

2018

Highvale Netball Club Annual Report



HIGHVALE NETBALL CLUB INC.
Reg. No. A001 9001 H

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

DATE: Sunday 2nd December 2018
TIME: 12:00pm
VENUE: Eley Park Community Centre
87 Eley Rd, Blackburn South, 3130

AGENDA AGM:

1. 12pm – Welcome
2. Apologies
3. Acceptance of the Minutes of the 2017 Annual General Meeting
4. Presentation of 2018 Presidents' Report
5. Presentation of 2018 Treasurer's Report
6. Election of members of the Committee for the next twelve months
7. Business section of meeting closed.

Eliza James
Secretary

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

1. To promote, control and manage all teams represented by the club, and to provide healthy recreation for members of the Club.
2. To encourage, recruit and promote the game of netball.
3. To join an Association affiliated with the Victorian Netball Association.
4. To enter teams in any competitions organised by the Association.
5. To enter teams in any competition as approved by the Club Committee.
6. To encourage social life and good fellowship amongst members of the club and to promote social functions, athletic sports, recreational activities and pastimes held within the club.
7. To invest in accordance with state laws, any monies or funds of the club with any worthwhile institution as approved by the executive committee.

HIGHVALE NETBALL CLUB WISHES TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

Committee 2018

Donna Stevens	President
Nicole Newey	President
Eliza James	Secretary
Marion Hoskin	Treasurer
Brooke Whiteside	Coach Coordinator
Ann Maree Jefferis	Communications coordinator
Fiona Bahr	Uniforms coordinator
Sharon Bierenbroodspot	Committee member
Carolyn Horvath	Committee member

Coaches 2018

Eliza James	Rockets	Kate Smedley	Starlets
Tahlia Motta	Rockets	Fiona Bahr	Starlets
Alyssa Newey	Bullets	Nick Basham	Sapphires
Charlotte Bahr	Bullets	Viv Potter	Sapphires
Sharon Bierenbroodspot	Novas	Peter Bartlett	Gems
Jess Stevens	Novas	Tanna Reynolds	Magic
Manal Moukafi	Novas	Vito De Cesare	Magic
Brooke Whiteside	Comets	Sophie Papaefraim	Flyers
Kasey Thompson	Comets	Donna Stevens	Emeralds
Paris Collins	Comets	Vito De Cesare	Hotshots
Samantha Potter	Starlets		

Umpires 2018

Ellen Tofts	Jess Stevens	Kim Potter
Kasey Thompson	Zoe Spicer	Jessica Hoskin
Charlotte Bahr	Tanna Reynolds	Aryn Teh
Ally Redlich	Kate Drummond	

Representative players 2018

Representative Club	Highvale representatives
Melbourne Waverley	Gabby Hatch, Rylee Pattison-Moore, Jess Stevens, Alyssa Newey, Kasey Thompson, Summah Hinchcliffe, Katie Delaney, Amelie Huppe, Paige Frost, Samantha Bahr
Waverley City	-
Ariels	Hannah Jefferis
Eastern United	Maya Loeckenhoff



THE HIGHVALE NETBALL CLUB ALSO ACKNOWLEDGES OUR LIFE MEMBERS AND RECIPIENTS OF CLUBS AWARDS:

Life members of Highvale Netball Club Inc.

1991 Val O'Brien

2009 Jody De Cesare

2015 Liz Joyce

1998 Ross Young

2009 Gayle Green

1999 Colleen McDougall

2015 Vito De Cesare

Club Award Recipients

1991 Glenis Mackay

1991 Sangita Tailor

1991 Colleen McDougall

1991 Emma Splatt

1991 Debbie McDougall

1993 Ron Waldron

1993 Sue Mackay

1994 Ross Young

1995 Katrina Hall

1995 Leanne McDougall

1996 Colleen McDougall

1999 Michael Hall

1999 Merrill Pohlen

2000 Trish Hall

2001 Pam Bartlett

2003 Christine Chalmers

2007 Leanne McDougall

2008 Bob Cave

2010 Sue Allen

2010 Vito De Cesare

2011 Liz Joyce

2017 Greg Hunt

PRESIDENTS' REPORT

As another year draws to a close, it is time to reflect on the year that was. It is with great pleasure that we present our first Presidents' Report. We would like to thank our fellow committee members: **Eliza** our Secretary, **Marion** our Treasurer, **Brooke** our Coaches Co-ordinator, **Fiona** our Uniform Co-ordinator, **Ann-Maree** our Communications and Social Media Manager and our General Committee Members **Sharon** and **Carolyn**. Many thanks to you all for your hard work throughout the year. It has been a great team effort allowing the year to run smoothly.

The Highvale Netball Club (HNC) Committee had a "changing of the guard" this year. Our wonderful 2017 President, Greg Hunt, stepped down after five years at the helm. Many thanks to Greg for his tireless work and effort over the last five years. His were certainly big shoes to fill.

HNC prides itself on fair play, mateship and inclusiveness in our players, coaches and their families. We aim to create and promote a safe, fun and friendly environment for people of all ages to enjoy the sport of netball. Engaging with the community to encourage participation in the wonderful sport of netball.

