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NETBALL
FEDERATION



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WORLD UNIVERSITY NETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS
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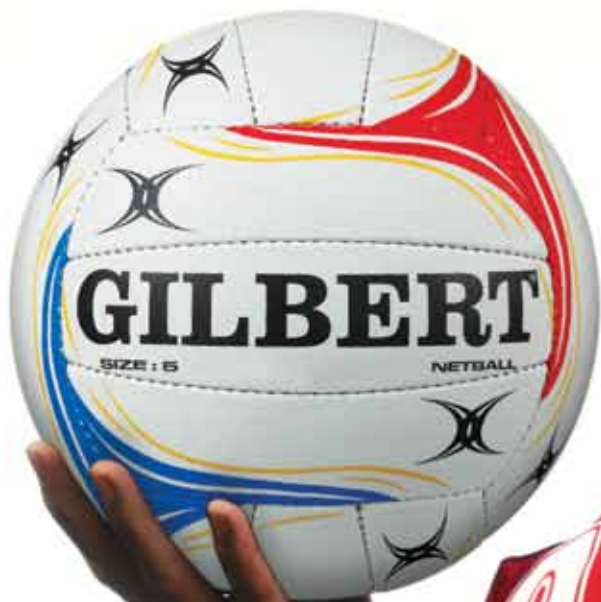
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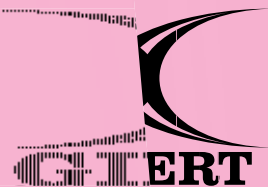


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We really would love to hear all your netball news, so please email me if you have a story to tell. All photographs should be captioned please to identify their contents and photographer noted to acknowledge source. If you are interested in advertising in Netball World, contact me for a media pack. We look forward to hearing from you!

Nikki Richardson, Editor
nikki.richardson@netball.org

If you would like to obtain a copy of Netball World, please get in touch with the INF at:

Albion Wharf, 19 Albion Street, Manchester, M1 5LN, England.

Tel: +44 (0) 161 234 6515

Fax: +44 (0) 161 234 6516

Email: inf@netball.org

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Former Silver Ferns vice captain and Northern Mystics captain, Temepara George, who has been awarded Membership of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to netball and the community.

Photograph:

Michael Bradley

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Welcome To Our Netball World

Netball isn't just growing; like our players, the sport's world federation is getting stronger, fitter - and bolder. This is reflected in our new identity. The International Federation of Netball Associations, IFNA, is now transforming into the sleek new International Netball Federation, the INF. We are moving the world's most important women's team sport into line with other truly global sports - in this issue we examine how and why netball is becoming a fresh and exciting new brand.



We understand the need to keep winning new friends and introducing netball to new audiences. Netball's short game, our

equivalent to Twenty20 cricket, has been developed to give a thrilling audience-friendly competition, showcasing our top athletes and up-and-coming young talent in a way that is geared to TV sports broadcasters. Evolved from our popular and successful Fast Net, a new game is emerging, Fast5. Even faster, with five players on court, high scoring long shots, power plays and rolling substitution, Fast5 will blast onto the court - and our TV screens - at the INF

Fast5 Netball World Series in Auckland.

The International Netball Federation is working for everyone who loves netball, wherever they are, whatever their level, age or involvement. Netball World catches up with CAP, MAP and RAP, the panels of experts who are helping the sport grow and develop, ensuring coaches, match officials, and even netball's rules, are keeping pace with a sport that gets bigger and better every day.

In the end, everything we do, we do for you our Members, so we are looking forward to Congress in 2013 when we answer to the people we work for - the netball community. Without your commitment and hard work, netball wouldn't be the dynamic and hugely successful sport it is today. Congress will coincide with the World Youth

Netball Championships, which will be held in the vibrant city of Glasgow, Scotland, the city that will host the 2014 Commonwealth Games. We are rewarding our young talented netballers by letting them experience the feel of a world class sporting tournament in a world class venue. We want them to go home energised and ambitious.

As ever, this is just a snapshot, but we hope you enjoy sharing our Netball World.

The Hon. Molly Rhone, OJ, CD
President,
International Netball Federation

Redefining A Brand

Netball's world governing body has a new fresh image, designed to reflect a sport that is truly global and growing at an unprecedented rate. The International Federation of Netball Associations (IFNA) is now the International Netball Federation.



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Netball World asked INF Commercial Working Group member Marne Fechner about the reasoning behind world netball's new look. Marne, who is Commercial Director for Netball Australia, explained that rebranding was an integral part of the world governing body's vision for the future of netball:

"At Congress in July 2011, IFNA launched the Game Plan 2012-2016; a vision for the years to come. It reaffirmed the vision to be one of the world's leading sports brands and to achieve excellence in all we do. In November 2011 the Board reflected on this, and how IFNA is perceived by its stakeholders worldwide. A plan was developed to review the organisation's visual identity – the brand logo and its use – and the Commercial Working Group has been working on this since." World netball has an expanding portfolio of events, internationally award-winning

development programmes, and a new Game Plan to consider, so the Board turned to leading Australian sports brand agency Wite Kite to drive the re-branding process. Their task was to develop a highly visible brand that connects with players, fans, volunteers, governments and corporates worldwide; is recognised for its ability to change women's lives; and is associated with high quality events and programmes.

Wite Kite has overseen the research, planning and development of a more coherent brand, and the most obvious change is the move from IFNA to INF: "The identifier INF is a simpler and bolder version of our legal name,

"Professional design reflects our desire for excellence in everything we do"

and we will refer to ourselves as the International Netball Federation," says Marne. The logo itself has a crescent-shaped 'holding device', with the acronym INF, which forms the shape of the netball. The colour scheme may change to reflect the Regions or specific events but the INF device will always be present.

Rebranding is more than simply changing the letterhead – it reflects the way an organisation thinks about itself and what it does. Marne explains: "In the core INF logo there are bands of colours to reflect each of our five global Regions. The colour scheme reflects

our value of embracing diversity, and the bold, professional design reflects our desire for excellence in everything we do."

So what are those values that lie at the heart of the International Netball Federation? The INF uses the acronym 'NETBALL': Nurturing – protecting and growing our cherished sport; Excellence – in everything we do; Teamwork – working together; Balanced – embracing our diversity; Accountable – to all our stakeholders; Leadership – for our sport; and Lifetime Opportunities for netballers worldwide.

The body of the new INF logo will change for each specific application. One of the new brand's first outings will be at the Fast5 Netball World Series in Auckland, New Zealand. Fast5 is an evolution of Fast Net, super fast crowd-pulling entertainment, geared to TV. The new Fast5 logo has the holding device cradling the number '5' in a dynamic style that reflects the fast-paced nature of the new game. Event logos, such as the Fast5 Netball World Series logo, will reflect the core INF brand identity, and there will be versions to represent world netball's Regional Federations.

Marne is excited to see the International Netball Federation's new branding roll out across the netballing world: "Over the coming months you'll see the new logo and visual identity appearing in the INF's new publications, on official match balls, on umpires' clothing, on flags, and on the website. We are sure that everyone will see it supports our vision: Netball, a leading vibrant global team sport, reflecting our values and all that we aspire to be."





Let The Party Begin...



“Fast5 is a fantastic opportunity and a great second step for netball”

Fast, furious and with a new kind of flair – Fast5, netball’s latest innovation, is making its public debut. New Zealand hosts the very first International Netball Federation Fast5 Netball World Series at Vector Arena, Auckland, from 9th to 11th November 2012. There the world’s top six netballing nations come together to compete in the thrilling high speed, action packed, short-form version of the traditional game.

Raising public awareness of the new game is top priority for Netball New Zealand Operations Director Kate Agnew: “Fast5 is a fantastic opportunity and a great second step for netball,” Agnew says. “But it’s also got its challenges because we’re doing something that’s new to the sporting landscape.

“We are creating new footage and pictures to show people, so we find lots of ways to explain the game, showing the public the aspects that are different. Pulling all those things together so people are intrigued enough to come and have a look at Fast5.”

