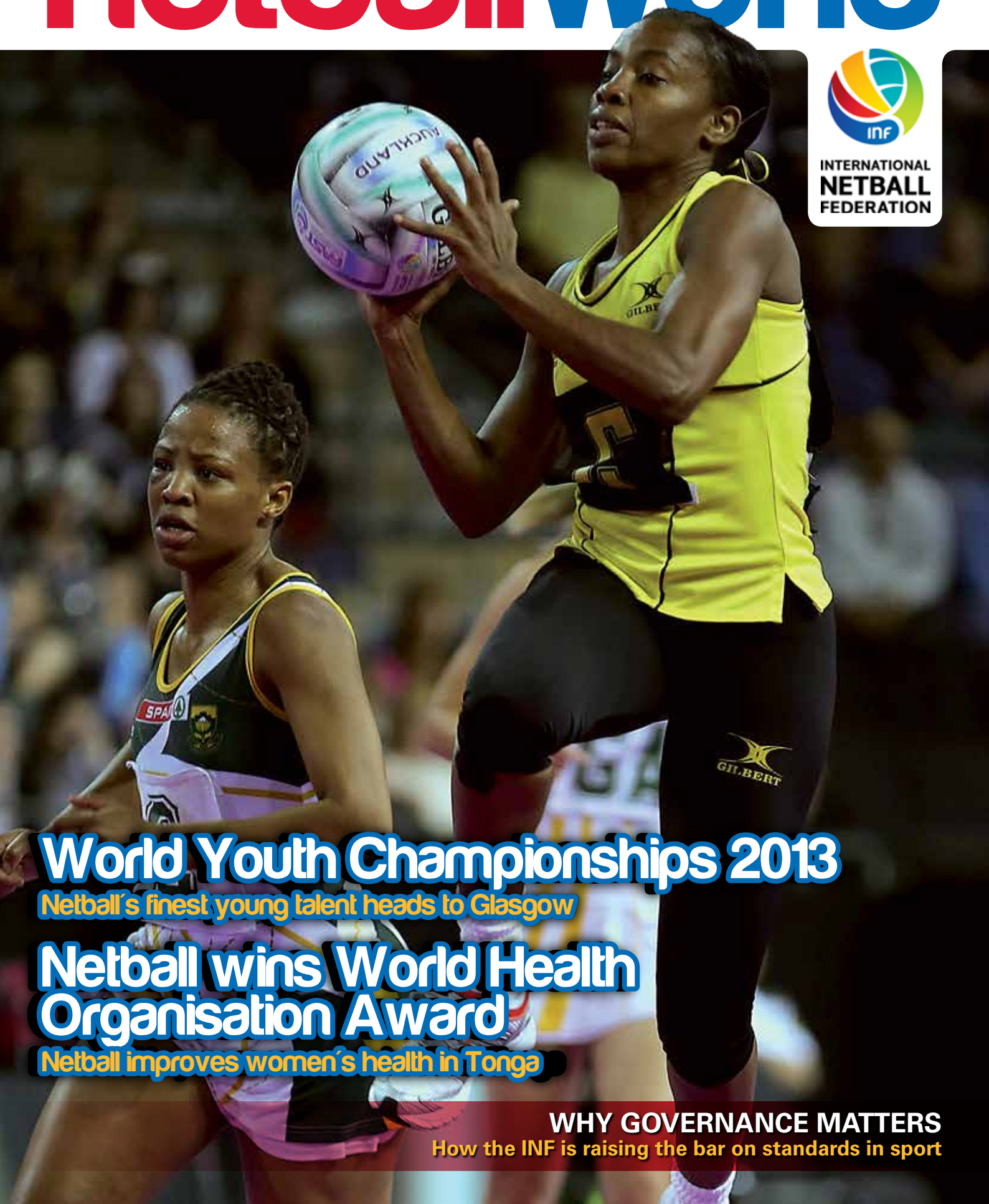


netballworld



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World Youth Championships 2013

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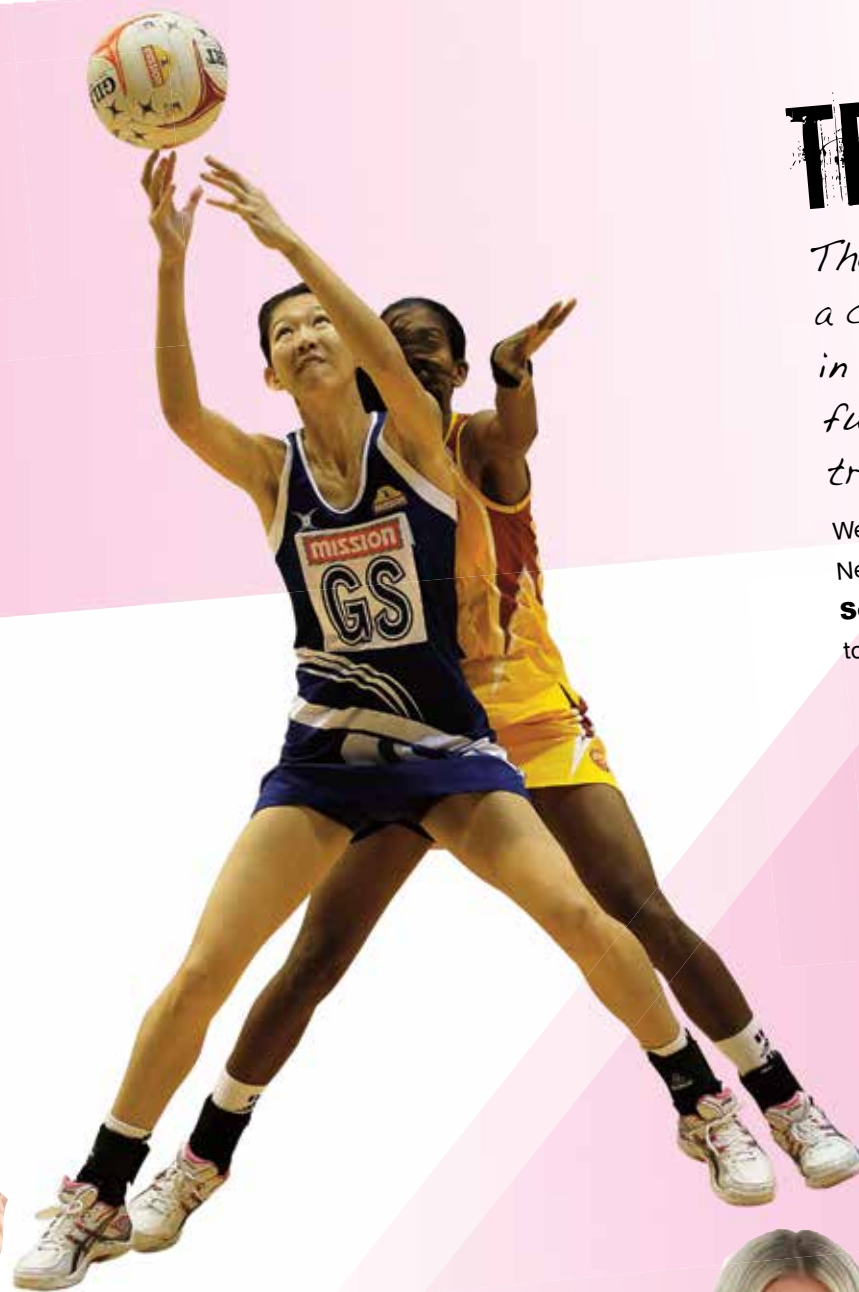
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WORLD YOUTH
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GLASGOW 2013



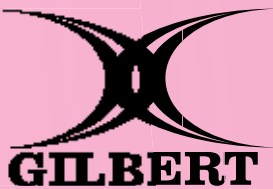
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We really would love to hear all your netball news, so please email me if you have a story to tell. All photographs should be captioned please to identify their contents and photographer noted to acknowledge source. If you are interested in advertising 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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Front Cover:
Nadine Bryan from Jamaica and Simi Mdaka, South Africa, compete in the Fast5 Netball World Series, 2012

Photograph:
Getty Images

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Welcome to our Netball World

The World Youth Netball Championships, one of international netball's most exciting events, is about to take place in Glasgow's magnificent new Emirates Arena. There will be some strong competition – not just between our top netballing nations, but also amongst our ambitious rising stars. The 2013 World Youth Netball Championships promises to be a truly superb tournament, drawing together young netballers from a real diversity of backgrounds and cultures, and we are delighted to welcome Israel, Malta, Namibia, the Cayman Islands and Bermuda to the Championships for the first time.



