

EMBARGOED UNTIL SATURDAY 17TH JUNE 2:00AM BST

World Netball President Liz Nicholl CBE becomes a Dame in King's Honours List 2023.

World Netball President Liz Nicholl CBE has today become a Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire (DBE) following the publication of the King's Honours list, in recognition of her services to Netball and sport in general.

The ex-Wales international netballer became World Netball President in 2019, within days of retiring from a full-time career in sport. She has been at the forefront of national and international sport since 1980 when she appointed as the first CEO of England Netball, a role she held for more than 15-years.

During Nicholl's time at England Netball, she supported the inclusion of netball in the Commonwealth Games for the first time in 1998, oversaw the integration of the Schools Netball Association, set up the National Youth Development Programme and was Championship Director of the 1995 World Cup held in Birmingham, to name just a few of her achievements.

Nicholl became Director of Elite Sport at UK Sport in 1999, progressing to Chief Operating Officer and then Chief Executive Officer at the same organisation from 2010 to 2019.

During Nicholl's time at UK Sport, she led the development of the support structures that enabled the Olympic and Paralympic Great Britain teams to achieve extraordinary success at successive Games with both teams finishing 2nd in their

respective medal tables in Rio 2016.

Speaking on her latest honour, Nicholl said: “I feel overwhelmed to have been named a Dame in the Kings 2023 honours list.

“It has been a real privilege to serve in various roles in sport over the last 40 plus years, working alongside really talented colleagues, and I take huge delight in seeing the recent significant growth in opportunities for women and girls to enjoy participating in sport, both in the UK and internationally.

“I always wanted to work in sport and have been offered leadership opportunities that seemed beyond my reach, but have loved the challenge and joy of working alongside so many hugely committed professionals and volunteers providing sporting opportunities for others to achieve.

“I feel incredibly privileged to have now been awarded the honour of becoming a Dame.

“Thank you to everyone who has supported me throughout my career - my family, my colleagues and my friends.”

As well as being President of World Netball, Nicholl also currently chairs the new World Netball Foundation.

World Netball CEO, Clare Briegal, congratulated Nicholl on her latest honour saying: “On behalf of everyone at World Netball, and the wider Netball Family I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our President, Liz Nicholl on her latest, undoubtably deserved, honour.

“Since joining World Netball as President in 2019 she has taken our sport to new heights, most notably leading the launch and implementation of the World Netball

strategic plan in 2021.

“Thank you, Liz, for your continued services to Netball.”

To find out more about Liz Nicholl DBE and her career, you can listen to our podcast with her [here](#).

ENDS

Image:



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Notes to Editors:

World Netball

World Netball 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.

World Netball creates a better world through netball, inspiring netballers to embrace opportunities and achieve their potential. Netball is played in more than 100 countries around the world with 79 National Netball Associations affiliated to World Netball. The associations are grouped into five Regions – Africa Netball, Americas Netball, Asia Netball, Europe Netball and Oceania Netball – each with a respective Regional Federation. Regional Federations are an integral part of the global governance structure and assist in the implementation of World Netball policies and the development of the sport in their

respective regions.

Liz Nicholl DBE

Liz Nicholl was previously awarded an MBE for Services to Netball in 2000, OBE for Services to Sport in 2006, and a CBE for Services to Sport in 2015.

Nicholl has received many awards throughout her illustrious career, including winning the Sports Journalists Award for Services to Sport in 2016, British Sports Industry Lifetime Achievement Award in 2019 and the Sport and Recreation Alliances Arthur Bell Trophy in 2021.

World Netball's Congress will be held on 26th and 27th July and there will be an election for the role of President.

Liz Nicholl is the sole nomination for the role of President for which there will be an election at the forthcoming WN Congress in July

For more information visit www.worldnetball.sport