

## **MEMBER UPDATE FOLLOWING BOARD MEETING – JUNE 2025**

The World Netball Board met via Zoom on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

World Netball (WN) President, Dame Liz Nicholl DBE chaired the meeting and all Board Members attended.

A list of the decisions made by the Board in 2025 follows in Appendix 1.

The June 2025 Board Meeting focused on the following areas of discussion and decision:

### **GOVERNING**

1. Management Accounts to end April 2025 were noted. Year-end forecast has not changed, and actual expenditure is broadly on track.
2. September face-to-face board meeting will include a deep dive into risk register.
3. No governance meetings held this year due to passing of Chair.
4. Discussed review of board structure and in particular 8 positions due for renewal in 2027.
5. Review of Committees will be undertaken in September 2027.
6. Agenda for upcoming Congress was discussed and in particular the proposed amendments to Articles of Association.

### **GROWING**

7. New Head of Governance and Member Relations will join in August.

### **PLAYING**

8. Agreed to create a working group “to embrace the male game” to discuss world cup, rankings and how to bring men into the netball family at all levels.
9. Discussed the launch of the global event strategy and stakeholder comments received. Agreed to create a list of common questions.
10. The Sports Consultancy have been appointed re bid process for future WN events.
11. Update on audited accounts for NWC2023 was provided: these are awaited.
12. Update on NWYC2025 was provided by WN Technical Delegate, Head of Events and the LOC.
13. Noted COO has been appointed for NWC2027.
14. Commonwealth Youth Games 2027 host country will be announced shortly.
15. Commonwealth Games 2030: host country expected to be announced towards the end of this year.
16. Olympic Games 2032 and beyond: progress is ongoing for Olympic Inclusion project.

## REGIONAL REPORTS

The Regional Reports highlighted the following:

### 17. Africa

- i. Thanks were given for the very informative roadshow in May.
- ii. A new board has been elected in Botswana and the Vice President of Zimbabwe is currently acting President.
- iii. A governance workshop for NGBs will be held during 2025 Africa Cup due to take place in Malawi.
- iv. 8 female teams and 3 male teams recently completed in the East Africa Club Championships held in Tanzania.
- v. National leagues have gotten underway in both South Africa and Namibia.
- vi. Kenya (3<sup>rd</sup> place) and Namibia (winners) participated in the UAE Netball Cup in Dubai.
- vii. The netball hub site in Ivory Coast is growing at a fast pace: this project was funded through the Strategic Development Fund.

### 18. Americas

- i. Saba have become a new member in the region.
- ii. EOI for Men's championships to be sent in June 2026.
- iii. Periodization Seminars will be held on 23, 25 & 27 June.
- iv. 10 participants have received their Level III Coaching Awards.
- v. Regional OC is looking to increase number of international umpires in the region.
- vi. Jean Pierre Youth Caribbean Netball Tournament took place in April 2025: won by Netball Trinidad & Tobago.
- vii. Lack of funding to participate in tournaments, and certified/qualified officials at all levels have been raised as challenges in many countries.

### 19. Asia

- i. The bi-annual Asian Youth Netball Championships will be held in Korea in June.
- ii. Several countries are unhappy with the new WNC format.
- iii. India will host the Asian Men's Netball Championship in November 2025 but this may be moved to January 2026.
- iv. Domestic leagues have started in many countries: Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong China
- v. SEA Games are due to take place in Thailand in December.
- vi. Singapore National Team just won the 'Team of the Year' Award at the annual Singapore National Olympics Council Awards Ceremony.

### 20. Europe

- i. Italy is newest member of both Europe and World Netball.
- ii. Recent AGM taken place which discussed development of new 4-year strategy.
- iii. Funding sources are to be explored along with competitions for members with limited resources.
- iv. Transfer of awards policy discussions are going well and updated version to be issued shortly.
- v. Cancellation for security concerns and the challenges of the Europe Open Champs.

- vi. U17 Europe Event took place in March in Antrim, Northern Ireland.

21. Oceania

- i. Salote Sisifa was elected President of Oceania Region during the recent AGM.
- ii. Tonga and Fiji preparing national men's teams for an August Men's Invitational Tournament in Suva.
- iii. Cook Islands and Samoa are holding U21 camps in Brisbane and Samoa respectively, preparing for NWYC2025.
- iv. Tonga's Junior Tala long list has been named, with camps in June and July ahead of final selection.
- v. Fiji is hosting an Invitational U21 Tournament in Suva in July, showcasing pathway alignment across the region.
- vi. Samoa now has 6 new Australian C Badge and their first Australian B Badge umpire, the second in the Pacific. Tonga's Uinita Tauhalaliku achieved B Badge accreditation, making her the first in Tonga and third in the Pacific.
- vii. Despite challenges with logistics, staffing, and funding, the Oceania region continues to make significant strides in building capability, enhancing participation, and aligning with World Netball's strategic direction.

**Next Board Meeting:** 17 & 18 September in Gibraltar

Fiona Harold, CEO

Attachment: Appendix 1 Board Decisions in 2025 YTD

Date	Format	Decision
27 June	Board Meeting	Agreed to accept the Management Accounts to 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2025
27 June	Board Meeting	Agreed to the creation of men's working group based on the principles derived from the task and finish group and for them to accept the principles outlined and the strategic direction
27 June	Board Meeting	Agreed to write to the Government of South Africa asking for their help in ensuring audited accounts for the NWC2023 are provided
27 June	Board Meeting	Approved the following policies with some minor amendments: Code of Conduct, Ethics and Anti-Corruption Code, Guidelines and Code of Conduct for Elections
12 May	Board Update	Agreed to new global event plan
12 May	Board Update	Agreed to request to create a Scientific Committee to assist MAP
4 April	Board Meeting	Approved the financial statements for the 12 months to 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2024
4 April	Board Meeting	Accepted the audit management letter
4 April	Board Meeting	Accepted auditor's letter of representation
4 April	Board Meeting	Approved Beaver & Struthers as auditors for 2025
4 April	Board Meeting	Agreed with recommendation to remove WN from X (formerly Twitter)
4 April	Board Meeting	Agreed to accept the Change in WN Event Notification and the Appointment of Officials to Ranking Matches as a trial with monitoring to take place to ensure no negative impact on members
4 April	Board Meeting	Approved minutes from December 2024 and Board update meeting from February 2024
10 February	Board Update	To keep progressing on the proposed format change of plate and cup competition for NWC2027 with full consultation for members and continuing discussion between NA and WN over other issues mentioned
10 February	Board Update	New dates for World Rankings to be issued
10 February	Board Update	To pause rules review and consultation for FAST5
10 February	Board Update	To establish a Men Mixed Netball Working Group in Q2 once survey results are considered
January	Email	Agree Umpire Appointment Process Exemption for Legacy Impact in Host Nation
January	Email	Agreed to award a posthumous WN Service Award to Wainikiti Bodigrau