During 2018, we have continued to work with and build on a strong relationship with Waverley City (WCNA). They have introduced a new system for training and developing new umpires, they have changed the length of the Winter and Spring seasons to fall in line with the school terms, they have run a professional session to support committees and a coach's forum to support our coaches. They have also introduced a few programs this year to help young players improve their netball.

At Highvale we have been working on improving our communication methods by introducing and encouraging the use of TeamApp through our committee and coaches. We have introduced group warm up sessions at training using the latest information from the knee program to help with injury management and to encourage a stronger rapport between our teams. Recently we have invested in a coach's workshop run by the Inspire Sport Group, which was very well attended by our coaches and hopefully inspired them to pass on this new knowledge to their teams. To further support our coaches, we have once again invested in the online coach's resource of thenetballcoach.com.

Our Winter Season was a successful one for the club with 14 teams entered in total, comprising of three in U11s, two in U13s, three in U15s, two in U17s and four Open teams. Nine of a possible 11 teams made finals, five went through to the Grand Final of which two were Premiers. Congratulations to our Premiers, Sapphires (U15/4) and Emeralds (U15/1). Well done to Emeralds for winning the Winter Club Championship.

In the Spring season, 13 teams were entered: three in U11s, two in U13s, two in U15s, three in U17s and three Open teams. Unfortunately, we lost one of our open teams. At the time of writing this, nine of a possible 10 have made finals and two have finished on top of the ladder (including our under 11 Development team). Congratulations to Emeralds (U17/2) for making it two in a row and winning the Spring Club Championship. They were moved up to U17's early and still took out the trophy – an awesome effort.

A huge 'thank you' to all of our coaches and team managers who work tirelessly, week after week, to ensure that teams have trained, turned up to games, warmed up and taken note of all the positions they play. They also make sure all of our club and WCNA commitments are met.

Finally, thank you, parents for being part of our club; scoring, providing fruit/lollies and supporting your daughter(s) throughout the year and making sure they get to training and games.

Nothing lasts forever and our dedicated and hardworking treasurer, Marion Hoskin is retiring from the committee. Marion has been our treasurer since 2013. Thank you for your friendship, loyalty and commitment to Highvale. We bid you farewell. You will be missed.

Please consider becoming part of the HNC Committee. Being on committee is a great opportunity to not only contribute to the running of the club and ensuring a great netball experience for your daughter, but also being part of a group of likeminded people and share in

the satisfaction of a job well done. We are a team here at Highvale and it is an extremely rewarding experience, not only for yourself and your children, but also for the wider community.

We would like to wish all our members a happy festive season and look forward to seeing you inspired in the New Year.

Nicole Newey and Donna Stevens

TREASURERS REPORT

October 31 2018

The enclosed financial statements have been prepared for distribution to members and presentation at the Annual General Meeting.

These reports have been prepared by the Treasurer from bank statements, cheque books, invoices etc., all kept and under the control of the Treasurer.

The club's finances are secured by a strong balance sheet made up primarily of cash at bank of \$ 17,828.81.

The Profit and Loss for 2018 shows a Loss for the year of \$ 1,407.15 – this was due to the increase in Team Registration fees, increase in umpire fees, S2 Umpire fees for 2017 paid in 2018 financial year, increase in court hire fees, and lower income for uniforms compared with 2017.

Stock of new and second-hand uniforms held @ 31/10/18 is \$ 5,595.00.

This was my final year as Treasurer of Highvale Netball Club.

I would like to thank all the committee members for their time and dedication to the club this year and for their help during my time as Treasurer over the past 6 years.

I wish all players success in the last few weeks of the season and good luck to the teams making it to finals.

Marion Hoskin

Highvale Netball Club Inc.
Profit & Loss @ 31-Oct-2018

Revenue	2018	2017
Spring Club Fees (S2)	13,500.00	12,760.00
Winter Club Fees (S1)	14,654.00	16,362.00
Post Season Club Fees	0.00	0.00
Prior Season Club Fees	0.00	620.00
Uniform	2,165.00	3,137.50
Interest	0.00	0.37
Umpire Fees Received	0.00	0.00
Netball Victoria membership	1,889.00	7,509.00
Photos	0.00	0.00
Other	0.66	-4.59
Total Revenue	38,208.66	40,384.28

Expenses		
Uniforms	2,896.58	2,193.35
Team Registration	15,760.00	15,260.00
Umpire Payments	5,551.80	3,125.00
Petty Cash	0.00	0.00
NV Expenses	8,075.00	7,716.58
Court Hire	2,784.25	2,330.50
Trophies	1,912.90	1,830.40
Website	0.00	203.00
Coaching Courses	686.00	712.00
Equipment	654.57	470.00
* Sundry Expenses	326.88	155.80
AGM Expense	727.83	657.46
Printing & Stationery	0.00	0.00
Payment Refund	240.00	810.00
Forfeit Fines	0.00	0.00
Umpire Fines	0.00	29.50
Total Expenses	39,615.81	35,493.59
Net Operating Profit / (Loss)	-1,407.15	4,890.69

- * Other/Sundry Expenses
 - Consumer Affairs
 - Outgoing President Gift
 - Condolence sentiments x3

Highvale Netball Club Inc.
Bank Reconciliation @ 31-Oct-2018

Period ending	31-Oct-18
OPENING BANK BALANCE @ 01/11/17	19,235.96
PLUS TRANSCATION – Income (01/11/17 - 31/10/18)	38,208.66
LESS TRANSACTIONS - Expenses (01/11/17 - 31/10/18)	-39,615.81
BANK STATEMENT BALANCE @ 31/10/18	17,828.81
VARIANCE TO BANK STATEMENT @ 31/10/18	0.00

COACH CO-ORDINATORS REPORT

This is my first year as Coach Co-ordinator for Highvale and I am very impressed with the calibre of coaches we have – so much skill, patience and time to show our players the best way to play netball.

