



NETBALL
NEW ZEALAND
POITARAWHITI AOTEAROA

100th
Annual Report
2024

We live this game.



LARKSON (NEE COP)
IRENE VAN DYK, VIL
SON (NEE SCARLET
ARIA LAJUNNE TU
RE (NEE GRANT)
KARA (NEE RASMUSSEN
ANNON SAUNDERS



CHAMPIONS



ASIO (NEE WELLS), TEMALISI FAKAHOKOTAU, MALIA VA'A (NEE PASEKA), JANE WATSON, TE PAEA SELBY-RICKIT, STORM PURVIS, MAIA WILSON, GINA CRAM
NTHA WINDERS (NEE SINCLAIR), KELLY IURY, WHITNEY SOUINNESS, CLAIRE KERSTEN, MICHAELA SOKOLICH-BEATSON, ELISAPETA TOEAVA, KARIN BURGER, A
ERIKIANA WERSE
ANAN (NEE EFFE
S (NEE HAYARD),
EA SINCLAIR (NEE
OLM (NEE WERY),
MARIU (NEE WAIT
OSE
AMARA (NEE SIMP
RANKIN (NEE BLAIR), PAM MARSDEN (NEE HAMILTON), BILLIE IRWIN, SANDRA EASTERBROOK (NEE JAMES), MARGARET FILIPPINI (NEE GARDINER), ELIZA
EY (NEE STORY), NANCY KING (NEE CARROLL), SHIRLEY LANGROPE, LYNNE MACDONALD, FRANCES WEBSTER (NEE HAWE), BRENDA ROWBERRY (NEE WA
RA RICHARDS (NEE NORRIS), CORAL PALMER, LORRAINE MAIR, OLWYN MCKAY (NEE FRETHEY), LYN GUNSON, BETH HUNTINGTON (NEE CARNIE), EM
GENE (NEE RAWSTOR
RILYN MUNRO, CHRISTINE PIETZNER (NEE COFFREY), GEORGINA SALTER (NEE
HILL (NEE WILFRIED), MAXINE BLO



DORSETT
CHEMIST WAREHOUSE

CHEMIST WAREHOUSE
CHEMIST WAREHOUSE

CON

ON

1924
-
2024

We live this game.

With their history-making 61–43 win in Perth, the Silver Ferns completed their third straight double-digit win over their great rivals while also securing the Constellation Cup for just the third time since its inception in 2010.”

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100th Annual Report and Financial Statements for the 12 months 1 December 2023 to 30 November 2024. The Annual Report and these Financial Statements will be presented to the 98th Council Meeting of Netball New Zealand to be held on 22 February 2025.

Board Chair and Chief Executive's Report

*Mai I Te Manukura,
Mai I Tumu Whakarae*

In the year celebrating Netball New Zealand's (NNZ) centenary, we reflected on the rich history that has shaped our sport, and rather than rest on our laurels, we looked ahead at ways Netball can be sustainable and thrive for another 100 years.

As kaitiaki (guardians) of the sport, we must ensure we take every opportunity for Netball in our nation to be better, smarter, more inclusive and relevant; to be digitally advanced to engage with more fans; and to be accessible in these competitive times so our player base continues to flourish.

We made significant steps forward in 2024 to preserve the future of the sport – vision casting, but through a prudent lens.

We changed the format and the time frame for the ANZ Premiership in 2025. And the year-long broadcasting extension with Sky has given us time to think carefully about how we take the game to our fans in the future.

But we also took the time to look back at what we've achieved over the last century. To celebrate NNZ's magnificent, vibrant history and to celebrate becoming the first national Netball body in the world to reach 100 years of existence, there were milestone events held throughout the year.

A nationwide day of celebration on 21 May was kicked off with a live cake-cutting ceremony on national television.

We launched the NNZ Hall of Fame, with an inaugural induction ceremony during our 2024 Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Auckland. Twelve of Netball's most influential figures, including administrators, umpires and players, were inducted, and it was fitting that Dame Lois Muir, Dawn Jones and

Anne Taylor were acknowledged for their outstanding contributions with Icon Status.

NNZ worked with the Auckland War Memorial Museum to create a stunning exhibition reflecting Netball's stories and the people who've shaped its legacy. *Our Game: A Century of Netball in Aotearoa New Zealand* traces the evolution of the game in our country, and is a beautiful, nostalgic and important snapshot of the impact Netball has had on the lives of millions of New Zealanders. A total of 17,000 people visited the exhibition, in its first three months.

In both the Taini Jamison Trophy and the Constellation Cup, the Silver Ferns wore a centenary dress bearing the name of every player to represent New Zealand between 1938 and the Northern Quad Series in early 2024.

And the Silver Ferns pin was introduced – a 24-carat gold brooch featuring the iconic fern and bearing a unique number, which will be presented to all players, coaches, managers and those closely associated with the Ferns. With some pins presented at major events around the country, the pinning presentations will be an ongoing legacy project.

It was a special occasion when many of our Life Members gathered at an event at the Auckland Museum, where Silver Fern #29 Betty Steffensen – the only player to also be a Silver Ferns manager – was presented with her Silver Ferns pin by Judy Russell.

We enjoyed continued growth of the game in the community space – in particular, Netball in secondary schools increased by 11 per cent. The numbers are now rivalling those we saw in pre-COVID times.


Much of that success comes down to the diversification and creativity of our Netball Centres, enabling more people to play the game. It remains important to us that our Poipoia vision is realised and Netball is accessible, safe and inclusive for all.

The 2024 Netball season was focused on another hugely successful ANZ Premiership – won by the Northern Mystics in a thrilling one-goal win over Central Pulse in the grand final in Wellington – and delivering key international events.

We were pleased to reappoint Dame Noeline Taurua and Deb Fuller as the Silver Ferns head coach and assistant coach respectively, following a comprehensive recruitment process. Their two-year appointments will lead into the 2027 Netball World Cup in Sydney.

New talent was included, too. Briony Akle, head coach of the NSW Swifts, brought her many skills to the Ferns as an attack specialist coach, and we welcomed a new strength and conditioning lead, Amanda Murphy, who brings over 15 years' experience in high-performance sport.

It was a character-building year for the Silver Ferns. After finishing 3rd at the Netball Nations Cup in England in



“We enjoyed continued growth of the game in the community space – in particular, Netball in secondary schools increased by 11 per cent.”

January we welcomed the English Roses to New Zealand for the Taini Jamison Trophy later in the year and lost the series 1-2.

Following some serious soul-searching, the Silver Ferns rebounded to reclaim the Constellation Cup, convincingly beating the Australian Diamonds 3-1, highlighted by a historic victory on Australian soil in Perth. That increase in momentum gives Dame Noeline much food for thought going into the 2025 international season.

The extended New Zealand U21 squad travelled to Fiji in August to prepare for the 2025 World Youth Cup in Gibraltar – which will be the first youth tournament since 2017. Led by head coach Julie Seymour, it was vital experience for both the players and the management team. The U21 programme plays an integral part in our Silver Ferns pathway.

Our final year hosting the FAST5 Netball World Series in Christchurch was another resounding success, and we're excited about seeing where World Netball takes the tournament next. We're proud that over the past three years we've helped develop the spectacle to include a compelling men's competition as well.

We were thrilled that the NetballPass platform we launched in 2022 with World Netball was recognised as the Best Fan Engagement Programme at the global Sports Business Awards in London in December 2024. In its aim to increase the global reach of Netball, the platform now has an audience of over 55,000 registered users in more than 150 nations.

It was fantastic that NNZ's 97th AGM was held in-person again. We will now look to have online and physical events on alternative years.

We were delighted to recognise former president Beverley Douglas with the highest honour, life membership, for

“Our final year hosting the FAST5 Netball World Series in Christchurch was another resounding success, and we're excited about seeing where World Netball takes the tournament next.”

There has been much discussion around the future of this country's premier domestic competition. We listened to the feedback of our teams and our audience, and next season's ANZ Premiership will take on an exciting new format – 30 round-robin matches will be played across two full rounds in a 10-week period leading into a two-match Finals Series beginning in May 2025.

This competition gives the opportunity for our Silver Ferns to show their world-class skills and develop a new tier of future Netball stars.

In 2024, we trialled free-to-air coverage of the ANZ Premiership, showing Saturday games live on TV2, TVNZ+ and Sky, with great success. Our viewership increased significantly, reaching new audiences through both the digital and free-to-air components.

We reached an agreement with Sky on a one-year extension to our broadcasting partnership of the ANZ Premiership in 2025. And, for the first time, NNZ will produce the Saturday content, working with a production company and screening live on TVNZ's platforms. We are currently working with Sky to establish the 2026 broadcast arrangements.

In another broadcasting breakthrough, we livestreamed the 2024 New Zealand Secondary Schools tournament, increasing the competition's visibility by allowing more fans and whānau to see those talented young players in action.

her invaluable and enduring contribution in Netball across so many facets of the sport.

We thank Dawn Jones for her many years chairing our Life Membership selection panel, and welcome Kereyn Smith as the incoming chair.

We thank our partners for their ongoing support – in particular, our broadcast partner Sky, and also TVNZ as our free-to-air partner. We would also like to acknowledge ANZ, Cadbury, PUMA and Chemist Warehouse. There is significant support for NNZ through a number of other fantastic partnerships as well, including Class 4 funding that permeates through all levels of our game. Without you all, it would be impossible for our sport to make critical strides ahead.

We will strive to ensure that Netball, as the number one sport for women and girls, receives the recognition it deserves.

So, we look forward to heralding in the next era of Netball in Aotearoa New Zealand, knowing our sport is in safe, compassionate and innovative hands.

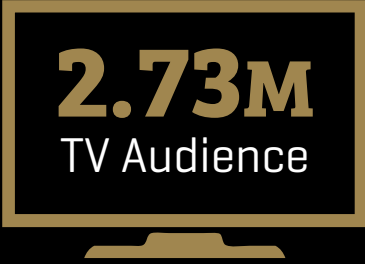


Matt Whineray
NNZ Board Chair




Jennie Wyllie
NNZ Chief Executive






2.73M
TV Audience

Website Visits
Silver Ferns: **1.41m**
ANZ Premiership: **1.32m**
NNZ: **721k**



11%
growth

We are proud that
Netball continues to be the #1
sport played in
SECONDARY SCHOOLS



102M
Video Views




*years of Netball
in New Zealand*




SILVER FERNS
WORLD RANKING
#2



**Total NNZ
Affiliated Players**
144,939



748k
TOTAL SOCIAL
AUDIENCE



143M
impressions
14M
engagements
10.24%
average engagement rate



11,236
NNZ Registered Coaches



NNZ-accredited Umpires
1,791

SilverFans
28K

President's Report

Mai I Te Perekhiti

Karekau ngā whānau me ngā hāpori Poitarawhiti i mawhiti i te mamae o te ngākau i te ngāranga o te hūnga e arohaina anā puta noa i te tau, ka mau tonu ēnei maharatanga utu nui. Netball families and communities did not escape the heartache of losing loved ones throughout the year but their precious memories will live on.

Fond memories were captured by NNZ in remembering the outstanding work of stalwart Netballers who passed away during the year. Dame June Mariu, a trailblazer on and off the court passed away in August. She was a former Silver Fern (#22), teacher, youth advocate and community leader and died at the age of 92. In a life full of achievements, Dame June became the fifth captain of the Silver Ferns in 1960 and was the first to lead the national team to a prized first win the same year.

I would also like to acknowledge the passing of Ivy Topping, who was well known throughout New Zealand for her immeasurable impact across the coaching environment. From her early years as a schoolgirl growing up in England, Netball was an integral piece of Ivy's DNA, and once emigrating to New Zealand 55 years ago, her enthusiasm, passion and boundless joy for the sport crossed generations of aspiring coaches and players.

COUNTRY MOURNS THE LOSS

On 30 August 2024 Aotearoa New Zealand awoke to the sad news of the passing of Tūheitia Pootatau Te Wherowhero VII, the Māori King. Tens of thousands of people from across the motu [country] descended on the small settlement of Ngāruawāhia to pay their respects at Turangawaewae Marae. I was among the huge contingent of mourners offering my own and NNZ's condolences.

PROTOCOL CHANGES

NNZ has taken a courageous and bold step implementing a change to a traditional Māori tikanga [practice] for the Pōwhiri and/or mihi whakatau [welcoming] protocol. The NNZ Board and staff have been welcomed into NNZ's tari [office] with a mihi whakatau with women leading these deliberations. The decision was not taken lightly and activated further discussions with more knowledgeable male leaders within Māoridom. The comments received were supportive but signalled an air of caution, to continue using te reo and to be mindful that this practice is uniquely within the NNZ whare [domain] to respect the tikanga of others externally.

2024 ANZ PREMIERSHIP

The ANZ Premiership proved to be an exciting and exhilarating competition once again, with the finalist not known until the final play-offs with MG Mystics making a late run to secure a final's berth after the team suffered a series of injuries throughout the competition. The Tactix succumbed to the Mystics in the elimination final's game in their hometown of Christchurch, leaving Te Wānanga o Raukawa Pulse hosting the event with home final advantage against the Mystics. The game was everything you would expect in a final – flare, athleticism, teamwork, the score seesawing across the quarters – but ultimately only one winner could emerge

and, as Netball history archives have recorded the result, MG Mystics were the 2024 ANZ Champions. Congratulations.

U18 NETBALL NZ CHAMPS

The national U18 age-group championships were held in Dunedin at the Edgar Centre from 15 to 18 July. 38 teams competed in the U18 grade and six men's teams. Event winners were Auckland, beating Waitākere 1 in the final. In the men's U17 division, the winners were Waitākere; Dannevirke came 2nd.

NETBALL NZ OPEN CHAMPS

The NetballSmart Netball NZ Open Champs was held from 10 to 14 September at Pulman Arena in Auckland. Seventeen teams participated in this competition with Hamilton City taking out the championship silverware, with Counties Manukau Cluster coming 2nd.

