

# International Netball Federations Announces Winner of Once in A Lifetime Trip to Cape Town

International Netball Federation (INF) has announced the winner of its Creating Choices competition. Claire Martin, from Marlborough, New Zealand has won a package for two to the Netball World Cup 2023 in Cape Town, South Africa including return flights, four-star hotel accommodation and two tickets for the duration of the competition.

The competition opened on the eve of the Vitality Netball World Cup 2019 as part of the launch of INF's charitable campaign, Creating Choices, which took place at the iconic Liver Building in Liverpool, England. The launch was hosted by former International Netballer, Sharni Layton, and sports personality, Caroline Barker. INF Members and the press were also present.

The campaign aims to start a social movement to bring together netballers from all over the world to help raise funds and resources for grassroots netball. Financial contributions donated to the campaign will go towards developing grass-roots netball by helping to put a netball in the hands of young women and girls in disadvantaged or developing communities. Creating Choice's ambition for the future of netball is a continued commitment to empowerment, through choices, opportunities, connections and communities.



The winner was chosen for her motivational response to the tie-breaker which captured the essence of the Creating Choices campaign: "I choose netball because it has given me the confidence to take challenges head on and grab rare opportunities."

Winner of the competition, Claire Martin, spoke to INF commenting: "My initial reaction to the congratulatory email was disbelief and scepticism but when an INF representative confirmed I was the winner, I was in complete shock and it's taken a while to process the fact I've won such an incredible prize. The first person I called was my Mother; the who, how and why to my love of netball and the one that will be joining me on this experience of a lifetime."

Claire adds, "Netball has brought me so many opportunities, the greatest of those being lifelong friendships and providing a sense of belonging. Creating Choices is working towards connecting our global community to provide funds and resources for grassroots netball and entering this competition was a bonus of donating to a cause that represents my values and interests. I can't wait for Cape Town 2023."

Sue Taylor AM, INF Vice President and lead of the INF's charity working group adds: "Creating Choices harnesses the power of passionate, committed, and inspired individuals, coming together to make life better for themselves and



others. Since July 2019, our online community is helping to build a global village of women and girls who are empowered, passionate collaborators, determined to make a difference to the sport they love. I'd like to congratulate Claire Martin on winning the competition and for contributing to the campaign and joining the movement by sharing how netball has changed her life. Creating Choices is all about creating opportunities and this competition has just done that. I'd also like to thank all of those who entered, your support and commitment to the sport has not gone unnoticed."

Netball South Africa was announced as host for the 16th staging of the Netball World Cup in 2023. The tournament will be held in the International Convention Centre in the heart of Cape Town, widely renowned for its international reputation in hosting sports and other major events. The Netball World Cup 2023 is the first time the Netball World Cup will be held on the African continent and shows the development of netball across Africa and around the world. Following Africa's success at the Vitality Netball World Cup 2019, the World Cup in 2023 is set to be a celebration of the game, culture and development of the sport in recent years.

To ensure you don't miss out on news regarding INF and Netball World Cup Cape Town 2023, subscribe to INF's newsletter by visiting <a href="https://www.netball.sport/subscribe">www.netball.sport/subscribe</a>

To donate to Creating Choices head to <a href="https://www.creatingchoices.org">www.creatingchoices.org</a>



#### **Ends**

# Image:



## **Image Caption:**

Creating Choices competition winner, Claire Martin pictured on a Zoom interview with netball legend, Irene Van Dyk.

Watch the full interview on INF's YouTube channel.

#### **Notes to Editors:**

## **International Netball Federation**

Over 20 million people play netball around the world, in more than 80 countries. The International Netball Federation (INF) is the sole, internationally recognised, governing body for netball, affiliated to GAISF, the International World Games Association and the Association of Recognised International Sports Federations (ARISF), receiving funding from the International Olympic Committee. Currently, 75 National Netball Associations are affiliated to the INF, grouped into five Regions - Africa, Asia, Americas, Europe and Oceania - each with a respective Regional Federation.

## **Netball World Cup**



The Netball World Cup (NWC), previously known as the World Netball Championships, brings together the world's top teams and represents netball's flagship event. The event is showcased around the world through a range of broadcast partners introducing Netball to a whole new audience. In 2019 the event was held in Liverpool, England hosted by England Netball supported by UK Sport from the 12th – 21st July. Netball South Africa were announced hosts of the 16th staging of the Netball World Cup in 2023. The event will take place in Cape Town, South Africa.

# **Creating Choices**

Creating Choices was launched in 2019 by the International Netball Federation in order to raise funds for grass roots netball and change lives of women and girls around the world. Funds raised from Creating Choices will be used to promote and delivery key existing International Netball Federation Programs.