



President's Report 2022

And just like that 2022 Winter and Summer are done, and we start looking to 2023. With Covid restrictions changing, the effect became more individual and was harder to manage than in previous years as it was not universal across the competition. Well done to all clubs in getting through.

Congratulations to all your successes throughout the year – be it Grand Final wins, improved skills, getting a full team on court, umpire improvement or the laughter and enjoyment of playing the game.

The Winter season saw 139 teams take the court, 93 juniors and 46 Seniors teams. This was a reduction of 23 teams, 18 juniors and 5 seniors from 2021. While Covid fatigue and uncertainty could be attributed to some of the fall off, there can be a multitude of reasons behind the reduction. The Association will continue to work at building our competitions and providing the opportunity for participants to play and develop.

Over the Summer season we had 145 teams, 70 seniors and 75 juniors competing over the two nights. This also reflected a reduction of team numbers, mindful that the previous season saw us at capacity for court availability. Summer was a reduced season of twelve rounds to allow a longer break in January, which we hope was beneficial for all.

Netball Development was a focus in 2022 with many opportunities provided for learning and upskilling. The Association held a Strapping and Sideline First Aid course in May, that was open to all clubs to have members attend. It was a well-attended, informative night, with some practical skills put into practice.

The proposed Netball Development Program didn't go ahead with registration numbers for trials not enough to run the program. As an alternative, age skill clinics were held aimed at the 11-13's age group with a focus on the basic foundational skills of the game. With some Intro to Umpiring sessions for the new umpires, as well as Game Management and Rules Workshops for Umpires, Players and Coaches, there were lots of opportunities to learn.

Thank you to all those that committed their time in running these sessions, and investing in the future of the game and our Association. Without these knowledgeable volunteers, the Association would not be able to offer this development.

Our Representative Teams had a successful carnival season with numerous Grand Final successes. That is the culmination of the work done throughout the season and the development and improvement of the players. Our Coaches are committed to player development and are passionate about the program. We acknowledge Wendy Paech (20 years) and Paul Beattie (18 years) for their service as they retire from Rep coaching.

Congratulations also to our umpires that attained national badges in 2022, a great achievement. Thanks to those that facilitated badging panels, were involved in mentoring on Saturdays and provided support to our up and coming whistle blowers – without umpires, we cannot play the game.

2023 welcomes the 75th year of the Mid Hills Netball Association, which is something to celebrate. With changes to traditional thinking being challenged by the continual evolution of the game, the Association needs to reflect, review, and renew, what we do and how we do it so that we continue to grow and develop the game, our members and the Association's netball community.



A huge thank you to all the current Board members, and the time and effort that you commit to the running of the Association. At times it is challenging and there is a lot of work that goes in behind the scenes that no one sees. Without your commitment and passion, the Association wouldn't be what where it is today or where we are headed in the future. Thank you also for your support of me personally in the role of President.

To all our sub-committee members, while you are fulfilling club requirements, without your input, the Association cannot function effectively. We appreciate the time given, to support the Association and your club and hope that you gain an insight as to different aspects of the game and what your contribution brings.

2023 is another opportunity for the Mid Hills Netball Association to be the best it can be. That can only happen with club collaboration, support, involvement, conversations, looking at the bigger picture, valuing what we have and working together to make improvements that benefit all.

Yours in Netty

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Felicity Duffield
President