Middlesex County Netball Association

www.middlesexnetball.co.uk

June 2021

**Performance Lead’s Report**

There has been no season 2020-2021 and so we find ourselves having no County or Satellite academies run during this period.

This is disappointing and due to the continued level of restrictions, have not planned delivery for anytime during 2021-2022 season currently.

The performance group (Sally Essex, Sonia Robinson and myself. Adele Burnett unable to attend) will meet on the 8th June 2021 to discuss future. It is felt the level of uncertainty and continued restrictions as well as a possible third wave left no alternative than to conclude that there are currently no plans to deliver academies for the coming season.

Links to franchises remain and many athletes attending hubs, camps and multi sports days/sessions.

**General**

**Franchises**

**London Pulse**

Links have once again been made with both London Pulse and Mavericks Franchises.

Middlesex had joined London Pulse as the partnership franchise along with, Kent and Essex.

At last count Middlesex had 47 athletes across the age groups at London Pulse hubs.

Pulse are running trials and hubs virtually with the ethos of educate, train, inspire. NPL athletes have continued to train although decision not to be face to face was taken by EN.

A Talent Management Group (TMG) has been set up with franchise led by Dannii Titmuss, last meeting held in May.

Pulse trail dates confirmed as 11th & 12th September 2021. The trials are by invitation only and Middlesex Performance group are able to nominate athletes to put forward.

**Mavericks**

Mavericks trials took place the weekend of 29th and 30th May 2021.

Athletes can attend and trial at any franchise that may be geographically convenient to them.

**England Netball**

EN performance team held its first meeting on 23rd April 2021 with all performance leads from across the country.

There set out some aspects of the performance pathway going forward as well as stating this meeting forum would be on-going.

Further forum to take place July 2021.

Summary of some areas covered:

* Plans to have a 10-year strategy. Not yet in place but work has begun in order to take Netball to sustained success and be the best female sport. Counties will be able to contribute.
* EN want to enable the pathway to be more accessible so as to enable late developers etc not to be missed.
* Roses Development Framework (RDF) – Has 3 main objectives it wants to achieve. 1. “Roses Way” 2. Pathway Programme 3. Coaching Philosophy
* EN Performance team plan to run a number of workshops in the coming month including, coach development sessions and talent ID. Continued use and development of VNC.
* No concentrate agreement for future funding. EN stress this still relates to Sport England and said it plans to support Counties but was priority dependant.
* No plans to have satellite or County competition
* Acknowledgement that communications need to improve with Franchises and Counties. Meetings timetable to be announced linking counties with their franchises facilitated by EN.

Overall, there seemed to be little confidence in EN delivering what they say and working more proactively and for the benefit of the Counties. Despite the offer of follow ups and being available to be contacted this is yet to be proven. Some aspects of their intentions, support, plans and strategy still unclear and unconvincing.

**Report: Marcia Eldridge – Middlesex Performance Lead**