



# SHOOTING FOR SUCCESS

The newsletter of The International Federation of Netball Associations

*A vibrant and exciting global game*

*April 2004*

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## **New Format Agreed For World Champs**

When Members Council met in Manchester last month, one of the major items up for discussion was the new format for IFNA's flagship event, the World Netball Championships.

Taking into account the views submitted by some Members, it was agreed by Members Council that any decision reached must be in the best interests of the sport.

Following considerable debate, Members Council agreed that teams taking part in the new style World Champs would be:

- ◆ host country
- ◆ top 5 world ranked teams from the previous World Championships
- ◆ 5 winners of Regional qualifying events
- ◆ 5 winners of a Cross Region competition, where the 2nd and 3rd placed teams from the Regional qualifiers would compete against each other

The format of the Cross Region competition will mirror the actual World Champs as closely as possible and bids for this new event will be called for 3 years prior to the World Championships.

IFNA's world ranking system is also to be examined and Major General B K Oitsile and Annette Beckett are to investigate how other sports determine their world rankings, in order to improve on IFNA's current way of ranking teams.

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## **IFNA Medical Commission Appointed**

The IFNA Members Council has appointed Dr Marion Bullock DuCasse (Chair), Dr Deborah Robinson, Dr Susan White and Dr Christa J. van Rensburg to the IFNA Medical Commission. Joining them will be the IFNA representative, Pam Smith.

This new Commission, an expert medical panel, has a wealth of experience and will be the authority for all medical, health and anti-doping matters for Netball. The Commission will be developing a two year strategic and programme plan and will present a report to each meeting of the IFNA Members Council.

IFNA's Medical Commission will play a huge part in IFNA's commitment to the fight against doping and has already contributed significantly to IFNA's new Anti-Doping Rules, which are now in line with those recommended by The World Anti-Doping Agency.

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## **Latest International Umpires' Appointments**

IFNA has appointed Dalton Hinds, Marion Johnson-Hurley and Jo Kelly to umpire at the Test Series between NZ and Australia this June/July.

**We're on the web  
www.netball.org**

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

## Australians Too Strong For England

A new look Australia proved too strong for England in the March Test Series, winning all three matches against a youthful English team.

At the first Test Match in Manchester, England's Head Coach, Marg Caldwell, began with a bold attacking selection, introducing Louisa Brownfield at Goal Shooter, partnering Karen Greig in the shooting circle. The inexperienced young English side battled hard but ultimately suffered a 32-50 defeat to Australia. The Australian win was due to their awesome defence and the devastating shooting of Sharelle McMahon who scored 25 goals from 26 attempts.

Despite some fierce defensive pressure all over the court, England maintained their composure but could find no way to mount a serious challenge to Australia in the second Test in Birmingham. Marg Caldwell introduced Natalie Francis at Wing Attack for her first international cap and Geva Mentor started at Goal Keeper for her first appearance of the Series. Meanwhile, Australia switched Catherine Cox to Goal Attack and moved Sharelle McMahon to Goal Shooter, a positional change that placed overhead pressure on England. Despite spectacular defending by Sonia Mkoloma, Cox was in superb form, converting 11 of her 12 shots in the final quarter, to drive Australia to their second victory 50-28.

Looking for a way to combat the power of the Australian defence and the accuracy of their shooters, England took to the court for the final Test, at the Wembley Arena, in front of another capacity crowd. Yet again, Cox and McMahon were in tremendous form while England made mistakes and failed to convert their opportunities, resulting in a win to Australia 53 - 25. However, Marg Caldwell was optimistic in defeat. "I am reasonably pleased with our performance at this point in our development" she said. "We obviously have plenty to work on but we should not lose sight of the positives either".

The Test Series broke box office records with tickets in such demand that they were even being traded on the England Netball website forum. Ticket sales were so successful that Wembley Arena sold out well before the event and Manchester and Birmingham saw record sales unlike anything ever witnessed before. 9386 spectators watched the Manchester Test with 8992 in Birmingham and 7348 in Wembley, making a total of 25,726 spectators.

Photos from the Test Series can be viewed at [www.netballphotos.net](http://www.netballphotos.net)

## News In Brief

- ◆ England dominated the recent FENA Youth Championships held in Bath, winning both the U17 and U19 events. During the three days of competition, both teams maintained a 100% record to add the U17 and U19 titles to the Open title won by the England U21 squad at the end of February in Cardiff. The IFNA President, Molly Rhone, attended the event, addressing the gathering at the Finals and handing out the prizes. This was the first time an IFNA President had ever been present at the FENA Youth Champs. Molly also met with the FENA Executive during her stay in Bath.
- ◆ Top athlete, Tiffanie Wolfe from Jamaica, will be playing for The London Hurricanes in this year's Super Cup competition in England.
- ◆ England Netball report that their collaboration with Mitre Sports International is at a pivotal stage right now, with the launch of a new state-of-the-art England lycra dress designed by Madeline Press.



Plans are rapidly moving ahead to make next year's World Youth Netball Championship a tremendous success.

The rental cost of the venue, the Broward Convention Centre, has already been sponsored and Broward County Parks & Recreation Department are to sponsor the floor, which will cost in excess of US\$200,000.

Arrangements are currently underway for each of the 31 cities within the Broward County area to "adopt" a team, which will include the provision of practice facilities and hospitality.

The tournament website is up and running at [www.wync2005.com](http://www.wync2005.com)

It is intended that the website will eventually include contact information, team details, volunteer page, information for spectators, sponsorship opportunities, tourist information and many more interesting features. Building upto the event itself, the website will be expanded to include "News From Around The World" pages.