Auckland sees a number of changes from Fast Net short-form netball, as played at the previous World Netball

Series hosted in the UK – the most obvious being the number of players on court. Fast5 teams are made up of 10 players, but only five will take the court at a time – a goal shooter, goal attack, centre, goal defence and goal keeper.

The other major change is the look of the court – which has an additional semi-circle marked inside the goal circle. The area inside this semi-circle is the ‘inner circle’, and goals netted in here are worth one Goal Point while goals scored from the area between the semi-circle and the edge of the goal circle, the ‘outer circle’, are worth two Goal Points. A goal netted from outside the shooting circle – known as a ‘super shot’ – is worth three Goal Points, rewarding players with the skill and confidence to try for crowd-pleasing, but risky, long shots.

Umpires controlling the Fast5 matches also face changes, with a number of new signals, mainly around the different shooting scores, coming into play. Matches consist of four six-minute quarters, with a half-time interval of four minutes, and two minutes at the other breaks. Coaches can give instruction to players from the sidelines during play, and the competition retains winning features from the previous

World Netball Series, including rolling substitutions and no limit to the number of changes which can be made.

Another unique feature is the popular goal-doubling Power Play, which is somewhat similar to powerplays in Twenty20 cricket. At the start of the game teams elect which quarter they want to use the Power Play and double their score. Good tactics – or sheer good luck – can turn a match on its head, adding to the thrills of Fast5 netball.

High intensity, high speed, high risk, Fast5 Netball World Series play is at its absolute best when the crowd really gets behind the players. Game awareness is key to ensuring stands are full when Auckland’s Vector Arena hosts netball’s latest innovation and Kate Agnew says Netball New Zealand has taken steps to get the “game out there” by inviting centres from around the country to adopt the Fast5 game over the summer months. Eight centres have come on board to test the new model: “While those competitions won’t be up and running until later this year, the idea behind it is that we have the Netball World Series for three years and we want to build up the awareness.”

Agnew believes there is plenty of appeal for the changes to the game, including the rolling substitutions and having fewer players on court. But she says they will be taking a careful approach to any more possible changes to the Fast5 style: "There are definitely opportunities for us to grow, but it's about making sure that everything is focused on the event itself this year."

For INF President, Molly Rhone, the selection of Auckland to host the Netball World Series is part of a continuing process of development in world netball: "The World Netball Series hosted by England Netball in 2009, 2010 and 2011 really showed there was an appetite for a crowd-friendly, TV-friendly, international netball tournament designed to provide maximum entertainment," says Rhone. "The event has raised the media profile of netball, and attracted new players, supporters and commercial partners."

The International Netball Federation is tremendously grateful for what was achieved in the UK, and we are looking to New Zealand to build on that, and ensure Netball World Series and Fast5 netball reach their full potential as ways of winning new friends for the sport."

Kate Agnew believes that New Zealand can bring a wealth of experience to NWS: "I think New Zealand is one of the international leaders in sport – definitely in netball we are," she says. "I think we do have a maturity in netball marketing and we are well positioned to be able to put forward and lead the introduction of an alternate of the game."

New Zealand's leading players are certainly keen to test their hand at the new version of the game and Silver Fern midcourter, Camilla Lees, says they are looking forward to the Netball World Series in Auckland: "It's going

to be exciting with the new changes, especially with just five players on court now – it could make it a tough workout for the midcourters," she laughs.

Netball's highest profile events, such as the World Championships, World Youth Championships, and the Commonwealth Games, are eagerly sought by the various netballing nations. For Kate Agnew the Fast5 Netball World Series is the opportunity to put the international netball flair in front of the public – and it's going to be time to party: "I think off the back of the 2007 and 2011 World Championships, there was a real adoption of dressing up and supporting your country. There was a real party flavour to go with the netball, and I think there is that appetite to embrace it."

Let the party begin!



Camilla Lees at the 2011 World Netball Series

Photograph courtesy of Michael Bradley

Cape Town Hosts First World University Championship

The inaugural FISU World University Netball Championship held in July 2012 provided a thrilling showcase for the sport – and served notice that Africa is the place to watch as an emerging netball powerhouse.

The event marked university netball's coming-of-age, with a major international tournament now added to the sport's calendar. Teams from Great Britain, South Africa, Jamaica, Namibia, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Ireland and the USA, battled it out in a fresh and thrilling line up. Six days of matches finished in a dream edge-of-the-seat final, between GB and the hosts.

The World University Netball Championship formed part of the 2012 programme of 28 World University Championships organised by FISU, the International University Sports Federation. Since 1962 FISU has organised over 300 Championships in

"I'm really proud of the players. They tried their hearts out and they never gave up. They stood together as a team, even though they had never played together before"

31 disciplines, involving nearly 55,000 students in 51 countries across five continents. In the words of FISU President Claude-Louis Gallien: "These World Championships aim at the highest technical level and excellence."

After six days of incredible netball action, South Africa met coach Colette Thomson's Great Britain team in the final. In a thrilling climax to the competition the sides were level at 46-all at the end of regular time. It took extra time for GB to pull ahead, taking the match 53-49, and with it the Championship. South Africa coach, Dorette Badenhorst, spoke for all the coaches when she praised her team's performance: "I'm really proud of the players. They tried their hearts out and they never gave up. They stood together as a team, even though they had never played together before. I think they were excellent, we can be really proud. Most of them have never played on an international stage before... if we could have more games at this level, it would be excellent for the players."

Their team might have been nudged into second place, but South African netball was the clear winner, having staged a fabulous first tournament. Delighted with the event, FISU CT Chair, Netball, Hélène Botha, paid tribute to everyone involved for the enormous effort to make the inaugural World University Netball Championship the success that it was, while FISU Executive Member Kenny Chow praised the excellent organisation of the first FISU World University Netball Championship: "The wonderful arrangement of the local organising committee and University Sport South Africa was the engine in leading us all the way. Their hospitality also made us feel more than at home."

My heartfelt gratitude goes to them and all the volunteers who were so helpful."

International Netball Federation President, Molly Rhone, was also keen to recognise the efforts of the local organising committee and University Sport South Africa (USSA), and particularly welcomed the important role played by umpires from African nations: "It is very good news that five of the thirteen championship umpires were from Africa – three from South Africa, and one each from Lesotho and Botswana – this shows just how healthy the sport is across the continent. We are very pleased that university netball now has the international championship it deserves, and as hosts of the inaugural FISU World University Netball Championship, South Africa has set the bar very high indeed."

FISU is keen to continue to work in partnership with the INF and is looking to stage the second World University Netball Championship in 2014.

Photographs courtesy of Duff du Toit/Gallo Images



Umpire Seminar A Vital Legacy

The 2012 World University Netball Championship in Cape Town was preceded by INF's International Talent Identified (ITID) Umpire Seminar, which ran from 28th June to 1st July. Hosted by experienced former international umpire, and INF panel member Bill Alexander, the seminar was an element of the legacy programme of the 2011 Mission Foods World Netball Championships. The seminar provided an opportunity for International Netball Federation umpires to come together, share practice, and learn from leading experts from a range of important disciplines.

Integrating the seminar with the World University Netball Championship also enabled delegates to apply their skills to an international tournament. Seminar delegate and Lesotho ITID umpire Chakatsa Lephole explained the challenges of preparing to umpire top-level international matches, and the tremendous opportunity the seminar offered: "I have been watching international games to prepare myself for this assignment, more especially the Australia and New Zealand Championship. At home I am mostly challenged as an umpire, because there are no games that measure up to international standards that I can actually use to prepare."

The 29-year-old, who was selected to umpire the July international test series between South Africa and Northern Ireland, said he had been working hard, following the INF training programme to ensure he was physically fit to meet the demands of umpiring at the top level of international sport. Indeed, Fitness for Umpiring was the first topic on the agenda when the seminar got underway. Other topics in a packed three days of presentations and discussion were the Psychology of Officiating, and Preparation and Recovery – including some advice on travel recovery and jetlag – then Improving Match Vision, Umpiring Techniques and How they Impact Decision Making, and the seminar ended with Rules in Action.