It is great to see so much international netball being played, not just at the senior level, but junior level too. The Asian

Youth Championships were hosted by Brunei in July, and ten teams from the Region took part. Pengiran Anak Sarah, the wife of the Crown Prince of Brunei, was the Guest of Honour. It is really important for netball in the Region that such a valued and esteemed dignitary attended, and gave her support to the world's leading women's team sport. In June, the African Championships took place in Malawi, with eight teams competing. The Nations Cup will take place again in Singapore at the beginning

of December with six teams from across all Regions taking part.

Without our dedicated and talented volunteer umpires, international netball could not be played as often as it is. A record eight umpires have received their International Umpire Award (IUA) in the past two years. Congratulations to them, and on behalf of the International Netball Federation, and netballers everywhere, I would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks and appreciation for everything that our international umpires, and those administering the IUA, do for our sport.

One of the most thrilling international results this year was the back-to-back tri-series success of England against Australia and Jamaica. The England

team were unstoppable, and won both series 3-0. Competition amongst the top teams is fierce and it makes the build-up to the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games even more scintillating. Having refreshed the rankings, we see Northern Ireland, St Lucia and hosts Scotland taking part in the netball competition for the first time. Tickets are already on sale, so don't miss out – get yours while you can for what promises to be a spectacular and memorable event.

These are exciting times for netball – let's keep our great sport growing!

Molly

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

Netball's Youth Take CENTRE STAGE

This August, over 200 promising young netballers from all corners of the world will come together in Scotland for the 2013 World Youth Netball Championships. The 10-day event involves 20 teams, with match-ups set to include netballing giants Australia against newcomers Israel, and the netball-mad nation of New Zealand against the tiny Atlantic island of Bermuda.

The city of Glasgow is preparing to stage an event that captures the attention of netballers in Scotland and around the world. The tournament will be the first world netball event to be staged in Scotland since the 1987 World Championships, and will take place less than a year before the sport takes centre stage at the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games. One of the International Netball Federation's flagship events, WYNC 2013 will be hosted by Glasgow Life and Netball Scotland, supported by EventScotland, and is part of UK Sport's £27 million Gold Event Series.

The President of the International Netball Federation, Molly Rhone, is understandably keen to convey the importance of the tournament for world netball...

"This event, to be held in Glasgow's magnificent new Emirates Arena, draws together young netballers from a diversity of backgrounds and cultures, and promises to be a truly superb tournament. We anticipate there will be some closely-fought matches, not just between our top netballing nations but also amongst our new netball nations."

The Group Stages

GROUP 1	GROUP 2	GROUP 3	GROUP 4
Australia	New Zealand	Jamaica	England
South Africa	Trinidad and Tobago	Wales	Barbados
Fiji	Northern Ireland	Cayman Islands	Papua New Guinea
Israel	Bermuda	Samoa	Republic of Ireland
Namibia	Malta	Scotland	Singapore



World Youth Netball Championships
Thursday 22 to Saturday 31 August 2013
The Emirates Arena, Glasgow, Scotland



What this means to international netball...

It's been 25 years since the first World Youth Netball Championships took place in Canberra, Australia. Since then, the tournament has become a firm fixture in the international calendar, and the next generation of global netball elite has been showcased in Fiji, Canada, Wales, the USA, and the Cook Islands. As well as thrilling crowds in emerging netball nations, many of the tournament's alumni have gone on to forge outstanding international careers. This year's talent promises to be no less exciting, with a number of players already making their mark at the senior level. Watch out for...



Kimberley Ravaillion
Australia Aged 20 C/WD

Kimberley Ravaillion has had a breakthrough season in the last 12 months. Following an outstanding 2012 at the Australian Institute of Sport, the dynamic midcourter put in a strong performance at the World Netball Series, before being called into the Australian team to play England in January. Ravaillion enjoyed a successful ANZ Championship campaign with the Queensland Firebirds and was instrumental in them reaching the grand final.



Kayla Cullen
New Zealand Aged 21 C/WD

2013 is Kayla Cullen's second World Youth Championships. In 2009, she was the youngest in a silver medal-winning New Zealand side, playing as a shooter. Since then, Cullen has switched circles, and won 12 caps for the Silver Ferns as a hugely-promising defender. In Glasgow, New Zealand U21 plan to put Cullen's skills to good use as a midcourter – proving her talent as one of the most versatile netballers in the international game.



Rochelle Lawson
South Africa Aged 21 GD/GK

Rochelle Lawson has been passionate about netball since she first played at primary school. Since then, the Cape Town native has developed into one of South Africa's most promising young netballers, and was rewarded with the Player of the Tournament accolade at a tri-nations tournament with Botswana and Zimbabwe earlier this year. Rochelle is also a keen netball and athletics coach at her local primary school, inspiring the next generation.



Vangelee Williams
Jamaica Aged 21 WD/GD

Vangelee Williams has had a promising start to her career with the Jamaican Sunshine Girls, amassing six caps and impressing with her determination. As one of six children and the first to go to university, Vangelee's family are justifiably proud of the sporting and academic achievements of their youngest member. Vangelee has the honour of captaining Jamaica U21 at the World Youth Championships, and her team-mates describe her as always smiling, laughing, and very positive.



Layla Guscoth
England Aged 21 GD/GK

Layla Guscoth describes herself as "half medical student, half netballer". The highly ambitious Guscoth combines playing netball for England with studying medicine at the world-renowned Oxford University. Guscoth first played for England U17 in 2008 and steadily built her international experience before making her senior debut against Jamaica last year.

At the 2009 World Youth Netball Championships, Caitlin Bassett and Sharni Layton were key players in the victorious Australian side. Two years later, with Layton watching from the bench, Bassett shot the winning goal in the World Championships final, securing Australia gold medals. The youth event gave the duo the high-pressure international experience their careers needed to take off on the senior stage.

What this means to Scottish netball...

For Scotland, hosting the World Youth Netball Championships isn't just about a 10-day tournament. It's a chance to raise the profile of netball across the country and inspire a new generation of young people to enjoy the sport. From high-profile Olympians to primary school children, Netball Scotland is determined that there will be something for everyone – in the build-up, during the tournament, and long after the players have returned to their homes around the globe.

The home nation has one of their country's most decorated Olympians backing them all the way to the Championships. London 2012 Gold Medallist, rower Kath Grainger, CBE is a keen supporter of netball and looking forward to the World Youth Netball Championships taking place in her home city: "For many young players, this summer's Championships will be the first step on a long and successful career in the game, and it's fantastic they will be doing that in Glasgow," says Katherine. "I really enjoyed playing netball during my school years. It is a fantastic way of getting more active and I am delighted to be able to give something back in my new role as Patron of Netball Scotland. I can't wait to see the action at the Emirates Arena later this year."

Scotland U21 shooter Lynsey Gallagher is becoming a familiar face in Glasgow, spearheading the 'I'll be here. Will you?' campaign. Lynsey's passion for the tournament is obvious: "It's a very exciting time for netball in Scotland! It's not every day that we get the chance to compete at such a high level at this age



Kath Grainger, CBE

competing at home in Glasgow makes it even more special."

Schools across Scotland have been 'adopting' countries and have been offered free tickets, in a bid to build support for all the competing nations. Pupils also took part in a competition to research their adopted countries and produce artwork. The winning entries and those that received commendations will be proudly displayed at the Emirates Arena during the Championships.

School pupils were also involved in the tournament's draw, with a number selected as flag bearers on the day. Maddy McGuinness from Hyndland Secondary School in Glasgow echoed the thoughts of many of the young people who took part: "I was honoured to have been a part of the World Youth Netball Championships draw. It was such an important occasion for netball, as well as for our country, and I will never forget being a part of it."



Flag bearers at the World Youth Netball Championships draw

Netball Scotland CEO, Maggie Murray, explains the lasting benefits of hosting WYNC 2013



From left: Maggie Murray, Archie Graham and Molly Rhone

How important is hosting the event to Netball Scotland?