The WYNC 2005 Roadshow is currently doing the rounds within the USA and it's hoped that it will be possible to take this to the New Zealand -v- Australia Test Series in November.

As ever, volunteers are needed to make the event happen and a volunteer application form will shortly be downloaded to the event website.

Log onto [www.wync2005.com](http://www.wync2005.com) for the latest information.

## St Lucia League Great Success

The 2004 Commercial Plus Netball League, undertaken by the St Lucia National Netball Association, in collaboration with the St Lucia Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture, recently ended on April 21. Eight teams took part in the tournament which began back in February.

Minvielle and Chastanet Limited took the title of "Champion" after beating Teachers, 54 - 51, in the Final. Police Stars were third. The Best of Eleven team, who were the inaugural 2003 Champions, finished fourth this year.

At the closing ceremony and awards presentation, Mrs Rosemary Deligny, acting on behalf of the St Lucia Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture, said that the Commercial Plus Netball League was one way of strengthening the camaraderie among those employed in the business community and the promotion of healthy lifestyles. She said that the Chamber was looking forward to next year's encounter and encouraged more companies to participate in the 2005 Commercial Plus Netball League.

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## Culture and Challenge

March 11 - 14 were the dates of the FENA Youth Championships in the beautiful city of Bath, surrounded by its history, geography and culture - a sensational backdrop for an Umpires' Seminar and IFNA involvement in the training of the talented umpires selected for the event.

Conducted on the eve of the Championships, members of the International Umpiring Committee, Ann Curran, Maggie Clark, Sheelagh Redpath and Chris Burton were presenters at the Umpiring Seminar with Cheryl Danson as convenor.

Some of the topics covered were the protocols required of an umpire, the perennial contact -v- contest, the prince or pauper Rule of Advantage, so called because when used well it is brilliant and, when used unwisely, it is unhelpful and both theory and practical techniques of positioning, timing and vision.

Once the event began, the Umpires Appointments Panel of Ann Curran, Maggie Clark and Sheelagh Redpath worked with the event umpires while Chris Burton worked with National Testers in an in-service exercise.

It is pleasing to report that, from that event and on-going work carried out prior it, two umpires appointed to the FENA Championships have now been appointed to an U21 event between Australia and England and New Zealand and England. Clare Tyler from Wales and Anne Abraitis from Scotland are the umpires selected.

## YOUR GUIDE TO IFNA MERCHANDISE

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Belle Vue Leisure Centre  
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Manchester, M12 4TF  
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Payment with order, please.  
Bank Drafts and cheques  
should be made payable to  
IFNA.

Prices include postage and  
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**Rules of Netball** £4.50

**WNC '99 Final**

Australia -v- NZ on VHS Video £12

## International Indigenous Tournament

National Co-ordinator for Aotearoa Maori Netball, Mrs June Mariu, has confirmed that the 2004 International Indigenous Netball Tournament is now to take place at the brand new Waitakere Sports Stadium in Auckland. Playing dates are October 14 - 25 and Mrs Mariu is urging those countries, wishing to take part, to register without delay.

Further information can be obtained from [www.amnohl.com](http://www.amnohl.com) or by e-mailing Mrs Mariu at [june@amnohl.com](mailto:june@amnohl.com)

## Helen Of The West Netball Festival

Following on from the 2003 "Helen of the West" Netball Club Festival, where the winners were The Police Team of Trinidad & Tobago, it's all systems go to make sure the 2004 Festival in St Lucia is as successful as last year.

This year's Festival will be held from 23 - 30 October and is a collaborative venture between the St Lucia National Netball Association and the St Lucia Tourist Board. An invitation is being extended to all netball clubs, internationally, and it is anticipated that the Festival will attract a cadre of excellent netballers.

The winners will receive a prize of US\$3000, runners up US\$2000 and clubs, placed third and fourth, will receive US\$1000 and US\$500 respectively.

For more information about taking part, netball clubs should contact The St Lucia National Netball Association ([paul@candw.lc](mailto:paul@candw.lc)) no later than 31 August 2004. Entries will be on a first come, first served basis.

The St Lucia National Netball Association is looking forward to the participation of as many international clubs as possible in the 2004 "Helen of the West" Netball festival, which will further expose the talents of netballers and strengthen the partnerships within the international netball family.

### NETBALL ON THE WEB

AUSTRALIA: [www.netball.asn.au](http://www.netball.asn.au)  
BERMUDA: [www.bermudanetball.bm](http://www.bermudanetball.bm)  
ENGLAND:  
[www.englandnetball.co.uk](http://www.englandnetball.co.uk)  
NEW ZEALAND: [www.netballnz.co.nz](http://www.netballnz.co.nz)  
OCEANIA NETBALL:  
[www.sportingpulse.com.au](http://www.sportingpulse.com.au)  
PAKISTAN: [www.paknetball.org](http://www.paknetball.org)  
SAMOA: [www.samoanetball.ws](http://www.samoanetball.ws)  
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USANA: [www.usanetball.com](http://www.usanetball.com)  
WALES: [www.welshnetball.co.uk](http://www.welshnetball.co.uk)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

15 - 20 May 2004: SportAccord, Lausanne - **IFNA representatives will be Molly Rhone and Marva Bernard**

9 May 2004: Mothers Day Special Activity U23 OECS Tournament Fund Raiser, St Vincent & The Grenadines

22 - 23 May 2004: National Championships, Calgary, Canada

May 7/8, 14, 21/22 and 28 - Various rounds of The Commonwealth Gank Trophy, Australia

We're on the web  
[www.netball.org](http://www.netball.org)

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