Thanking Mission Foods, FISU, and the World University Netball Championship Organising Committee, the seminar organisers and delegates, INF President, Molly Rhone, stressed the importance of the seminar to the future of the world's most important women's team sport, telling delegates: "We hope you take this great opportunity to learn as much as you can from the speakers and each other, and use the lessons learnt to grow and develop as an umpire. You can help us secure the future of the game – world class umpires for a world class sport!"

World University Netball Championships


FINAL RESULTS

Zimbabwe bt USA	43-41
Uganda bt Namibia	51-38
Jamaica bt Ireland	41-30
Great Britain bt South Africa	53-49

FINAL RANKING

1. Great Britain
2. South Africa
3. Jamaica
4. Ireland
5. Uganda
6. Namibia
7. Zimbabwe
8. USA

World Youth Champs Head For Scotland



The Emirates Arena, Glasgow

The world's best young netballers will be heading for Glasgow next year for the 2013 World Youth Netball Championships. Between the 22nd and 31st August netball will showcase its best players at under-21 level, with teams coming from 20 countries for what promises to be a truly superb tournament.

The aim is to provide what is being called a 'player-focused Championships', giving talented young athletes a taste of touring competition at the top level of international sport, and drawing together young netballers from a diversity of backgrounds and cultures. Netball's future stars are being put right at the heart of the planning for the event, with special attention paid to their transport requirements, food and accommodation, and, like Olympic or Commonwealth Games athletes, players will stay in a games village with dedicated campus accommodation. Best of all, they will compete in the magnificent new Emirates Arena, one

of the competition venues for the upcoming Commonwealth Games.

The Championships are also providing the opportunity for a Coaching and Umpiring seminar, to be held at North Glasgow College on the 24th, 25th, and 26th August 2013. This

"We know the sport of netball will be at the core of this event; however we all want all our international teams and guests to not just soak up and love the netball, but also to enjoy our beautiful country, our friendly people and the unique range of activities, culture and leisure the City of Glasgow has to offer"

will focus on the FUNdamentals of netball (with a special emphasis on fun) – and how they can be applied to improve performance at every level. The seminar aims to reinforce the importance of coaches and umpires working together to the benefit of the sport, and will see a range of discipline-specific and integrated sessions. These will cover topics such as identifying talented players, developing good

umpiring technique, movement (and what this means for coaches and umpires), what coaches need to know about shooting, centre court play and circle defence – all of which is underpinned by an understanding of the rules in action.

Netball Scotland has 2,400 registered members and it is estimated that the sport has some 20,000 participants throughout the country. Hosting the World Youth Netball Championships will be a huge boost for the sport in Scotland, in the run up to netball's highest profile competition, the Commonwealth Games – which will be held in Glasgow in 2014 – and the World Netball Championships in



WORLD YOUTH NETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS GLASGOW 2013

Countries Participating

(As at 15.10.12)

Namibia
Wales
England
Australia
Fiji
St Lucia
Scotland
Malta
New Zealand
Trinidad & Tobago
Singapore
USA
South Africa
Bermuda
Northern Ireland
Cayman Islands
Republic of Ireland
Botswana
Samoa
Jamaica

2015. Backed by UK Sport, the 2013 World Youth Netball Championships are an important opportunity to promote Scotland as a sporting and cultural destination. Key supporters are Event Scotland, the organisation tasked to make Scotland one of the world's leading event destinations, and Glasgow Life, which provides sporting and cultural services on behalf of Glasgow City Council. Glasgow Life's vision is 'to inspire the people of Glasgow and visitors to the city to lead richer and more active lives through culture and sport', and that ethos extends to Championships participants too. Netball Scotland CEO, Maggie Murray, explains: "We know the sport of netball will be at the core of this event; however we all want all our international teams and guests to not just soak up and love the netball, but also to enjoy our beautiful country, our friendly people and the unique range of activities, culture and leisure the City of Glasgow has to offer."

The Championship is strictly limited to 20 entries, as it is not possible to accommodate more teams within the competition schedule. Teams have been entered on a 'first received, first entered' basis, and with unprecedented interest, the tournament is oversubscribed with several teams on the waiting list. INF President, Molly Rhone, is thrilled with the diversity and range of the teams entered, especially debutant teams: "We are absolutely delighted that the 2013 World Youth Netball Championships has attracted entries from all of our five global Regions, and thrilled that many of those countries are competing for the first time – there could be no better indication of the health of the world's most important women's team sport. We aim to inspire our future netball stars with a truly memorable sporting experience and give them an appetite to compete in world class sport."



2009 WYNC hosts, the Cook Islands

Netball Around The World

The INF is proud of its five very active Regions. Here's just a snapshot of the numerous netballing activities taking place around the world.

Europe

Netball Europe now has nine full and five associate members. Eleven countries were represented at the AGM, which provided an opportunity to learn about members' successes, and also to hear of their challenges in becoming sustainable and viable national associations.

Links with member countries' education systems, sports ministers, government ministers and key influencers are critical, especially as there is little awareness or understanding of netball in non-Commonwealth countries. A really good example of netball successfully moving into new territory is Netball Switzerland. More than 30 teams entered their 2011 Festival, and Switzerland has even entered the Netball Europe under-17 Championships (Development Section). They are working hard to ensure netball is adopted by the state schools and teachers, and is played by Swiss nationals, rather than just the Commonwealth ex-pat community – and of course this will require resource translations in French and German.

In 2011 Netball Europe introduced a 'buddy' programme where a new or less developed member is supported by an established one. This has been supported in some cases by INF Net Effect grants, and the benefits have been felt by all participants, particularly in the area of events and competition. For five full members of Netball Europe, playing other members to gain ratings and then a world ranking seemed a costly and difficult task. However, due to the brainchild of Liz Broomhead, Chair of Netball Europe Technical Group, these members took part in a festival in Gibraltar in June, organised so that all

five countries played each other twice, under 'international conditions' and as a result, Switzerland, Gibraltar, Malta, Ireland and Israel now stand at the foot of the World Rankings. During 2013 they will gain rating points through participation in the Netball Europe Open Championships – Development Section.

Netball Europe Technical Group has been working on updating the NE Umpire Awards, driven by the INF grading system. The same pathway will apply for the C Award through to International, with the same competency-based assessment process. The existing awards scheme will cease in the near future and opportunities for members to develop their own tutor, assessment and testing, and mentor infrastructures will be developed over time. Rules awareness training will be a prerequisite for the new awards pathway.

Finally, in a busy and successful year, an innovative partnership with commercial company, Inspire Sport, has been of great mutual benefit, providing funds to allow for development opportunities as well as providing a positive environment for the development of young coaches.

One to Watch

Israel Netball

Israel Netball is one of the sport's great success stories, having grown from nothing to a national association capable of participating in, and hosting, international competitions at junior, senior and master level – all without any governmental recognition or financial support.

Started about 12 years ago, by a handful of ex-pats eager to play netball, Israel Netball's achievements within the last decade have been remarkable. Israel

now boasts five netball clubs in different parts of the country, a national league, and several certified coaches and umpires. There has been an exponential growth in the number of players. But with those successes came the realisation that the sport had reached a virtual plateau in its development for two reasons: everything done so far has been organised by a group of dedicated volunteers, who also have full-time jobs, and there had not been effective enough recruiting – most players still being English-speaking ex-pats or daughters of ex-pats.

This year Israel Netball was accepted as a full member of both the INF and Netball Europe and has just become a ranked netball country. They have teamed up with people from the Israeli basketball world, who are helping them to expand and to introduce netball into local schools. Israel Netball has hired its first salaried employee – a Netball Development Officer – who will be tasked with running sessions at a variety of locations during and after school hours. The netball rules are currently being translated into Hebrew, and Israeli netballers are looking forward to a very exciting future.

Oceania

The Oceania Netball Federation currently stands at eight countries – Cook Islands, Fiji, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu, with Solomon Islands as an associate member. This year Fiji hosted the 4th Annual Pacific Netball Series, which saw Cook Islands, Fiji, Papua New Guinea and Samoa battling to become 2012 PNS champions. Fiji took the title after a tough battle with Samoa, who will host the 2013 Series.