NZ SECONDARY SCHOOLS NETBALL CHAMPS

The NZ Secondary School Netball Champs was held in Christchurch from 8 to 10 October with 16 teams competing. This tournament started in 1993 with Bay of Islands College being the inaugural winners. Twenty-one years on, the 2024 winners were Howick College with Avondale College 2nd and Saint Kentigern College 3rd. Congratulations to the three place-getters from Auckland.



TANIA DALTON FOUNDATION

The Tania Dalton Foundation Scholarship Capping Presentation was a lovely event and I was thrilled to be invited with aspiring young athletes being recognised for their dedication and commitment to sport. While I was unable to be present for the whole event, my colleagues Mere Pohatu, Linnane Pohatu and Ingrid Collins enjoyed the experience. NNZ Life Member Sheryl Lady Wells, NNZ Board Member Julie Coney and NNZ Head of Communications and Marketing Kerry Manders were also in attendance for this celebration.

NET BLACKS

NNZ and New Zealand Men and Mixed Netball Association continue to collaborate on different Netball competitions and in particular as curtain raisers for the Constellation Cup and FAST5 event. This year tested the Net Blacks with the Australian Kelpie team winning both curtain-raiser games and the FAST5. It is noted that the Net Blacks Men's and Mixed Association have elected a new president and new Board Members.

UMPIRING

Competition winner and outstanding Umpire Jan Hefford was given the chance to return to the international Netball court after winning the 'Money Can't Buy Silver Ferns Experience' – a competition run by Summerset, a sponsor of the Silver Ferns. "It was special, magical and memorable," says the 77-year-old Netball veteran, honoured with an NNZ Service Award for a lifetime involvement in the game. In her entry, she explained she'd been involved with Netball for "a number of years" – over 60 years to be precise – and had umpired her first test in 1981. On that note I would like to extend NNZ's heartfelt appreciation to the umpires, officials, coaches, players and volunteers for their dedication and commitment to the game of Netball.

100TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

The year 2024 has been a significant for NNZ as we celebrated our 100th anniversary, the first country in the world to claim this honour. The celebrations

started early at the in-person AGM held in Auckland in February, with a dinner to recognise the splendid contribution of 12 proponents of Netball and volunteers into the NNZ Hall of Fame. A wonderful evening was enjoyed by many.

A birthday party was held on 21 May at Auckland Netball Centre with a modified game of nine-a-side. This event featured Silver Fern memorabilia; one of note was Julie Coney's Silver Fern tracksuit, which incidentally still fits her like a glove.

Other moments captured in time acknowledged the lives of many including the first NNZ coach Jessie Knapp. Jessie was born into one of the first European settler families in Spring Creek, Nelson, in 1871. From a young age she was recognised as having considerable intellectual potential and won a number of scholarships which enabled her to receive secondary school education at their recently-established Nelson Girls' College.

100TH BIRTHDAY EXHIBITION

The opening of the NNZ exhibition at Auckland War Memorial Museum was a special moment with public, NNZ Life Members and other Netball representatives attending this special project. The cutting of the ribbon for this memorable occasion was shared among the NNZ Life Members who attended the event. The exhibition includes mementoes spanning 100 years of the game which had been collected, researched and lovingly crafted by Margaret Henley and Todd Miller along with the wonderful team at Auckland Museum.

Across the country Netball Centres and regions held several events to celebrate NNZ's birthday, including new Netball phenomena walking Netball, and bringing together former representative team members and officials to reminisce about days gone by.

Life Member Dawn Jones shared the background of the logo from 1991, which was a watershed year in New Zealand Netball history. The organisation running the sport became Netball New Zealand. A competition to find a name for the national team turned up the Silver Ferns. A high school art teacher named

Sally Hollis-McLeod came up with a logo encapsulating the new era, one that's still relevant 33 years on. The inclusion of the Māori translation was approved at the 2002 AGM. A walk down memory lane included the unforgettable achievement of the Southern Sting, winners of seven national titles out of 10. This champion Netball team captured the hearts of a struggling province and was a trailblazer for women's sport.

The 100th NNZ Coffee Club moments also embedded Māori and Pasifika influences with a unique woven tapestry about the game in New Zealand fostering diversity, spirituality, vibrancy and a distinct playing style. In celebrating 100 years of Netball in New Zealand, it was recognised that its natural blend of players has produced a multitude of cultural leaders who have left a distinct imprint on the sport through their values and powerful ability to connect while making immense contributions to the prosperous game we have today.

CELEBRATING MĀORI AND PACIFIKA CONTRIBUTIONS

Research during the 100th anniversary celebrations Centred on the values Māori and Pasifika have had on the game through their skills and approach and their influence on enhancing Netball overall, while setting the tone for inclusivity, unity and respect. Leaders within these indigenous cultures contributed to these conversations: Temepara Bailey, Jenny-May Clarkson, Vilimaina Davu, Amelianne Ekenasio, Rita Fatialofa, Sulu Fitzpatrick, Maria Folau, Margaret Forsyth, Joan Hodson, Margaret [Meg] Matangi, Margharet Matenga, Yvette McCausland-Durie, Bernice Mene, Ana Noovao, Mirth Solomon, Kruze Tangira, Waimarama Taumaunu, Dame Noeline Taurua, Cathrine Tuivaiti and Maia Wilson. Others who have added richness to Netball were Dame June Mariu and Taini Jamison.

To close this Coffee Club article, respect and recognition is paid to our Centenary Ambassador Irene van Dyk. Jennie Wyllie's comment identified Irene's fit for the role: "She is a legend, an icon of the game on and off the

court within Aotearoa New Zealand and internationally.

BICULTURAL STRATEGY

NNZ is currently working on developing a Bicultural Strategy which is reflective of the communities involved in the game. It will be influenced and modelled on existing NNZ and Sport NZ literature with narratives and contributions being made by several people across the different sectors of the sport of Netball. It is anticipated the DRAFT strategic framework will be considered by the NNZ Board in advance of disseminating the report to NNZ Centres and regions for further deliberation.

TAINI JAMISON TROPHY

While the results of the Taini Jamison Trophy were not as we had expected. The two consecutive losses saw the trophy heading to the England Roses' Trophy cabinet. The challenge for our team was the ability to rise up again. Perhaps the fact the final game was played in the impenetrable fortress of the deep south inspired the Silver Ferns to fight back. The final game in the Taini Jamison Series offered a glimmer of hope and reassurance that the Silver Ferns were back on top, winning that final test convincingly.

CONSTELLATION CUP

I suspect most of the Netball fraternity were not expecting the Silver Ferns to lift the Constellation Cup following the Taini Jamison Series. But to our delight it happened – as the Silver Ferns continued their winning streak, beating the Australian Diamonds in three straight wins. It was especially pleasing to win this taonga during our 100th birthday celebration year. The Diamonds, however, showed why they are number one in the world by winning the fourth and final test.

CENTENARIAN BLOWS THE WHISTLE

The following photo of Mrs Betty Irving epitomises the 'we live this game' slogan. Betty turned 100 years young on 17 July 2024 and attended an 'End of an Era' event held at the Gisborne Netball

Centre. Betty Irving is a Life Member of the Gisborne Netball Centre. Her great personality, good sense of humour and ability to stay active have helped her to make it to her milestone 100th birthday. Betty arrived in her umpiring gear so we thought, why not take the photo of a lifetime with her blowing the whistle to start a walking Netball game.



Finally, I wish to express my heartfelt appreciation to Jennie Wyllie and her team and to my colleagues around the board table for your support and friendship. And to the NNZ Life Members for making sure we do our job well.

Noho pai – Stay well.

Karaitiana

Tina Karaitiana
NNZ President



Netball New Zealand Board and Staff

Jennie Wyllie

Chief Executive

Katie Pinfold

Executive Manager –
People and Culture

COMMERCIAL AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

David Cooper

Chief Commercial Officer

Emma Fowlie

League General Manager (ANZP)

Aimee Preest

Sponsorship and Funding Manager
(maternity leave from February)

Lucy du Chateau

Sponsorship and Funding Manager
(maternity cover from January)

Alice Greatbatch

Commercial Partnerships Co-ordinator

COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Kerry Manders

Head of Communications and Marketing

Toni Guy

Marketing and Brand Manager
(until May)

Madeline van Wichen

Graphic Designer

Kieran Bingham

Communications Executive

COMMUNITY NETBALL

Ruth Southwood

Head of Community Netball

Irene van Dyk

Participation Manager

Garratt Williamson

National Technical Officials Manager
(until March)

Josh Bowring

National Technical Officials Manager
(commenced November)

Jenna Murie

National Programmes Manager

Jenny Storey

NetballSmart Programmes Manager

Hannah Coutts

NetballSmart Marketing and
Special Projects Manager

Ashvina Patel

Community Netball Co-ordinator

Leigh Gibbs

Community Coaching Manager

Tania Fink

Community Umpire Programme Support

EVENTS

Torise Flay

Events and Competitions Lead (until July)

Melissa Phillips

Senior Event and Commercial Servicing
Manager

Grace Rhynd

Events Manager (until August)

Daniel Robinson

Events Manager

Brenna Ward

Events Administrator (until February)

Lisa Timoti

Events Administrator
(contract February – July)

Sammie Gordon

Events and Office Administrator
(short-term contract August – October)

FINANCE AND SERVICES

Lisa Greenaway

Head of Finance

Jacinta Caldwell

Finance Manager

Paula Bos

Accountant (until March)

Megan Avis

Accountant (commenced May)

Claire Britton

Payroll and HR Administrator

Talei Robson

Accounts Officer

HIGH PERFORMANCE

Stephen Hotter

Head of High Performance

Noeline Taurua

Silver Ferns Head Coach

NNZ Board Members

Tina Karaitiana

NNZ President

Matt Whineray

NNZ Board Chair

Bernice Mene

Elected NNZ Board Member
(until February)

Julie Coney

Elected NNZ Board Member

Pavan Vyas

Appointed NNZ Board Member

Sue Gordon

Elected NNZ Board Member

Shane Harmon

Appointed NNZ Board Member

Aliesha Staples

Appointed NNZ Board Member

Lynette Rayner

Elected NNZ Board Member
(commenced February)

Cicccone Hakaraia-Turner

Youth Board Representative

Esther Molloy

Silver Ferns Team Manager

Guy Mothersole

Strength and Conditioning Lead
(until June)

Amanda Murphy

Strength and Conditioning Lead
(commenced August)

Nicky Cattermoul

Pathways Project Manager

Tania Karauria

National Pathways Coach Manager

Anna Drumm

High Performance Administrator

STRATEGIC PROJECTS

Stacey Klysz

Finance Manager – Strategic Projects
(maternity leave until July)

John Whiting

Digital Engagement and Content
Manager (until September)



Zones

We live this game.



Netball Northern

There have been some significant highlights for Netball Northern Zone this year, most notably a 10 per cent increase in participation numbers across the Zone, and a second successive title for the Mystics in the ANZ Premiership.

Our Strategic Plan of the past three years has had a focus on growing participation numbers up to 50,000. While we have come up just short at 48,822, it is a significant lift on where numbers were at following the pandemic. Of course, this is not solely a result of our efforts but that of the hard-working Centres in our Zone who have been proactive in growing numbers and creating enjoyable Netball experiences to retain members. The mahi that is put in by staff and volunteers often goes unnoticed yet is so crucial to the success of our sport. Thank you to each and every person that has helped to grow and strengthen Netball in our Zone.

The Mystics had an up-and-down season with injuries and illness forcing changes throughout. However, it all came right at the important Finals Series with wins in both the Elimination Final and Grand Final to secure the title for a second season in a row. The Grand Final was a nail-biting affair and such a good advertisement for Netball, producing a last-second 54-53 win for the Mystics – over Pulse at a sold-out TSB Arena in Wellington.

Collaboration has played a pivotal role in 2024 and the Centre Connect huis have been a great way for the Zone to connect with Centres and, just as importantly, for Centres to connect with each other. Co-operating in this way has allowed for a great transfer of information, knowledge, and the ability to work as a whole within our Zone. As we move into 2025, collaboration will continue to be a key pillar of our efforts.

The Voice of the Participant survey was conducted this year and produced valuable information to convey our approach. It was fantastic to see over 2,000 responses from across the Zone, enabling all 16 Centres to receive a

bespoke report. The results also told us that the main aspects people would like to see improved are; player development programmes; quality of officiating; more playing opportunities; and the quality of coaching.

Regrettably, the survey revealed that the frequency of inappropriate behaviour remains a concern – both at the national level and within our Zone, showing an increase since the 2022 survey. Professional development in partnership with Aktive evolved into the establishment of a working group charged with developing our Zone's Netball-specific Good Sports plan for 2025. Embedding Good Sports across our Centres remains a top priority.

A key focus in 2024 has been to accelerate the number of people completing Coaching Awards. We had many coaches who were partway through their respective level, so it has been great to see a record number complete their qualification. The Netball Northern Transition Coach Squad has developed well with many of the coaches taking the opportunity to enhance their skills, paving the way for entry to higher coaching qualifications.

With a significant update to the rules of Netball in 2024, this became a focus for umpires. We have also been able to grow the number of umpire coach developers and umpire coaches. These people greatly spread our ability to provide support and guidance to umpires.

Our NetballSmart development officers continue to advance the NetballSmart programme with support from the NetballSmart activators. Over 100 workshops were completed on a variety of topics, many delivered in collaboration with coach and umpire training.

In May, Netball Northern released the Auckland Region Netball Facility Plan 2024. Initiated through the Auckland Region Facilities Working Group, the plan was formulated by Visitor Solutions Ltd with input from Auckland Council, Aktive and Netball Centres within the Auckland Region.

The Plan works to identify the current and future demand for Auckland Region Netball courts and outlines our priorities for Netball facility investment over the next 10 years. By providing robust analysis, the Plan acts as a collective voice and supports our Netball Centres when working with local boards, funders and communities.

On the tournament front, a big thank you to Netball Waitākere and Papakura Netball Centre who successfully ran the Upper North Island Secondary Schools (UNISS) and Netball NZ Open Champs respectively. These events take months of planning and many staff and volunteers. Thank you to everyone involved. It is fantastic to have these high-profile events held in our Zone.