As coaches, we all play many different roles throughout the season – we are teachers, managers, leaders, mentors, psychologists, strategists, communicators, motivators and promoters of the sport – I have enjoyed watching all of our coaches wear all of these hats, many times all at once, as they have refined their own coaching philosophy over the year.

Coaching is not just about turning up to the game on Saturday and throwing a ball at training. The amount of time and effort each of them put into preparing training plans, skill development and working on different position combinations to teach our players is incredible. I can't thank them enough for their organized, enthusiastic, patient, supportive, knowledgeable, caring and passionate approach. They are volunteers who give up their valuable time and energy to bring about successes in each and every one of our players and teams.

In Under 11's we have Jess Stevens assisting Sharon Bierenbroodspot with Section 1 Novas. Section 2 Bullets saw Alyssa Newey and Charlotte Bahr working with the expertise of Viv Potter in the Winter season and progressing to coaching on their own in the Spring season. Our youngest players in Rockets had a stellar year under the expert realms of Eliza James and the assistance of Tahlia Motta (Winter season) learning lots of new skills and rounding out both Winter and Spring seasons on top of their ladder. Well done to all players and coaches who have had an amazing year with all players, thoroughly enjoying the end of year Round Robin.

Under 13's saw Samantha Potter coach Starlets during the Winter season and Kate Smedley stepping up to coach with the assistance of Fiona Bahr for Spring. Starlets had a fabulous year making finals in both seasons – a tremendous effort from all – well done.

Five of our 2017 Under 11 players who had to move up into Under 13's combined with a few new players to the club and saw the formation of a new Under 13 team, Comets, who were under the direction of myself and my wonderful assistants Kasey Thompson and Paris Collins (Winter season). These girls entered a new and exciting time in their netball. The games were faster, a lot more physical and it took a while to settle with new players in the team. The other change for them was the introduction of finals at this age group, to which they made it to semi-finals in both seasons - a tremendous effort by all players. Well done, girls.

Under 15's saw Sapphires move up from Under 13's to a much faster and physical game. Nick Basham coached Sapphires during the Winter season and Viv Potter continued refining their skills during the Spring season. Even though this was their first year in Under 15's, they made it to the finals in both seasons. Great effort.

Under 15 Magic once again saw Tanna Reynolds coaching, who managed a tough year balancing her completion of year 12, showing the girls not only netball skills but time management and dedication. A big thank you to Vito De Cesare who once again shows his experience and passion to come back to assist Tanna this year. For the first time in a long time, Magic made the finals in both seasons and gave it their best effort in the Grand Final of the Winter season. A tremendous effort to both Magic coaches and players this year. Well done.

Under 17's is a hard age group to coach, as other priorities enter the girls' lives. Sophie Papaefraim took on coaching Flyers with enthusiasm and lots of passion. Peter Bartlett stepped up to coach Gems and while he hasn't coached netball before, he knows a lot about sport and fitness in general and has done a great job learning the ins and outs of netball. Well done to both teams, making the finals in the Winter season and Gems again in Spring.

Under 15/17 Emeralds saw Donna Stevens at the head of this inspiring group of girls; many of the girls in this team not only play, but also coach and umpire for Highvale. They had a tremendous year, defending their Winter Premiership in Under 15's and were moved up to section 2 in Under 17's for Spring, where at the time of writing this report, have won the semi-final 37-12 and are going to be defending their Under 15 section 1 Spring premiership in Under 17's on Saturday. Good Luck, Emeralds.

Moving into Open means that they no longer have a coach or attend training but there is still a team manager/captain for each of the teams to ensure that the seasons run smoothly. I want to take this opportunity to thank all of our team managers in the open sections and congratulate Hotshots, Dynamites and ZigZags on a wonderful year. All three open teams made it into finals with ZigZags also in contention for the Spring premiership on Saturday. Best of Luck, ZigZags.

All of our 2018 coaches are to be thanked and congratulated for the successes they have achieved throughout the year. Their role is largely underestimated and forever growing, yet they manage to create a fun and safe environment to empower our players, provide opportunities, build confidence and reflect, shape, focus, enhance and promote our game. One thing that makes coaching in the junior ages a little easier is the help and support of a team manager. Across our teams we have a number of parents (listed below) who have put their hands up to help with this role, from organizing captains and fruit rosters to chasing up to ensure there are enough players for the games. For this, I know all the coaches and committee are very thankful for your efforts and support.

- Under 11 Bullets – Nicki Hardwood

- Under 13 Starlets – Fiona Bahr
- Under 15 Magic – Tanya & Brad Frost
- Under 17 Gems – Kim Bartlett
- Under 17 Flyers – Kathy Mihopoulos

In 2018 all coaches continued using the coaching website thenetballcoach.com.au to assist them in finding the right drill, or training game. We progressed with the implementation of a group warm up and fitness program across both training times and found this to be a great way to start training, with all players across all age groups getting to interact with each other and all coaches.

