**County Officiating Lead’s Report**

Congratulations to all our successful learners (details below) and thanks to assessors, clubs, the County Academies and teams for their role in assessments, both for Essex Met and for the Region. Thanks to my colleagues on the Executive Committee for their support, in particular for funding our mentoring scheme, the Into Officiating Workshops and the Game Management seminars, so that we could offer these to our members at no cost. Thanks also to Redbridge for allowing umpires to use the former café in the Pavilion.

**Assessments**

Successful learners (June 2023-May 2024) were:-

Into Officiating Award: Drew Barrett, Maya Barber, Ava Beament, Isabelle Boon, Anusenthiyah Chandrakumar, Sophie Clark, Lisa Claringbull, Emily Dean, Isabelle Kazali, Olivia Legrand, Cyreez Lewis, Lola McLean, Lisa Moynihan, Abigayle Nicholson, Jade Oni, Ava-Grace O’Reilly, Katy Phipps, Maeve Reid, Rosemarie Reynolds-Blanche, Tolu Seidu, Lucy Smith & Maisie Webb

C Award: Keshia Boyce & Rebecca Hudson

Following the assessor courses last season, our third trainee assessor has qualified as an Into Officiating assessor and all three trainees are now working towards qualifying as C Award assessors. All our existing assessors attended the England Netball Assessor Reaccreditation training and therefore remain qualified to assess.

**Courses**

All England Netball courses continue to be delivered online, with only the B Award course having a practical session as part of the course. This has meant that learners have had to gain their practical experience elsewhere, eg at training sessions. As an example of shared best practice, we introduced Into Officiating Workshops last season, to provide practical experience for learners working towards the Into Officiating Award and made them available again this season. They have been very successful in developing learners’ confidence and enabling them to pass their IO Award.

More courses have been made available by England Netball and we are seeing learners progress from Into Officiating to C Award. I am aware that the courses can get booked up very quickly, so please use the Expression of Interest form on the England Netball website and England Netball will contact you when a relevant course is available.

**Mentoring**

We continue to offer mentoring for learners working towards their Into Officiating, C and B Awards and the Region continues to offer mentoring for learners working towards their A Award.

**2024 Rules updates**

England Netball have announced their programme of online seminars for the 2024 Rules update and for Game Management and Contact. Following requests received from members, I will be scheduling face-to-face seminars for both the 2024 Rules update and Game Management and Contact. Clubs and umpires should be aware that attendance at both the 2024 Rules update and Game Management and Contact seminars (whether online or in person) will be a requirement for eligibility to umpire in the Essex Met and Junior Leagues for season 2024/2025.

As always, I am available to provide assistance and information to help our umpires qualify and progress. Information is available on our website and on the England Netball website, but if you have a query, please ask.

On a personal note, I was very touched by the many messages sent to me after receiving the England Netball ONE Awards Community Official of the Year Award last year: they were much appreciated.

Jane Kelloe

County Officiating Lead