Finally, a big thank you to our Netball Northern staff, Centre staff, and all the volunteers who work so hard throughout the year to grow and strengthen Netball in our Region.



Netball WBOP



Netball Waikato Bay of Plenty (WBOP) Zone's purpose is to support our communities to have positive experiences through Netball, and there is much to celebrate in 2024.

WBOP Zone supports 23 Centres and over 26,000 players, technical officials, coaches, administrators and volunteers. This year we were thrilled to introduce two new roles in our staff team, Participation Lead and Participation Activator. This has enabled us to provide dedicated support for Centres to retain and grow participation and deliver quality Netball experiences for all participants, roll out key youth projects, and implement sideline behaviour initiatives at Centres.

Funding was provided by the Zone to host futureFERNs Festival Days at Tokoroa and Hauraki Plains Netball Centres, and Netball Rotorua Centre hosted the Zone's futureFERNs Festival Day supported by funding from NNZ. The events give participants an opportunity to 'Give Netball A Go' and be involved in fun-filled activities promoting our modified game.

Targeted Participation Projects were run at Tauranga Netball Centre (TNC) and Netball Rotorua Centre (NRC).

Other priority areas this year were Good Sports (GS) and Balance is Better (BIB). Workshops were held online, and resources were provided for Centres to promote positive sideline behaviour.

WBOP Umpire and Coach Development areas continue to work closely together. WBOP Zone now has 36 coach developers across the region.

Coaches were offered a wide range of options to support their growth and development. Highlights included observation sessions at the Synergy Hair Netball League (SHNL) Pre-Season Tournament, three SHNL trainings and an AVIS Magic training, and a Magic and SHNL game-day experience featuring guest speakers. Online workshops on Mental Skills, futureFERNs, and the NNZ Netball Leaders programme were well-attended. Coaches also participated in three Magic in the Making (MIM) development camp observations as well as the MIM advanced camp, where six community coaches took on head coach and assistant coach roles. Live coach support was given at key events such as the Central North Island Area Schools National Tournament, WBOP Zone SS Tournament, NNZ U18 Champs, Zespri AIMS Games, and UNISS. Milestones achieved included 15 coaches completing their NNZ Community Coach Award Level 1 (CCA1) and 11 gaining Level 2 (CCA2). Special congratulations to Rebecca Gabel, Helena Hoult and Amigene Metcalfe for each earning the prestigious NNZ Performance Coach Award.

The great work being done across the Zone by our umpire coach network is exemplified by a significant growth in qualification numbers, with special mention of Keni Kingi and McKenzie Northcott for achieving the NZB Umpire Award. This year we are also delighted to report five umpires earning their NZC Award: Jessica Clark, Caitlyn Forrest, Marilyn Hodder, Siobhan McFaddyn and Renee Smith.

WBOP Zone umpires and umpire coaches have had another amazing season on the international stage, and were well represented domestically at all NNZ national events. WBOP Zone technical officials were again well represented at local and global events. This year our umpires, umpire coaches and bench officials relished the challenge and adapted well to both the new rules of Netball, and new bench official procedures.

Our Zone has continued to refine player pathway selection and development prospects, with 17 Centre pathways spotters profiling top players and five Zone pathways spotters present across three major tournaments and other minor tournaments/leagues. This resulted in 108 players, plus 13 reserves, being invited to MIM development sessions. Our MIM advance camp had 21 participants, and 15 WBOP Zone players were invited to the national development camp with NNZ.

The WBOP SHNL team placed 2nd equal but missed the Grand Final due to a countback. They had many successes in player/team growth and fitness, and continued to close the gap between Magic and WBOP SHNL. We were thrilled that several WBOP SHNL players joined the AVIS Magic team as injury cover throughout the season and are excited that Kate Taylor has been contracted to AVIS Magic for 2025.

We would like to acknowledge the time and efforts of Te ohu āwhina o Waikato Bay of Plenty (TOA) group members, our WBOP Zone Centre advisory group whose purpose is to strengthen connections and communication between Centres, WBOP Zone and NNZ.

The ongoing help from our funding partners is critical to enable us to support our community. A huge thank you to NZ Community Trust, The Lion Foundation, Grassroots Trust, Sport Bay of Plenty CoachForce, and Trust Waikato.

We sincerely appreciate everyone who delivers Netball throughout the Bay of Plenty, Tairāwhiti and Waikato regions, including Centre committees, boards and staff, schools and school personnel, as well as coaches, technical officials and volunteers. Thank you to players and supporters for loving the game, and for being part of the WBOP Zone and NNZ legacy of Netball.

Netball Central



Netball Central

Poitarawhiti Ngakau

Ēhara tāku toa i te toa takitahi, engari he toa takitini. My success is not mine alone, but is the strength of many.

The strength of Netball Central Zone is very much a collective effort, and I want to take this opportunity to thank the Netball Centres for their work in creating participation opportunities to ensure our sport continues to thrive.

This year has been one of significant change as Ann Hay was confirmed as the permanent CEO following her time as interim CEO. In addition to her leadership responsibilities, Ann has continued in her role as Relationship Manager, bringing a balanced and collaborative approach that has further strengthened relationships across the Netball community.

COMMUNITY GAME HIGHLIGHTS

The community game remains the heartbeat of our Zone. A standout year saw an increased focus on coach engagement and development, with a growing number of coaches gaining qualifications and more locally-led initiatives supporting coaching communities.

We are thrilled to report a 4.9 per cent increase in participation this year, reflecting the hard work of our Centres and community team. Together, they have continued to deliver quality experiences that inspire players to love the game and stay engaged.

Our Zone continues to shine on the world stage, with Central umpires making their mark nationally and internationally. Similarly, Central-based coaches continue to be sought after for international roles, which is a testament to their commitment to self-development.

TE WĀNANGA O RAUKAWA PULSE

The Pulse had a remarkable season under the new coaching leadership of Anna Andrews-Tasola and Kim Howard. Despite facing significant challenges, including multiple injuries, the team displayed incredible resilience and persistence, culminating in a strong performance in the ANZ Premiership Grand Final. Though the title narrowly eluded them, the final was one of the most fiercely contested in recent years and a proud moment for the club.

Adding to this success, six Pulse players were named in the Silver Ferns and Silver Ferns Development Squad, a reflection of their outstanding performances throughout the season.

The unwavering support of our Pulse fans, who packed stadiums throughout the season, created an electric atmosphere. Their passion, knowledge and commitment made them the best in the league, providing an incredible home advantage and boosting the team every step of the way.

CENTRAL MANAWA

Central Manawa continued to uphold their legacy in the Synergy Hair Netball League, making it to the Grand Final in a nail-biting contest. While the result didn't go their way, the team's performance exemplified their determination and skill, highlighting the depth of talent in our Zone. With six players named in the NZ U21 squad, Manawa's success reflects the strength of our development pathways and the dedication of our coaching and support staff.



LOOKING AHEAD

The 2024 season has been a testament to the resilience, passion and dedication of everyone involved in the Central Zone. From Centres to the boardroom, from players to volunteers, we thank you all for your unwavering commitment to connecting and inspiring our communities through the love of Netball.

Together, we are building a strong foundation for the future.



Mainland Netball

This year has been a remarkable journey of growth and achievement for our Netball community.

Our dedicated players, coaches, volunteers and supporters are the instrumental cog that keeps our Netball Centres humming. Our efforts have focused on implementing a comprehensive approach to education, support and recognition, to enhance the overall quality of Netball experiences across the Zone.

Mainland has had an exciting year, with numerous achievements and events highlighting the passion and dedication of our community:

- **Junior Summer Camp:** The Christchurch Netball Centre kicked off the year with a Junior Summer Camp in January, helping young players build skills and confidence within a fun, supportive environment.
- **Te Tai O Poutini:** In February, Hokitika, West Coast and Buller Netball Centres ran a combined development camp as part of their Partnership Agreement with Mainland. In addition to this, the partnership made an inaugural entry as a combined U18 team entered the New Zealand U18 Competition in Dunedin later in the year. This showcases what Centres can do when they work together and put their players at the Centre of their decision-making.
- **Development Day in Cheviot:** The North Canterbury Partnership hosted a development day for players in Years 7, 8 and 9, focusing on learning and skill-building.
- **NNZ and New Zealand Police Partnership:** In April, we supported the partnership between NNZ and the New Zealand Police before a Tactix game,

promoting community well being and safety.

- **Zone Festival Day and Tournaments:** Selwyn Netball Centre hosted a vibrant Zone Festival Day, and several Centres held Jellybean and Rainbow tournaments, bringing creativity and fun to the court.
- **Walking Netball Expansion:** Marlborough and Selwyn Netball Centres introduced walking Netball, offering inclusive opportunities for people of all ages and abilities.
- **South Island Secondary Schools Tournament:** Held indoors at Christchurch Netball Centre for the first time, this tournament provided a world-class venue for players to compete, elevating the event's experience.

In 2024, we offered a variety of development opportunities for coaches and umpires. These included involvement in prestigious events such as the FAST5 Ferns, U18 Nationals, NNZ Secondary Schools, Tactix training sessions, NNZ Open Champs, coach observations, and a 10-week coach support email program. Emphasising informal learning experiences, future offerings will be tailored to meet the specific needs of Centres and their members.

A significant highlight was Myron Elkington achieving his International Umpire Award (IUA) and officiating at the Fast5 Netball World Series in Christchurch. Supported by a dedicated team of Mainland bench officials, Myron's achievement was a testament to the hard work and dedication within our community. In addition, three Mainland umpires – Mckynlee Breen, Rebecca Reside and Jamie Smith – were named on the NNZ umpire watchlist for 2024. At the national level, David Pala'amo and Sheena Tyrrell continued to provide valuable contributions as umpire coaches and selectors.

There was a strong and encouraging NetballSmart presence throughout the Mainland Zone this year. Kiana Gallon, alongside our Mainland Centre activators,



delivered numerous workshops to coaches, players, parents and support staff. A specific focus was on engaging more with local rangatahi [youth] within their schools, as this is a key demographic for netball-related injuries. Significant efforts were also made to integrate NetballSmart principles into coaching, umpiring and participation spaces. Sadly, we had to say mā te wā [goodbye] to Kiana, but we look forward to Nick Burton continuing the mahi in 2025.

Centre talent spotters observed players throughout the season, selecting 50 players to attend Mainland's advanced camp at Selwyn Sports Centre in September. The camp was a success, featuring testing, education, game play, guest speakers, and NetballSmart workshops. From this camp, 15 players were chosen to attend the Netball NZ South Island national development camp in January 2025.

Mainland's SHNL team had a strong finish to their season, winning four out of five matches. With a new coach and management team, they delivered a robust performance throughout the season, demonstrating the depth of talent and commitment within our region.

We are excited about the possibilities that lie ahead for 2025. Our goal is to continue to develop our people however they want to be involved in this great game we love.



Netball South



The 2024 season showcased our strong team culture, resilience and unity as well as opportunities to foster growth, recruit new talent and develop emerging players – promising a bright future for the Ascot Park Hotel Southern Steel.

We experienced significant challenges from the outset, including George Fisher's early ruling out in pre-season followed by season-ending injuries to Ivori Christie, Jennifer O'Connell and Shannon Saunders. Yet, despite adversity, the team achieved two notable wins, the first one ending a 713-day losing streak with an electrifying home victory at ILT Stadium Southland against the Stars and the second against the defending champions, Northern Mystics, to claim the Georgie Salter Memorial Trophy.

The Steel hosted the Heritage Round, celebrating the Southern Sting era, and introduced the inaugural Robyn Broughton Legacy Trophy game. This heartfelt tribute honoured Robyn Broughton's unparalleled coaching legacy resonating deeply with our community and Robyn's family.

We farewelled Reinga Bloxham after a remarkable 11-year tenure with the Steel, including eight years as head coach, as she embarks on an exciting new journey with the Cardiff Dragons in Wales.

In preparation for the Steel 2025, we welcomed Wendy Frew as the new head coach, and Liana Leota as assistant coach.

Netball South and Steel personnel continued to earn high regard in the wider Netball community. Jo Morrison was selected for HPSNZ's Te Hāpaitanga programme. Jo was also named head coach of the NZ Secondary Schools team.

On the player front, Kate Heffernan received the prestigious Sandra Edge Medal for Silver Fern Player of the Year – an outstanding achievement. Twin sister Georgia Heffernan celebrated her Silver Ferns debut in the Nations Cup.

This year marked a rebuilding phase for the Southern Blast Netball team.

Four players progressed to the Steel as injury cover during the season - Laura Balmer, Charlotte Lourey, Grace Southby and Ella Southby – this highlighted the importance of this pathway. Ella Southby was the NNL Coaches Choice Player of the Year. Laura Balmer, Emilie Nicholson and Ella Southby were named in the NZ U21 squad with Laura Balmer attending the Rising Stars: Fiji U21 Tour, NZ U21 squad alongside Steel players Serina Daunakamakama and Summer Temu.

In the community space, the year kicked off with the 'Steel Train,' where our Steel players actively engaged with local communities to deliver skill sessions. These events have a profound impact on our tamariki and rangatahi, fostering their growth and encouraging greater participation in Netball.

It has been rewarding to see the hard work from our Centres over the past year, resulting in increased participation of 1 per cent in juniors and a 2 per cent increase in both secondary school and senior numbers.

The efforts put into the player pathway system within the Zone over the last few years has resulted in four players selected in the final NZSS and NZSS A teams to play against Northern Invitational and Pacific Challenge Pearls.

The Netball NZ U18 tournament in Dunedin showcased our development programmes, with six teams competing from our Zone. Key achievements from the tournament included Susan Fitzgibbon umpiring the women's final and Katy Bryan (CSNC) receiving her NZC Umpire Award.

