NETBALL LONDON & SOUTH EAST

LONDON AND SOUTH EAST REGION NETBALL ASSOCIATION

Regional Management Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 16 September 2026, following the AGM, via Zoom

Present:

Alison Bennett	Regional Chair	AB
Julia Martin	Treasurer	JM
Tania Legore	Resolution Lead	TL
Laura Pawley	Competition TSG Chair	LP
Jane Kelloe	Officiating TSG Chair	JK
Pat Meadows	Essex Met CNA Chair	PM
Chris Kelso	Surrey CNA Chair	CK
Lesley Tischler	Middlesex CNA Chair	LT
Michelle Ray	Kent CNA Representative (attending in place of Keeley Smith)	MR
Emma Black	Partnership & Delivery Manager, London & South East	EB
Sophie Johnson	Middlesex NDO	SJ

Apologies:

Dani Mugridge	Coaching & Performance TSG Chair	DM
Katrina-May Kwan	Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Officer	KMK
Francesca Akano	Regional Officer – London & South East	FA
Rachel Morgan-Jones	Communications Officer	RMJ
Keeley Smith	Kent CNA Chair (represented by Michelle Ray)	KS
Marlene Wander	Regional Vice Chair	MW

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

AB welcomed members to the RMB meeting and thanked colleagues who had stood for re-election at the AGM. Apologies were recorded as for the preceding AGM.

2. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Members were asked to declare any new conflicts of interest. None were declared.

3. AGREEMENT OF THE MINUTES AND ACTIONS OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

a) Minutes – 20 May 2026

The minutes were reviewed. JK identified a redundant apostrophe in item 3A ("Regional Chairs") and a spelling correction relating to Roslyn/Rosslyn Park in item 4E; the precise amendment should be checked against the annotated copy. Subject to corrections, members agreed the minutes were a true and accurate record.

b) Actions

Action 069 and 099

Confirmed closed.

September note (related recognition activity): The AGM also discussed distributing centenary badges to volunteers and other contributors. Members were invited to email AB with nominations and badge requirements. This is related to recognition work under Action 069, but is a separate activity; Action 069 remains closed.

Action 103 – Financial pathway support

JM reported that the application form had been developed and tested in Google Forms and the output format improved. Supporting procedures remained to be documented. AB asked for the form to be circulated to RMB members, particularly County Chairs, for use as requests arrive. The existing action was regarded as closed, with procedures to be refined in use.

Action 107

Confirmed closed.

Action 108 – Governance health check

Ezekiel's email of 3 July confirmed that L&SER's documents had all been received, reviewed and were OK. Confirmed closed.

September note (related governance activity): At the AGM, the Board agreed that TL would coordinate an annual governance, policy and website-content review, supported by TSG leads and the RMB. This complements the governance health-check and risk-register work under Actions 108 and 113, and the website ownership arrangements under Action 114.

Action 109 – London Pulse

It was unclear whether RMJ had contacted Pulse. EB offered to contact Pulse through her existing relationship with its foundation. LP would forward event dates and venues to EB and LT; LT would explore equivalent contact with Mavericks.

Action 111 and 112

Reported as closed during the meeting, with revised follow-up on event contacts described under Action 109.

Action 113 – Regional Risk Register

Confirmed closed.

Action 114 – Website ownership schedule

Confirmed closed.

September note: The agreed annual review will use the website ownership arrangements to prompt TSG leads to check content after the May meeting, with updates forwarded for publication. Action 114 remains closed; the recurring review is a separate follow-up.

Action 115 – Election information

Confirmed closed.

ACTION: JM to circulate pathway support form to RMB members and County Chairs and finalise accompanying procedures.

ACTION: LP to supply event dates and venues to EB and LT; EB to contact Pulse and LT to explore contact with Mavericks.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ANNUAL REPORTS AND AGM

Regional / county chair communications

LT welcomed the exchange of good practice at County Chairs meetings and asked for appropriate matters from Regional Chairs meetings to be shared in advance so county perspectives could be considered. AB acknowledged the point, noting confidentiality limits, and agreed to share relevant items where possible.

Officiating assessor requirements

JK questioned the introduction, without consultation, of a requirement for assessors to undertake two assessments on separate dates each season. Members noted the potential impact on volunteers and the differences between counties in demand, geography and assessment arrangements. CK and PM supported the concerns. AB agreed to discuss the issue with other Regional Chairs and seek clarification about consultation and implementation.

ACTION: AB to raise assessor requirements and consultation with Regional Chairs / EN.

Club progression and league structure

CK described concerns from grassroots leagues where promotion to a fortnightly county league reduces players' opportunities in their original league. The Kingston League had surveyed clubs without finding an agreed solution; restructuring had been suggested. CK cited Capital Nuns, winners of the Surrey County League for three seasons, who had been unable to advance to the Regional League in the last two seasons despite earlier play-off success. AB had sought views from other counties. LP said EN was reviewing Premier League rules, which might have wider effects.