The 31st of October saw all of our coaches attend a Highvale dedicated coaching course held by the wonderful team of coaches from Inspire Sports Group. The session covered off on a number of wonderful aspects of coaching, and feedback from our coaches was that it was thoroughly enjoyed by all. A special 'thank you' to Donna Stevens for going above and beyond in organizing this for everyone.

Coaching is a valuable skill in itself and I encourage anyone who may be interested to take advantage of the coaching opportunities available within the club. No matter how experienced you are, Highvale NC is a great place to learn the ropes. Any coach will tell you about the great feelings of satisfaction that coaching provides, no matter how small the feat. Our proud tradition of fair play, mateship and inclusiveness stems from our coaches and we are very thankful for their time, effort and patience they continually volunteer.

Congratulations on a fantastic year – good luck to the teams in the Grand Final!

Brooke Whiteside

TEAM REPORTS

Rockets – Under 11

Team members: Paige Ryan, Shayla Turner, Bronte Turner, Alice Ryan, Aisha Hassan, Analise Horvath, Charlize Motta (Winter), Loima Telling (Spring), Ava Turner (Spring), Shahani Gowritharan (Spring)

Coach: Eliza James

Assistant: Tahlia Motta (Winter)

Winter (Development 1)

What a big season for Rockets! With 1-2 seasons of experience on our side, our skills, confidence and team work really began to shine through. After a tough start to the season during grading games, we then found ourselves in Development 1, where we then went on to win 5 out of 7 games, to see us finish on top of the ladder. While winning was never a focus (except against Northvale....and Brentwood), it was great to see the girls have some reward for their efforts at training and on the court. Plus, the smiles are always bigger after a win and really helped us to grow our confidence.

While their skills continued to improve each week, what was most pleasing was their court awareness as they began to move the ball down the court faster, working together as a team to keep possession of the ball and move the ball as close to the goal post as possible (however, as our confidence grew, so did the distance of our goal attempts from the post). We introduced a system for defensive throw-ins and worked hard to practice fast leads and throwing in front.

The girls continued to be rotated through all positions over the season, but enjoyed few rotations during each game to settle into their position. They are starting to show preferences to either end of the court, though are willing to continue to develop skills in all positions.

Spring (Development 1)

Charlize decided to pursue her horse-riding interests, though this opened up places for Ava and Loima to join the team, as well as Shahani, who joined our training squad and filled in when we were short. It was another successful season for us, winning 9 games and again finishing on top of the ladder. Our competitiveness is beginning to grow and it's pleasing to see the girls "knuckle down" in close games or if they come up against challenging competition.

Our patience and decision making are definitely improving. In Spring, our focus areas were: finding your own space, changing direction, fast running/leads and throwing in front. Our basic skills are continuing to improve and refine each week, both on an individual and team level.

The parents in this team have been a fantastic support – their willingness to be involved at training and to step in as Coach on Saturday's has been very much appreciated – everyone involved with the Rockets are truly one big team. This team of little superstars is one to watch – Go Rockets!

Bullets – Under 11

Team members: Alizeh Ali Agha, Madi Harwood, Minh Nguyen, Tara Worthy, Farah Hassan, Ella Fu, Janine Chiang (Winter), Jade Blin-Mutum, Aanya Ranjan (Spring)

Coaches: Alyssa Newey & Charlotte Bahr (Mentored by Viv Potter in Winter)

Winter (Section 2)

Bullets started the year moving up into Under 11's section 2, after spending the previous year in section 4. The improvement we saw from all the girls over this season was so amazing to watch. They went into the season with a slightly different team from last year, with a few girls moving up into Under 13's as well as Farah, Ella, Jade and Janine all joining the team. They all slotted in beautifully.

Throughout this season we worked on the girls' ball handling skills, footwork, basic attack and defence skills and their transition to attack. We have seen a major improvement from all the girls in each of these aspects.

We were lucky enough to have Viv Potter as our mentor for this season to help guide us and teach us some of the basics when coaching. We cannot thank her enough for all of her help.

We are very proud of the effort the girls put in this season and how they all bonded together so well. The girls have continued to grow and develop as netballers.

Spring (Section 2)

This season was our first time ever coaching by ourselves and truth be told, it was quite daunting at first. Despite this, we could not have asked for a better group of girls to coach. They helped us and not only did they improve enormously, but we too grew as coaches and we could not have done it without the support from the girls and from their parents.

At the beginning of this season, Janine moved up to Under 13's but thankfully we managed to recruit our newest team member, Aanya, who has bonded with the team well.

In the first five rounds of the season we fought hard, giving it our all and we managed to come away with four wins and a draw. The Bullets were gelling as a team really well and we could not have been prouder.

At training we continued to work on basic ball skills, transitioning the ball down the court, our goal keeper throw-ins (the girls may say too often) and spacing.

These girls always gave us 110% at training and on the court. Wherever we put them, they would play their hearts out. Again, we could not have done this without the parents that always brought the girls to training and games. A massive thank you to our amazing team manager Nicki who has helped us transition into our coaching role by communicating with the parents and always offering her support.

We can't wait for what next year has to bring. Go Bullets!

