

INF Service Award

Presented at INF Congress – Sydney – August 2015

CHERYL DANSON OBE

Cheryl Danson has a passion for Netball which has driven her involvement in the game for in excess of 40 years at a national and international level. During this time she has earned the reputation as a world class leader and administrator but; prior to that she was a world class umpire officiating internationally between 1985 and 1996.

Domestically, Cheryl has fulfilled many volunteer roles most notably as a non-executive director of England Netball between 1995 and 2015 and; as Chairman of the Board for since 2005. Her time as Chairman coincided with the most successful period in the history of England Netball, which is no coincidence. England Netball hold Cheryl in very high esteem in 2002 she was made an Honorary Life Member of the Governing Body and in 2014 she was presented with her Long Service Award and inducted into the England Netball Hall of Fame.

In parallel Cheryl has invested significant time and energy into the development of netball within the European region and has been the driving force behind much of the good work that has been undertaken in the region in recent years. Her involvement dates back to 1996 when she joined the Management Committee; she was Chair of the Umpiring Group between 2000 and 2005; a member of the Development Group since 2005 and Secretary since 2008. She was awarded the Netball Europe Service Award in 2008.

Officiating and Rules lie at the heart of Cheryl's passion for the sport and she is respected globally for her expertise and knowledge in this area. This prompted her appointment as Chairman of the INF Rules Panel in 2008. She has worked with the INF Board and her colleagues on the Rules Advisory Panel, the Coaching Advisory Panel and the Match Official Appointment Panel to develop a cohesive and coherent set of Rules that enhance the modern traditional game of Netball. During this period she helped to develop, test and introduce the Rules for the inaugural FastNet competition in England between 2009 and 2011 and its successor event, FAST5, held in New Zealand between 2012 and 2014. Cheryl, also acted as the INF Technical Delegate for the FastNet Series in England.

In 2009 Cheryl was awarded the OBE for her 'Service to Netball' the Board of the International Netball Federation is delighted to recognise Cheryl's outstanding contribution to Netball over the last 40 years by awarding her the INF Service Award.