Exciting umpire achievements at the SISS held in Christchurch were: Jess Ingham (CSNC) umpired the final, Carol Chamberlain (INC) joined the Umpire's Coaching Panel, Gabby Guise (INC) received her Zone Umpire Award, and Brook Strang was recognised as a Talented Umpire. At the NNZ Open Champs, Susan Fitzgibbon (INC) earned her NZB Umpire Award and Alanah Robinson (NESC) was appointed to umpire the final with Nikki Gay and Sharon Ridd (INC) officiating.

Congratulations to Sasha McLeod, Kristie Simpson, and Alanah Robinson on their international umpire appointments.

South Zone is very proud of all our coaches and we currently have six recognised and accepted into NNZ Performance Coach Qualification: Hemaima Eichstaedt (NESC), Marie-Louise Gardyne (NESC), Lee Greig (INC), David Hiroki (INC), Marie Holden (UCNC) and our very own Lana Morrison.

The year brought changes to our community team, with the departure of several key members who moved on to pursue new opportunities. Despite these challenges, we were thrilled to welcome Rita Coe as our Community Relationship Manager, Paula Shortall as our NetballSmart Development Officer and Kate Lloyd as our Pathways and Development Manager – Kate starting in January 2025. Together, this team is focused on strengthening connections with our Centres, offering valuable support and fostering development prospects.

We hosted a forum with the majority of our Centres in attendance, providing an invaluable time to gather their feedback and offer insights and learnings. It was great for our Centres and Zone to connect, and we have taken many learnings from this for 2025.

At our AGM, we proudly recognised two recipients of the Netball South Service Awards: Marie Holden from Upper Clutha and Richard Jocelyn from Dunedin Netball. In addition, Tash Lake from Central Otago Netball Centre was honoured with the NNZ Administrator of the Year Award.

Netball South thanks all of the Centre staff and volunteers for their passion and commitment to grow and strengthen our sport, and, thanks to our board and Southern Steel family of funders, commercial partners and fans for their unwavering support in 2024.

Silver Ferns

In a remarkable turnaround in fortune, the Silver Ferns closed their 2024 international window with a decisive 3–1 Constellation Cup series win over the world champion Australian Diamonds to end the year in the most positive fashion.

The introduction of fresh talent in 2024 heralded the start of a new four-year cycle for the Silver Ferns, in the process setting the foundations and preparation for the next round of pinnacle events.

In a relatively quiet year where the Silver Ferns played 11 tests across three campaigns in England, New Zealand and Australia, the results identified that the women in black had made significant gains and were heading in the right direction by year's end.

In the international season-opening Nations Cup held in England in January, a young new-look Silver Ferns team came up against the Roses, Australia and newcomers Uganda.

In a personal highlight, Michaela Sokolich-Beatson made an eagerly-awaited return to the Silver Ferns for the Nations Cup, five years after her last international appearance following a run of major injury disruptions.

With stalwarts Amelianne Ekenasio and Jane Watson taking time out from the early season campaign, there were some new faces introduced for the series with a team of 11, including shooter Amorangi Malesala being named for the first time. Three training partners were also named. Phoenix Karaka was appointed captain for the tour with Kate Heffernan and Grace Nweke named as vice-captains.

The Silver Ferns had the most imposing of challenges to open the annual Nations Cup, coming up against the world champion Diamonds.

Surging back strongly after a fine third quarter, the Silver Ferns were well in the hunt when trailing by five points heading into the home straight. However they were unable to maintain the momentum against a fast-finishing Australia who showed their class with a dominant finish to close out a convincing 63–50.

Training partner Georgia Heffernan (goal attack) became Silver Fern #185 when making her debut during the match, joining twin sister Kate (wing defence) in a rare family milestone in international Netball.

There were promising signs for the Silver Ferns with shooter Nweke having a fine return when missing just one of her 42 shots at goal while continuing to build her new attacking partnerships with Mila Reulu-Buchanan, Maddy Gordon, Whitney Souness and Georgia Heffernan.

In their second outing, the Silver Ferns posted a determined and disciplined 65–60 win over an ever-improving Uganda, appearing in a series against the world's top nations for the first time after a historic 5th-place finish at the 2023 Netball World Cup.

Pushed all the way by Uganda, both teams produced an exciting and open attacking spectacle, the Silver Ferns producing a strong second half to outpace the She Cranes by seven goals after trailing by two at halftime.

The accuracy of both attacking units was a feature with turnover opportunities few and far between. The Silver Ferns shooting combination began to grow

in stature with Nweke near flawless in converting 53 from 54 and newcomer Georgia Heffernan impressing with her timing and range of shot.

The Silver Ferns suffered an agonising 57–58 loss to hosts England in their final round-robin match. Trailing by six late in the fourth quarter, the Silver Ferns came within a moment of levelling the scores with 30 seconds to go but a wayward pass ended their hopes.

Eleven players, including two on debut, took the court for the Silver Ferns and for much of the game there was plenty to admire in a positive outing. The relatively inexperienced Silver Ferns team showed plenty of grit, resilience and determination to keep the result in the balance right to the end against the vastly more experienced England Roses.

An ever-improving Georgia Heffernan was handed her third straight start of the series, at goal attack, while the injection of shooter Malesala and Centre Tayla Earle, who travelled as a training partner, became Silver Ferns #186 and #187 respectively when they were added to the mix.

In the play-off for 3rd, the introduction of experienced heads in the second half helped the Silver Ferns take a hard-fought 62–57 win over Uganda.

Leading by three points at the final turn, the Silver Ferns faced some anxious moments as Uganda closed to within one goal. However, the tall presence at each end of the court by defender Kelly Jackson and shooter Nweke, who delivered another standout performance with 51 goals, and the silky skills of Souness in the midcourt provided the winning finishing touches in the run home.

For this match, midcourter Earle and goal attack Malesala were handed their first international starts. Nweke notched a significant personal milestone when scoring her 1,000th international goal during the first stanza in just her 13th test.

With the focus on the future, a new and young group of Silver Ferns gained valuable exposure and opportunities in the four-nation tournament with a growing depth of quality rising to the fore.

Following a comprehensive recruitment process, Dame Noeline Taurua was reappointed as Silver Ferns head coach in April for a further two-year term. From a strong pool of candidates, Debbie Fuller retained her position also as Silver Ferns assistant coach.

Focusing on the attack end, NSW Swifts head coach Briony Akle, who was with the team as a specialist coach for the Nations Cup, was retained for the end-of-year international window as well, involving the Taini Jamison Trophy and Constellation Cup.



At the completion of the ANZ Premiership, 28 triallists were named for a three-day camp from which the Silver Ferns squad of 16 was selected. The experienced Te Paea Selby-Rickit and Watson were unavailable for selection.

After standout domestic seasons, Magic midcourter Claire O'Brien and Pulse defender Parris Mason were called into the squad for the first time while midcourter Kimiora Poi and defender Erena Mikaere earned recalls. All four were named in the 13 to take on the England Roses in the three-test Taini Jamison Trophy series in September, which also featured the return of shooter and captain Ekenasio.

The Silver Ferns produced plenty of optimism despite being pipped 58-59 by England in a thrilling opening match in Auckland.

It was the closest of contests with the Silver Ferns winning the first quarter by one goal, England prevailing by one in each of the second and third quarters, followed by a drawn fourth, highlighting how evenly matched the teams were.

With a nod to the future, O'Brien and Mason also made their Silver Ferns debuts, slotting in well to embrace the enormity of a high-pressured situation, to become Silver Ferns #188 and #189 respectively.

Needing to win to keep the series alive, the Silver Ferns fell short after the Roses clinched a 59-55 win to claim the Taini Jamison Trophy, with one test to play, in the second test in Porirua.

The Silver Ferns delivered a solid first half in their bid to level the series but a dramatic change in momentum in the third quarter swung the match England's way.

Critical errors from the Silver Ferns proved costly, England grabbing the initiative and hammering home their advantage. Winning the final quarter by one point, a fast finish from the

Silver Ferns was not enough to repair the damage of a disappointing and frustrating third-quarter lapse.

The experienced Souness came into the match-day 12 to get the start at wing attack on her home town court while, after making her debut in the first test, Mason backed up with her first test start for the Silver Ferns.

The home side welcomed back 1.92m defender Mikaere to international Netball during the match, the 36-year-old taking the court for just her second test, five years after her first.

Further changes, including shooter Maia Wilson coming on for her 50th test, could not change the course of the match and England's grip on the Taini Jamison Trophy.

Building through the international window, the Silver Ferns took another

step up when delivering a morale-boosting 61-56 win in the third match in Invercargill.

After losing the first two tests by one and four-goal margins, the Silver Ferns were intent in denying England a clean sweep before going on to maintain their unbeaten record against the Roses in the Deep South with a heartening response in the series finale.

Retaining an unchanged seven players for the entire match, with O'Brien making her first international start, the Silver Ferns led at each quarter break, at times rocketing out to positions of control and at others, defending stoutly to keep an ever-challenging England at bay.

Growing throughout the series, the Silver Ferns showed their resilience on the back of better through-court connections, ball retention and composure while the twin towers at either end of the court in shooter Nweke and defender Jackson made invaluable individual contributions.

A five-day camp held in the short time frame between the Taini Jamison



Trophy and the Constellation Cup series provided the much-needed impetus and new sense of focus to help the Silver Ferns turn the corner in spectacular fashion. With the first two Constellation Cup tests held in New Zealand followed by the remaining two in Australia, the importance of a strong Silver Ferns performance on home soil was paramount.

And the Silver Ferns couldn't have asked for a better start, storming home in the final quarter to stun Australia 64-50 in the four-test series-opener in Wellington.

Relentless and consistent, the Silver Ferns delivered their biggest win over the Diamonds since 2010 while recording their highest score against their trans-Tasman rivals in a non-extra-time match.

In searching for answers against the Silver Ferns, Australia used all 12 of their playing squad while the Silver Ferns stuck with their starting seven apart from the final few minutes when midcourter O'Brien was injected.

Midcourters Gordon and Poi, who was back in the Silver Ferns for the first time since 2022, delivered a stream of perfectly-placed ball into Nweke's hands as the home side went toe-to-toe with the Australians.

Nudging to a 17-16 first quarter lead – there was no looking back for the Silver Ferns, who continued their stellar form for the remainder of the match when leading 34-25 and 47-40 at the following breaks.

The in-circle defensive pairing of Karin Burger and Jackson were relentless in

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creating hesitancy and tentativeness from the visiting shooters while Ekenasio was an influential figure through her leadership and plays on attack.

The Silver Ferns’ renaissance continued in the second clash in Auckland, the home side delivering back-to-back double-digit wins when outclassing Australia 63–52 in another dominant outing.

The Silver Ferns maintained their intensity and consistency with an equally-compelling outing against the world champions, who have a strong history of being able to bounce back but were unable to dent the host’s resilient showing second time around.

With the Silver Ferns holding the edge at both ends and through the middle, the Diamonds had few answers in negating the strike power of towering shooter Nweke while also struggling against the relentless defensive efforts of Burger and Jackson.

Building a 17–11 first quarter lead set the tone for the Silver Ferns who converted their dominance to 33–23 and 48–39 leads at the following quarter breaks before clinching a second straight win.

The result left the Silver Ferns perfectly placed heading across the Tasman for the remaining two matches. However, the biggest challenge of breaking their duck in Australia for the first time since 2019 awaited.

In full flight, the Silver Ferns duly obliged with a forceful 18-goal win. Retaining an unchanged starting seven for the third straight game, the Silver Ferns shrugged off a persistent Australia to lead 28–26 at half-time before bursting away with a blockbuster second half.

With their history-making 61–43 win in Perth, the Silver Ferns completed their third straight double-digit win over their great rivals while also securing the Constellation Cup for just the third time since the series’ inception in 2010.

Absorbing everything Australia could muster, the Silver Ferns unleashed an impressive second-half response during which they restricted their

opponents to single-digit returns in the third and fourth quarters. It was the first time the Silver Ferns had won three Constellation Cup matches in a row in the same year.

Through her relentless play on defence and strong through-court carries on attack, wing defence Kate Heffernan produced a standout performance in an all-round stellar Silver Ferns’ outing.

With the Constellation Cup locked away, Dame Noeline opted to give all her 12-strong squad valuable game-time experience against Australia for the final test in Melbourne.

Many changes through all facets of the match, and involving all 12 players, resulted in an inconsistent showing from the Silver Ferns. Australia, with plenty to prove while making just the one change throughout, won the day due to their greater accuracy and attacking play to notch their first win of the series 63–50.

Slowly building on their structures and setting the platform for a vibrant attacking style and improved defensive strategies, the Silver Ferns put the stamp on 2024 in highly encouraging fashion.

The mix of experienced heads, the younger brigade having valuable playing time against the world champions and growing confidence through winning the Constellation Cup has the Silver Ferns well primed for ongoing progress and success.



