



SHOOTING FOR SUCCESS

The newsletter of The International Federation of Netball Associations

A vibrant and exciting global game

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A Dream Becomes Reality

In March this year, IFNA International Umpiring Committee members, Maureen Boyle and Jan Carlton, headed for South Africa, to conduct an Umpires Development Seminar.

The course was first the dream of Muditambi Ravele, to help raise the standard of umpiring in South Africa. Even though it took some 3 years to come to fruition, it was both an exciting and rewarding venture for everyone concerned.

Cape Town and Pretoria were selected as venues, so that umpires from across South Africa and also from neighbouring countries could take part. Netball South Africa is to be commended for opening this course to others; such co-operation, in the spirit of sharing and working together, assisted Maureen and Jan in working with as many umpires as possible.

In total 49 umpires from South Africa, Botswana, Namibia, Lesotho and Swaziland attended the courses.

The course content included sessions based on responsibilities and expectations, protocols and procedures, techniques, skills, practical umpiring, performance and development of drills. In Cape Town, each umpire took part in at least 2 games, enabling Maureen and Jan to assess and provide written feedback. In Pretoria, with more participants, every umpire had at least one short run and an opportunity to show their ability.

Both Maureen and Jan are strongly recommending follow-up courses as and when funding becomes available.

Special thanks go to Muditambi Ravele, Maureen Boyle, Jan Carlton, Netball South Africa Executive Members, Dr Hanette Brewer, Jeanette Gersbach, Isabel Harmse, Chris Burton, Lesley Zeinhert and Netball Australia for making possible this Umpiring Seminar, which was undoubtedly a huge success and hopefully a catalyst for future umpiring developments in South Africa.

IFNA Board To Meet In South Africa

The IFNA Board will meet in Durban, South Africa, on 23rd and 24th July. With the COSANA Games also taking place in Durban from 19th - 24th July, the Board will have the opportunity to meet with members of The Confederation of South African Netball Associations.

As a Recognized Olympic Sport, IFNA has recently received confirmation of a grant of US\$10,000 from The International Olympic Committee, which will be received shortly and must be used towards development of the sport. At their meeting, the Board will consider how this money is to be spent with the focus expected to be on engaging the services of a coach to "train" coaches in two IFNA regions and also to enable the International Umpiring Committee to train and develop potential International Umpires.

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NETBALL PLAYING COUNTRIES

American Samoa
 Antigua and Barbuda
 Australia
 Bahamas
 Barbados
 Bermuda
 Botswana
 British Virgin Islands
 Brunei
 Canada
 Cayman Islands
 China
 Cook Islands
 Dominica
 England
 Fiji
 Ghana
 Gibraltar
 Grenada
 Guyana
 Hong Kong
 India
 Israel
 Jamaica
 Japan
 Kenya
 Korea
 Lesotho
 Malawi
 Malaysia
 Maldives
 Malta
 Myanmar
 Namibia
 Nepal
 New Zealand
 Nigeria
 Niue Island
 Norfolk Islands
 Northern Ireland
 Pakistan
 Papua New Guinea
 Republic of Ireland
 Samoa
 Scotland
 Seychelles
 Singapore
 Solomon Islands
 South Africa
 Sri Lanka
 St Kitts Nevis
 St Lucia
 St Maarten
 St Vincent/Grenadines
 Swaziland
 Tanzania
 Thailand
 Tonga
 Trinidad & Tobago
 Uganda
 United Arab Emirates
 U.S.A.
 Vanuatu
 Wales
 Zambia
 Zimbabwe

Mitre Balls Assist USANA

IFNA recently arranged for a supply of Mitre netballs to be sent to the United States of America Netball Association (USANA) to assist with development.

In April this year, a coaching team from USANA introduced Netball into the high school sports curriculum in Orange County, New Jersey with great success. The kids loved the game and, in just a few training sessions, became quite proficient. Some of the Mitre netballs were used for this programme. The remainder were used by USANA coaches to help train both senior and junior players in Florida based clubs.

During July, USANA and Florida Netball Association will be taking part in South Florida's "Palm Beach County Sports Festival". The aim is to introduce Netball to the 5000 - 6000 people expected to attend, the majority being young children and teenagers.