Jona Saturu, Oceania High Performance Umpire



Israel Netball Team

The event also provided an opportunity to help Vanuatu, following a request to other Oceania countries for assistance in improving the standard of its netball. PNS members formed a 'Tier 2' competition, in which Vanuatu were invited to take part. The Tier 2 games were not ranked, and Vanuatu competed against a Fiji under-21 squad over the three days of the Pacific Netball Series in matches that were curtain raisers for the main PNS matches. This enabled Vanuatu's players, coach and management team to gain invaluable experience of being part of a higher competition structure.

In an exciting development, the final five weeks of the ANZ Championship were broadcast to Samoa, Vanuatu, Cook Islands, Papua New Guinea and Fiji. After an agreement with ANZC, Netball New Zealand and Sky TV provided satellite links 'at cost', while TVNZ facilitated delivery to the five selected Oceania countries. Following this success, the Oceania Executive is currently working to secure sponsorship for future netball broadcast opportunities.

The second year of the Oceania High Performance Umpire Development Plan is being implemented with outstanding results, and bringing the ambition of two Oceania international-level umpires ever closer. The Oceania Bench Officials development programme also continues, and 2012 saw Tonga, Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu take part for the first time.

This year, all participants in any Oceania development programmes were tasked with sharing the knowledge and experience they have gained with others in their own country. Each participant provided a 10-hour voluntary 'return to service' to their netball

community when they returned home – a wonderful concept, which will continue for all future Oceania development programmes.

Oceania wishes to thank the Australian Government, Netball Australia (through the Pacific Netball Partnership), Netball New Zealand and the INF for their continued support and funding.

One to Watch

Jona Saturu, Oceania High Performance Umpire

Jona is a shining example of what is needed by the Oceania High Performance Umpires, umpires who are privileged to be part of the Oceania HP Umpire Development programme. His dedication to his personal fitness and improved performance in umpiring, along with his desire and willingness to share what he has learned with his local community, is testament to the outstanding personal commitment Jona has made to the sport of netball.

Jona is a Fijian umpire who achieved his local centre badge in 2003. In May 2009, Jona gained his NZ Regional Theory qualification, and in September 2009 was awarded his NZ Regional Award (Oceania Badge). In July 2011, Jona passed the NZ Theory exam, and was also selected to attend the Oceania HP Umpire Development Camp in April 2011. In March 2012, Jona was awarded NZ C Badge qualification at the 2012 Oceania HP Umpire Development Camp, and this success saw him appointed as reserve umpire of the Tier 2 competition at Pacific Netball Series in June 2012 in Fiji. In addition, Jona is delighted to have just become a recipient of the NZB Umpiring Award.

Jona is a member of the Fiji Netball Technical team, and has dedicated

numerous voluntary hours to helping budding umpires in Fiji to develop their umpiring prowess. In 2012 Jona, and other Fiji Netball Technical team members in the Oceania HP Umpire Development programme, facilitated a series of umpire development workshops for community netball umpires in Suva. These workshops were attended by umpires who had not umpired for over five years, of Fijian and Indo-Fijian descent, all school teachers – a unique and diverse range of participants. A total of 48 umpires were involved in these workshops – and continue to be involved in netball, passing on their knowledge and umpiring skills to develop netball in schools.

Americas

The American Federation of Netball Associations (AFNA) region covers 59 countries. Netball is very much alive in the Americas region, with all of AFNA's 13 full members seeking to progress the game. Six of these have a world ranking, with Jamaica ranked fourth in the world, Trinidad & Tobago eighth, Barbados ninth, St. Lucia fourteenth, USA seventeenth and Canada twenty-first.

Trinidad & Tobago hosted the 2012 AFNA Senior Championships, with a record number of nine teams taking part. Jamaica took the title as champions, with Barbados second, and home side Trinidad & Tobago third.

In the past year AFNA has focused on strengthening umpiring in its region and improving coaching standards. AFNA recently completed its 2012-2015 Strategic Plan, established a secretariat, and appointed coaching, marketing and umpiring sub-committees in line with its strategic objectives. There is now an AFNA website, and work is under way



Netball in Burundi



Americas ITP from left: Anne-Marie Dixon, Yvette Smith, Deborah Lynch-Theobalds and Brenda Prince.

to establish a regional super league. Efforts are also being made to source funding for a regional development manager.

AFNA organised three successful umpiring workshops in 2012. The coaches' evaluation read: "We benefited tremendously from the workshop.

The psychological component of the programme brought enhanced insight into our own personal development, our manner of delivery and general attitude."

Umpiring in the region got a boost from the July 2012 INF/AFNA Net Effect workshops, and the region met its medium term goal of one IUA (international umpire award) and two ITID (talent identified, potential international umpires) for 2012.

AFNA e-coaching tutors met in Trinidad & Tobago in July 2012 to discuss e-coaching certification.

Courses were revamped, and a lead trainer and tutor assigned to each module. E-coaching certification restarted in September 2012.

AFNA DVDs demonstrating six netball skills were made available to students and to all Associations. They cover catching, passing, footwork, shooting, defending and balancing.

2013 will be another busy year for the region, steadily raising standards where netball is well established, and rolling out the sport in new territories.

AFNA is looking forward to six of its teams competing in the World Youth Netball championships, and putting the finishing touches to plans for the AFNA Super League.

The region is also developing more IUAs, and, excitingly, assisting Argentina with its development plans for netball in South America.

One to Watch Jamaica Netball

The Jamaica Netball Association has forged new initiatives with the University of Technology, Jamaica (UTECH), to deliver coaching modules to upgrade the skills of 200 local club and high school coaches by December 2013. Talks are on-going with the Inter-Secondary Schools Association (ISSA) regarding the minimum qualifications for coaches in the high schools' netball programme, and the JNA has employed the services of a High Performance Director to enhance the development of the national teams.

Asia

Five national associations of the Asian Netball Federation (ANF) have made the transition from associate to full member status - Brunei, Japan, Korea, Mongolia and Nepal. This brings the ANF's total number of full members to 15 – the most of any of the INF Regions – plus three associate members.

The Nepal Netball Association held its first General Assembly in May 2012, establishing netball clubs in 20 districts. Netball has been showcased in a range of events hosted in the Region, including the 13th World Netball Championships, successfully hosted in Singapore in July 2011. Singapore is the only Asian country to have hosted the championship, and the enthusiasm and media coverage surrounding the event have provided momentum which the Asian Region is building on to further promote the sport.

The 6th Nations Cup, also held in Singapore, was a great success, and benefited greatly from the legacy of the Worlds. There was excellent press and TV coverage (across four networks) and the highest number of spectators on record for this event. Netball Australia

National Director of Umpiring Chris Burton attended, to work with Talent Identified umpires in the Asian Region.

The Netball Super League started in February. Netball Singapore (NS) will be bringing in five international players (two from Namibia and three from Botswana) to supplement five of the six teams. The fully sponsored players will be in Singapore for six weeks, and will train at least once a week with the national open team. Brunei's open squad completed an eight-day tour to Singapore in June 2012 and met with NS to discuss development opportunities. The next Asian Youth Championships will be hosted in Brunei from 30th June to 7th July 2013.

The inaugural Tri Nations Tournament was held in Hong Kong from 13th to 15th January 2012. Final standings were Hong Kong first, Thailand second and Chinese Taipei third. A number of coaching and umpiring workshops were delivered as part of the tournament. These sessions were available to all Asian Region members as part of the INF Net Effect funding.

Defending champions Sri Lanka hosted the 8th Asian Netball Championships, held in Colombo in August 2012. Competition was tough, with teams from nine countries across the region all vying to be number one in Asia. The final, between Sri Lanka and Singapore, reflected the high standard of netball displayed throughout the tournament. Singapore secured victory only in the final minute, with a nail-biting one point win, 48-47.