The 2013 WYNC is only the second INF event we have ever hosted in Scotland – the last being the World Championships in 1987! Over 35 years later we have the first of two great opportunities to present a positive, modern profile for the sport to the wider sporting and commercial organisations in Scotland – the second being the Commonwealth Games in 2014. It is critically important to Netball Scotland that we make the most of both these events for the future growth and survival of our sport in Scotland.

The WYNC will deliver against our aspiration to bring netball back into the psyche of every woman who has ever played the game growing up because they loved it and it was such a big part of their lives. We think this event and the young athletes within it will help to inspire every young girl in Scotland to play netball and begin the journey to maybe someday play for their country.

What legacy plans do you have for Scotland and the UK as a result of hosting WYNC 2013?

We are already living the legacy – we have a very focused legacy plan, which concentrates on 'profile' for the sport of netball in Glasgow, Scotland and the UK. On the back of England's recent success in their tri-series versus Australia, the WYNC will build on the growing prominence of our sport within the UK. The event has provided a unique opportunity to recruit, train and develop a team of INF-qualified Bench Officials from all over Scotland, who will proudly take their place as an all-Scottish bench for the Championships and provide an

experienced workforce for netball in Scotland beyond the WYNC and the Commonwealth Games in 2014.

In Glasgow and Scotland we have embarked on a massive school engagement programme, which has trebled school membership for Netball Scotland and ignited interest in the sport the length and breadth of the country. Our legacy plans have drawn interest and increased investment from our government sponsors, sportscotland, who have committed to the appointment of Regional Development Managers who will support and improve the standards within clubs and increase participation.

What successes have you already achieved?

Our biggest success has been getting our athletes to this point where they and their volunteer coaching team have worked relentlessly to present a Scotland U21 squad who will represent their country with pride and passion. Win or lose they have our collective admiration and support.

We started from virtually nothing to achieve 25 qualified and experienced bench officials who will also perform to the highest quality at the WYNC, and although we failed to have a Scottish umpire included in the pool for the WYNC, our planning and efforts in this area will bear fruit in the longer-term, as we invest in Tracey Lamb as a new International Talent Identified (ITID) umpire in the UK.

Our other notable successes include the school engagement programme – the work of our talented marketing expert who as a netball fanatic has transformed how we look and embodies the spirit of young people achieving excellence in their sport.

I would add that it is a major success for Netball Scotland to get to this point where, as a small governing body with limited staff and resources, they have been able to sustain a service to their members and deliver a world event.

Who has supported you and how important has their involvement been?

The number one supporting organisation has been Glasgow Life (GL) and our number one supporter has been Councillor Archie Graham, Deputy Leader of Glasgow City Council. In 2010, Jamie Bridle from GL and Irene O'Brien from Netball Scotland prepared the successful bid to INF and subsequently GL have provided the resources and staff to make it real. The WYNC event would not be happening without them. UK Sport and Event Scotland were also critical support partners and without their funding and staff who populated the WYNC Board, we would not have a ship to steer.

Glasgow 2014 and sportscotland have been hugely supportive in their financial contribution to the training and development of match officials, and INF have been there every step of the way to advise and support via their Regional Technical Representative, Joan Mills.

Underpinning all of the above strategic and operational support has been the awesome contribution of volunteers from our own netball community in Scotland. Good people make good things happen and Mary Frances McNeill, a Board Director with Netball Scotland and Netball Development Officer with South Lanarkshire Council, has been a great leader, motivator and mentor to the extensive WYNC Netball Development Groups created to deliver the hard graft behind the strategic plans.

What would you advise anyone who is thinking about hosting this event in future?

Talk to us! Some of the best advice we received was from Kate Agnew (Netball New Zealand) who led on field of play for the last World Championships in Singapore, and some of the best information we received was from Cyrus Medora, the CEO of Singapore Netball and Teina Taulu and PJ Hockin in the Cook Islands, who hosted the WYNC before us – thanks to all of them we had a great starting point. One of the

legacy products we hope to produce in conjunction with GL is a good practice document for the next host country.

Make sure your governing body and your members know what you want from hosting a WYNC – there are a plethora of organisations involved and they all have their own aims, objectives and agendas to be met, which can be difficult if you are a smaller developing country and governing body. Get the best out of it by deciding who the main beneficiaries are – for us it was about profile and the growth, development and survival of netball in schools and clubs beyond the Championships. As soon as you are confirmed as the host country, request the priority support from INF to ensure you have home-grown umpires and bench officials for the event, otherwise you miss significant legacy and PR opportunities.

What lessons have you learned?

The INF flagship events are a great experience and promotional opportunity for any country. However, I would advise getting 'up in a helicopter' to assess if it is the right time to host it in the bigger picture for development of netball in your country. It was right for Scotland, and Glasgow in particular, to host it in 2013 ahead of the Commonwealth Games and to build an audience for 2014; it also strengthened our political and strategic arguments with stakeholders for increased funding and will be a massive PR opportunity for netball in Scotland and the UK. However, many support resources came too late to help with the excessive burden of delivering a World Championships and, at the same time, continue a viable credible service to members – there will be casualties but we have tried to ensure that none are human!

One of the sharpest lessons we have learned is that there is no practice run for an event of this size! Everything will be for the first time and in real time; this makes it a very fluid situation for all parties concerned. In these circumstances the people you look after most are the athletes (you must place athletes at the heart of everything you do), and, of course, your volunteers – look after them as they will still be there looking after netball when all other stakeholders will have moved on to another event or sport.

World Netball Championships leaves a lasting legacy in Singapore



For some, hosting the world championships of any sport is the pinnacle event on their sporting landscape. Often interest tapers-off thereafter, in terms of media coverage, funding and participation levels. Not so for Singapore, where the hugely-successful 2011 Mission Foods World Netball Championships left a lasting legacy, and where netball continues to grow and grow.

In 2011 the Mission Foods World Netball Championships drew more than 40,000 spectators to the Singapore Indoor Stadium over the eight days of the competition, and over 4,400 fans travelled to the tournament from overseas. Hosts Netball Singapore won accolades in the local events scene and also further afield. Netball Singapore has built excellent relationships with stakeholders and supporters, in particular Singapore Sports Council and Singapore Tourism Board, and the energy and exposure the tournament generated has led to a real and lasting enthusiasm for netball in the country.

More events are planned in the next few years as Jessica Tan, President of Netball Singapore, explains: "Showcasing the world's top netballers, and having the Singapore team competing against them, elevated the status of the sport here, and has certainly brought more interest from participants, spectators and sponsors. It has left a wonderful legacy for Netball Singapore to learn and progress from. Hosting the Asian Championships in 2014 is a perfect example of this legacy as we can re-engage with a wider audience and involve a range of people to assist on the event, using the skills they learned from 2011."

For women's sport, raising media interest can be a challenge, but the thrilling World Netball Championships was televised in 125 countries. Twelve broadcasters, nine of which were TV stations, took the feed for the event and aired it live – in Australia, New Zealand, Africa, Fiji, Jamaica and Singapore. ESPN, the host broadcaster, showed the competition in all 24 Asian countries in their satellite footprint. On each of the eight days of the event, they televised one live game, one delayed telecast of a game, and a half-an-hour wrap-up programme of the day's

highlights. On most days the matches were re-run the next morning. This coverage really helped to raise the profile of the sport across the whole Region.

MediaCorp and Star Sports telecasted the matches in Singapore, and it was also streamed live on the ESPN Player and SingaporeSports.sg website. Following on from the positive response it received from the media and viewers alike, Netball Singapore has worked with local broadcaster, MediaCorp to produce a package where the final day's matches of the Nations Cup, and a highlights programme covering the entire week's event, were shown on free-to-air TV across the country. Cable TV Channel, Super Sports Arena and www.SingaporeSports.tv, an online streaming sports site, will also broadcast the event.

"Showcasing the world's top netballers, and having the Singapore team competing against them, elevated the status of the sport here, and has certainly brought more interest from participants, spectators and sponsors."

Netball continues to have very high visibility in Singapore, and it is currently the most played team sport, male or female, in the annual inter-school competition, with 284 schools competing last year – an increase of 20% over 2010. Since 2006, Netball Singapore has staged the Nations Cup, which has grown from four competing teams to six. This not only benefits the netball scene in Singapore, but also provides an opportunity for the lower ranked netball countries to have more international exposure and opportunities. An exciting line-up of teams await for the 2013 event, which takes place from 1 to 7 December, and for the first time all netball Regions of the world will be represented.

