













Newsletter April 22'
Second Edition

Message from Chairperson

Another fantastic term complete! There has been so much success throughout the club this term – in results, attendance to training, coaching courses, the launch of the Aspire programme and in various ways.

We've really seen determination, courage, and resilience this term and its fantastic to watch. Our seniors have had some excellent results, as had juniors and Excel. Back to Netball, Hurricanes, competed in a tournament with one of our ladies taking the player of the tournament trophy!

Of course, as we enter our final term for the year, I would like to acknowledge and thank Jenny Morris (Club Treasurer) for all her work and commitment to the club. Jenny has made the decision to step down as treasurer. This is a great loss as Jenny is a fantastic member of the committee. The advert for treasurer is in this newsletter and has been shared on social media. The committee roles are voluntary, but the club cannot run without people volunteering their time to help. If you would like to apply for the role, please contact the Storm email account. Jenny is happy for any questions to be asked and will be completing a handover period.

A huge thank you to Kerry for the successful launch of the Aspire programme – more information inside. Its not too late to get involved!

There are lots of exciting things coming this term which we need our members to get involved with and help with. Keep your eyes peeled.

And finally, congratulations to Florrie on the safe arrival of her beautiful baby girl Poppy. She's absolutely beautiful, and of course, I've already had cuddles!

Have a fantastic Easter,

Lauren 😊





Key Dates and Announcements



NEW TERM STARTS WEDNESDAY 20th APRIL 2022

We will be returning to training on **Wednesday 20th April 2022**. Please can you ensure that your term subs are paid to the Storm account by 13th April otherwise you will be unable to train. Subs are £60 per person for seniors and £50 per person for juniors. Remember, there is a £5 discount for a second child or for a child of a parent who is also a member of the club. If you are having any problems with payment, please contact me via the storm email account FAO Jenny.

Storm email: stevenagestorm@gmail.com

Storm Bank Account: Acc Number 42016427 Sort Code: 40-43-36

Jenny Club Treasurer



Kit Update!

Due to problems out of our control, we are waiting for one final garment sample. Once we have this, and the committee sign of the kit, we will share the new kit with you. We are VERY close now!

Lauren Chairperson

Contact Us

Website: stevenagestorm.co.uk Email: stevenagestorm@gmail.com

Stevenage Storm Bank Details

Account Number: 42016427 Sort Code: 40-43-36 Club position in need of filling!

COMMITTEE ROLE - TREASURER

Our club treasurer is responsible for our finances. This includes, but is not exhaustive, collecting members termly fees, collecting and banking match subs, paying invoices and paying entry fees.

The committee roles are voluntary and are unpaid positions. The club cannot (and is not allowed) to run without the treasurer role being filled.

If you are considering the role and would like more information, please email the club.

If you are interested in the role, please contact the club via the email.





The Storm Team



Gemma White
Vice Chair
(& coach)



Lauren Cooper Chairperson



Lorinda Levy
Secretary
(& coach)



Jenny Morris **Treasurer**



Julia Burrows
Safeguarding
(& coach)



Fay Warwick



Ian Burrows Coach



Florrie Jones Coach



Lizzie Young Coach



Kerry Ford Coach



Hayley Fathers Coach



Alisha Levy Coach



Sylvia Warwick Umpire

Coach Profile

Lorinda Levy

Hi Lorinda, can you start by telling us a bit about your netball journey?

I coach both the youngest squad and the year 9s. I started playing at junior school and throughout senior school. On leaving school, I joined a team called the Spartans and played in the Stevenage league. When working in London, I played at both Lincolns Inn Fields and St Pauls and joined Concord Netball club and played for them for over 30 years - playing in the Herts Super League, indoor leagues and enjoying weekends away playing tournaments with



the team. I started to coach at Storm when my daughter joined in year 5 and am still here! I have coached my primary school teams for many years and also coach with the Excel team. Netball has been part of my life for many years and I hope to pass on my passion through my coaching!

Lovely, and how long have you been at Stevenage Storm?

Been a coach for over 10 years and with Storm for over 10 years.

Why netball?

... because it is the best and has been part of my life since childhood!

What is it about Stevenage Storm that you enjoy?

I enjoy seeing players developing a passion for netball and forming lasting friendships whilst at Storm.

If you could give one coaching tip, what would that be?

'There will be mistakes but with hard work, there are no limits'.

Who would play you in a film of your life?

?? I have no idea!!

Who is your favourite band?

Not a band. Love Chris Brown, Usher and Drake.

Which 3 celebrities would you invite to dinner?