Elsewhere in the region, the Netball Federation of India conducted elections for their new Board in November 2011. The Pakistan Inter-university Men's Netball Championship was held in June 2012, with the collaboration of Pakistan Sports Board and the Pakistan Netball Federation (PNF). The top 12 universities participated, with Karachi University winning the overall title. The 10th National Women's Netball Championship



Uganda vs Jamaica at the World University Netball Championship



Asian Champions Singapore

was held in Lahore in February 2012, under the supervision of PNF. Eleven teams competed, with Army winning the overall title. PNF also hosted a National Netball Umpiring Course in March 2012 in Karachi. Over 50 participants took part.

For the Malaysian Netball Association (MNA) a successful managed national programme of events included Centralised Training for the national squad, Exposure Training to Melbourne, two National Championships and participation in the Malaysia Games, a multi-sports event.

The MNA Coaching and Training Committee established the Level 2 Coaching Manual, undertook work on setting down the initial format and content of the new Level 3, and held a two-day National Refresher Course for the coaching instructors. The Umpiring Committee established a system of court leaders and mentoring of umpires at events, and also conducted a review of the structure of the National Umpiring Curriculum.

One to Watch

NetSetGO!

Netball Australia personnel spent a week in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia to train identified coaches and teachers to deliver NetSetGO! (Netball Australia's junior development programme). Thirty coaches undertook a two-day coaching workshop which included delivery of the programme to two centres. MNA will be piloting NetSetGO! in 14 centres throughout Malaysia for girls aged 5 - 6 years old.

Africa

Africa Netball has made giant strides since its inception in May 2010. Africa currently has 12 full members and three associate members registered with the International Netball Federation – and associate membership is being considered

in four more countries. Africa has benefited greatly from the Net Effect grants provided by the INF, and the quality of African netballers is such that players from Botswana, Malawi, Namibia and South Africa are this year playing in Super League teams in the UK, Australia, New Zealand and Singapore.

The second Africa Netball Championships took place in May in Tanzania. All the matches were ranked, which made every game extremely competitive and exciting. The Championships provided the opportunity for several other events, such as the annual general meeting of Africa Netball, which was attended by ten countries, assessment of umpires, and the second phase of the Africa Coaching and Officiating Framework.

The inaugural seminar of the Coaching and Officiating Framework took place in Gaborone, Botswana. Botswana, Namibia, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zimbabwe participated in the first phase of this pilot project. The first phase of the Framework focused on leading, guiding and supporting members through the process of reviewing current and projected needs and provision for netball, with specific focus on coaching and officiating, to inform the development and agreement of a Coaching and Officiating Framework for Africa. This project links into a wider integrated sports education and accreditation system called Zone 6, developed by the southern African countries in conjunction with UK Sport. The Africa Coaching and Officiating Framework is also developed in line with the new INF Strategy 2012 – 2016.

South Africa was the proud host of the inaugural World University Netball Championship. Eight countries competed in the tournament, which created an excellent platform for young netball players to showcase their talent. Umpire workshops were conducted by international tutors in several countries.

Five African umpires were included in the officiating team, and were assessed by an Umpire Appointment Panel.

Namibia hosted the games of the Confederation of Southern Africa Universities. Eight countries participated in the capital, Windhoek, and Zimbabwe won.

Netball will become a professional sport in South Africa in April 2013, it has been announced by the Minister of Sports and Culture. Africa Netball is proud to have eight countries on the world ranking system – a milestone in the existence of a Regional body that was established only two years ago!

One to Watch

The Diamond Challenge

The most exciting event that took place on the continent was the inauguration of the Diamond Challenge in South Africa. The Diamond Challenge is an initiative of the Minister of Sports and Culture of South Africa, the Hon. Fikile Mbalula. The event, which will be played annually in August, coincides with, and will be a celebration of, International Women's Month. The quad-nations event, with Botswana, Malawi, Zambia and South Africa as participating countries, provided for netball of high standard in a venue that was packed with spectators for four days. What is even more exciting is that the majority of spectators were school girls between the ages of 10 and 18.

The Diamond Challenge has greatly contributed to the performance enhancement of netball for countries such as Zambia, where netball was revived only nine months ago. The Diamond Challenge afforded Zambia the opportunity to enter the world ranking system for the first time. Another first for Africa was the fact that netball games played on African soil were broadcast live in more than 25 African countries on SuperSport.



IDEALS Building For Success In Zambia

Kate Donnelly and coaches

Establishing netball and enabling it to grow requires more than bibs, balls, courts and posts. In Zambia the IDEALS netball programme is increasing participation through placements of netball specialists from other national associations, to share their skill and experience with Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO) and local sports agencies within the country.

IDEALS (which stands for International Development through Excellence and Leadership in Sport) is a UK Sport initiative, run in partnership with Durham University in the UK, the International Netball Federation (INF), the Netball Association of Zambia (NAZ), and the Olympic Youth Development Centre (OYDC) in Lusaka.

International Netball Federation Global Development Manager, Sarah Pickford, emphasises that IDEALS reflects a new, highly focused approach, designed to make a lasting impact: "From the INF's point of view it is important that we start to move away from a 'scattergun' method to the development of netball provision – which tends to have only short-term impact – towards a more long-term and sustainable approach. Key to this is partnership working with key stakeholders, coming together towards a common goal."

IDEALS is a prime example of this. Facilitated through the INF's partnership with UK Sport, it has brought together internal and external partners to build netball infrastructure, and support development through targeted education and training. Kate Donnelly, who previously worked with Welsh Netball, was on placement, sharing

"The work NGOs are doing is really impressive; they have produced local coaches with basic training, so we are simply working to refine what they are doing with minimal changes in coaching style or training to produce maximum results"

her experiences of building national frameworks. She was one of the leaders who has supported locally-based organisations, training coaches to lead the development of netball in Zambia, allowing sport leaders to learn new skills, drills, and progression, and also give quality performance coaching to experienced players.

Based at OYDC in Lusaka, Kate drew on her experience and knowledge gained through Welsh Netball to initiate a new community coach mentoring

scheme. She delivered skills and administrative training workshops as far as Kasama, a 12-hour bus journey from the capital. Under the guidance of NAZ, she extended the opportunity for teams in areas where other support is not available to gain skills, knowledge and the chance to receive a coaching certificate, which is highly valued in rural areas.

Providing standardised training allows coaches to gain accreditation. This is the foundation of a highly skilled netball coaching workforce, who have the potential to widen women's participation in the sport – that will feed upward into elite levels. The INF is currently working with Africa Netball to develop an Africa Coaching & Officiating Framework (ACOF), which will provide a guide to ensure that programmes such as IDEALS are reinforcing the international standards based around a competency framework.

In Zambia, netball specialists add to the work of NAZ, OYDC and community-based organisations EduSport and Sport in Action, by supporting system development, and working with senior coaches on child-centred netball coaching. Working with these organisations, Kate believes that a real difference is being made: "The work NGOs are doing is really impressive;

they have produced local coaches with basic training, so we are simply working to refine what they are doing, with minimal changes in coaching style or training, to produce maximum results.”

The cascading effect continues through a newly introduced Peer Leader Mentoring programme, in partnership with NAZ, designed to aid community coach development. Young coaches will be mentored in lesson planning and coaching, and undertake a number of voluntary hours to be eligible to take the NAZ Level 1 coaching workshop. The programme will also encourage youngsters to become bench officials (timekeepers and scorers) – filling the gap of trained officials in these positions.

One young Zambian, 17-year-old, Mable, had the opportunity to gain a Level 1 certificate, and Kate believes stories like hers will inspire others to join. “Listening to her talk about the troubles she faces at home and then to see her perform on the court is truly inspiring,” says Kate. “To see her gain a Level 1 certificate will inspire other girls to take her lead, as she is already a recognised role model to her girls.”

The development of a clear player pathway and competition framework, to allow progression from schools, to community, to elite netball is at the core of ensuring the work of IDEALS is sustainable. Over 300 athletes have joined the competition league, which was introduced as a result of the IDEALS netball programme, with the aim of bridging the gap between youth and senior competition. The OYDC youth league, supported by UK Sport, enables community teams to experience a competitive structure, and provides a training ground for those that want to progress into netball at elite level.