The home fans love it, and it gives them the chance to see top-level netball on their doorstep year-in-year-out. As with the Championships, the event receives extensive media coverage in Singapore and the region, and participating nations' home media are also engaged through a proactive PR and media campaign each year.

On a local playing level, the Netball Super League pits six teams against each other over a gruelling 10-week period to determine the NSL Champion – who walks away with the winners' cheque of S\$10,000. To add a new element to the league, six international players are brought in each year and each join a team to compete in over round two, the



Singapore's Lin Qingyi

play-offs and the finals. This has given developing players from countries such as Fiji, Namibia, Papua New Guinea, Botswana and Tanzania the opportunity to live, train and play in a different environment, which enhances their play and offers a unique social experience for them too.

As a direct result of the World Championships, title sponsor Mission Foods saw the value of backing this vibrant and growing female team sport, and decided to re-invest – this time taking on a fun tournament, the annual Mission Foods Beach Netball Festival. Held in March on a popular beach on Singapore's Sentosa Island, 40 teams took part in the 2013 edition (U23, open and mixed). With cash prizes, goodie bags and fringe activities for everyone to enjoy, the participants spend the day playing a revised version of the game on the sand in a carnival-like atmosphere.

The new Singapore Sports Hub is due to open in April 2014, and will feature netball courts and host new events. But Netball Singapore understands that focus should not only lie with the players, and that all elements should be recognised to continue a successful and holistic approach to the sport. Following on from the success of the global coaching seminar held during the Championships, a host of coaching and umpiring courses are now run annually in Singapore and continue to receive high levels of interest. These two areas of the sport are crucial to its development in Singapore, and it is very encouraging to see two of the nation's umpires selected for the World Youth Netball Championships. Netball Singapore also welcomes Ruth Aitken as Technical Director and National Coach. Ruth brings with her a wealth of coaching experience, which the current support staff are relishing the chance to learn from.

The ball is still firmly in-play in Singapore and the pace of the game remains. Netball Singapore now looks towards hosting the Asian Championships in 2014 – and for only the second time, netball is also being proposed for inclusion in the South East Asian Games, which Singapore will host in June 2015. Aside from these major events, Netball Singapore continues to work across age groups and abilities, offering netball to all.

Netball Programme Wins World Health Organisation Award



'Kau Mai Tonga; Netipolo!' – 'Come on Tonga: Let's Play Netball!' – a programme that uses netball to increase physical activity amongst women and girls, has been recognised with a 'Best Practice' award by the World Health Organisation. 'Kau Mai Tonga; Netipolo' was nominated through the Healthy Islands Recognition Programme and the award was presented to the President of Tonga Netball Association, Reverend 'Ungatea Kata, and representatives from the Tongan Government in July, during the Tenth Pacific Health Ministers meeting in Apia, Samoa.

The Tongan initiative uses a mass media campaign to encourage women aged 15 to 45 to do 30 minutes of physical activity at least three days a week, and has seen 6,000 women and girls get involved in netball in the last 12 months. The aim of the scheme is to stop the harmful effects of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) such as diabetes, hypertension, heart diseases and cancer. Four of the five most common causes of mortality in Tonga are attributed to NCDs, and the country's obesity rates are among the highest in the world. This is especially problematic among women, with 75% being obese, compared to 56% of men.

Physical activity initiatives are one of the most cost-efficient and effective ways to tackle NCDs, but women in Tonga are more sedentary than men because of a range of factors, one of which is that sporting activities are often designed for and dominated by men. Recognising the scale and seriousness of the situation, the Australian Government's Australia Sport Outreach Program (ASOP), supports the Tongan Ministry of Health and Ministry of Internal Affairs, to join with the Tonga Netball Association (TNA) to deliver a campaign that was both innovative and cost-effective in a region where resources are tight.

Through ASOP, Netball Australia has been providing vital support in assisting the TNA to build local capacity to deliver netball programmes, including

the staffing and resourcing of the TNA office, establishing sound governance structures, developing and implementing coaching and umpiring frameworks, and increasing a range of participation opportunities.

Collaboration between the health and sport sectors has brought together a range of skills and networks to deliver a highly-targeted intervention in what is known as Strategic Health Communication (SHC). The SHC approach was used to develop a 'consumer-focused' programme that breaks down the barriers to women and girls participating in sport. Market research has been used to understand the perspective of the target audience, and identify opportunities and barriers to change.

The activities are guided by a four-stage 'Strategic Health Communication Planning Cycle' of planning, development, implementation and evaluation. The programme delivered its first campaign in June 2012 and will deliver one campaign phase every year over the three-year period to 2014. Each phase will involve an intense six-week media campaign and community activities. Every campaign will undertake all four steps, and evaluation data from each will inform the development of following campaigns.

Three approaches have been tested – 'health threat appeal', 'community appeal' and 'role model appeal'. A role model appeal, featuring Tongan-Australian international netballer Mo'onia Gerrard formed the basis for the Phase 1 'Call to Action', to raise awareness and get people involved.

An intensive six-week media campaign, using mass media and community-based materials, including TV and radio spots, posters and merchandise was followed with national netball tournaments and the establishment of village-level participation opportunities. Research had identified lack of equipment as a key barrier to participation, so to ensure that netball lives up to its billing as 'easy, exciting, enjoyable and everywhere' the

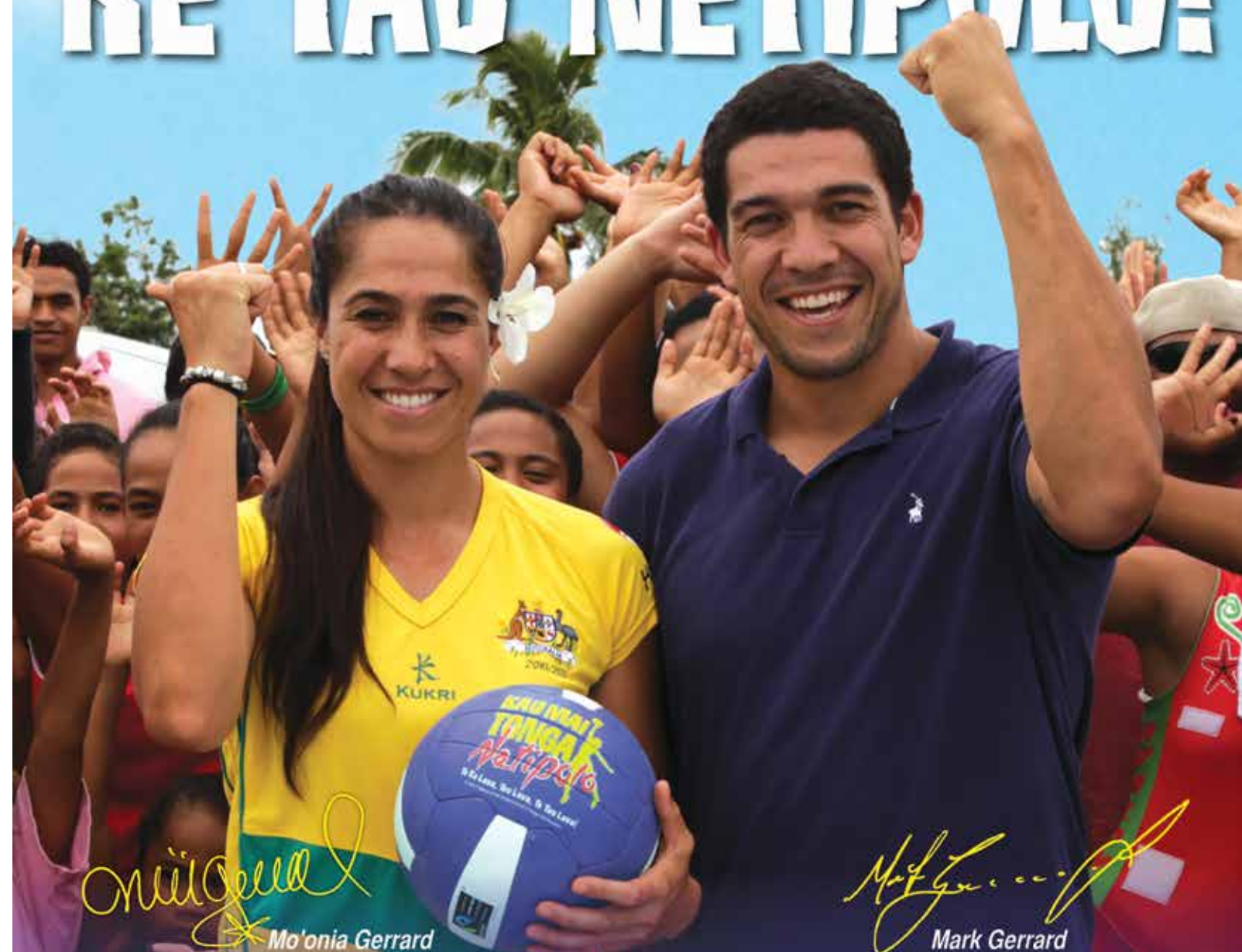
community outreach strategy included the provision of 200 netball 'toolkits', including bibs, whistles, goal posts, balls, drink bottles, rulebooks and the Rules of Netball DVDs.