#1 Margaret Matangi, **#2** Jean Mitchell, **#3** Elva Divers (née Howard), **#4** Muriel Boswell (née Hówe), **#5** Mary Martin, **#6** Ethel Withell (née Neame),
#7 Jean Lomax (née Willson), **#8** Donah Shannahan (née Murray), **#9** Azalea Sinclair (née Clark), **#10** Dixie Cockerton, **#11** Josie Hickey,
#12 Alison Preston-Thomas (née Hughes), **#13** Mary Sullivan, **#14** Dell Bandeen (née Turner), **#15** Beverley Malcolm (née Avery), **#16** Leslie Purvis (née Black),
#17 Joyce Sullivan, **#18** Thelma Turner (née Trask), **#19** Rona Woodgyer, **#20** Betty Plant, **#21** Natalie Wicken (née Nicholls), **#22** June Mariu (née Waititi),
#23 Judy Blair (née Dunlop), **#24** Pamela Barham (née Smith), **#25** Marion Law (née Johnston), **#26** Colleen Falloon (née McMaster), **#27** Lois Muir (née Osborne),
#28 Shirley Annan (née Patrick), **#29** Betty Steffensen (née Pratt), **#30** Margaret Pawson (née Elliott), **#31** Rebecca Chaplow (née Faulkner), **#32** Betty McNamara,
#33 Elva Simpson (née Tait), **#34** Joan Harnett (née Martin), **#35** Lesley Harris (née Baker), **#36** Mirth Solomon (née Te Moananui), **#37** Tilly Hirst (née Vercoe),
#38 Ann Rankin (née Blair), **#39** Pam Marsden (née Hamilton), **#40** Billie Irwin, **#41** Sandra Easterbrook (née James), **#42** Margaret Filippini (née Gardiner),
#43 Elizabeth Rowley (née Story), **#44** Nancy King (née Carroll), **#45** Shirley Langrope, **#46** Lynne Macdonald, **#47** Frances Webster (née Hawe),
#48 Brenda Rowberry (née Walker), **#49** Sandra Richards (née Norman), **#50** Coral Palmer, **#51** Lorraine Mair, **#52** Olwyn McKay (née Frethey), **#53** Lyn Gunson,
#54 Beth Huntington (née Carnie), **#55** Frances Granger (née Rawstorm), **#56** Marilyn Munro, **#57** Christine Pietzner (née Cottrell), **#58** Georgina Salter (née Hapuku),
#59 Yvonne Willering, **#60** Maxine Blomquist, **#61** Anne Taylor (née Downey), **#62** Margharet Matenga (née Kamana), **#63** Pauline Knaggs (née Flynn),
#64 Leigh Gibbs (née Mills), **#65** Ruth Aitken (née Fathers), **#66** Margaret Forsyth, **#67** Lyn Robertson (née Proudlove), **#68** Geane Hohipuha (née Katae),
#69 Janice Waddy (née Henderson), **#70** Waimarama Taumaunu, **#71** Te Aroha Keenan (née Clarke), **#72** Tracey Fear, **#73** Rhonda Wilcox (née Meads),
#74 Rita Fatialofa, **#75** Sandra Edge, **#76** Annette Heffernan (née Blomquist), **#77** Karen Henriksen, **#78** Julie Townsend, **#79** Liz McJorow (née Neilson),
#80 Julie Carter, **#81** Tracy Shortland (née Eryl), **#82** Denise Felix, **#83** Joan Hodson (née Solia), **#84** Angela Bell (née Pule), **#85** Sharon Gold (née Burridge),
#86 Cathrine Wilkinson, **#87** Robin Dillimore, **#88** Ana Noovao, **#89** April Ieremia, **#90** Louisa Wall, **#91** Tanya Dearn (née Cox),

Silver Ferns 1938 – 2024

#92 Carron Jerram (née Topping), **#93** Pania Papa, **#94** Leonie Leaver (née Wendt), **#95** Sheryl Waite, **#96** Margaret Foster (née Bray), **#97** Lisa Wilson,
#98 Bernice Mene, **#99** Sheryl Burns (née George), **#100** Gael Nagaiya (née Robinson), **#101** Sonya Hardcastle, **#102** Linda Vagana, **#103** Leilani Read,
#104 Teresa Tairi, **#105** Belinda Charteris (née Blair), **#106** Julie Seymour (née Dawson), **#107** Lesley Rumball (née Nicol), **#108** Noeline Taurua,
#109 Debbie Fuller (née Matoes), **#110** Anna Stanley (née Rowberry), **#111** Elisa Taringa, **#112** Belinda Colling, **#113** Tania Dalton (née Nicholson),
#114 Donna Wilkins (née Loffhagen), **#115** Gail Parata, **#116** Jenny-May Clarkson (née Coffin), **#117** Sheryl Scanlan (née Clarke), **#118** Jo Morrison (née Steed),
#119 Lorna Suafoa, **#120** Adine Wilson (née Harper), **#121** Temepara Bailey (née George), **#122** Irene van Dyk, **#123** Vilimaina Davu,
#124 Anna Galvan (née Veronese), **#125** Victoria Edward, **#126** Angela Mitchell (née Evans), **#127** Daneka Tuineau (née Wipiiti), **#128** Anna Harrison (née Scarlett),
#129 Leana de Bruin (née du Plooy), **#130** Jodi Brown (née Te Huna), **#131** Joline Johansson (née Henry), **#132** Amigene Metcalfe, **#133** Laura Langman,
#134 Maria Folau (née Tutaia), **#135** Casey Kopua (née Williams), **#136** Jessica Tuki, **#137** Debbie Christian (née White), **#138** Maree Bowden (née Grubb),
#139 Paula Griffin, **#140** Katrina Rore (née Grant), **#141** Liana Leota (née Barrett-Chase), **#142** Wendy Frew (née Telfer), **#143** Anna Kennedy (née Thompson),
#144 Larrissa McAlister (née Willcox), **#145** Grace Kara (née Rasmussen), **#146** Camilla Poyser (née Lees), **#147** Kayla Johnson (née Cullen),
#148 Cathrine Tuivaiti (née Latu), **#149** Sulu Fitzpatrick, **#150** Bailey Mes, **#151** Courtney Tairi, **#152** Shannon Saunders (née Francois),
#153 Te Huinga Reo Selby-Rickit, **#154** Katarina Cooper, **#155** Phoenix Karaka, **#156** Ellen Halpenny, **#157** Amelianne Ekenasio (née Wells),
#158 Temalisi Fakahokotau, **#159** Malia Vaka (née Paseka), **#160** Jane Watson, **#161** Te Paea Selby-Rickit, **#162** Storm Purvis, **#163** Maia Wilson, **#164** Gina Crampton,
#165 Samantha Winders (née Sinclair), **#166** Kelly Jackson (née Jury), **#167** Whitney Souness, **#168** Claire Kersten, **#169** Michaela Sokolich-Beatson,
#170 Elisapeta Toeava, **#171** Karin Burger, **#172** Aliyah Dunn, **#173** Erikana Pedersen, **#174** Kimiora Poi, **#175** Erena Mikaere, **#176** Monica Falkner,
#177 Maddy Gordon, **#178** Tiana Metuarau, **#179** Grace Nweke, **#180** Georgia Takarangí (née Tong), **#181** Mila Reuelu-Buchanan, **#182** Kate Heffernan,
#183 Elle Temu, **#184** Amelia Walmsley, **#185** Georgia Heffernan, **#186** Amorangi Malesala, **#187** Tayla Earle, **#188** Claire O'Brien, **#189** Parris Mason

National Squads and Teams

Silver Ferns Squad

Karin Burger **TJT CC NC**
 Kate Burley **NC**
 Amelianne Ekenasio **TJT CC**
 Maddy Gordon **TJT CC NC**
 Kate Heffernan **TJT CC NC**
 Kelly Jackson (née Jury) **TJT CC NC**
 Phoenix Karaka **CC NC**
 Parris Mason **TJT CC**
 Erena Mikaere **TJT**
 Grace Nweke **TJT CC NC**
 Claire O'Brien **TJT CC**
 Kimiora Poi **TJT CC**
 Mila Reuelu-Buchanan **NC**
 Whitney Souness **TJT CC NC**
 Amelia Walmsley **TJT CC NC**
 Maia Wilson **TJT CC**

Key:

TJT Cadbury Netball Series playing for Taini Jamison Trophy

CC Cadbury Netball Series playing for Constellation Cup

NC Nations Cup

Silver Ferns Development Squad

Tayla Earle
 Georgie Edgecombe
 Catherine Hall
 Paris Lokotui
 Tiana Metuarau
 Martina Salmon
 Michaela Sokolich-Beatson
 Carys Stythe
 Peta Toeava
 Saviour Tui

FAST5 Ferns

Kate Burley
 Tayla Earle
 Georgie Edgecombe
 Catherine Hall
 Paris Lokotui
 Erena Mikaere
 Martina Salmon
 Michaela Sokolich-Beatson
 Saviour Tui
 Maia Wilson

Nations Cup Squad

Karin Burger
 Maddy Gordon
 Kate Heffernan
 Kelly Jackson (née Jury)
 Phoenix Karaka
 Amorangi Malesala*
 Grace Nweke
 Mila Reuelu-Buchanan
 Michaela Sokolich-Beatson
 Whitney Souness
 Amelia Walmsley

TRAINING PARTNERS

Kate Burley
 Tayla Earle*
 Georgia Heffernan*

*Debuted for the Silver Ferns during the Nations Cup

New Zealand A

Kate Burley
 Tayla Earle
 Georgie Edgecombe
 Catherine Hall
 Paris Lokotui
 Tiana Metuarau
 Mila Reuelu-Buchanan
 Martina Salmon
 Michaela Sokolich-Beatson
 Whitney Souness
 Carys Stythe
 Peta Toeava
 Saviour Tui



Netball New Zealand's Centenary

Holding a unique position in this country, Netball marked a special milestone with key events and activities throughout 2024 to celebrate NNZ's centenary.

On 21 May 2024, NNZ became the first national Netball body in the world to reach 100 years of existence, with a nationwide day of celebration highlighting the occasion.

From humble beginnings around the turn of the 20th century, by 1924 Netball was being played on grass fields and asphalt courts throughout the country by women and schoolgirls in gym frocks and black stockings, to steadily evolve into a showpiece of athletic and skilful excellence.

In 1922, the four original associations of Auckland, Wellington, Canterbury and Otago drove the initiative towards forming a national association which came to fruition in May 1924 with the inauguration of the New Zealand Basketball Association. The colours of black with a silver fern emblem were adopted.

Coming into step with the rest of the world and changing to the seven-a-side version of the game in 1959 was the catalyst for huge growth in the sport. A new breed of radical Netball administrators and the political climate of the time subsequently pushed the sport into the mainstream.

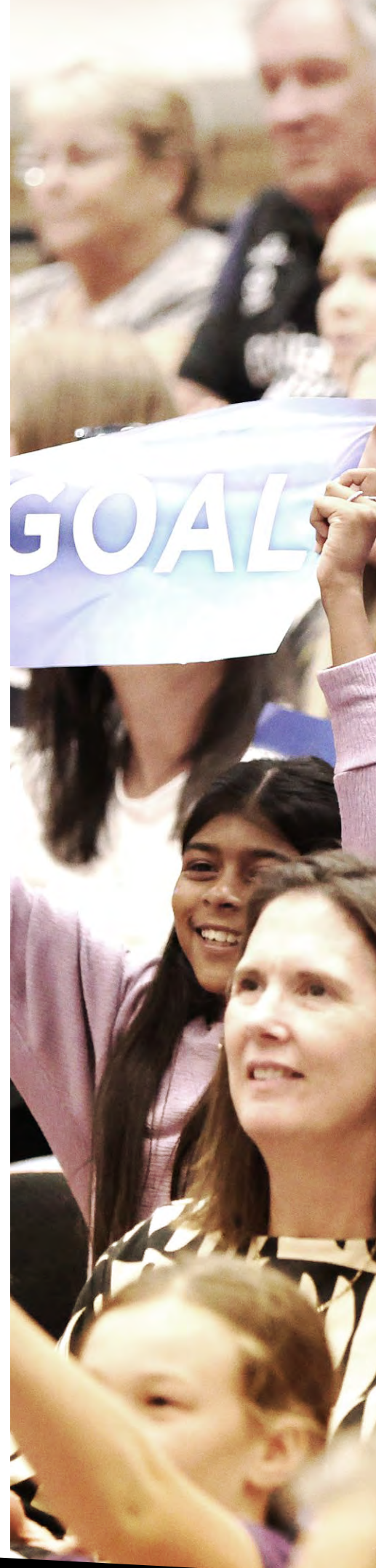
In 1970, New Zealand became the last country to adopt the name 'netball' which until that time was still referred to as 'women's basketball' but NNZ has led the way on many other fronts in propelling the game forward.

The rise of the national team, marketing expertise, indoor stadiums and television coverage followed with Netball holding a strong stake on New Zealand's sporting landscape.

The development of franchise Netball only added to the popularity with the optimal breakthrough coming in 2008 when NNZ and our Australian counterparts joined forces to create a new semi-professional league, and pushed the game into a bold new era.

The pioneering spirit of hundreds of administrators and volunteers over the years has put Netball in a place where it successfully holds its own against male sporting codes. It became the blueprint for Netball bodies around the world through its broadcast and commercialisation achievements.

New Zealand has also been at the forefront of men's Netball, which continues to grow in numbers. The Silver Ferns and New Zealand Men's team made history when becoming the first televised match of women and men competing on the same court, in 2019.



Key events/activities that took place during the 2024 NNZ centenary celebrations included:

- 1 Launch of the NNZ Hall of Fame
- 2 NNZ Life Member and Service Award recognition
- 3 Silver Fern pin presentations
- 4 Centenary content series including top moments and influencers
- 5 Integrated 100-year celebrations across all NNZ events
- 6 Auckland War Memorial Museum exhibit providing a tangible reflection of Netball's stories and the people who have shaped Netball and its legacy
- 7 The ANZ Premiership standing as a tribute to what has gone before

Auckland Museum Exhibition

In a joint venture, Poitara-whiti Aotearoa Netball New Zealand and Tāmaki Paenga Hira Auckland War Memorial Museum added to the centenary celebrations with a visual display of Netball through the ages, which opened on 3 September.

Our Game: A Century of Netball in Aotearoa New Zealand traces the evolution of Netball, from grassroots beginnings to triumphs on the global stage. Through a diverse collection of photographs, memorabilia, archival footage and personal stories, the exhibition uncovers the history of Netball in New Zealand, giving visitors insights into the sport that has captivated and united communities across the motu.

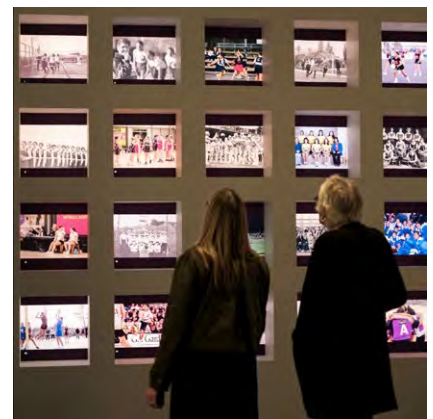
The exhibition shares the origins of Netball in Aotearoa New Zealand, and how a consistent community groundswell and dedicated volunteers allowed it to become the flourishing sport of today. It also highlights the challenges the sport, its supporters and players faced, from earning recognition as a national sport to acceptance into the Commonwealth Games.