Novas – Under 11

Team members: Samantha Bahr, Isla Bierenbroodspot, Paige Frost, Amelie Huppe, Francesca Nguyen, Ava Sayce, Katie Delaney, Hilary Roach, Ally Choong (Spring)

Coaches: Sharon Bierenbroodspot & Jess Stevens

Assistant: Manal Moukafi

Winter (Section 1)

The Novas commenced the Winter Season of 2018 with a couple of changes – our baby kangaroos of last year became stars that suddenly increased in brightness (which is the definition of a Nova, by the way). We said goodbye to Sophie (Joeys coach last year), who moved on to coaching one of our U17 teams, Flyers and last but not least, the Novas jumped 2 sections to start the Winter season in Section 1.

In line with our rotation policy, the girls experienced all positions on the court. We aimed to have them play one half in a favourite position and the other half in less preferred position. The girls surprised themselves at how well they adapted to playing outside their comfort zone. We knew all along that they could do it! Seeing the smile on a defender's face when she plays a shooting roll and scores a goal is priceless!

Overall, a great season given we had some injuries, illness and absences - the ladder didn't quite do the Novas justice!

Spring (Section 1)

We commenced the Spring season with the same game plan as the Winter season. Position rotation continued to be important.

A first for us this season was to play a game with only 6 on court. The girls stepped up to the challenge and their effort was absolutely amazing. We only lost by 3 goals to a team above us on the ladder, but we will call that a win every day of the week!

Ally joined us in Round 11 and along with the rest of the team, played an absolute cracker of a game, resulting in a 19 goal win for the Novas – one of our biggest wins for the season!

The steepest learning curve for all of us was how to deal with the increasing physical pressure from some of our opposition teams. We worked on various strategies and skills to teach the girls to hold their positions – despite the laughs during training and warm-ups it has really helped them stand their ground.

We'd like to say a special thank you to Farah & Miu from the Bullets for filling in for us when we needed it and a big thank you to Chloe Frost for warming up the Novas on game days!

Novas, another awesome season, well done and we look forward to the big leap up to U13 next year!

Comets – Under 13

Team members: Shanaye Whiteside, Zahra Hnatko, Talya Wee, Zoe More, Anne Fo, Alanna Yong, Sharane Gowritharan, Katrina Tran, Letitia Lee, Janine Chiang (Spring)

Coach: Brooke Whiteside

Assistants: Kasey Thompson, Paris Collins (Winter)

Winter (Section 4)

New age group as 6 of the 9 moved up from Under 11's, 3 new players starting with Highvale whom had not played competitive netball before saw the team "COMETS" form in the Under 13 section of Highvale. This, together with a faster more physical game, took these girls by surprise. It was always going to be a new challenge and take a period of time for them all to settle but together all of them rose to the challenge and worked hard on their skills and game play.

About half way through the season they realised that in Under 13's there were finals and they were determined and set our team goal to make it to semi-finals. It was like a light bulb turned on and they all started to run harder, throw further and be strategic with their movements, it was great to see this team working together and enjoying netball everything a coaching team want to see.

With 5 wins, 2 draws and 10 losses, it came down to the last game of the home and away season with us in 5th position we were relying on us winning our last game and the team that was 4th on the ladder losing their game, but the stars aligned for us we played a tremendous game and by just 1 point on the ladder we managed to scrap into 4th position. The girls were ecstatic we achieved the team goal to make it to semi-finals.

As the Semi-Final Saturday approached the girls were very nervous they knew they had a very hard game ahead playing the 1st team on the ladder for such young girls this was a daunting experience we hadn't come close to beating this team before but in true spirits of these girls they gave it their all going

down to St Andrews who went on to win the Grand Final. It was a great effort from all they should be really congratulated on achieving their goal and we couldn't be prouder coaches of their efforts.

Spring (Section 4)

After the school holiday break, the girls were back and ready to continue learning lots more about netball. This season saw Janine join her friends in the Comets team. Kasey had developed some wonderful training plans and the girls continued learning different strategic skills that we saw put into practice during the Saturday games.

We had some amazingly tough matches but all the girls in this team stepped up and played some superb netball. Our highest number of goals scored in a game was with a win over Brentwood 23-6, and even though it was a loss against St Andrews, our second highest number of goals scored in a game was 29-21. The best part of this game was that the girls came off the court buzzing as they knew they played a magnificent game, showing all the girls that no matter the score you can have so much fun playing netball and enjoying time with your friends.

This season we set our goal of making it to the semi-finals again but this time to make sure we were not waiting on the result of the last game. With 6 wins and 9 losses again the girls achieved their season goal, cementing our place in 4th position with a clear separation between 5th on the ladder. While we didn't make it past the semi-finals, everyone played the best they could and we as their coaches are very proud of their efforts this season.

This year taught the girls that setting goals and working hard to achieve them is great in sport but that there needs to be a balance between achieving those successes and having fun with your friends along the way and I think that they really achieved this throughout the year.

Starlets – Under 13

Team members: Jessica Bahr, Bianca Bekerman, Maya Crombie, Srujani Ravi, Megan Smedley, Ella Vimpani, Aileen Nguyen, Mikayla Stockdale (Winter), Alicia Basham (Winter), Maddie Redlich (Spring), Ameera Merza (Spring)

Winter (Section 4)

Coach: Samantha Potter

Starlets were a joy to coach this season. Aileen and Mikayla were welcome additions to the team, and it was wonderful to see them settle in so smoothly. There was a lovely sense of team spirit amongst the girls, with Megan even coming along to support Starlets after being sidelined with a broken wrist.