Village-level participation ensures women can get more active more regularly, and encourages healthy behaviours and physical activity for all abilities. A lot of work has gone into building up the organisational capacity of the TNA, so that it can meet the demand created by the media campaign and provide opportunities for girls and women to play netball, and this will also contribute to the long-term ability of the programme to generate consistent participation levels for girls and women.

Evaluation is critical for continuous improvement and building evidence. ASOP Tonga evaluated changes to knowledge, attitudes and behaviours of the campaign's target group. Message recall was high – up to 90% – and a major finding was that those who had increased their physical activity in the last four months had a significantly higher recall of the campaign's messages. Research also found community-wide support for women, including married women, to become more active. Additionally many participants had made lifestyle changes since playing netball, including greater awareness of a healthy diet, drinking less alcohol, and smoking less.

Commenting on the programme, INF President, Molly Rhone, said: "'Kau Mai Tonga; Netipolo' is a really good example of the importance of global netball, and its positive effect on the lives of women and girls, and their communities. The links forged between the health and sports sectors, a bottom-up, rather than top-down approach – which really listens to the people the programme is aimed at – and international support from Netball Australia and the Australian Sports Outreach Program, is truly an example of best practice, and one that netball can be very proud of. I am delighted that this has been formally recognised by the World Health Organisation."

KAU MAI TONGA KE TAU NETIPOLO!



Mo'onia Gerrard

Mark Gerrard

"Ko e ki'i miniti pē 'e 30 'oku fiema'u ke ke fakamālohisino ai', tu'o 3 'i he uike ke ke mo'ui lelei..."

"Kau tangata, mou kau mai ke tau poupu'i e kau fafine' kenau fiti mo mo'ui lelei..."



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A Joint Initiative of the Governments of Tonga and Australia supported by the Tonga Netball Association



Te Ke Lava, Teu Lava, Te Tau Lava!

The Dragon is Soaring

Take a walk round Wales' capital city, Cardiff, and you can't fail to notice the abundance of the dragon symbol. The national flag 'Y Ddraig Goch' flies above the historic castle, and along the high street streams of flagpoles bearing the poised, red creature flank pedestrians.

Its silhouette is carved out of metal structures surrounding Millennium Stadium, and its menacing statue keeps guard atop the highest turret of City Hall, surveying the scene below. This fiery beast is a paradigm of the nation's biggest emotional characteristic: passion.

The passion in the politics of David Lloyd George, the passion in the poetry of Dylan Thomas, the passion in the rugby of Gareth Edwards, and the passion in the public's deep-rooted urge to cheer and support good Welsh sport. And good Welsh sport now has another contender fighting for its place in the spotlight – netball.

By harnessing talent, and importing foreign expertise, Welsh Netball or 'Pel Rwyd Cymru' in the native language, has taken giant strides in recent years. For many involved in the sport, the

whispers that the dragon is soaring are now rife.

PAST

Welsh Netball's Chief Executive, Mike Fatkin, has spent the last few years laying robust foundations, but admits it has been difficult getting WN to the position it's in now: "We were in a position where we were under-performing, both on and off court, and didn't have the confidence of our key funders or engagement with many of our stakeholders and members. We had an organisational structure that was heavily dependent on a handful of individuals. Performance-wise, the improvement has been amazing, and there has been an enormous amount of work in other areas as well."

Wales' current co-captain, Suzy Drane, is equally enthusiastic: "The structure that has been progressing over recent years is raising our game and our name, and the journey since my first involvement has proved exciting through many different experiences: highs, lows, team and personal."

A fresh determination and professionalism in performance was

injected in February 2010 when Welsh Netball employed a bold and ambitious New Zealander to steady the ship and take brave steps to changing attitudes. Melissa Hyndman, who had previously been Head Coach of Fiji, packed up her family and headed half way around the world to settle in Cardiff.

"We travelled from a summer in Auckland, to a very cold, windy, bleak train platform in Cardiff! The five of my seven children who had come to Wales thought I must have been joking, as we stood on that platform and waited to be met," laughs Hyndman. A crystal-clear brief had been given – to help the national team climb the world rankings, to achieve success with the Celtic Dragons Superleague team, and to develop a pathway for netball talent within Wales.

"Sitting in 19th place on the world rankings, lifting the national team seemed a daunting task, and the Celtic Dragons had had little success in Superleague, often winning only one game, but the fact that most of the players in the national team were also in the Celtic Dragons was helpful, as I didn't have to teach everything twice," explains Hyndman.



"It's been a great deal of excitement for me as High Performance Coach."

Melissa Hyndman



Passionate fans



Coach Melissa Hyndman

She adopted a holistic approach, to generate a culture very similar to the New Zealand family culture – one based on trust, communication and a caring attitude towards each other. The passion was already there, it just needed channelling in the right way.

PRESENT

After months of hard work making the players fitter, and fitter again, and building a professional attitude, it's fair to say that Hyndman's steady influence has begun to bear fruit. 2013 has been an astounding year.

Returning from a 3-0 series win in the Cook Islands in October 2012, the seniors took their fitness and momentum into Celtic Dragons' Superleague season, breaking records to make the grand final for the first time in their history. Wales then went on to lift the trophy at the European Open Championships in Aberdeen, for the first time in 12 years.

The U17s took silver in Malta, and the U21s took silver in Cardiff at their respective European competitions, with the U21s looking in great shape to compete hard at the World Youth Championships in Glasgow.

"It's been a great deal of excitement for me as High Performance Coach," said Hyndman, who has cemented her passion in Welsh sport, signing with WN for another four years. Through bucket loads of determination and dedication, the national team are now 8th in the world, the highest ever since records began.

Rallying the teams has been the 'green army' of stalwart fans and families. They wore green tops and wigs, banged drums, shook maracas and blew whistles, cheering the Celtic Dragons all the way to the final whistle of the Superleague grand final, their passion infectious. In the stands at matches and on social media, 'I believe' was resonating, and true Welsh passion was unleashed to fantastic effect.

WN's success has opened crucial doors for media attention and recognition for development projects, most recently a new initiative called Trinet, for primary school pupils. The aim is to encourage children to learn fundamental netball and social skills, with an emphasis on discovery as they take responsibility for their own learning through coaching and officiating.

Also introduced this year has been a forum initiative to involve local communities in making decisions about grassroots netball, and the plan has taken off in many areas of the country.

A new talent pathway structure is also up-and-running, in the form of Development and High Performance Hubs, geographically spread out across Wales. "Our Hub pathway fosters, supports and nurtures the development of our players, coaches, managers and umpires to 'Be The Best They Can Be,'" explains Hyndman. "These talent Hubs are growing, and will, in the future, create a wealth of talent for our age group teams and senior squads."

FUTURE

From September, the administrative team members will be working within a framework called 'Netball60' – that is how the sport will look in Wales over the next 60 months. If the progress made over the last few years is anything to go by, Welsh Netball looks to be in good hands.