The Zambian national team has already shown it has huge potential to compete on the world stage. The work being done through IDEALS – the partnerships that are being forged at community level – are vital to this potential being realised and sustained. The momentum is too strong to stop now, says Kate: “If Zambian netball can continue to reach these heights, then it will attract more players and funders to support this potentially flourishing sport.”

The INF would like to thank all partners involved for their support in developing netball through this great programme and very much hope it will continue to go from strength to strength.

Find out more about IDEALS by visiting www.uksport.gov.uk/pages/ideals/

Netball Promotes Peace In Africa

Netball is playing a key role in the peace-building process in the conflict-torn Great Lakes region of Africa. The sport was recognised as making a ‘significant contribution to peace and the promotion of sport in Africa’ at the annual Africa International Sports Convention (CISA) JAPPO Awards, held in Bamako, Mali in March. The awards ceremony spotlights sportspeople and institutions considered to have made a tangible contribution to African sport.

The International Netball Federation was singled out by CISA because of a new project, Netball for Peace, introducing netball in Burundi in conjunction with the charity Peace and Sport (l’Organisation pour la Paix par le Sport), a neutral international initiative based in Monaco. Peace and Sport is currently active in Cote d’Ivoire, Burundi, Israel-Palestine, Timor Leste, Colombia and Haiti, and makes sport a vehicle for tolerance, respect, sharing and citizenship. CISA

women’s and girls’ lives. We are going from strength to strength in Africa, as we have moved beyond our traditional

“This shows that others recognise what we have long known – that netball has the power to change women’s and girls’ lives”

English-speaking countries into new areas where netball is completely unknown. Netball can give a huge amount to Africa, but Africa is already giving a lot back in return, with amazing enthusiasm and natural talent.”

Netball was one of ten new sports featured in the third annual Friendship Games, which took place in July. Organised by Peace and Sport, the event brought together over 250 young people, aged between 9 and 15 years, from Rwanda, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo, in what has become



Chief Executive Officer Diamil Faye said of Netball for Peace: “We went into the programme that you initiated in Burundi and appreciated the contents and the philosophy. We believe that sport can achieve many victories through initiatives like this one.”

The award, in the Sport Humanitarian Actions category, was collected by Joan Smit, the INF’s Regional Development Manager for Africa. The INF’s work in Burundi has included training army officers as coaches and umpires, and rolling out netball sessions for girls normally unable to engage in sport, because they are looking after younger siblings while their parents work. Joan is delighted at the growing support for netball in Africa: “This shows that others recognise what we have long known – that netball has the power to change

a highly important and symbolic event in the region.

The Games are the centrepiece of an extensive peace-building programme which uses sport to encourage the process of national unity and ethnic reconciliation in the Great Lakes region.

This year saw youngsters from Rwanda attending for the first time, confirming the Games’ growing regional importance.

Joel Bouzou, President and Founder of Peace and Sport, said: “The success of the third Friendship Games shows that we have succeeded in working together, motivated by the common values of friendship and fraternity that sport conveys.”

Meet The Board

The INF Board works for netball and netballers, everywhere. The Board members share a passion for netball and a huge depth and range of experience, in netball, in sport and in business.



**INTERNATIONAL
NETBALL
FEDERATION**

The Hon. Molly Rhone OJ CD President since 2003



Molly was President of the Jamaica Netball Association for 10 years and Vice President of IFNA from 1999 to 2003. In 2011, she received the Order of Jamaica and has

received numerous other awards as a sports administrator and for her work in netball. They include the Gleaner Honour Award for the success of the 2003 World Netball Championships.

Molly also sits on the Boards of the Jamaican Anti Doping Commission, the Jamaican National Olympic Committee, the Sports Development Foundation, the GC Foster College of Physical Education and Sport, the International University of the Caribbean and the Advisory Board of the World Academy of Sport.

She was Vice Captain of the Jamaica team at the World Netball Championships in 1975.

Sue Taylor Vice President since 2011



Netball Australia Director Sue Taylor was appointed to the Board in 2007 as the Independent Director for Asia.

Sue has an extensive background in sports law and administration and is a former Director of the Commonwealth Games Federation. She has been Australia's delegate to the INF for Congress since 1989.

One of only a few Australian women to represent their sport in a leadership position internationally, Sue is also a former President and Chair of the Netball Australia Board.

Ann Tod Finance Director since 2011



Ann is an Audit Partner of KPMG in New Zealand where she has worked since 1980. Her client portfolio includes not-for-profit entities and sporting bodies including Netball

New Zealand. She is honorary auditor of the Oceania Netball Federation.

Ann has a BA in Business Studies, Accounting & Finance. She is currently a member of the New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants' Public Practice Advisory Group.

A passionate netball supporter with over 20 years' grassroots netball experience, Ann is a member of the Netball North Harbour Umpires Association and holds a regional qualification.

Raelene Castle Director since 2011



Raelene Castle has been CEO of Netball New Zealand since June 2007.

She has worked in the marketing, sales and communications arenas for a number of leading New Zealand companies including Telecon and has extensive event management and sponsorship experience with involvement in the sponsorship of the Rugby World Cup, the Olympics and NZOCGA.

Raelene project-managed the Fuji Xerox sponsorship of the America's Cup 2000, whilst being a member of the Marketing Committee for the America's Cup Event.

Octavia Gibson Director (Americas) since 2005



Octavia is Deputy Director of Currency at the Central Bank of Barbados (CBB).

She is past President of the Barbados Netball Association, and currently is Honorary Secretary to the Americas Federation of Netball Associations.

Tebogo Lebotse Director (Africa) since 2011



Tebogo's background is in sales and marketing, and she is currently Chief Communications and Public Relations Officer at Mascom Wireless.

Tebogo has an MBA in Marketing and Management and a BA in English, both from the University of Botswana.

Tebogo is President of the Botswana Netball Association and became President of Africa Netball in 2010.

Kate Palmer Director (Asia) since 2011



Kate became CEO of Netball Australia in 2006 and was CEO of Netball Victoria prior to that.

Kate has a Masters, Business (Sport

Management) from Deakin University and a BA in Science from RMIT.

Kate is Chair of the Victorian Institute of Sport, a Trustee of the Melbourne Cricket Ground, and on the ASADA Advisory Group (Australian Sports Anti Doping Authority).

Janet Wrighton MBE Director (Europe) since 2005



Janet has been a Board Member of England Netball for nearly 30 years, was elevated to Chairman in 2000 and is currently President.

Janet was honoured for her services to netball with an MBE in 2008 and she was inducted into England Netball's Hall of Fame in the same year.

Following a successful career with 42 years' service in the NHS, Janet became Chair of the charity Paycare Trust in 2002, standing down in 2007 to become secretary of the charity.

Tina Browne Director (Oceania) since 2005



Tina is a Cook Islander who has practised law since 1980. She graduated with a Bachelor of Laws from Canterbury University in New Zealand in 1979 and was admitted to the New

Zealand bar in 1980. She is a Partner at Browne Harvey & Associates.

Tina is a former member of the Public Expenditure Review Committee and is a current member of the Board of the Financial Supervisory Commission. She is the Chairperson of the Cook Islands Pearl Authority and is one of the three Commissioners of the Law Commission.

Tina is President of the Oceania Netball Federation.

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Netball's Guiding Stars

The Coaching Advisory Panel, the Match Officials Advisory Panel and the Rules Advisory Panel are the three expert bodies which enable the International Netball Federation to ensure the sharing of best practice globally in every area of the sport. CAP, MAP and RAP, as they are better known, shape the future of netball, and make recommendations which affect every aspect of the sport, and every participant, whether they are a player, an umpire, a bench official or a coach.

Panel members are appointed based on their expertise. Thus the makeup of the Panels is diverse and covers all aspects of their specialism. Panel members have already contributed significantly to netball in their own countries and are able to use this experience for the benefit of the INF and its Regions and Members. All Panels meet annually, and the Panel Chairs also meet once a year. As netball grows at a pace, the INF Panels are working increasingly closely together and with INF Members and Regions, to the benefit of the game globally.