IFNA is, once again, assisting this development initiative by arranging to send USANA a further supply of Netballs.

Getting Better All The Time

England's Open Squad completed their tour of Australia on Saturday June 26 with a closely contested 41-47 loss against the Australian national team. This contrasted with the first two matches of the tour, which England lost 51-21 and 55-21.

The final match marked Tracey Neville's return to international netball, following a lengthy lay off due to injury. She made a significant impact on the English attack, not only in recording shooting stats of 85% but also combining well with Karen Greig at Goal Shooter and initiating many of the attacking moves in the goal third.

In addition to the matches against the national side, the England squad has also played against a number of club and representative sides during the tour. A number of new players have had the chance to play including Team Bath's Tamsin Greenway and Rachel Dunn, both experiencing international netball for the first time.

The majority of the English players are now heading home while those involved in the U21s have joined up with the touring party that has now arrived for a three match series, in Canberra, against the Australian U21 side. The squad will then travel to New Zealand for two further test matches against NZ U21s, in preparation for next year's World Youth Championships in Florida.

News In Brief

- ◆ Singapore and St Lucia have each recently received a supply of netballs through IFNA's agreement with Mitre.
- ◆ India's U16 National Netball Championships took place in Bangalore from 16 - 20 May. 24 boys' and 22 girls' teams, from 25 State Associations, took part. The U21 National Champs is to take place at Mysore in August with the U19 event being held in October at Guwahati.
- ◆ Australia's Catherine Cox will miss July's Fisher & Paykel Series against New Zealand due to an ankle injury suffered during a Commonwealth Bank Trophy match. She will remain in Australia to focus on her full recovery. Adelaide Thunderbirds player, Kristen Heinrich, has been named as replacement third shooter for all three tests against the Silver Ferns.
- ◆ The St Vincent and The Grenadines Netball Association hosted the 2004 Eastern Caribbean Champion of Champions Netball Tournament from 28 - 31 May. 8 "champion clubs" participated with C & R Enterprises Sion Hill from St Vincent and The Grenadines winning the event. Second place went to Elite Sports Club and third to Shamrock Sports Club, both from St Lucia. The "Most Valuable Player" of the Tournament was Joanna Christopher from St Vincent and The Grenadines.
- ◆ The 2009 World Games will be held in Kaohsiung City - Chinese Taipei's second largest metropolis behind the capital - from 16 - 26 July.

Development Focus For Netball Europe

Netball Europe held its Annual General Meeting and Council Meeting on the 19th and 20th June 2004 in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

Six of the seven members of the European Region were present, with only Gibraltar not being represented.

Officers and Management members elected for 2004/2005 are Vivienne Gatt – Chair; Val Gregory – Secretary; Margaret Bysh – Treasurer; Cheryl Danson – Umpiring Chair; Liz Broomhead – Development Chair; Maureen Drennan – Member without Portfolio. Joan Mills agreed to continue to act as Competitions Chair in a caretaker capacity until a new Competitions Chair is appointed.

Netball Europe representatives on IFNA's Members Council will be Liz Broomhead and Sue Holvey.

Everyone present expressed thanks to Irene O'Brien who retired from her post after many years of service to European and International Netball.

A full agenda for the weekend prompted very productive discussion with emphasis being placed on Development, 2005 events, making Netball Europe more effective and financing Netball Europe. Europe will now have an annual budget for development and, as a priority, emerging netball countries will be given special attention with the aim of increasing the membership of FENA.

Further discussions were also held regarding the setting up of a Netball Europe Secretariat in England, within a few months.

Netball Champs Head For Manchester

The inaugural National Netball Championships for People with Learning Disabilities is to take place in Manchester, England, on 10 July.

The event is to be run by England Netball and the English Sports Association for People with Learning Disability (ESAPLD).

Emma Foden, ESAPLD's Championship co-ordinator, said "The fact that we already have 12 teams signed up for this National Championship shows that this event is probably long overdue. Netball is currently not on the Paralympic or INAS - the governing body for world learning disability sport - agenda so maybe this is the first step to it being included at the highest level in future years."