Words: Harriet Millard
Pictures: Planet Netball

ARGENTINA

Gets South American Netball Rolling

Netball is established and thriving in Latin America thanks to the extraordinary efforts of a handful of women in Argentina, who were determined to have a women's team sport they could play with other countries. They sought out netball, learning as much as possible about this 'new' sport. Here is the story of their journey and the amazing success they have achieved, despite political and economical challenges within their country, and how linking with the global netball community has strengthened their game.

In 2004, netball was unknown in Argentina, although the country did have its own women's team sport, called cestoball, which was established in 1986, and is based on a traditional game called pelota al cesto (ball to basket). At the time Mabel Roca was Cestoball Coordinator for the Argentinian Hebrew Society Club. Mabel found herself appointed coach of the national junior team due to attend the Maccabiah Games – the world's biggest Jewish sports event, held every four years in Israel. However, because cestoball didn't exist in other countries, Coach Roca had to introduce her players to netball, a totally new and unknown discipline in Argentina.

Mabel collected as much information as she could find about netball, to prepare the team in the best possible way to enter the Maccabiah Games. In the end, political conflicts in the Gaza Strip meant the Argentinian team couldn't travel to the event, but Mabel Roca had become very interested in this new women's sport option. She asked her Assistant Coach, Noelia Peñer Grafman,

who had been a first division cestoball player and had a high level of English and knowledge of computing, to use the internet to gather more information about netball around the world.

That is how they made their first contact with Ann Steel and Carole Hokrein from the USA, who encouraged them to start this new sport – with its opportunity for international exposure for Argentinian women players. Soon, Adriana Oria, a player and experienced coach who was working as Cestoball Coordinator in Velez Sarsfield Athletic Club, and Adrian Malnatti and Claudia Lagos, who brought their experience in voluntary work from the same institution, joined the project. It took some time to organise and plan this new challenge, but they had the strong conviction that it was necessary to start a new stage in sports for women in Argentina.

In 2005, Mabel and Adriana travelled to Miami to attend the World Youth Netball Championships, bringing with them the first draft of the netball rule book in Spanish. There they met and received the support of International Netball Federation (INF) President, Molly Rhone. At the same time, Noelia travelled to Israel for the Maccabiah Games, to establish contact with the netball community there. Participation in these international events gave the Argentinian netball enthusiasts the opportunity to understand the situation of netball worldwide – the game, its organisation and people. All this galvanised their efforts to establish netball in Argentina, and work started, with the limited resources available to the new Federation.



The translation of the rule book into Spanish was finished by Graciela Dondi, who also joined the team as a member of the Board. This rule book was later accepted by INF as the official Spanish version. In due course, the Federation got the support of several different state institutions, including the National Sports Secretary, the Sports Secretary of the City of Buenos Aires, and the Argentinian Confederation of Sports. Finally, it became a member of the Argentinian Olympic Committee.

Since 2007, the development of netball in Argentina has been strengthened by the visits of foreign teams, especially from South Africa, and this exchange not only improved the Argentinians' knowledge of the game, but also helped them to get more schools and clubs to play netball, attracted by the benefits of cultural exchanges. The first visit of the Stellenbosch team, with their coach Sandra Du Plessis – who gave valuable training tips – and the visit of Mona Alleyne in 2009 – who gave umpiring workshops – were a big boost to netball in Argentina. With the help of Netball Singapore and the INF, Argentina netball player Lucila Malnatti travelled to Singapore to take part in the High Performance Seminar given by Jill McIntosh during the 2011 World Championships.



Argentinian team in light blue bibs after a match with a South African school



PE teachers at a coaching workshop



Argentinian team in an international match



Student PE teachers play a South African school

The first netball teams participated in the City of Buenos Aires Cup competition in 2011 and 2012. The 2013 competition will be underway soon, and each tournament sees the participation of more schools. Adriana Oria, in charge of Coach Development, and Mabel Roca, President of the Federation and delegate in the COA (Argentinian Olympic Committee), have given more than 30 workshops for physical education teachers, so that they can teach netball in their secondary schools. In 2011 the Argentinian Netball Federation received an INF Net Effect grant, in order to start netball in three Argentinian provinces – Mar del Plata, Córdoba and Mendoza – and in two Spanish-speaking neighbouring countries, Uruguay and Paraguay.

2013 has seen the Argentinian Netball Federation starting to work with girls and boys in different clubs and primary schools and also introducing netball in physical education teachers' training institutions and universities. The Federation is proud of its new web page at www.netball.org.ar and grateful to webmaster Brian Biloni, as well as Matias Crivolotti for their first website. Netball around the world grows and grows because of the volunteers who dedicate so much time and energy to the sport. This is particularly so

"We started out on the road for netball in Argentina because we believe in its values."

where a new sport is being established in a completely new territory. The Argentinian Netball Federation is fortunate and grateful to have the support of the staff from INF, Octavia Gibson from AFNA, Marcela and Maria Victoria Savorido from Australia who help coaching the national team every time they are in Buenos Aires, nutritionist Melanie Biloni who was the first representative to attend the Argentinian Olympic Academy to which coach and player Martina Kreiman has been appointed this year, Alfredo Simondegui who generously donated the first pair of goalposts and players' parents, family and friends who believe in this project.

If the story of netball putting down new roots in Argentina, and indeed the rest of South America, is an inspiring one, then the last words are best left to the Federation: "In spite of all the economical and political conflicts in our country, and the language and cultural differences – which we consider enriching rather than obstacles – we dream of taking netball to the ODESUR Games, the Pan American Games and,

some day, with the whole netball family, we hope to enter the Olympic Games. We started out on the road for netball in Argentina because we believe in its values, we entered the court in 2005, and with the first whistle of the match we started playing and although it is hard work, we are doing it hoping to be able to play soon with the rest of the world."



Netball Argentina members with President Mabel Roca (third left)

Inspirational Star Among Africa's First Coach Tutors



Malawi's international netball legend, Mary Waya, recently attended and completed Phase 3 of the Africa Coaching & Officiating Framework (ACOF) pilot to become an accredited Coach Tutor. The training and certificate presentation took place in Mary's home town of Blantyre in Malawi.

Mary, who started playing netball at the age of 14, represented her country in over 200 matches, including two World Netball Championships, three Commonwealth Games and two World Netball Series. In 2010 she was chosen as flag bearer for the Malawi team at the Commonwealth Games in Delhi. A formidable force for netball, both on and off the court, Mary has turned her attention to coaching since she retired from international netball in 2011 – in 2012 she coached Tanzania to win their first netball trophy at the Nations Cup 2012 in Singapore.

Receiving their African Level 1 Coach Tutor awards alongside Mary Waya were Uganda's Fred Mugerwa, Connis Mhone, also from Malawi, and Nhlanhla Dlamini from Swaziland.

The trainees were put through some rigorous learning sessions in Blantyre to prepare for their test. The coaching course was led by International Netball Federation (INF) Trainer and Coaching Advisory Panel Member, Anita Navin. Anita, who has been involved in the development of the award since it was launched at Phase 1, was impressed by the attitude of the coaches on the course, and excited about the difference they will make to African netball in the long term: "The progression from coach to tutor is not easy and I am incredibly proud to witness the development of all the individuals on this programme. Their passion and desire to make a difference is evident and their professional approach to leading sessions is second to none. The development of future coaches in Africa is in safe hands with these newly-appointed tutors."

Margaret Deighan, from England, led the ACOF officiating component – the Umpire Presenters and Tester training. The course content demonstrated how the tutors could teach the knowledge and skills needed for those wishing to take the Africa Umpiring C Award. It also covered how the content could be delivered using different methods to cater for different learning styles. Margaret was also impressed, telling Netball World: "I was really proud of how each tutor incorporated elements they had learnt into their individual tutoring session."

The ACOF pilot is a long-term project that could not have taken place without the vital support of UK Sport. In April 2013, UK Sport renewed its partnership with the INF to help develop netball in Africa, increasing the number of girls and women participating from grassroots to elite levels, and to raise global standards in the key areas of governance, administration, coaching and officiating. The new four-year partnership will support the role of the Africa Regional Development Manager, Joan Smit, to increase awareness, advocate and promote netball across the region, as well as complementing and supporting a number of UK Sport partnership programmes delivered in the region.