LT noted that not every grassroots club sought promotion and players sometimes needed to move club to access higher-level competition. She outlined differing team restrictions in Middlesex, while accepting that one solution would not suit every county. LP referred to alternate-week fixtures and suggested the issue might require county-level consideration. Members also noted limits arising from facilities and available umpires. AB asked that the impact on clubs be monitored and any proposed solutions be brought to RMB.

ACTION: RMB/Competition TSG to keep club progression concerns under review and bring possible solutions forward.

Governance – data retention and emergency access

LT suggested that some Tier 1 governance work might have been more efficient if coordinated centrally. She described Middlesex's development of a shared Google Drive with role-based folders and asked how sensitive resolution or safeguarding records could be accessed if the responsible officer suddenly became unavailable. JK emphasised need-to-know access and retention only for as long as necessary. JK suggested a controlled fallback arrangement with emergency access held by the County Chair; TL agreed that each county should define who would have backup access and when it could be used.

Members noted that emergency arrangements must maintain appropriate confidentiality and data protection.

Centenary recognition

AB reminded members that centenary badges were available to recognise contributions and invited further requests.

5. REGIONAL PLANNING

The RMB agreed that regular meetings and ongoing contact provided adequate opportunities to progress regional plans. A separate regional planning day was not considered necessary at present.

6. REVIEW OF REGIONAL ONE AWARDS CELEBRATION

AB formally thanked FA and EB for producing the ONE Awards videos and praised the storytelling and feedback from participants. She noted, however, that viewing and social media engagement had been relatively low. AB questioned the extent of EN promotional support and agreed to raise this at the Regional Chairs meeting. She would also seek clarification regarding plans for the following year's awards.

EB relayed positive feedback received by FA. She said that paid Facebook promotion would need to be factored in if the video format was repeated, and that costs would need to allow for VAT not charged on the previous campaign. LT questioned whether the level of activity and expenditure delivered sufficient value while agreeing that volunteer recognition was important. JM observed that spending of approximately £8,000 represented almost all membership fee income and that maintaining similar spending could require a review of membership fees. No decision was made on the future format or budget.

EB confirmed she would attend the national ONE Awards to present a NETBALLHer workshop, which KMK had registered to attend.

ACTION: AB to raise EN promotional support and seek an update on the following year's ONE Awards; RMB to consider format, benefits and affordability before committing expenditure.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

England Netball membership categories

CK expressed concern that proposed membership category changes had not been explained clearly and referred to issues involving the Surrey fee. Following clarification, members understood the changes were in the notices but would be considered at a separate Extraordinary General Meeting rather than the AGM. CK asked when the EGM was expected. AB agreed to report back following the EN AGM and reminded County Chairs to submit their votes.

ACTION: AB to provide an EN AGM update and seek clarification of the EGM timetable and proposed category changes.

Treasurer / sole trader arrangements

JM asked what EN was doing about treasurers set up as sole traders and questioned the appropriateness of such arrangements. AB agreed to investigate.

ACTION: AB to seek clarification from EN on treasurer arrangements involving sole trader status.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next RMB meeting will be held on 18 November 2026. The meeting then closed.

SUMMARY OF OUTSTANDING AND NEW ACTIONS

The following schedule carries forward actions whose completion was not confirmed and records new follow-up actions from the September meeting. Actions confirmed as closed are excluded from the outstanding list.

Outstanding actions from previous RMB meeting

Action	Action / follow-up	Owner	Status
108	Confirm final outcome of England Netball governance health-check feedback / Tier 1 compliance action.	EB / AB	Confirm closed
109	Contact London Pulse about attendance/support at regional events, using dates supplied by LP; coordinate Mavericks contact with LT.	EB / LP / LT	Ongoing / reassigned
113	Maintain it as part of the governance review cycle.	AB / JK / FA / TL	Confirm closed

New actions arising from September RMB meeting

Action	Action / follow-up	Owner	Status
123	Circulate the pathway-player funding form to RMB members and County Chairs; document the remaining application procedures (follow-up to closed Action 103).	JM	Open
124	Share regional event dates and venues with EB and LT so contacts with Pulse and Mavericks can progress (related to Action 109).	LP	Open
125	Raise the new assessor requirements and lack of consultation with Regional Chairs / England Netball.	AB	Open
126	Monitor obstacles to progression between grassroots, county and regional leagues and bring possible solutions to the RMB.	RMB / Competition TSG	Open
127	Agree appropriate, limited emergency access arrangements for sensitive county resolution records.	Relevant County officers	For local consideration
128	Raise the lack of England Netball promotional support for ONE Awards videos and seek an update on next year's awards format.	AB	Open

129	Consider future ONE Awards format, value and affordability before budget decisions are made.	RMB	Open
130	Report back from the England Netball AGM and seek clarification on proposed membership changes and the EGM timing.	AB	Open
131	Seek clarification from England Netball on treasurer arrangements involving sole trader status.	AB	Open
132	Consider sharing suitable Regional Chairs meeting topics in advance so county representatives can contribute views.	AB	Open