

## AYLESBURY YOUTH NETBALL LEAGUE 2018

Aylesbury Youth Netball League started in the Summer of 2006 and its objective was to fill the gap between the Aylesbury Junior Netball League (AJNL) which caters for players up to school year 9 and the Aylesbury & District Senior League (ADNL) which at the time took players from the age of 14 (fourteen). Our aim was to enable players who enjoyed the sport to play Netball outside of school and with their friends. Players would also get used to playing competitive matches for a longer period of time which would be similar to when they joined the Senior League. Players could also play with a similar age group.

In the autumn and spring term matches are played on a Thursday evening from 6.45pm to 8.45pm. In the summer term matches are played between 7pm and 9pm. Matches are played indoors during the autumn and spring terms at the John Colet School in Wendover. During the summer term matches are played on the outdoor courts at Aylesbury High School.

During its existence, the Youth League has welcomed various teams from the surrounding areas i.e. from Thame, Aylesbury, Wingrave, Milton Keynes and Leighton Buzzard. Recently a team from Thame who had played in the Youth League for the previous 3 years had to retire as the players became too old for the Youth league. These players progressed seamlessly as a team to the ADNL. Similarly teams from Flames, which include players from AJNL have progressed and are now also playing in the senior league. It is important that Clubs/teams and individual players are affiliated to England Netball and are so are fully covered for Insurance purposes. Teams are asked to provide an EN qualified umpire for all matches. However teams who are unable to supply an umpire will be asked to pay a fee for an umpire to undertake their umpiring duties and cover will be organised with the support of the ADNL umpires.

The League currently caters for players from their 13<sup>th</sup> birthday until they are 16 years old (or until their 17<sup>th</sup> birthday). On occasions the League has been separated into 2 divisions to accommodate both age groups. This has been a popular way of running the league. However if there has been a lack of teams entered into the Youth League it can proceed as one division. Individual players or teams are welcome to join the league and teams may be seeded if appropriate according to their playing ability. Generally teams are entered as an entity and individual players are welcome to apply and they will be put into contact with a suitable team that may be looking for players.

I am the main contact for the Youth League and I organise the Court Bookings, Team Applications, Fixtures and I deal with any queries. The key person on a week to week basis will be Ali Ladyman. Ali attends the venues as a qualified umpire. She will also organise umpire cover when teams are unable to supply umpires. Ali is also the adjudicator on a Thursday evening with regards to any issues.

Now that the age to play in ADNL has changed with effect from September 2018 to 16yrs this will provide a great opportunity for youth players/teams to join and play in the Aylesbury Youth Netball League which will start its Autumn Session in September 2018.

Teams wishing to enter should contact Richard Lipscombe at [richy1946@outlook.com](mailto:richy1946@outlook.com) or please feel free to call me to chat about any other requirements.

Closing date for applications is Friday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2018. We look forward to receiving your support!

Shortly after the closing date the constitution of divisions for the autumn term will be created.

Richard Lipscombe

Aylesbury Youth League