Mary Waya shoots for Malawi



Pictured from left: Fred Mugerwa, Mary Waya, Anita Navin, Connis Mhone and Nhlanhla Dlamini

The trainees learnt which umpiring competencies to look for when testing umpires for the ACOF Africa Umpiring C Award, as well as learning observational, analytical and feedback skills. Many congratulations to those who became ACOF accredited umpire tutors and testers: Kgomotso Mtokufa from Botswana; Whyte Mulilima from Malawi; Mduduzi Simelane from Swaziland; Naomi Melody Garikai from Zimbabwe; Davies Sichonga from Zambia; Emsie Esterhuizen from Namibia and Nassanga Zubbedu from Uganda.

In conjunction with the ACOF sessions, the Africa Netball Championships also took place in Malawi in Blantyre from 23 to 28 June 2013. The event was widely supported by the Malawi Government and Sports Council, with the Minister for Youth and Sports, Honourable Enock Chihana, in attendance for both the

Effective governance, leadership and administration are recognised as key to the development of effective national netball associations.

opening and closing games. The level of performance is rising steadily, and spectators were standing on roofs and hanging from netting to get a good view of the most competitive Africa Netball Championships ever. The final between South Africa and the hosts Malawi went into extra-time, with South Africa clinching the title in a 54-52 victory, despite the huge local support for the Malawi Queens. With both the ANOCA

Youth Games, where netball forms part of the programme, and the Africa Netball Championships being held in Botswana in 2014, plans are already underway to ensure that future events continue to build on the drama and excitement of the 2013 event in Malawi.

Education delivered around major competitions ensures a long-term legacy for each event. In keeping with the INF objective of putting people first and setting global workforce standards, classroom training was also provided for the local bench officials, followed by mentored support alongside the matches.

Effective governance, leadership and administration are recognised as key to the development of effective national netball associations. Africa Netball has prioritised this area of work and the INF, through INF Coaching Advisory Panel Member, Liz Broomhead, and INF Africa Regional Development Manager, Joan Smit, worked with Africa Netball to present a Governance and Administration workshop at the Africa Netball AGM in June. Members were encouraged to examine existing progress since Africa Netball was formed in 2009 and discover what could be done to build on this strong foundation and take things further forward for netball in Africa. Africa Netball, supported by the INF and UK Sport, is clearly on the right road to inspiring more girls and women to take part in netball, and helping to equip inspirational leaders of the future.



Quality Coaching Worldwide

Coaches are crucial for sport at all levels – on the school pitch, in the local club or for a major international team. They are the people who motivate, encourage, inspire and teach. As reflected in our earlier article on Welsh Netball, improved high-performance coaching can make all the difference, not just to a team but also to a Region, and ultimately it helps to develop and grow the sport as international competition is refreshed and remains exciting and vibrant. It is therefore not surprising that the International Netball Federation (INF) strategic plan – Game Plan 2012-2016 – identifies supporting and developing quality coaching as one of its main aims. But what has the INF been doing over the last year to achieve this aim?

The INF Coaching Advisory Panel (CAP), which works in a voluntary capacity, has continued to develop improved coaching resources for INF Members. As mentioned in the last edition of Netball World, INF Coaching Cards were developed in partnership with Gilbert. These were widely distributed and were so popular that a further print run has been requested. CAP has also been putting the final touches to the INF Intermediate Coaching Manual, which will be ready for launch in November this year.

In line with the long-term aim of the INF to provide learning opportunities for its Members around the time of INF Congress and INF Events, a Coaching and Officiating Seminar will take place in Glasgow alongside the World Youth Championships, with the support and assistance of Netball Scotland and Glasgow Life.

Sessions in Glasgow will be led by members of CAP, MAP (Match Officials Advisory Panel) and RAP (Rules Advisory Panel), along with suitably-qualified coaches from the UK. The seminar is aimed at the development of foundation level coaches and umpires, and the INF envisages that delegates will take newly-acquired skills and information back to their countries for distribution, following a train-the-trainer model.

As part of its endeavour to develop globally-recognised standards, the INF is running a specific programme in Africa - the Africa Coaching and Officiating Framework (ACOF) - which seeks to establish a basis on which African Members can establish and monitor standards across the Region. This long-term project, which is supported by UK Sport, has just recently completed its pilot, which was a three-phase training programme. The pilot involved INF staff and MAP and CAP volunteers travelling to Africa to successfully up-skill local coaches and umpires from six Member countries to become accredited trainers and testers.

Both the Coaching and Officiating Seminar and ACOF are examples of the INF's collaborative approach. Since the introduction of the Panels in 2008, the INF has encouraged integrated working between these groups and with the Secretariat. This further enriches the sport as it ensures a joined up approach to strategic decisions. As an example, CAP and MAP were consulted when RAP was updating and revising the new Fast5 rules. The INF remains committed to sharing international knowledge and expertise worldwide and to providing ongoing learning and development opportunities. Planning has already commenced for the next Coaching and Officiating Seminar in Australia around the World Netball Championships 2015, so watch this space.

Officiating Update

In March 2013, with funding and support from Mission Foods, the INF held a seminar in Los Angeles for the umpiring International Testing Panel (ITP). It was the first time the group of testers from around the world had been brought together and discussions focussed on ensuring consistency of umpiring standards internationally.

With the amount of international netball being played increasing each year, the INF has identified the training and up-skilling of international umpires as a key priority. It is heartening to report some success with four umpires having achieved their International Umpire Award (IUA) since January 2013: Jemma Carlton from Australia, Ian Fuller from England, Yvonne Morgan from New Zealand and Marie-Louw Van Der Merwe from South Africa. Congratulations to all of them and wishing them a happy and rewarding international umpiring career.

INF Leading Safeguarding Children and Young People

Following attendance at last year's successful International Safeguarding workshop coordinated by UNICEF during the Beyond Sport Summit, the INF has been invited as one of two international federations to advise the newly-formed Safeguarding in Sport Working Group. During the workshop, a set of 11 draft Safeguarding Standards were developed, with the input of more than 30 sporting organisations and INF is now starting to pilot these Standards.

Working alongside UK Sport, Sport Accord, International Sailing Federation and the Australian Sports Commission, the INF will take part in research which will then produce guidance for other international sports organisations to integrate Safeguarding as part of their ongoing practice. This important work fits in with INF core values of Nurturing, Accountability and Leadership as set out in INF Strategy 2012- 2016. INF hopes

this work will increase global awareness and set higher standards for how all sport, not just netball, is played and managed in the future.

It is time that we all take responsibility for safeguarding and protecting children in our sport and the INF is kicking off this process at World Youth Netball Championships 2013 in Glasgow with a 'Play it Safe' Seminar as part of the Safeguarding Netball project. INF Members will discuss what Safeguarding means to them, share current practice and agree the way forward to integrate safeguarding and wellbeing throughout the sport.

The process, which is being led by INF Global Development Manager, Sarah Pickford, is in conjunction with the INF Regional Federations and key partners, including UNICEF, UK Sport and Children 1ST.

Netball Placements in Zambia

The IDEALS Zambia Netball programme aims to support the Netball Association of Zambia (NAZ) to develop a sound organisational infrastructure of netball in Zambia. Working in partnership, this will be achieved by developing strategic and operational plans, creating coach, official and administrator pathways.

We are looking for a UK based volunteer, with a sports development background, for a 3 to 6 week placement during 2014 to be based in Lusaka, Zambia to work with the NAZ and other partners to support the development of their netball systems. There are three placements to go each year (between April and October). Flights, accommodation and stipend to cover costs are provided. A UK induction will provide you with a pre-flight briefing on all practicalities.

For further information, call Priya Samuel: 020 7211 5116.

A full job description can be found on the INF website (www.netball.org)



Why Governance Means Everything

Urvashi Naidoo, Chief Executive Officer, International Netball Federation



Over the past decade, an accumulation of sporting scandals including corruption, doping, match fixing and other fraudulent behaviour, has grown so intensely that the credibility of sport and its organisations was shaken, threatening public trust. Governance for sports has been at the forefront in the news, and although netball has not been directly touched by this, the world's leading women's team sport has to take informed and measured steps to ensure provision is made to handle any of these issues should they arise. 'Effective Governance and Administration' is one of the five pillars that underpins INF long-term strategy, but what does the phrase actually mean?