Coaching Advisory Panel

Jill McIntosh Chair	(Australia)
Ruth Aitken	(New Zealand)
Liz Broomhead	(England)
Anita Navin	(England)
Maureen Hall	(Jamaica)
Sue Hawkins	(Australia)
Bennie Saayman	(South Africa)

The Coaching Advisory Panel (CAP) is tasked with closing performance gaps and raising coaching standards by supporting and developing quality coaching, and by setting and reinforcing globally recognised standards.

The Panel can consist of a maximum of eight people selected for their expertise, currently CAP has seven members. CAP advises the CEO, Game Committee and the INF Board on matters relating to coaching. The Panel works to assist the INF to achieve its vision, values and strategic goals as outlined in the INF Strategic Plan, as well as supporting the development and implementation of agreed priorities, particularly in relation to the development of quality coaches, worldwide.



Resource development is one of CAP's roles, and the Panel has been working with partners Gilbert to create a set of INF Foundation Coaching Cards. These cards complement the INF Foundation Coaching Manual, and are a very practical, user-friendly, resource for coaches to carry and use at training. CAP is also investigating the production of a DVD to support both the Foundation Coaching Manual and Coaching Cards. This will give beginner coaches a great set of resources to support their coaching.

CAP intends to develop similar resources at Intermediate and Advanced levels, and the Intermediate Coaching Manual is in the process of being written. It is anticipated that this manual will be ready to launch at the World Youth Netball Championships in Glasgow in August 2013.

The INF is committed to sharing international knowledge and expertise worldwide, providing opportunities for ongoing learning and development wherever possible. CAP, MAP and RAP will be conducting a joint Coaching/Officiating Seminar in conjunction with the World Youth Championships in Glasgow 2013, with plans for a similar event linked to the World Netball Championships in Sydney in 2015.

As part of the aim to set international standards of provision, CAP has trialled the pilot INF Endorsement Scheme, whereby national netball associations can gain official endorsement from the world governing body in specific identified areas, including coaching provision. The coaching arm of this scheme was piloted in Singapore in 2011.

One aspect of the Endorsement Scheme relates to the provision of coach education and training. CAP and MAP have worked to agree a competency framework for Foundation, Intermediate and Advanced level which sets out what attributes participants in the training/education should be able to exhibit once they have completed the programme. The way this is achieved may vary in each country or global region, but will be measured against the same standards.

Facilitated with the kind funding of UK Sport and the Commonwealth

Games Federation (CGF), the INF is in the process of supporting Africa Netball to pilot this approach, with the development of the Africa Coaching & Officiating Framework (ACOF). The lessons learnt through this pilot will be used to share practice with colleagues globally, to guide the development of coaching training/education programmes, where they do not currently exist, in a way that meets international standards. Further information on both the Endorsement Scheme and the ACOF project will be circulated to Members and Regional Federations in 2013, once the pilots have been reviewed.

To ensure effective communications and integrated working towards the implementation of the INF strategy from a national level upwards, a Regional Coaching Coordinator (RCC) has been nominated from each region. Initially their role will relate to the collection of data to give a benchmark picture of coaching globally in line with the INF's data collection policy which is currently under development.

The Panel is investigating the possibility of creating a CAP Coaching Scholarship scheme. The scheme will enable the INF to provide support and guidance to talent-identified coaches, with the possibility of travel to other countries in order to learn and grow in their coaching. This will take them out of their comfort zone and expose them to different environments and cultures, and allow them to work alongside some of the world's best coaches.

Match Officials Advisory Panel

Dawn Jones Chair	(New Zealand)
Michelle Phippard	(Australia)
Bill Alexander	(England)
Maggie du Plessis	(South Africa)
Brenda Prince	(Trinidad & Tobago)

The Match Officials Advisory Panel (MAP) is responsible for both umpires and bench officials (collectively referred to as 'Match Officials'). The work of the Panel is both strategic and operational, and the Panel is keen to support INF Members and Regions in these areas.

As part of its work, MAP is responsible for developing international standards

for both umpires and bench officials. In conjunction with CAP, MAP is currently establishing a competency framework from Foundation, through Intermediate, to Advanced level as part of the INF Endorsement Scheme. This will provide a guide for Members in setting standards for their own award schemes whilst allowing the method of delivery to reflect the particular needs of a country or region.

First introduced in 1997, the International Umpires Award (IUA) has achieved its aim of raising and standardising the level of international umpiring. In 2009, the criteria for the Award were revised and defined performance standards established in eight core competencies, along with requirements for the Award. Before being assessed for IUA, umpires must hold their highest national umpiring award. Currently 30 umpires hold this Award worldwide.

In addition, INF recognises a number of International Talent Identified umpires (ITID) – promising umpires who show the potential to gain IUA in the future. These umpires are offered additional support and provided with international match opportunities, including the World Youth Netball Championships.

Another initiative aimed at raising the standard of umpiring internationally was a review of INF Fitness Standards. Following research on the World Netball Series in 2010, a standard of Level 9.1 on the Multi-Stage Fitness Test (also known as the Beep/Bleep/20m Shuttle Run) was set. This came into force on 1st June 2012 and it now applies to all IUA, ITID and those umpiring international matches. Many INF Members have adopted this benchmark for their national umpires. The increased fitness levels of players and the speed of the game require umpires to maintain a high fitness level that ensures they can keep up with play. Further research is continuing in this field to determine the optimum level that should be set.

In 2012 MAP also launched the INF Bench Officials Manual, outlining the procedures authorised for use by bench officials, including a revised International Score Sheet. Whilst these are aimed at international play (and thus apply to all matches under the direct jurisdiction of INF, including those played for INF World Rankings), they are already informing good practice across the sport at other levels.

MAP also produces INF Protocols for Umpires that outline procedures to be used in matches, alongside of the Rules of Netball. A revised set of Protocols was issued to accompany changes made to

the Rules that came into force on 1st January 2012.

Another function of MAP is to facilitate educational opportunities for IUA and ITID umpires globally. In July 2012, a seminar for ITID umpires was held in Cape Town in conjunction with the World University Netball Championship. A number of first-class presenters led sessions at this seminar and the feedback from umpires indicated this was a most valuable and stimulating experience. An advanced umpiring seminar held in Trinidad for umpires from the Americas also developed skills for similar level umpires.

MAP is responsible for the appointment and deployment of umpires to INF World Events and World Ranking Matches. Umpires are volunteers who rely on having understanding families and employers to be able to carry out their role around the world. MAP is constantly reviewing the pathways that will ensure talented umpires can progress to international level and the work of the Members and INF Regions is vital in supporting this process as we seek to develop world class umpires for a world class sport!

Rules Advisory Panel

Cheryl Danson	Chair (England)
Yvette Smith	(Jamaica)
Vicki Wilson	(Australia)
Leigh Gibbs	(New Zealand)
Mandy Nottingham	(New Zealand)

The Rules Advisory Panel is the body responsible for ensuring that as netball grows and develops, and as play becomes faster, the sport's rules keep up.

Officially, it is the panel's responsibility to support the development and implementation of agreed priorities in the International Netball Federation Strategic Plan, particularly in relation to the control and review of the rules of netball. This is done by:

- Considering requests for interpretation of the rules from a Member Association or Regional Federation submitted through the Secretariat
- Reviewing proposals to change the rules and proposing changes to the rules
- Preparing presentation/evidence relating to above proposals
- Working in conjunction with the Secretariat in the editing and production of the official rules text
- Working in conjunction with other committees and panels in the broader context of the INF's strategic development objectives.

To operate effectively, RAP works closely with the Coaching Advisory Panel and the Match Officials Advisory Panel, and the opportunity to meet face-to-face as a combined group is particularly useful, as it allows a full discussion of issues relating to the game and to get different perspectives.

A RAP report is prepared by the Chair for each INF Board meeting, highlighting the activities of the Panel and future plans. In November 2012, a full review of the rules of netball will start, for presentation to Members at Congress in 2015. Members have already submitted their suggested rules changes and these will be considered by RAP, MAP and CAP.