I was fortunate to have such an enthusiastic group to work with. It has been a real pleasure to watch all the Starlets' growing confidence and understandings of court craft and full court systems.

Starlets really blossomed this season, as evidenced by their presence in a closely fought grand final. While unfortunately we couldn't quite manage the win, it was a solid performance following a really amazing season. To make a grand final is an AWESOME achievement of which they should all be very proud. Well done girls!

Spring (Section 3)

Coach: Kate Smedley

Assistant: Fiona Bahr

Although we were sad to lose Alicia and Mikayla from Starlets, we welcomed Maddie back to the team. We also gained a new player, Ameera, who fitted in with the team really well, and after a few weeks, it was as though she had been playing with Starlets for many seasons.

After finishing runners up in Winter, Starlets were moved up to section 3 for the Spring season. We had a very slow start, losing our first 4 grading games, but fortunately didn't get regraded. We then won 7 of the next 8 games, beating all the teams that we had previously lost to. Following 3 straight losses, we got our momentum back, winning the last two games of the season by significant margins. We ended up finishing 3rd, and are hoping to make it into consecutive grand finals. Starlets have been training very well in the lead up to the finals, and have a good chance of winning our semi-final in what is likely to be a very close game.

Starlets have been a great team to coach, and it is really rewarding to see them put into practice some skills and set plays that they learn at training. Although the girls were still rotated through different positions, they are starting to establish their preferred areas of the court. We have four strong goalers in Jessie, Maddie, Megan and Aileen, a solid defence comprising Maya, Aileen and Srujani, and very energetic mid-court players, Ella, Bianca and Ameera.

Thanks to Fiona for being a great team manager/assistant coach, and to all the parents for their support during the season.

Magic – Under 15

Team members: Sehansa Ranawaka, Kaverthna Vishnuraj, Maya Moorthy, Karrie Chua, Isabella Kerrison, Prue Roach, Jazzel Florez (winter), Chloe Frost, Manal Moukafi, Emma Vu (spring)

Coaches: Tanna Reynolds & Vito De Cesare

Winter (Section 5)

This season began with our first few games of the season being played with less than the whole team on court. Even with this setback taken into consideration, the girls shone through with their dedication to the game. Throughout the whole of the winter season, the girls were encouraged and coached to work on their most basic netball skills and learn to play the game at a pace, and with a style that best suited them. The progression that was seen in the girls was remarkable. It was this commitment and hard work that saw Magic sitting on the top of the ladder, where the girls played finals and were runners up for this season. With the new addition of Manal midway through the season, every single player worked rigorously to improve their own netball skills and gain confidence in the way that they played. We are both incredibly proud of the way in which the girls grew, not only on court, but within their own headspace, so as to improve their mindset and overall gameplay.

Spring (Section 4)

This season the dynamic of the team changed with Jazz departing, but with the added support of Emma, Magic was able to continue working on areas of improvement during the games. Moving on from the success of the previous Winter season, we aimed to strengthen Magic's team play and began encouraging the implementation of systems throughout gameplay as a way to ease communication and awareness of each other's space on the court. This season, every girl has improved tremendously and showed us how they've been able to take feedback on board and use it to strengthen their own netball skills. We have been so impressed by Karrie, Chloe and Bella's cooperation within the circle and individual growth as goalers. Likewise, the strong defensive tactics and teamwork from Sehansa, Bella, Kavi and Maya have continually provided so many opportunities for Magic throughout the games, and the midcourt consistency from Manal and Emma have been an integral part of the system development and movement on court. We feel so honoured to have had been able to work alongside these amazing individuals and have loved watching them become a stronger team throughout the past few years. We look forward to seeing how they perform during semi-finals but are so proud of how far they've come.

Sapphires – Under 15

Team members: Lailaa Ali Agha, Remy Bartlett, Amy Basham, Lauren Tie, Aryl Teh, Aryn Teh, Novica Pearsall, Gabby Hatch, Alicia Basham (Spring)

Winter (Section 4)

Coach: Nick Basham

The Sapphires had a very consistent Winter season. The girls have been together for a number of seasons and work hard for each other, which has brought them success.

Focus of the season was to work on individual weaknesses, timing their runs and getting their voices up.

The season was competitive at the top end, with 3 to 4 teams of similar ability. A lot of games decided by only a few points. The Sapphires worked hard and were rewarded with a Grand Final spot.

The Grand Final was anyone's game, however the Sapphires had a very special first half leading by 20 points at the break. The girls went on to win convincingly. Great work girls. I was very proud of you all.

Spring (Section 3)

Coach: Viv Potter

Sapphires have enjoyed another successful season. It has been a privilege to join such a talented, dedicated group of girls and I have been delighted with the way they have reacted to the introduction of more strategy and tactics to their play, complementing their developing ball skills and court craft.

The girls have all had the chance to play a variety of positions this season and this increased flexibility meant we were able to cover the long-term finger injuries to Remy & Lailaa effectively and that everyone had the chance to try our new set plays from several positions on the court.