... Channing Tatum, Tom Hardy and Chris Hemsworth.

And finally, who is your favourite VSNL team?

A player instead of a team, but Temalisi Fakahokotau! She is a wicked defender!

Great, thanks so much Lorinda, and when those celebrities come to dinner, I am coming too!

Three teams travelled to Milton
Keynes for an afternoon
tournament and came away
with excellent results.

The U16, Tornadoes team, won their group with impressive wins in all their games.

The U14, Hurricanes team, were second and missed out on coming first by just one goal!

The U14, Cyclones team, came third.

It was great to see the girls play some competitive netball against different teams.

Well done to all involved and a big thank you to parents for bringing the girls.

Juniors STORM MK tournament!







Aspire registrations started this year, with lots of Storm players signing up to start on their own personal netball development journey. Journeys began with all players spending some time filling out their Personal Player Bio's, documenting their current netball status and future netball aspirations. I am now in the process of putting these into action.

So far, we have:

- 9 Potential New Stevenage Storm Umpires
- 3 Potential New Stevenage Storm Coaches
- 1 mentoring partnership has been set up
- 7 Players Interested in Captaincy
- 11 Players Interested in positional/skill development
- 2 Players Interested in deeper understanding of rules
- 6 Players Interested in Getting Netball Fit

Back 2 Netball and the Junior section Coaches are very kindly supporting our Aspire Umpires and Coaches. Timetables are soon to be with those who have responded to emails. Great to see the whole club working together to develop Storm netballers.

After Easter, Aspire members will be invited to extra positional training and skills sessions.... keep an eye on those emails!

If you are interested in joining Aspire, it's never too late. Its open to all! Contact **Kerry** at **stevenagestormaspire@gmail.com**

Member Story – Hannah Kellett



Current Storm Squad Thunder

Position

GS 99.9 percent of the time!

How long have you been a member of Storm? Probably about 12 years, give or take! After 10 I stopped counting as I like to pretend I'm still as young and fit as the majority of my team mates!

Tell us a little about your journey within Storm I joined in my early 20s after having a break from netball for a few years and started in back to netball. I remember my first trial session I didn't turn up as I got lost in Chells looking for the school! When I eventually found out where I was going, I fell back in love with netball and have since progressed through the teams. I can quite comfortably say I have played for every Storm team going! I now feel like part of the furniture and hope to be hanging on for a few years yet!

What do you like about playing netball

Firstly I love that netball is a team sport and a game where you show up as a team and leave as one – no one is left out and everyone equal. I also think it is one of the most inclusive sports there is – especially at a community level. It's great that anyone no matter their background or fitness level can get involved and Storm is a very open and welcoming club.

Now for those that know me – I am very competitive (but in a good way!). I love the excitement and adrenaline rush that netball brings when you are bringing it as a team to a match – especially when it's goal for goal and you cinch a win.

It's also a sport that you can vastly improve and develop your skill within, so it constantly remains exciting – greatly encouraged by our lovely coaches.

And lastly, I have made the best friends!

Do you have a favourite Superleague netball player/team

I used to follow Mavs as the home team, but now I'm just a sucker for a good, competitive and exciting game, so I tend to watch the matches and players where I know we are going to get some good action! I love Jade Clarke and Layla Guscoth – Jade always makes such an impact on court and I just love watching defenders such as Layla make the most incredible intercepts – makes for good watching and shouting at the TV!

Do you play any other sports?

I have two young girls aged 5 and 2 and I consider chasing after them a sport! It's seriously more tiring than a netball match! Although that's not hard as I can't say I do an awful lot of running on the netball court!

Storm Success!

It is with great pleasure that we can report our recent successes during the winter league.

Excel U16 won their U17 league being unbeaten.

Excel U14 won their league being unbeaten.

Year 9 - finished 3rd in their group having lost only one game but were penalised for an infringement of a registration rule.

Year 8 - finished in 5th place a great performance by a newly formed team.



Excel U16 gained more competitive experience during the season with an entry into the Sisters in Sport National Netball Cup and also recently, in the ENG U16 Netball Cup in Colchester which gave them the opportunity to play teams from different parts of the UK.

The year 5, 6 and 7 teams are increasing their numbers we are hoping to recruit enough players to enter teams into the summer league.



Ahead, some players from Excel and Storm are entered into a tournament in Milton Keynes over the Easter break and are looking forward to playing different teams.



