

EMBARGOED UNTIL WEDNESDAY 1ST MARCH 2023 10AM GMT

World Netball World Rankings Annual Update Takes Place

World Netball (WN) has released the latest WN World Rankings which follows the annual update performed to ensure that the rankings reflect the most current form of the international teams.

The annual update sees matches from the ranking year 1st July 2018 - 30th June 2019 removed from the WN World Rankings.

From 1st March 2023 the ranking points earned from the matches played from the 1st March 2022 will be weighted at 100%, whilst ranking points earned from matches played in the two prior rating periods (1st July 2019 – 30th June 2020 and 1st July 2020 – 28th February 2022) are now only weighted at 50%.

In response to the exceptional circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic and the period when international play was suspended, World Netball's ranking year from 1st July 2020 was extended to 28th February 2022 which is 20 months; you can find more information on that [here](#).

The latest rankings table sees the top six teams remain the same with Australia in 1st, followed by New Zealand in 2nd, England in 3rd, Jamaica in 4th, South Africa 5th and Malawi in 6th.

The first change in ranking position can be seen at 7th, as Tonga has moved up one place into this position replacing Uganda who move down one place into 8th. This is the only positional change in the top 16 and reflects Tonga's continuing dominance of the PacificAus Netball Series.

Further down the table, St Vincent & Grenadines, UAE, Malta and Papua New Guinea have all climbed three places, with St Vincent & Grenadines now ranked 17th with their rating increasing by seven points to 69.

Eight teams (Argentina, Canada, Maldives, Thailand, Israel, Chinese Taipei, India & Dominica) have lost their ranking due to not reaching the minimum number of matches (6) required to have a ranking.

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic and the low number of matches played in the period from February 2019 to December 2020, World Netball decided to reduce the minimum number of matches required for a country to have a WN World Ranking from 8 to 6 from the annual update that took place on 1st July 2020.

This measure has helped to prevent some Members from losing their ranking purely because they had (or may have) been prevented from playing due to the Covid-19 restrictions.

In the last 12 months, following the easing of Covid-19 restrictions, there has been a marked increase in the number of matches played, with 244 ranking matches taking place in the ranking year from 1st March 2022 – 28th February 2023.

Therefore, following advice from statistician David Kendix, the WN Board has decided, for any WN World Rankings published on or after September 1st 2023, that the minimum number of matches required to have a WN World Ranking will return to 8 matches. This move reduces the potential for a single surprise result or for a team's performances over a very short period of time to have a disproportionate impact and thereby helping to protect the integrity of the WN World Rankings as a whole.

To retain or gain a ranking from 1st September 2023, teams must have played at least ranking 8 matches since 1st July 2019.

You can view the full WN World Rankings table [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.

For more information visit www.worldnetball.sport