We are lying third with one round to go and certain to again play finals. I am looking forward to what we can achieve next year when we have a full roster of fit players! Fantastic effort, Sapphires!

Gems – Under 17

Team members: Mia Trembath, Nisuli Manamperi, Harmandeep Kaur, Charli Bartlett, Helini Mendis, Felicia Nguyen, Kay Nixayathirath, Ellen Tofts, Sneha Mantha (Winter)

Coach: Peter Bartlett

Winter (Section 4)

New faces, game styles, playing positions as well as a new name....it is always a challenge when a new team is formed and takes some level of adjustment for all involved. But the GEMS gelled together beautifully and are to be congratulated on their collective efforts in coming together as a new team in 2018. The GEMS lost, won and drew some games, but most importantly improved as a team and supported each other at all times, irrespective of the result.

A training highlight of the year was the well-attended and hotly contested Parents/ Siblings vs GEMS Game. The winner was without doubt...the game of Netball. It was fantastic to have such great support from all families on the night.

The GEMS made the finals in their debut season; drawing level with their highly fancied and rarely defeated rivals at ½ time in their semi- final before being overrun in the second ½ by the eventual Premiers.

Sneha was all class as a goaler and untouchable at her best; Felicia was always athletic, dynamic and exciting to watch as our potent offensive weapon and Charli gave the team some great flexibility on the wing as well as being a very reliable and consistent shooter. Helini's enthusiasm, encouragement and voice on court helped drive the team and her leadership in helping to run drills and warm-ups was invaluable. Mia was always hard working, unquestionably reliable and consistent in defence along with Harmandeep who improved across the season and saved her best game for the final, demonstrating some sublime intercepts. Ellen was the archetypal quiet achiever, providing a consistent and vital hard edge to our defence. Nisuli also came from the quiet achiever mould, always toiling hard as Wing Defence, but also filling in ably in the Centre when required. Kay was pivotal to the team's success and admirably held down the key Centre position demonstrating stamina and great court movement.

Without exception, the GEMS always represented themselves with distinction by fair play and exemplary sporting conduct on and off the court.

Spring (Section 4)

The GEMS continued to build on their promising first season. Rising to new challenges galvanised the group and saw a fantastic start to the season with the team jumping up as high as second place on the ladder during the grading rounds. The GEMS continued to improve as a team as our line up became more stable and the girls adjusted to the features of their teammates game.

Once again the GEMS finished in the top four and earned their place in the finals with some very competitive Netball winning 10/16 games they contested.

Ellen continued to be the regular and vital link in defence alongside Mia who was as reliable and dependable as always whilst Harmandeep continued to pressure the offensive structures of all our opposition forcing regular turnovers. Kay, with another wonderful season, duly earned the title of the 'Intercept Queen' whilst Nisuli continued to improve across the year; always working hard and demonstrating great persistence and endurance.

Charli relished the opportunity as a regular shooter and proved herself to be deadly in front of goal. Some late season shooting time for Helini proved to be a great change for the team and gave us greater rebound opportunities as she enjoyed the challenge of a new role. Whether it was as a regular GA or with some increased time as WA, Felicia thrilled us every week with her athleticism and skill, always causing headaches for our opposition.

Irrespective of the result, the GEMS have always supported and encouraged each other during what was a wonderful season.

I am very proud of the way that the girls have gelled together and the way in which they have represented themselves on and off the court; always with exceptional sporting conduct and playing the game as it should be played.

Flyers – Under 17

Team members: Jessica Andrew, Zoe Spicer, Ritika Singh, Caylie Moore, Gemma Thompson, Mekayla Mihopolous, Sophie Pollard (Spring), Tahlia Motta (Winter), Sneha Mantha (Spring)

Coaches: Sophie Papaefraim

Winter (Section 2)

This year was my first year coaching the Flyers and it was a fantastic start to the year. We started off well during grading and the girls came together well given some of the girls hadn't played together before.

Our results for the season were 7 wins and 11 losses, which managed to put them in contention for finals. Unfortunately we had to forfeit, finishing 4th on the ladder – not a bad end.

All in all, a very successful season.

Spring (Section 3)

This season we gained two new players which gave us another shooter and a mid courter, which was awesome.

Spring wasn't as successful as the last, however Flyers have this unshakable drive even when the results aren't looking the way they would like – they always push each other to be better and always have a good time doing so.

Emeralds – Under 15/17

Team members: Charlotte Bahr, Paris Collins, Hannah Jefferis, Summah Hinchcliffe Maya Loeckenhoff, Alyssa Newey, Ally Redlich, Lucy Searle, Jessica Stevens, Kasey Thompson.

Coach: Donna Stevens

Winter (15&U Section 1)

2018 Winter season was a great season for these girls. They went through the season only losing one game to St Leonards but blitzed it in the grand final by smashing St Leonards by 15. Throughout the season the girls have had the chance to try some positions they would normally not play. They have shown how a team who get along so well off the court can shine on it. They don't let anything get in their way and strive to do better every game. Most teams struggle to play with a roster of 10 but these girls know that we have needed all 10 to complete our team. With Ally and Lucy doing aerobics and making the national championships and Lucy heading off to worlds, to Alyssa going on school camp during finals, with Paris singing and acting career blossoming with Maya and Summah playing footy league and then coming to play, throw in the odd illness here and there and perhaps a school function or two. It has meant we have managed the number very well and I know as a coach am extremely grateful.