To get some idea of how the process of changing the rules works, in July 2011 selected rules proposals were presented to Members at Congress. Three rules proposals were accepted by Congress and further rules trials were also agreed. In October 2011, the selected rules text for the revised rules was circulated by the Secretariat to members.

Netball's 'short' game Fast5, or Fast Net, as it was previously known, has also been keeping the Panel busy. In November 2011, RAP consolidated the Fast Net feedback received from the World Netball Series held in 2009, 2010 and 2011. RAP recommended to the INF Board that a working group was formed to undertake a review of the principles of the game of Fast Net. The working group consisted of Cheryl Danson (RAP, Chair), Dawn Jones (MAP), Jill McIntosh (CAP), Raelene Castle and Kate Palmer (INF Board).

In June 2012 the working group made their recommendations to the INF Board based on trials. Fast Net was changed to Fast5 and the game principles were agreed. The Fast5 rules were written by RAP with input from the members of the working group. In August 2012 the Fast5 rules were issued to members ahead of the first Fast5 competition that will be launching in Auckland in November.

RAP will soon be undertaking a full review of the rules of netball, based on Member and Panel submissions, and preparing detailed rules proposals for discussion by members in Congress in 2015. There will also be a review of Fast5, following the Netball World Series. Other ongoing work involves preparing the RAP strategic plan, aligned with the new INF Strategic Plan, and, with other advisory groups, agreeing the process for translation of rules into other languages. In addition, consolidating rule questions and interpretations and then publishing them on the INF website. In netball nothing stands still!

UK Sport Helps Israel Netball Develop Safeguarding

UK Sport has provided Israel Netball with expert support in developing new Safeguarding policies, following their registration with UK Sport's international partner, the International Netball Federation.

UK Sport and INF support enabled two representatives, Alexis Schapiro and Judy Aknin from Israel Netball, to attend a UNICEF Safeguarding workshop at the Beyond Sport Summit in London in July, to coincide with their new strategy to reach out and support young people participating in netball in Israel.

The need to develop safeguarding and child protection policies has moved a step up the priority ladder from personal responsibilities of team members to standardised practice for all. As a result of attending the workshop, they have used the draft outlines they received to start building a policy for Israel Netball.

Alexis shares the organisation's motivation for this strategic alignment to international standards: "With our new strategy of opening new groups for youngsters, it became apparent to us that in order to grow Israel Netball and expand our numbers – and particularly junior participants – it is imperative that we have a policy in place. This will ensure that we are able to maintain and, even further develop, this level of keeping our young netball girls safe. In addition, because we are a small dedicated organisation and therefore able to implement a policy with relative ease, we really feel we could be the 'trendsetters' of safeguarding children both within the Israel sporting community, and the international netball community."



The next step for Israel Netball is to feed back to UK Sport, INF and UNICEF their action plan and requirements for support, and to appoint a position in their Management Committee dedicated to ensuring the implementation of the policy.

International Sport Development Manager at UK Sport, Priya Samuel, believes the expert support available will help Israel Netball to address and develop child protection policies and procedures: "Israel Netball has identified the technical support it needs to create and implement child protection and safeguarding policies for all its members to follow, which is why UK Sport has decided to support them. INF and UNICEF have been fantastic partners in ensuring that they share best practice with organisations which require the capacity or expertise."

Alexis shares her thanks to UK Sport for the opportunity: "The invitation by UK Sport to participate in this initiative was a real honour. The follow-up support from their team has ensured that what we discussed in London in July will actually be developed and implemented, as opposed to just being spoken about."

The commitment to enhancing safeguarding policies comes as a result of UK Sport's work with UNICEF and British charity, International Development through Sport (IDS). IDS is committed to offering advice and guidance to support all partners developing the appropriate mechanisms to ensure children have access to safe sport.

Coaching Cards

The INF is developing a range of resources to support netball coaching at Foundation, Intermediate and eventually Advanced level.

Alongside the re-launch of the INF Foundation Coaching Manual, 2012 sees the launch of the INF Foundation Coaching Cards.

The cards provide a compact user-friendly resource, great for any coach to have on the side of the court, which covers the fundamental aspects of netball including Movement Skills, Passing Skills, Catching, Getting Free, Vision, Decision Making, Shooting, Defending, Centre Pass Set-Up and Attacking and Defending through the court.

The cards have been created by the INF Coaching Advisory Panel (CAP) which brings together coaching experts from around the world. Their development has been made possible through the proactive partnership with Gilbert, who are eager to support the INF in spreading netball widely across the globe.

Work is now underway on the INF Intermediate Coaching Manual.

The INF Selects Gilbert Netball

Leading sport suppliers, Gilbert Netball, have been chosen to provide the official ball and officials' clothing for all international netball events in a new four-year deal with the INF. The INF will also be endorsing Gilbert Netball footwear.

Under the new deal, Gilbert Netball will continue to be the official ball and kit supplier of the INF's World Senior and Youth Championships, INF's worldwide Regional Championships, and netball's fast and furious TV showcase, the Fast5 Netball World Series.



Top Of Their Game

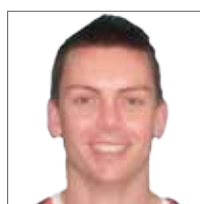
Congratulations to four umpires who have qualified for the INF International Umpires Award



LISA MCPHAIL
New Zealand



KRISTIE SIMPSON
New Zealand



MARC HENNING
Australia



TERRENCE PEART
Jamaica



INTERNATIONAL
NETBALL
FEDERATION

INF Events Calendar 2012-2016

*Dates correct at the time
of going to press.*

2012

Nov 9-11 Fast5 Netball World Series, Auckland, New Zealand

Nov 25 Northern Ireland v Ireland, Northern Ireland

Dec 2-8 Nations Cup, Singapore

2013

Jan 25-27 Tri Nations, (tbc) Hong Kong

Mar 8-10 Netball Europe Championships – U17, Malta

Apr 26-28 Netball Europe Championships – U21, Wales

May 31-Jun 2 Netball Europe Championships – Open Glasgow, Scotland

Jun 14-16 Netball Europe AGM & Council, Northern Ireland

Jul tbc Asian Youth Championships, Brunei

Aug 22-31 World Youth Netball Championships, Glasgow

Nov tbc Fast5 Netball World Series

Dec 1-7 Nations Cup, Singapore

Dec tbc AFNA Senior Championships & AGM

2014

Mar 7-9 Netball Europe Championships – U17, England

Apr 25-27 Netball Europe Championships – U19, Northern Ireland

May 30/31-1 Jun Netball Europe Championships – Open, Wales

Jun tbc Netball Europe AGM & Council & Festival, Wales

Jul 23-3 Aug Commonwealth Games Glasgow, Scotland

Sep 7-14 tbc Asian Netball Championships, Singapore

Oct tbc Netball Europe – WCO, Wales

Nov tbc Netball Europe – WCO, Wales

Nov tbc Fast5 Netball World Series

2015

Mar 6-8 Netball Europe Championships – U17, Gibraltar

Apr 24-26 Netball Europe Championships – U19, Scotland

May 22-24 Netball Europe Championships – Open, Northern Ireland

Jun tbc Netball Europe AGM & Council Wales

Aug 9-16 World Netball Championships Sydney, Australia

Jul tbc Asian Youth Championships

Nov tbc Fast5 Netball World Series

Dec tbc Netball Nations Cup, Singapore

2016

Mar 4-6 Netball Europe Championships – U17, Gibraltar

Apr 22-24 or 29-31 Netball Europe Championships – U21, Malta

May 19-21 Netball Europe Championships – Open, England

Jun tbc Netball Europe AGM & Council, Northern Ireland



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Go online to browse our bodywarmers with styles made to match team kits and the same fabric, velcro and printing options. Team name on drinks bottles, netballs and bibs also available.

How about team events?

Going away or want to make an impression for a netball tournament? Browse our printed hoodie and t-shirt styles which can be adapted with your team information.

And those sublimated designs?

Be sure to browse our sublimated netball designs, now available as skirts and tops, leotards and dresses. Sublimation printing allows unlimited possibilities for wacky and adventurous designs, adapt ours or draw your very own!





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