Whilst there is no absolute definition of the concept of 'good governance', in 2008 the International Olympic Committee (IOC) introduced Basic Universal Principles of Good Governance of the Olympic and Sports Movement. This document establishes some principles that should be implemented and then respected in

daily operations. Much of it is common sense that can easily be applied to Olympic and non-Olympic sports alike. As an IOC recognised sport, and one with increasing global influence, it is crucial to ensure netball is setting and enforcing high standards, and that the governing body is setting a good example for its Regions and Members.

The INF encourages Members to put in place improved and effective structures that will help to steer netball to achieve its long-term objectives and its vision to be the leading vibrant global women's team sport, whilst understanding that each Member is unique, and subject to its own legal and operational environment. At the forthcoming Congress we will reveal a complete overhaul of our Regulations and Policies. This is the culmination of nearly 18 months of hard work. A complete governance and corporate structure review has been carried out, extensive legal advice obtained, and several new provisions have been made. In particular, a Code of Conduct, Code of Ethics, and Anti Corruption Regulations are introduced for the first

time. These policies and practices, which are based on the principles of accountability, transparency and good communications, establish the INF as a leader in international sports governing bodies, and provide a really firm foundation for the governance of global netball.

We have also worked hard over the past five years to ensure that the INF is compliant with the World Anti Doping Agency (WADA) Code. Benefiting from our excellent relationship with WADA, we have managed to keep the costs of our anti doping programme to a minimum – but also strengthened and updated our anti doping policy to ensure there is zero tolerance to drug cheating. A clean, well run, well governed sport is what netballers deserve, and what the INF is here to provide. The INF, and especially the staff at the Secretariat, work to gain the confidence of the international netball family and better serve the Members – please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like help with governance, anti doping or any other area of strategic development.



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www.fast5netball.com



Following August's World Youth Championships, the next big international netball event is the **Fast5 World Series** in November. For spectators, it offers top-class netball in scintillating bite-sized pieces. And for the players, the event has a growing reputation for launching new talent onto the world stage.

The name **Fast5** reflects the innovative netball rule changes – the wing positions in the traditional seven-a-side game are missing from **Fast5** sides and the shooting circle is separated into three scoring zones. This gives shooters the chance to score one, two or three points, depending on where they are in the modified shooting zone.

Fast5 favours players who are able to be creative and adapt their game to suit the special rules. It has also been used by many of the competing nations as an opportunity to test the mettle of some of their up-and-coming stars.

Fast5 Fern Kayla Cullen first played in the World Netball Series as an 18 year old in 2010, and has gone on to be a firm fixture in the New Zealand Silver Ferns. Kayla says the event certainly lives up to its name, describing it as the toughest physical challenge she has ever taken on: "I didn't realise how having two fewer players can have a huge effect on the team and how the game is played. I came out of the **Fast5** maybe a level and a half fitter than ever before."

Another player contesting this summer's World Youth Championships after a successful showing for her country's **Fast5** team is Kate Shimmin. 21 year old Kate is a rising star in Australia, and Fast5 gave her netball career a boost last year. The defender impressed the crowds at the World Series with her anticipation and elevation. Since then, Kate has gone on to win the ANZ Championship with the Adelaide Thunderbirds, and been honoured with the vice-captaincy of the Australian World Youth Championships team.

Once the trophy has been awarded in Glasgow, all attention will shift to Auckland, and many of the U21 players will be aiming to take the next step in their careers at the World Netball Series. The International Netball Federation will also be shifting their focus to their second major event of the year. Whilst both events will be similarly competitive, **Fast5** is all about doing things a little differently – expect netball in the fast lane, and a crowd passionate about supporting their teams and enjoying the carnival atmosphere.

Kayla Cullen in action at the 2012 Netball World Series

RULE CHANGE

For this year's World Series, the International Netball Federation has announced a rule change to reduce delays and prevent time wasting by teams in possession. Umpires can now penalise teams if they do not believe that they are progressing play towards goal.



INF Events Calendar 2013-2016

Dates correct at the time of going to press.

2013

- Aug 20-23 INF Board Meeting, Scotland
- Aug 21-22 Congress, Scotland
- Aug 22-31 World Youth Netball Championships, Scotland
- Sept 15-19 Silver Ferns v Australia Diamonds, New Zealand
- Sept 22-27 England v South Africa, England
- Oct 4-13 Australia Diamonds v Silver Ferns, Australia/NZ
- Oct 16-19 Australia Diamonds v Malawi, Australia
- Oct 24-31 Silver Ferns v Malawi, New Zealand
- Nov 2,4 Fiji v Malawi, Fiji
- Nov 6-7 tbc INF Board Meeting, New Zealand
- Nov 8-10 Fast5 Netball World Series, New Zealand
- Dec 1-7 Nations Cup, Singapore

2014

- Mar 7-9 Netball Europe Championships – U17, England
- Apr 25-27 Netball Europe Championships – U19, Northern Ireland
- May 30-Jun 1 Netball Europe Championships – Open, Wales
- Jun tbc Netball Europe AGM & Council & Festival, Wales

- Jul 23-Aug 3 Commonwealth Games, Scotland
- Sept 7-14 tbc Asian Netball Championships, Singapore
- Nov tbc Fast5 Netball World Series
- Tbc tbc AFNA Senior Championships & AGM, Canada
- 2015**
- Mar 6-8 Netball Europe Championships – U17, Switzerland
- Apr 24-26 Netball Europe Championships – U19, Scotland
- May 22-24 Netball Europe Championships – Open, Northern Ireland
- Jun tbc Netball Europe AGM & Council, Wales
- Jul tbc Asian Youth Championships
- Aug 9-16 World Netball Championships, Australia
- Nov tbc Fast5 Netball World Series
- Dec tbc 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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Netball Congratulates...



Monica Thandi, Netball Development Trust

Congratulations to Monica Thandi, founder of the Netball Development Trust, who scooped the 2013 Asian Woman of Achievement Award for Sport at the recent Asian Women of Achievement Awards held in London. Monica's award was in recognition of her efforts to utilise the Trust's netball coaching programme and reach girls and boys who are located in some of the least developed regions of Uganda and India.

Monica founded the Netball Development Trust in 2010. During this time, she has reached over 35 schools and 3,500 girls and boys on five tours to Uganda and India with a volunteer coach-driven programme, offering boys and girls the chance to play, compete and win together.

Monica said: "It's great to receive public recognition for what I am passionate about and enjoy doing most – netball and working with children. But more importantly it recognises that our programme is making a difference to children and young people, and using netball as the tool to do that. Sport is fun and has the ability to reach out to children. Play keeps them engaged, so

it is the perfect learning environment to teach other life skills and impart knowledge.

"The award is dedicated to every girl and boy who has been part of the NDT grassroots programme over the last three years, and all the in-country young leaders, teachers and volunteers in the UK and abroad, who have participated and continue to work with us. This award is truly an honour for me and definitely encourages me to do more."

Commonwealth Games 2014 Team News

Congratulations to the teams successful in securing their place at the Commonwealth Games 2014 in Glasgow, Scotland

New Zealand
Australia
England
Jamaica
Malawi
South Africa
Wales
Trinidad and Tobago
Barbados
Northern Ireland
St Lucia
Scotland (host nation)

Three reserve teams have been identified, should a position in the competition become available:

Samoa
Cook Islands
Tanzania

Places were determined by the INF World Rankings on 1 July 2013.



Monica Thandi outside 10 Downing Street

Molly Rhone, International Netball Federation President



Netball has gained a key role in ARISF, the Association of IOC Recognised International Sports Federations, following the

election of INF President Molly Rhone to the ARISF board. ARISF is made up of 33 international sports federations, each recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) as the world governing body for their respective sport. Collectively they represent millions of sports practitioners and fans throughout the world.

Molly Rhone is the only woman on the Board and is looking forward to the challenge of engaging more closely with

the IOC and promoting sports, such as netball, that have a massive global following, but are not yet represented at the Olympic Games. She says: "A place on the ARISF Board gives me the opportunity to lobby for netball, for women in sport, and for the sports that do not currently benefit from Olympic exposure, but are doing so much positive work around the world. I am extremely proud of netball, of netballers, and the great worldwide army of volunteers that make our sport so successful. I am looking forward to working with my colleagues from other IOC recognised sports and sharing our experience and passion."

To find out more about ARISF, visit www.arisf.org

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