Dynamic and nostalgic, the exhibition highlights inspiring stories of pioneering players, coaches and teams that have shaped the sport. It showcases iconic matches and championships that have left a lasting impact on fans and players alike, and the significance of Netball within different communities.

“Our Game: A Century of Netball in Aotearoa New Zealand not only celebrates the sport’s history but also acknowledges its role in fostering community spirit and empowering women. Netball is more than just a game; it reflects our nation’s values, resilience, and passion,” Auckland Museum Curator, Social History, Jane Groufsky said.

“Over the past century, Netball New Zealand has amassed an archive of photos, film, ephemera, uniforms and other significant items from the game. We’re looking forward to sharing some of these taonga with our visitors, as well as objects from our own collection and from other generous lenders.”

The year 2024 has marked the centenary celebration of NNZ, the oldest Netball association in the world. The milestone year has highlighted a century of promoting and supporting Netball across



the country, fostering a love for the sport, nurturing talent and encouraging participation at all levels.

The Auckland War Memorial Museum’s *Our Game: A Century of Netball in Aotearoa New Zealand* exhibition remains open until 18 February 2025.

A special thanks to Netball historians Todd Miller and Margaret Henley for their work alongside the Museum team to pull together the content for the exhibition.



New Zealand U21's

*New Zealand U21 squad named for Rising Stars:
Fiji U21 Tour – 19-23 August, Suva, Fiji.*

In August NNZ Emerging Talent Selectors and NZU21 head coach Julie Seymour named a 14-strong squad to play in the Rising Stars Tournament at the Vodafone Arena in Suva, Fiji.

U21 squads from Singapore, Australia, Fiji and NZ were all part of the tournament. Central shooter Amelia Walmsley was not considered for selection due to Silver Ferns trials.

NZU21 SQUAD FOR RISING STARS TOURNAMENT:

Khanye-Lii Munro-Nonoa Northern
Madison Thomas Central
Charlotte Manley Northern
Laura Balmer South
Serina Daunakamakama Northern
Lillian Henare-Vaihu Northern
Kaiya Kepa WBOP
Sienna Stowers-Smith Mainland
Shayla Nepia Northern
Sarah Guiney Central
Summer Temu Northern
Taiana Day Mainland
Kate Taylor WBOP
Phoenix Schwalger Central

ANZ Premiership

The 2024 season played out in fitting fashion, a combination of the unexpected, intrigue, suspense and resilience producing a highly entertaining spectacle from start to finish.

Heralding the start of a new four-year cycle in the build towards pinnacle international events, the 15-round, 45-game domestic showpiece delivered a quality competition for fans.

The adjustment to three games per round for the 2024 season proved a winning formula with the rise in attendance numbers at matches and viewing audiences. This highlighted the most successful and popular season in the league's eight-year history.

The league enjoyed widespread media coverage across all platforms, with Sky Sport televising all 45 round-robin games and the Finals Series live, as well as hosting the popular *Netball Zone* show.

The three-match-per-round format where games were played on Saturday and Sunday afternoons and Monday evenings, with the Saturday match also screened live on TVNZ 2 and TVNZ+, the free-to-air broadcasts proved a popular drawcard.

Print, radio and television were strong allies in providing topical coverage of the league in terms of relevant storylines and personality pieces.

This was helped by assistance from NNZ in offering teams opportunities to create more of their own content, including video material for their

social channels. Team media liaisons were strong drivers also in facilitating greater exposure through interviews and generally keeping mainstream media up to date and informed about their respective teams.

All teams had their injury problems in a season where there was a high attrition rate, some losing key players for many weeks. This unearthed a host of rising young talent with many from the Synergy Hair Netball League (SHNL) grabbing the opportunity to play at the elite level. And with that came many success stories while adding to the development of New Zealand's depth of talent.

At the other end of the experience spectrum, it also involved former Silver Fern Claire Kersten coming out of retirement and helping an injury-depleted Te Wānanga o Raukawa Pulse in their hour of need with instant success.

It was a similar story for the MG Mystics where former Silver Fern Kayla Johnson was elevated from club duties

to adding midcourt cover, and at the Trident Homes Tactix where Ellie Bird, home from a season in the England Super League, played a leading hand when filling the shooter's role for an injured Aliyah Dunn.

With many teams having to juggle their rosters and some taking time to

find their feet, results were hard to predict, which added an element of the unknown. As new scenarios unfolded each week, it produced an exciting run in the closing rounds with the make-up and order for the Finals Series not being determined until the final round, the Minor Premiership winner being decided in the final game of the regular season.

There was much anticipation during the build-up with pre-season tournaments held in Ōtaki where Te Wānanga o Raukawa hosted the Pulse, Stars, Tactix and Queensland Firebirds in March.

That was closely followed by the Ascot Park Hotel Southern Steel-hosted Southern Showdown tournament in Dunedin, which also included the Mystics, AVIS Magic, Pulse and Tactix.

However, once the regular season was under way a steady stream of injuries became the hallmark with all teams losing key personnel, requiring back-up and a resourceful attitude.

Bonus points, awarded for finishing within five points, again played a hand in determining the make-up of the top three teams with the Mystics squeezing out the Magic for third spot in the Finals Series. Scoring three bonus points to the Magic's two, the Mystics ended the regular season on 30 points, one ahead of the Magic.

The Tactix or Pulse held top spot on the points table after every round of the 2024 season and fittingly came into the final match of the regular season with the same win/loss/bonus-point record and sitting on 34 points.

Bonus points, awarded for finishing within five, again played a hand in determining the make-up of the top three teams..."

Having all their original contracted players available for the first time in the 15-week season, the Pulse turned on their best outing of the campaign to trump the Tactix 58–44, in the process claiming a fifth Minor Premiership while advancing directly to the Grand Final.

That result left the Tactix hosting their first-ever Finals Series match, against the defending champion Mystics in Christchurch’s Elimination Final.

A storming final quarter pushed the Mystics to a compelling come-from-behind 68–64 win over a gallant Tactix. Befitting the occasion, both teams produced a riveting contest with the lead changing hands several times, the late charge by the visitors eventually breaking the deadlock.

Continuing their surging form at the business end of the season, there was no panic from the Mystics, who trailed by three heading into the last quarter, a storming 22–15 scoreline in the final 15 minutes pushing them into a Grand Final match-up with the Pulse.

Arriving with impeccable timing, the Pulse and Mystics set the scene perfectly for the Grand Final at a sold-out TSB Arena in Wellington.

Both teams had battled admirably to reach the final hurdle, the pair overcoming major injury setbacks along the way. Fourteen players had lined up for the Pulse during the season while the Mystics used 12, the teams restored to full strength for the season finale.

As the most successful team in the ANZ Premiership, the Pulse were hoping to expand on their record while chasing a fourth title, with the Mystics looking to join their opponents on three.

The Mystics went on to become the third team to win back-to-back ANZ Premiership titles when posting a dramatic 54–53 win over the hosts.

The game delivered in every aspect with world-class match-ups across the court and a seesaw battle between the two best teams in the league going right down to the last second of play, with Grace Nweke landing the winning goal as the final whistle blew.



Mystics had some anxious outings and faced a real battle to keep their season alive, missing their influential pairing of midcourt dynamo Peta Toeava and sharpshooter Nweke for several weeks due to injury.

Digging deep, and with the return of Toeava and Nweke at a key stage in the season, a full-strength Mystics clicked into gear when it mattered most while revealing the depth of talent in their squad.

Young defenders Carys Stythe and Catherine Hall delivered on their potential with strong seasons while Tayla Earle, Phoenix Karaka and Michaela Sokolich-Beatson showed the benefit of experience.

There was much to admire from a Pulse side who overcame a long list of injuries to keep soldiering on while coming close to a fairy-tale finish.

Having all three of their original shooters – Amelia Walmsley, Tiana Metuarau and Khiana Williams – out at certain stages, along with midcourter Maddy Gordon, the Pulse's attacking line was deprived of its key cogs.

Martina Salmon and Kiana Pelasio did a fine job of stepping into the breach from the Central Manawa team to steady the ship; Salmon in particular delivered a stellar run of games at the elite level while shooting 50 or more goals on three occasions.

The back three of Kelly Jackson, Parris Mason and Fa'amu Ioane were all class in ensuring the Pulse were the best defensive team in the league.

With the best shooting accuracy and second-best defensive record in the league, the Tactix sat in the top two throughout the season. However, they were unable to nail the defining final two matches of the season – going down against the Pulse in the last match of the regular season, before being overtaken in the last quarter of the Elimination Final against the Mystics.

An experienced side, the Tactix had shooter Dunn out for a lengthy spell at the start of the season but had a ready-made replacement in Bird, who excelled

with her volume and had the highest success rate of all shooters with 93 per cent.

The defensive pairing of Jane Watson and Karin Burger was always a menacing presence while the midcourt of Kimiora Poi, Erikana Pedersen, Paris Lokotui and Greer Sinclair had their moments, the team just unable to deliver the knockout blow when it mattered most.

With 11 wins during their campaign, the Elimination Final brought a close to the end of the Tactix most successful season in their 17-year history which was also the last for coach Marianne Delaney-Hoshek after 119 matches at the helm.

As the only team never to have contested the ANZ Premiership finals, the Magic came close in 2024. Securing eight wins, a record for the team since the inception of the league in 2017, a strong finish to the season put the Magic right in the frame for a top-three spot. Coming agonisingly close, they were pipped at the post by the Mystics.

The Magic grew steadily throughout the season to produce several top-quality performances where they enjoyed wins over top teams, the Mystics, Pulse and Tactix.

Led by shooter Ameliaranne Ekenasio, the Magic did not have the injury toll of other teams but lost midcourter Ali Wilshier to a serious knee injury in the latter stages. In tandem with Ekenasio, Saviour Tui, through her aerial skills and athleticism, was a terrific contributor for the Magic under the hoop.

Midcourters Georgie Edgecombe and Claire O'Brien along with defenders Georgia Takarangi and Erena Mikaere produced strong campaigns also.

The Stars had a challenging season and could count themselves unlucky after claiming nine bonus points (losing by less than five) throughout the season in what was a new record. Losing midcourter Samon Nathan and defender Kelera Nawai-Caucau to pregnancy before the

season started, the Stars were also hampered by injury. Midcourter Emma Thompson had a long stint recovering from concussion and shooter Amorangi Malesala missed several weeks with an ankle injury while the loss of midcourter Mila Reuelu-Buchanan to a serious knee injury late in the season was a devastating blow.

Captain and Stars stalwart Maia Wilson was a rock at the shooting end, making the most attempts of any shooter with a near 92 per cent success rate. At the other end, defenders Kate Burley and Holly Fowler were wholehearted performers during a tough campaign.

After seven seasons as head coach, it was the last for Kiri Wills, who has taken up the position of head coach of the Queensland Firebirds in the Australian Super League.

Plagued by injury over the last couple of years, it was a similar story for the

Steel in 2024, the southerners up against it once again in the face of major injuries.

Before the season had started, the Steel lost key international shooter George

Fisher to a long-term injury. That was compounded by losing experienced midcourter Shannon Saunders early on.

Fisher's replacement, Jennifer O'Connell, didn't fare much better after being ruled out entirely early in the season while promising midcourter Ivari Christie missed the last few matches of the campaign with injury, as well.

The Steel on occasion tested other teams but were ultimately let down by a lack of experience. Captain Kate Heffernan, midcourter Renee Savai'inaea and defender Abby Lawson (née Erwood) were tireless performers for the southerners.

After eight seasons at the helm, Reinga Bloxham called time on her career as head coach of the Steel, spreading her wings to take up the opportunity as head coach of the Cardiff Dragons in England's Netball Super League.

...a full-strength Mystics clicked into gear when it mattered most while revealing the depth of talent in their squad."



ANZ PREMIERSHIP 2024 CHAMPIONS



Teams

1st

MG MYSTICS

Tayla Earle
Hannah Glen
Catherine Hall
Phoenix Karaka
Grace Nweke
Michaela Sokolich-Beatson
Carys Stythe
Katie Te-Ao
Peta Toeava
Filda Vui



2nd

TE WĀNANGA O RAUKAWA PULSE

Maddy Gordon
Fa'amu Ioane
Kelea longi
Kelly Jackson [née Jury]
Parris Mason
Tiana Metuarau
Parris Petera
Whitney Souness
Amelia Walmsley
Khiarna Williams



3rd

TRIDENT HOMES TACTIX

Jess Allan
Karin Burger
Aliyah Dunn
Kate Lloyd
Paris Lokotui
Erikana Pederson
Kimiora Poi
Te Paea Selby-Rickit
Greer Sinclair
Jane Watson



AVIS MAGIC

Reeghan de Bono
Georgie Edgecombe
Amelianne Ekenasio
Oceance Maihi
Erena Mikaere
Claire O'Brien
Ivana Rowland
Georgia Takarangī
Saviour Tui
Ali Wishier



STARS

Kate Burley
Holly Fowler
Amorangi Malesala
Lisa Mather
Khanyé-Lii Munro-Nonoa
Mila Reuelu-Buchanan
Rahni Samason
Emma Thompson
Lili Tokoduadua
Maia Wilson



ASCOT PARK HOTEL SOUTHERN STEEL

Ivari Christie
Taneisha Fifita
Georgia Heffernan
Kate Heffernan
Abby Lawson [née Erwood]
Grace Namana
Jennifer O'Connell
Shannon Saunders
Renee Savai'Inaea
Jeanté Strydom



Players contracted as of 13 April 2024



Synergy Hair Netball League

The presence of the Synergy Hair Netball League (SHNL) continued to deliver on its relevance during 2024 when producing one of the most keenly contested seasons in its nine-year history.

