Round 1.

f) The HDNA website has been fixed to allow easier viewing on a mobile phone.

Meeting closed at 7:52pm