These girls not only won the Winter grand final this season but also collected the Kevin Currie champion team perpetual trophy along the way by having the most points at the end of the season - An awesome effort girls. With Maya playing rep at Eastern United, Hannah at Yarra ariels and Summah, Alyssa, Kasey and Jess at Melbourne Waverley (along with Kasey, Charlotte, Ally and Jess inspiring umpires), netball at Highvale remains as strong as ever. Our 5th Grand final appearance and third grand final win in a row. Awesomeness doesn't begin to cover it!

Spring (17&U Section 2)

Spring saw Waverley City place Emeralds into under 17's. A little apprehensive at first these girls have shown that age and size with not stop them. Placed into section 2, they have taken on the challenge to once again play some great netball, have some fun and come away with some big wins. On average the team have shot 43 goals a game. Not bad for an under 15 team. With only one loss for the season (that being in grading) they sit nicely on top of the ladder.

In November Emeralds also entered the Waverley night club tournament. They played some awesome netball. They went through the rounds undefeated but ran out of puff in the Grand final. The team they came up against were tough and intimidating and in the end outplayed the girls. It was a great learning experience going forward for these girls.

At the time of writing this the girls will head into their 6th finals appearance. I think one thing you learn along the way is that you never take these finals appearances for granted and I don't think these girls do. Whatever the result they will smile, have fun and enjoy the journey. A testament to what domestic netball is all about! Go Emeralds!

Zigzags – Open

Team members: Tina Anagnostou, Anokhi De Silva, Kirsten Hallett, Jessica Hunt, Tanna Reynolds, Rebecca Stevens, Lizzy Dent, Cassandra Le Fleur, Jasmine Delaney

Team Manager: Jessica Hunt

Winter (Section 5)

The start of 2017 ZigZags found us in our second year of Open, after a challenging year before we had now learnt new skills to help us compete in this section. We were positioned in the same section from last year, again being graded a bit higher than our skill level. We had a bit of trouble getting started in the section but as the season went on, we picked up and made it to the Semi Finals, however we lost finishing 4th on the ladder. Even though we lost we still had a great time together as a team and it gave us valuable experience for the future.

Continuing the season with most of the same team members and the new addition of Jasmine who gave us a lot more height in defence that ZigZags really needed, helping us all along the court. We won some games and lost others, but it gave us a chance to really develop as a team and to be challenged within our second year of open. Each team member improved dramatically through the winter season learning for being in a higher graded section overcoming all challenges we faced.

Spring (Section 4)

As Spring season came around, we were grouped together in a slightly lower grade section with eight other teams, all the teams in this section were ones we had never played against before making for a more exciting start to spring, and it was. As we have finally found our place this open section, finding ourselves in a sort of rhythm as the season commenced helping us to win many more games. Working all together as a team and fully understanding each other and play together the at the best we have been for a while. Unfortunately, due to injury Rebecca had to sit out of the rest of the season which has been difficult, but we hope everything heals quickly.

Throughout spring season, we have truly developed as a team and we see ourselves working hard to win finals as we have been able to make it to semi-finals this spring. The ZigZags have had a good season with some ups and downs but overall are proud of the work they have all put in.

Dynamites – Open

Team members: Emma Claughton, Monica Hunt, Michelle Stackpoole, Shana Chitty, Cara Schelleman, Stephanie Missos, Jill Meggs, Jessica Marotta, Elise Wattie, Nicole Younes, Vani Mantha

Captain: Monica Hunt

Winter (Section 3)

This year has seen Dynamites jump from Open 4 in 2017, to Open 3 (Winter) and eventually Open 2 (Spring). With a higher division comes stronger competition. But remarkably, we've managed to keep our heads above water throughout the whole year. Winter season saw us drifting between 4th and last place on the ladder. A couple of wins here and there, but mostly loses. We ended up in 5th place for the season.

Spring (Section 2)

Spring season was a different, more positive experience. We had the pleasure of 2 new editions joining, Vani Mantha (returning player) and Sarah Janssen. While we had our share of loses placing us 5th in the middle of the season, after a few consecutive wins, we scraped into 3rd place. It was challenging to play against teams who train and view the competition with an extremely serious mindset. But it makes it all the more worth it to beat those teams. We'll continue to keep laughing on court and see how far it will take us!

Special thanks to Donna and Jess Stevens for the occasional fill in and always helping us out when we drop down to 6 players 5 minutes before the game, what would we do without you both! Also special thanks to Nicole Younes for filling in some games in both Winter and Spring.

Thanks to all players.

Diamonds – Open

Team members: Mahila Abbass, Ashlee Clark, Clare Dhillon, Tanja Perera, Alexandra Grills, Emily Pyle, Isabel Prosser, Carla Barca, Mel Jones

Captain: Mahlia Abbass

Winter (Section 3)

Runners-up

Hotshots – Open

Team members: Sophie Antidormi, Sophie Papaefraim, Jessica Hoskin, Zoe Lythgo, Kim Potter, Zahli Spurling, Eilish Cook, Maddie Lythgo, Samantha Potter

Coach: Vito De Cesare

Winter (Section 1)

Ladder position: 5th

Spring (Section 1)

Ladder position: 2nd