Fundamental to strengthening NNZ's pathway, the SHNL has grown year-on-year and the introduction of talented young players, coaches and management to all aspects of the high-performance environment has continued to gather momentum.

The expectations of what is required at the SHNL level, which sits directly below the ANZ Premiership, has climbed to new heights. The growing partnerships between each team with their sister ANZ Premiership teams has enriched the depth of talent and opportunity.

In providing a win-win situation, SHNL teams can name up to two ANZ Premiership players on their match-day list – those who are not getting much court time at the top level, alongside the emerging players from their Zone.

With many of the ANZ Premiership teams plagued by a devastating injury toll, SHNL players were frequently called on to add cover at the elite level during 2024. In numbers not previously seen, there was an influx of the younger brigade having a shot at the 'big time', with several going on to gain full-time ANZ Premiership contracts.

The Northern Marvels, Comets, Waikato Bay of Plenty, Central Manawa, Mainland and Southern Blast competed in a 10-week round-robin competition. This included 24 matches being played,

of which eight, including the Grand Final, were televised live while others featured in delayed broadcasts.

Four teams advanced to the Grand Final coming into the final round of the regular season, highlighting the tight battle at the top of the table.

In a repeat of last year's season-decider, the well-credentialled Comets and defending champions Manawa clinched the top two spots for the Grand Final in Porirua, on 23 June.

The Comets locked up the top spot at the end of the regular season, five points ahead of Manawa and Waikato Bay of Plenty, the yellow-and-blacks advancing to a seventh final due to a superior goal differential.

Posting a win and a draw against Manawa during the regular season, the Comets reinforced their consistent form throughout 2024 to retain the edge in an entertaining Grand Final.

Overcoming a nervous start, and in their fourth time of trying, the Comets claimed their maiden SHNL title with a hard-fought 56–51 win over five-time champions Manawa.

The Comets win was a fitting tribute to Ivy Topping, who was a significant contributor to coaching in New Zealand across legions of players over many years and who had sadly passed away just days before the Grand Final.



Final Placings

- 1st: Comets
- 2nd: Central Manawa
- 3rd: Waikato Bay of Plenty
- 4th: Northern Marvels
- 5th: Mainland
- 6th: Southern Blast

Mother of Comets manager and former Silver Fern Carron Jerram and grandmother of Marcia Jerram, who played a significant role in the goal defence bib for the victors, the pair honoured Topping's wishes to take their places in the Grand Final.

Manawa held a slim two-goal lead at the first break. The Comets found their feet to bounce back strongly and keep their noses in front during the next three quarters.

Defenders Rachel Price and Madison Thomas kept Manawa in the hunt with eight intercepts between them, but with the Comets having 62 shots at goal compared to Manawa's 60, the shooting accuracy of Jaelin Tulikaka and Crystal Maro proved crucial for the victors.

For Comets coach Michelle Parsons, who has come close in the past, winning a first-time title was a fitting acknowledgement of the valuable contribution she has made in developing and enhancing the careers of her players.

Netball NZ Under 18 Champs

Providing a grandstand finish to the event, played indoors for the first time, Auckland pipped Waitākere 45–44 to win a thrilling overtime final at the NNZ U18 Champs at the Edgar Centre in Dunedin in July.

... the U18 men's division, competing for its own trophy, attracted six teams."



Not having to battle the outdoor elements of wintry weather, the teams enjoyed being able to showcase their skill sets in perfect conditions.

It is the second time Auckland have had their name etched on the Margaret Forsyth Cup, named in memory of the former Silver Ferns great, after being the inaugural winners in 2021.

Hosted by the Dunedin Netball Centre, 38 teams were entered in the U18 female event. Running in conjunction, and building on the success of last year's introduction of a male component, the U18 men's division, competing for its own trophy, attracted six teams.

Defending champions Waitākere backed up their inaugural win with a second straight title after outplaying Dannevirke 44–21 in the final of the men's division. Waitākere were a cut above the rest of the field having been unbeaten in the U18 men's draw.

Final Placings

WOMEN (U18):

- 1st:** Auckland
- 2nd:** Waitākere 1
- 3rd:** Wellington Black
- 4th:** Howick Pakuranga
- 5th:** Dunedin
- 6th:** North Harbour
- 7th:** Eastern Waikato
- 8th:** Hamilton City
- 9th:** Kapi Mana
- 10th:** Christchurch Red
- 11th:** Rotorua
- 12th:** Waitākere 2
- 13th:** Hawke's Bay
- 14th:** Christchurch Pango/Black
- 15th:** Hutt Valley
- 16th:** Invercargill
- 17th:** Whakatāne EBOP
- 18th:** Tauranga
- 19th:** Wellington Gold
- 20th:** Manawatū
- 21st:** Pukekohe

- 22nd:** Central Lakes
- 23rd:** North Canterbury
- 24th:** Northland Cluster
- 25th:** South Canterbury
- 26th:** Nelson
- 27th:** Selwyn
- 28th:** Papakura
- 29th:** Wairarapa
- 30th:** Te Tai o Poutini Combined
- 31st:** Marlborough
- 32nd:** Kāpiti
- 33rd:** Manawatū White
- 34th:** Eastern Southland
- 35th:** Whanganui
- 36th:** Kerikeri
- 37th:** Thames Valley Netball Cluster
- 38th:** Mid Canterbury

MEN (U18):

- 1st:** Waitākere
- 2nd:** Dannevirke
- 3rd:** Tauranga
- 4th:** Dunedin
- 5th:** Invercargill
- 6th:** Howick Pakuranga

NetballSmart Netball NZ Open Champs

Hamilton City became first-time winners of the New Zealand Cup after completing a comfortable 48–38 win over Counties Manukau in the Grand Final of the Auckland-hosted NetballSmart Netball NZ Open Champs in September.

The Open Champs is Netball's oldest competition with teams competing for the New Zealand Cup which was first played for in 1926. It is an integral part of the domestic calendar and important step in the high performance pathway. Played out over five action-packed days, 17 teams took part in the 2024 tournament, into its third edition after replacing the former Netball NZ U19 Champs.

Absorbing a close contest in the opening quarter, Hamilton City dominated throughout the middle two quarters to stamp their mark and control of the outcome between the two unbeaten teams.

Final Placings

- 1st: Hamilton City
- 2nd: Counties Manukau Cluster
- 3rd: Cambridge
- 4th: Auckland
- 5th: North Harbour
- 6th: Tauranga
- 7th: Christchurch
- 8th: Dunedin
- 9th: Waitākere
- 10th: Manawatū Green
- 11th: Kerikeri
- 12th: Howick Pakuranga
- 13th: Wellington
- 14th: Hawke's Bay
- 15th: Taranaki
- 16th: Manawatū White
- 17th: Gisborne





NZ Secondary Schools Netball Champs

Howick College held their nerve to win the NZ Secondary Schools Netball Champs title after edging Avondale College 35–34 in a thrilling and dramatic final at the Christchurch-hosted tournament in October.

It was the second time Howick College have won the title in the 24 years of the popular national secondary schools' event, their inaugural win occurring in 2017.

The tournament features the top 16 secondary schools who qualified following the respective Upper North Island, Lower North Island and South Island Secondary School events held during the season.



Final Placings

- 1st:** Howick College
- 2nd:** Avondale College
- 3rd:** Saint Kentigern College
- 4th:** Westlake Girls High School
- 5th:** St Mary's College, Wellington
- 6th:** Christchurch Girls' High School
- 7th:** St Margaret's College
- 8th:** Tawa College
- 9th:** Epsom Girls' Grammar School
- 10th:** Columba College
- 11th:** New Plymouth Girls' High School
- 12th:** St Andrew's College
- 13th:** Scots College
- 14th:** St Hilda's Collegiate School
- 15th:** Mount Albert Grammar School
- 16th:** Wellington Girls' College



FAST5

Delivering a top-class spectacle in the previous two years, Christchurch repeated the dose when hosting a third successive FAST5 Netball World Series in 2024.

In the closing act of NNZ's international window, both the FAST5 Ferns and New Zealand Men claimed silver medals at the November event where the vibrant nature of FAST5 lived up to its billing in New Zealand's final year as hosts.

Featuring a rich mixture of diverse styles, the six top-ranked women's teams in the world – Australia, New Zealand, England, Jamaica, South Africa and Uganda – didn't disappoint with their skill sets, sense of fun and competitive spirit. For the third time in this event, men's teams from New Zealand, Australia and South Africa played alongside the women in their own competition, putting on a similar show with their dazzling speed, agility and athletic endeavour.

The FAST5 Ferns were not without experience, with three players [Maia Wilson, Kate Burley and Tayla Earle] appearing in their third World Series event and captain Michalea Sokolich-Beatson and Paris Lokotui returning from last year. But in Georgie Edgcombe, Catherine Hall, Erena Mikaere, Martina Salmon and Saviour Tui, they also had a host of newcomers.

The World Netball Series continued to push the innovative side of the action-packed shortened version of the game with the tweaking of some of the rules for this year's edition which had a bearing on how games were played and the outcomes.

On trial were three main changes, involving the extension of the power-play period from 90 seconds to two minutes at the end of each quarter, the value of points during the power play and the use of possession.

In the power-play period, only two- and three-goal point shots had their value doubled, while, in a change from previous World Series, a one-goal shot did not double in value. This had the impact of teams being more proactive from the two- and three-point range.

Tightening up the use of possession rule required teams to actively progress the ball forward; this means that once the ball had advanced out of a third, it was not allowed to be passed back into that third. As a result, teams needed to be more strategic while fitness played a big role, also.

There was extra vigilance on persistent infringing too, with players guilty of over-stepping the boundaries being sidelined for one minute of play which had consequences for some teams.

With Australia remaining the only unbeaten team after the opening day's play, the FAST5 Ferns and South Africa duelled a dramatic final round-robin match to decide who would meet Australia in the final, the Diamonds having earned their spot with a game to spare.

South Africa went into the final quarter with a healthy 12-goal lead, well in control for much of the match through the sharp shooting of Zandre Smit,



Rolene Streukter and Kamogelo Maseko alongside an outstanding defensive effort which had the FAST5 Ferns on the back foot.

Failing to find her rhythm earlier on, shooter Salmon quickly became the toast of the FAST5 Ferns with a perfect demonstration of how quickly fortunes can change in the shortened version of the game.

Two maximum six-pointers in the final power play, the second with under one second to play in the match, sealed a remarkable 41-40 win for the home side and a place in the final.

Australia was forced to come from behind before securing a third straight title having repelled a strong New Zealand challenge 34-30 in the final.

With the trans-Tasman rivals lining up in the final for the second successive year, it was the FAST5 Ferns who were out of the blocks quickly to have the better of the first half.

Impressive shooting from Salmon and Wilson, alongside a staunch effort from the defence line, had the home side humming before Australia mounted their response.

Chipping into the deficit through the third quarter put Australia within close range of the New Zealanders heading down the home straight. Calm and reliable, shooter Reilley Batchelor stepped up to the plate in stellar fashion to clinch a couple of decisive two-point shots to push Australia into the lead.

Strong Australian defence helped dry up the FAST5 Ferns ball supply in the final quarter while their shooting accuracy also dropped away, leaving the defending champions the opportunity to grasp a third title.

After losing 37-20 to South Africa in round-robin play, a jubilant Uganda, returning to the World Series this year, turned the tables with an impressive 46-42 win in the battle between the African nations to clinch the bronze medal, their highest-ever placing.

Jamaica came within a whisker of securing their first win of the tournament but were pipped 36-38 by England in the play-off for 5th.

MEN'S RESULTS

In the first of the trans-Tasman double-header finals, Australia took out the men's title when squeezing past New Zealand, 32-30.

New Zealand had won the previous two titles but a big defensive effort from Australia, where goalkeeper Al Punshon was a key figure, put the squeeze on

New Zealand's attacking momentum.

Keeping New Zealand's long-range shooting specialist Thomson Matuku under close wraps paid dividends for Australia. However, a six-pointer from Matuku with 90 seconds left on the clock shot New Zealand into the lead, a big rebound from Oceon Grady providing further impetus.

With time running out, influential goal attack Jordan Webb, who was immense

Final Placings

FAST5 NETBALL WORLD SERIES WOMEN'S FINAL RESULTS

- 1st: Australia
- 2nd: New Zealand
- 3rd: Uganda
- 4th: South Africa
- 5th: England
- 6th: Jamaica

FAST5 NETBALL WORLD SERIES MEN'S FINAL RESULTS

- 1st: Australia
- 2nd: New Zealand
- 3rd: South Africa

on both attack and defence, nailed a four-pointer with two seconds to go to hand Australia their first title.

New Zealand Men's defender Timothy Apisai was named FAST5 Netball World Series player of the tournament.

With the trans-Tasman rivals lining up in the final for the second successive year, it was the FAST5 Ferns who were out of the blocks quickly..."



Commercial Report

This year saw a sharp rise in broadcast audience across the year, reflected in an over 50 per cent increase in ANZ Premiership viewership and over 35 per cent increase in Constellation Cup audience in New Zealand.

This, once again, demonstrates the amazing platform Netball provides for our partners, not only at this level but also with the strong numbers in our community game and the following we have achieved across our digital platforms.

A highlight for the year was being awarded the UK's Sports Business Awards 'Best Fan Engagement Programme of the Year' with our offshore streaming platform that we own with World Netball. Netball Pass continues to grow in offshore markets and is becoming a more and more important part of our overall media landscape in terms of commercial return as content is placed behind a paywall. It is also a platform for other global competitions to be made available to fans, highlighted this year with the introduction of Super Netball (Australia) and Super League (England) to Netball Pass.

While the broadcast landscape in New Zealand has seen change in recent years, we have adapted with new strategies to reach and engage with our fans in New Zealand and offshore.

SILVER FERNS

The excitement of winning the Constellation Cup was an incredible end to the Silver Ferns Cadbury Netball Series season. This trans-Tasman rivalry is second to none in the world of Netball and the opportunities for our partners to be showcased makes it a critical juncture for our relationships off the court. To win on the court adds to the value for partners.