Chief Executive of ESAPLD, Nick Parr, was delighted to be working with England Netball. "To be working in partnership with a mainstream governing body at such a prestigious venue is fantastic. The Championships are already close to being full and it is obvious there is a need for an event like this to become part of the sporting calendar."

England Netball is happy to be involved and CEO, Pauline Harrison, said "we have been working with ESAPLD for a number of years and are delighted that this collaboration has enabled us to launch this Championship and give disabled players an exciting, challenging and enjoyable event to aim for. England Netball is committed to creating new opportunities for people to participate in the game."

Launch of New Initiative In Barbados

On 19 June, Barbados Netball Association launched its "Future Speech Masters Club", borne out of the recently launched High Performance Netball Development Programme.

The mission of the Club is to provide a friendly, structured and fun environment for Netballers, where they can develop excellent communication and leadership skills. At present membership is open to Netballers but the vision is that, in time, other sports will be permitted to join in.

At the launch, President of Barbados Netball Association, Annette Beckett, spoke about the Association's High Performance Programme. "Out of creative ideas by Netball personnel, a High Performance Programme with a difference evolved. This Programme concentrated on performance off court as opposed to on court. This Programme was about giving the participants an abundance of self confidence, which we felt, in turn, would make them more 'coachable' as an elite athlete."

It was out of this Programme that the idea of 'some type of speech training' being necessary was borne. When Marlene Hall, one of the High Performance Netball Development Programme Resource consultants, suggested that anyone interested should attend a meeting to discuss this, the numbers attending were both surprising and overwhelming. Out of this meeting came the birth of 'The Future Speech Masters Club'. More details of this new initiative and Netball in Barbados are available from Annette Beckett at tbert@caribnet.net

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Sports Unite To Fight The Flab

Obesity is on the increase amongst the world's developed nations with Governments becoming more and more concerned about this 21st century challenge, especially in the way it is affecting young people.

Australia has more than one million children classified as overweight or obese. In an attempt to combat this growing problem, the premier sporting bodies - the Australian Football League, Cricket Australia and Netball Australia - have formed a national partnership and made an unprecedented declaration to Governments throughout Australia to help fight childhood obesity.

In an initiative, believed to be a world first, the Sports Alliance's \$9 million sporting declaration will help curb childhood obesity through care programmes that provide physical activity and teach children about healthy nutrition. Each programme demonstrates best practice in sport with children engaged in skills based on fun and enjoyment, conducted in safe, non-threatening environments.

Cricket Australia, the AFL and Netball Australia support the largest number of grassroots participants in Australian sport, with about two million people playing each week. In excess of three million volunteer coaches, umpires, scorers, administrators, players, carers and friends support this network of players. The three sports offered their national infrastructure, facilities, experience and expertise to the Federal Government to develop a collaborative plan to change attitudes and behaviour concerning obesity.

The Chief Executive Officer of Netball Australia, Lindsay Cane, said "We proudly recognize that, through sport, we can advance not only motor skills but social and life skills in this country and that's a significant contribution to the well being of our children."

The three CEOs said their organizations formed Sports Alliance to take a leadership role to help combat obesity because the benefits of early prevention were enormous and long term by improving public health, reducing healthcare costs and increasing productivity. The programme is due to begin next year and will directly benefit 150,000 children, aged between 5 - 12, in 3250 primary schools throughout Australia.

NETBALL ON THE WEB

AUSTRALIA: www.netball.asn.au
BERMUDA: www.bermudanetball.bm
ENGLAND:
www.englandnetball.co.uk
NEW ZEALAND: www.netballnz.co.nz
OCEANIA NETBALL:
www.sportingpulse.com.au
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www.netballscotland.com
SINGAPORE: www.netball.org.sg
USANA: www.usanetball.com
WALES: www.welshnetball.co.uk

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 9, 10 and 11 - Singapore -v- Papua
New Guinea
July 5 - 12 - NZU21 -v- England U21- New
Zealand
July 19 - 24 - COSANA Games - Durban
July 23 - 24 - IFNA Board Meeting -
Durban
July 29 - Aug 9 - Caribbean Netball
Championships - Port of Spain, Trinidad

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