

EMBARGOED UNTIL WEDNESDAY 1st MAY 2024 9AM BST

FAST5 NETBALL WORLD SERIES RETURNS TO CHRISTCHURCH IN 2024

Delivering a top-class spectacle in the previous two years, Christchurch will play host to a third successive FAST5 Netball World Series (FAST5 NWS) from 9-10 November at Wolfbrook Arena.

World Netball (WN) awarded Netball New Zealand (NNZ) the hosting rights in 2021, for the following three years after the dynamic abbreviated form of the game made a captivating return to the international arena following an absence of four years.

Showcasing the vibrant nature of FAST5 for both players and spectators, Christchurch has provided the perfect atmosphere of wall-to-wall entertainment with plans already under way for further fun, frivolity, and innovation in New Zealand's final year as hosts.

"We are delighted that NNZ has been able to showcase FAST5 back on the world stage after it hadn't been visible for a number of years," Netball New Zealand Chief Executive Jennie Wyllie said.

"Christchurch and everyone involved in staging this event have done an exceptional job in producing a successful two-day entertainment showpiece."

Fans have whole-heartedly embraced the party-like atmosphere, with passionate supporters wearing bright colours and costume-dress to the spectacle from all over New Zealand and overseas.

Adding to the unique setting of the high tempo version of the game, the players also

play their part while negotiating three different scoring zones, power players and unlimited rolling substitutions with a mix of dazzling play, tactical nous and an element of fun.

Showcasing a rich mixture of diverse styles, Christchurch has hosted six of the world's premier women's teams over the past two years.

Another innovation was introducing for the first time ever a three-team men's competition, a first for males playing alongside females in a WN event.

With the foundations well set, WN will be looking to continue the trend of keeping FAST5 a visible and prominent spectacle on the international calendar when awarding the next hosting rights.

WN's Head of Events, Kate Agnew, added: "We are thrilled that the dates have been confirmed for the FAST5 Netball World Series' third year in New Zealand, with Christchurch once again the host city.

"The FAST5 Netball World Series is a key part of Netball's international events calendar, and after the fantastic success of the 2022 and 2023 events, we know Netball New Zealand, and Christchurch, will do a fantastic job hosting and showcasing our game to fans around the world this November."

Ticketing details and team announcements will be made at a later date.

<u>CLICK HERE</u> to register your interest in the 2024 event to get ticketing information exclusively to your inbox.

<u>CLICK HERE</u> to register to be the first to receive Silver Ferns Travel FAST5 Netball World Series 2024 package information.

ENDS

Image:



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Notes to Editors:

World Netball

World Netball is the sole, internationally recognised, governing body for netball affiliated to 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 84 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 <u>www.worldnetball.sport</u>