

A banner for Didsbury Netball Club. The text "DIDSBURY NETBALL CLUB" is written in large, bold, yellow capital letters across the top. Below the text, there is a photograph of a person's hands holding a netball. The background of the photo is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be an outdoor setting with trees.

DIDSBURY NETBALL CLUB

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year To All

It is now a few months since taking over the running of the club and I would like to thank everyone for their patience and support during this period. I thought, as we are coming to the Christmas break for a few weeks, it would make sense to provide an update of the last few months. Hopefully this will give an insight as to what is going on at the Club, which is not just about training and playing Netball for the girls. Some highlights over the last few months include :

- Weekly training sessions in place for all age groups
- An influx of new players from competitive clubs across the NW. We now have had to instigate a waiting list for any new players wanting to join, so please do not just say, "come along" any more.
- New Level 1 coaches, ages ranging from Year 12 existing players to Team Managers.
- A number of players have done the "C" Award umpiring course and current "C" umpires moving towards their "B" award
- 5 of our girls have been accepted on the inaugural Greater Manchester Young Coach Academy - the first session took place in Bolton on 8th December
- The website is now up and running and providing up-to-date information on training and games - if you haven't looked at the website, please do...WWW.DIDSBURYNETBALL.CO.UK , the announcement section provides up-to-date training information (amongst other things), all fixture lists are now being kept up-to-date once received and the google calendar is great! !
- Sponsorship from Royal London (£250) , Chiquito's (watch the website). Always on the look out for sponsorship to keep fees as low as we can so anything you can think of let me know.
- We received our Bronze Award for CAPS, which shows the club is being managed in the proper manner with the relevant personnel in place...Silver CAPS is the next stage which we should achieve in the New Year. For the bronze award we receive £100 in to Club funds from England Netball.
- On the Netballing front.... Reddish , the Sharks (Ladies Premier League) , the Whales (yr 5 & 6) and the Terrapins (yr 9,10 &11) all WON their respective divisions and the Starfish (yr 5 & 6) , the Otters (yr 9,10 &11) and the Seahorses (yr 9,10 & 11) finished runners up in their respective divisions.
- At CJNL currently 5 of the 8 teams are either 1st or 2nd in their respective divisions and can still win their Leagues if we win all our games.
- At Regional both U14s and U16s currently sit 3rd in their divisions and have recorded great wins in the process.

As I say, hopefully, you can appreciate that although the playing is important there is far more that goes on inside the Club.

To finish off I would like to say a MASSIVE thanks to all the Coaches , coaching assistants , Team Managers and the Committee, who spend an awful lot of their time , voluntarily, ensuring the smooth running of the Club, ensuring players are being coached, ensuring the web-site is up-to-date, ensuring teams have players for Reddish, CJNL & Regionals every week etc etc etc. It really is never ending but without their support and commitment we would not have a Netball Club. Also a big THANKS to parents who bring players along every week, I understand how painful this can be (dashing from Reddish to Widnes !) but hopefully you can appreciate that the players appear to enjoy the coaching, playing and friendships that they are building up. Long may it continue.

At this time of year I would wish you all a peaceful, restful and FANTASTIC Christmas with family and loved ones, enjoy the break and see you all in 2014 when we start back w/c 5th January. Once again thanks for the support and the patience, it makes all our lives easier.

Richard White - Chair.