Back to Netball

The Hurricanes ladies headed over to Cambridge University on Saturday 19th Match for the East Regional Back to Netball Festival. 7 teams from all over the East of England including Stevenage, Luton, Colchester, and Norwich played in a Round Robin tournament that was so much fun, and the confidence of our

ladies grew with each match they played. Rolling subs allowed us to change players regularly to ensure everyone got equal court time and a mix of positions and trying new combinations was beneficial. Claire Burton, Claire Derrett-Smith, Eleanor Rousell Emma Lewis, Alex Stanhope, Jane Batchelor, Emma Knight, Caroline Wild and Pretty Barber were amazing, and Ian and Julia were so proud of them for representing the club in the spirit that a Back to Netball tournament should be played in. There were some close games and lots of goals scored by several of our players. It was a lovely social afternoon for players and coaches and lovely getting to know everyone a bit better in between games whilst having a fab time!

And to top it off our very own Hurricanes player Emma Lewis was awarded Player of the Tournament!! Such a proud moment for one of ours out of approximately 70 players in attendance to be given this award. Not only for how she played but for her enthusiasm, determination and support to her teammates and the opposition. Well done, Emma! Thanks for a great afternoon, ladies! Always a privilege.



Satisfaction Survey - January 2022

As a committee we are passionate about trying to continuously develop and evolve the club to provide our members an enjoyable netball experience, where each individual feels that they can develop their skills to their own desired level. To help us meet our members needs, we ran a satisfaction survey earlier this year. Thank-you to all those that completed the survey, this information was very valuable to us! We wanted to share the survey results with you and mention a few actions that we have taken from the feedback.

28 players/parents completed the survey with a range of experience; 33% had been with the club less than a year, with 15% being with the club for over 10 years. 74% of respondents stated their overall netball experience was 'Excellent' or 'Very Good', with 70% of respondents stating that their netball had improved this year. 96% said that they had enjoyed playing netball this year, which was fantastic to see!

Four areas were identified for the committee to focus on over the coming months:

- 1. **Switching to the new Kit supplier** we now have sample kit and hope to have the new kit available for the start of next season
- 2. **Social functions and celebrating success** we are looking to organise an awards afternoon/evening in the summer, look out for the date soon.
- 3. **Team selection (particularly for the seniors)** We have reiterated to Captains that players that attend training must be given the option to play in their position first, other players can then fill in around them we will continue to make sure this is adhered to.
- 4. **Junior and Senior development** We are looking to form stronger links to Excel to help particularly with the transition from junior to senior competitive netball. **For juniors we will look for more match play opportunities**, however this is limited locally without long distance travel.

Three things that were rated highly and we will continue:

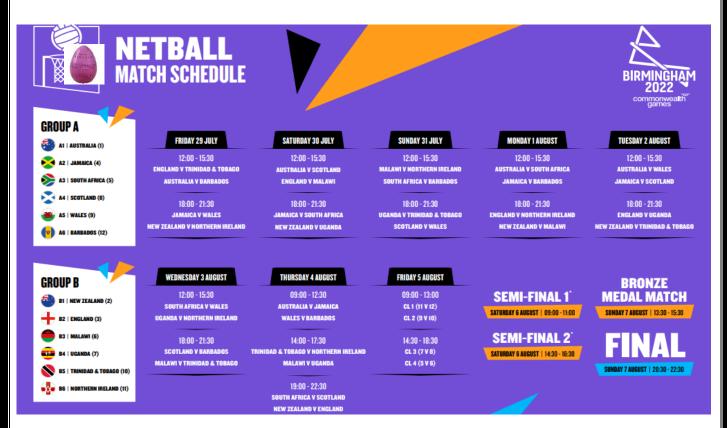
- 1. **Newsletter** we aim to do this termly
- 2. **Increased social media presence** we will continue to communicate through email to members, but also on Facebook
- 3. For Seniors we will do a variety of 'team' training with 'positional' training this was requested by a number of players

Finally, it was also great to see our newer coaches Kerry and Lizzie receiving special mentions in the feedback about their coaching. We are actively trying to increase the number of qualified coaches to support training, with several coaches scheduled to complete their Level 2 coaching course this year.

We are always looking for ways we can improve what the club offers its members, so please let us know if you have any additional feedback. Also, any support anyone can provide in helping organise events or co-ordinating fundraising would be greatly appreciated!



Commonwealth Games 2022 – match schedule



COMPETITION TIME *

Did you spot the Easter Eggs?
Comment on the Newsletter
Facebook Post with how
many WHOLE eggs there are in
this Newsletter! First correct
answer wins a prize!

Good luck!