We are always proud to witness our partners actively supporting our game through creative promotions and

activations and once again we saw partners deliver messaging into market that truly encapsulated the brand value of the Silver Ferns.

ANZ PREMIERSHIP

With an early start to the season, ANZ Premiership viewership was up over 1.7 million viewers and another large increase year-on-year for the competition. This audience demonstrates the popularity and strength of the ANZ Premiership among New Zealanders.

This continued growth reflects the compelling and engaging content of the ANZ Premiership, solidifying its position as one of the must-watch sporting events in New Zealand, with matches played on both Sky and TVNZ. In 2024, every game of the last weekend of round-robin matches had an impact on the teams that would make it through to finals or on the finishing order of these teams.

Netball Pass also provided a platform for many countries around the world to watch all our matches, with record numbers subscribing.

NNZ PARTNERS

The impact of our valued partners spans all parts of our game, making new and great experiences possible for a huge number of New Zealanders.

We continue to love the support of Woolworths as the naming rights partner of the popular futureFERNs programme, the official junior national programme for Years 1 to 8. The Woolworths futureFERNs is Netball both NNZ and Woolworths are very passionate about,

and this year Woolworths elevated awareness of the programme with some great out-of-home promotion, among other promotions of the partnership.

In addition, Tip Top Bakery continued as a Major Partner of the futureFERNs this year.

ANZ continues to support Netball, as it has done for the past 16 years (longer when you include the National Bank partnership) and it is because of them that much of what NNZ does is possible.

Cadbury had their sixth year as the Official Community Volunteer Partner. This is an incredibly powerful partnership where the unsung heroes of Netball are recognised by those that see them in action across many days of the Netball season.

The National Netball League's partner, Synergy Hair, continued to allow us to grow the key competition underpinning the ANZ Premiership. The importance of the Synergy Hair Netball League has never been demonstrated better than by the number of players who participated in the ANZ Premiership in 2024 from that league.

The Silver Ferns are grateful for the support of their partners: ANZ, MYOB, Sky, Cadbury, MediaWorks, Altherm, Chemist Warehouse, PUMA, Suzuki, Summerset, Go Media, Asics, Woolworths, Gilbert, Gatorade, Skins, Voyager, Augustine, Benefitz, Baby G, JBL, and Snap Rentals.

A thank you also to our partners who contribute to the success of the ANZ Premiership: ANZ, Sky, MoreFM, Summerset, Go Media, Suzuki, Tip Top Bakery, GJ Gardner, Snap Rentals, Paladin, ASICS, Gilbert, SKINS and JBL.

Community Report

Community Netball has had an incredibly positive year, with outstanding engagement in learning and development opportunities that have contributed to a vibrant and growing community.

This success is highlighted by a remarkable 5 per cent increase in participation numbers, building on a 4 per cent growth in 2023. A huge thank you to all Centres and Zones for their passion, dedication and hard work in delivering an exceptional participant experience. Their efforts have helped make Netball the most played sport for females across New Zealand, further solidifying its place as a beloved and thriving sport within the community.

futureFERNS Review

The futureFERNS programme, catering to over 60,000 primary and intermediate school children, was selected for our first customer experience project. These children play modified sport formats to ensure they have more fun and enjoy more passes, more play and more shots, with a strong focus on skill development.

Our goal is to increase participation in junior Netball by enriching the experience for all involved, strengthening relationships, streamlining processes and leveraging technology.

Summary: Enhancing the futureFERNS junior Netball programme. This initiative aims to increase participation by redesigning the experience for everyone involved.

The futureFERNS programme was chosen as it has been 10 years since its launch, and 43 per cent of our Netball community is involved in this initiative.

We undertook an in-depth analysis of the needs and motivations of all key audiences involved in futureFERNS to develop our findings.

Key Findings

- **Positive Experiences for Kids:** futureFERNS is well-researched to deliver great experiences for kids, who primarily participate because it's fun and their friends are involved.
- **Support Network:** To boost participation, we need to strengthen the support network around kids, including parents, coaches, umpires and co-ordinators.
- **Programme Consistency:** The game format will remain unchanged until we conduct updated research in early 2025.
- **Expert Support Roles:** High turnover and the reduction of dedicated expert roles have diminished the initial enthusiasm for the programme. Building expertise in key roles and prioritising futureFERNS in Zones will help Centres feel more supported.
- **Programme Adaptation:** Some Centres have adapted the programme to meet local needs, often driven by adults' preferences. We need to balance practical, perceptive and emotional reasons when making changes.
- **Information Accessibility:** People find it challenging to locate specific information and support. Creating tailored digital 'one-stop shops' for each audience is highly desirable.

Progress

- Transition from 6 v 6 to 7 v 7 developed.
- New research with findings to be released in 2025
- NNZ/Zones resource audit and establishment of an online library under way

- Develop a guideline for Centres on what's included in the futureFERNS programme
- Brief NZ Men's and Mixed Netball Association (NZMMNA) on this project and inform them of future actions
- Develop a social media strategy and ensure this is linked back to the futureFERNS website landing pages
- Create an info pack for Regional Sports Trusts / Regional Sports Association sprint update, futureFERNS philosophy and game formats
- Social media – work with Net Blacks to promote boys in futureFERNS.

FUTUREFERNS PARTICIPATION NUMBERS FOR 2024:

Year 1 & 2 –	6,813
Year 3 & 4 –	13,537
Year 5 & 6 –	18,439
Year 7 & 8 –	23,590

.....
a 4 per cent increase from 2023

= 62,379



The futureFERNs programme continues to be a cornerstone of Netball development in New Zealand, providing young players with a nurturing environment to build their skills, enjoy the game, and foster a lifelong love for sport. This year, our Zones have been instrumental in supporting Centres to host official Festival Days, which have delivered exceptional outcomes.

- Many Centres embraced these festival days as an opportunity to celebrate the season, creating a vibrant and inclusive atmosphere for players, parents and the wider community. These events showcased the joy and enthusiasm that Netball brings to young participants, reinforcing why the modified game is crucial for development.
- Some Centres utilised these festival days to introduce modified game formats unique to futureFERNs. These formats are designed to align with players' developmental age and stage.
- Feedback from parents has been positive. They have expressed their appreciation for the programme's focus on inclusivity, skill development, and enjoyment, with many noting how futureFERNs has ignited their children's passion for Netball. Seeing children thrive in a supportive and engaging environment has been a heartwarming highlight.
- Perhaps the most rewarding outcome has been the visible excitement and love for Netball among young participants. From the smallest passes to their big smiles during games, it is evident that the futureFERNs programme is instilling a strong foundation of confidence, teamwork and sportsmanship in every child.

The futureFERNs programme continues to educate our young participants and their supporters while reinforcing the core values of fun, inclusivity and growth by playing modified versions of Netball, keeping the game age and stage appropriate. The success of this programme is a testament to the dedication of our Zones, Centres, volunteers and families who work tirelessly to make Netball accessible and enjoyable for all.

No Limits Netball

We are proud to report progress in expanding the No Limits Netball programme, emphasising our vision of Netball as a truly inclusive and accessible sport. Building on the success of our six pilot Centres, this year saw the addition of three new Centres – Papakura Netball Centre, Hamilton City, and Auckland Netball Centre – to the programme. These Centres have embraced the challenge of creating spaces where individuals of all abilities can participate, fostering a sense of belonging within the Netball community.

Our Centre staff have also been actively adapting resources to better serve the No Limits community, ensuring that the game is fit for purpose. The response has been overwhelmingly positive, with players expressing joy and pride in being part of a sport they love. In many instances, No Limits players have also embraced opportunities to participate in mainstream Netball, thriving within environments where inclusion and teamwork is at the forefront.

The programme's expansion now includes Centres across the country, with key contributions from Hawke's Bay, Mid Canterbury, South Canterbury, Taranaki, Wellington, Waitākere, Christchurch, Howick Pakuranga, Manawatū, Hamilton City and Tauranga. This broadening reach highlights the collective commitment within our Netball community to foster a culture of inclusivity.

The growing momentum of No Limits Netball inspires us to push boundaries further, ensuring that Netball truly becomes a sport for everyone. This year's achievements are a testament to the shared dedication of our Centres, staff and volunteers, who continue to make meaningful strides towards a more inclusive sporting landscape.

As we reflect on these milestones, we are reminded of the impact we are making. Together, we are all shaping a future where everyone, regardless of ability, can experience the joy of Netball.

Youth Board

The Youth Board remains a vital component of our commitment to amplifying young voices within NNZ. Guided by the inspiring motto, 'Nothing About Us Without Us', the Youth Board champions the belief that young people must not only have a seat at the table but also a voice that is heard and respected in shaping the future of our sport.

This year, we matched each Youth Board member with a dedicated NNZ mentor aligned with their individual passions and areas of interest. This tailored approach has ensured that their perspectives are seamlessly integrated into key decisions across the organisation. Youth Board members have showcased exceptional leadership, contributing actively to NNZ working groups and engaging with diverse sports bodies, amplifying their impact across the New Zealand sporting landscape.

The Youth Board welcomed new members and appointed two dynamic Co-Chairs, Brianna Valge and Gabby Wright, who have already demonstrated boundless energy and enthusiasm. Under their leadership, the Youth Board is poised for another term of innovation and influence.

One of the year's standout achievements has been the collaborative partnership between the Youth Board and the New Zealand Police. Together, they have implemented successful activations at various Centres, fostering engagement and camaraderie between Netball communities and police officers. These initiatives have not only highlighted the importance of youth voices but also opened new pathways for promoting the sport and highlighting options within the police force.

The contributions of the Youth Board are instrumental in ensuring Netball remains relevant and inclusive in an ever-evolving landscape. By championing youth voices, we are actively future-proofing our sport to meet the needs of tomorrow. The

The growing momentum of No Limits Netball inspires us to push boundaries further..."

three focus areas for 2025 are: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Rural Support and Opportunities, as well as Participation.

We remain committed to nurturing this essential initiative, and we look forward to witnessing the continued growth and success of these young leaders. Their passion, creativity and resolve inspire us all, underscoring the belief that a brighter, more inclusive future is possible when youth are truly empowered.

Together, with our youth at the forefront, we are shaping a sport (and a society) that is for everyone, by everyone.

Coaching

FUTUREFERNs COACHING

Participation in the Foundation workshops and access to online coaching resources continued to offer coaches valuable opportunities for learning and development. Delivering quality coaching remains essential, as it enhances participants' enjoyment of their early experiences, encouraging them to return and stay engaged in the sport for years to come.

Starting in 2025, the Foundation Coach Award will be granted to coaches upon completing a year-level certification, which includes hands-on team coaching and attendance at a relevant workshop. This updates the previous approach of awarding the Foundation Award after completing all futureFERNs age groups. NNZ recognises that parents and caregivers may or may not transition through levels alongside their child/children and will acknowledge their coaching contributions with a certificate for the specific level completed during each season.

Highlights

- 242 Foundation workshops held
- 2,529 coaches attended these workshops

COMMUNITY COACHING HIGHLIGHTS

- 698 learning and development workshops held
- 4,665 coaches attended these workshops
- 177 coaches achieved formal coaching qualifications

PERFORMANCE COACHING QUALIFICATION (PCQ) HIGHLIGHTS

- All six performance coach workshops held
- 54 coached attending

Community Umpiring

Technical officials – umpires, umpire coaches, assessors, coach developers, and bench officials – are essential to Netball's success. They help ensure games are played fairly, safely and consistently. Often giving their time voluntarily, our technical officials play a huge role in keeping the game running smoothly and making it enjoyable for everyone involved. Through workshops, training, exams, and hands-on experience, they continually develop their skills and uphold the spirit of fair play.

A key focus in 2024 was implementing new World Netball rule changes across the community. This initiative included over 150 workshops with participation from more than 4,500 individuals, including players, coaches and umpires. Though these figures understate the full scale of engagement, they highlight the widespread impact of the programme. Co-ordinated by Tania Fink, the initiative successfully equipped the Netball community to embrace these updates with clarity and confidence.

The year also marked significant milestones for technical officiating. 1107 qualified umpires and 2732 trainees officiated throughout 2024, supported by

551 umpire coaches, 81 coach developers, and 207 bench officials. Altogether, nearly 5000 individuals contributed to the technical officiating

framework, showcasing the depth and dedication within the community.

Development of umpire coaches remained a priority. 81 coach developers facilitated 203 development opportunities, benefitting 2503 individuals through workshops and live coaching. Plans for 2025 aim to expand this initiative, further strengthening the support framework for umpire coach development.

Strong participation in Zone and New Zealand Theory exams reflected the ongoing commitment to growth. A total of 272 candidates sat the Theory exams, with 235 successfully passing.

Important national tournaments, such as the NNZ Secondary Schools Champs, U18 Champs and Open Champs, played a pivotal role in developing future umpires, involving 68 umpires across all three events. This robust participation underscores the bright future of officiating, as depth continues to build within the pathway.

Celebrating Leadership and Contributions

We sincerely thank Garratt Williamson for his eight years of dedication as National Technical Officials Manager. His leadership has played a key role in shaping how officiating is undertaken, bringing fresh ideas and a commitment to high standards. Garratt's hard work, thoughtful guidance, and passion for officiating have made a lasting difference in Netball across New Zealand.

A special acknowledgement to the Zone Umpire Leads for their fantastic work in this space:

- Sharleen Morrell – Netball Northern
- Pam Clayton – Netball WBOP
- Arama Jackson – Netball Central
- Kelly Bodger – Netball Mainland
- Colleen Bond – Netball South

Their unwavering commitment to officiating within their Zones ensures that the sport continues to thrive at every level. Their work fosters a vibrant, well-supported umpiring community, making sure that Netball in New Zealand remains strong, unified and future ready.



BENCH OFFICIATING

Bench officials played a critical role in supporting competitions, with significant contributions from dedicated bench co-ordinators across regions:

- Rachael Smith – Netball Northern
- Belinda Clark – Netball WBOP
- Bernice Robertson – Netball Central
- Anne Harrison – Netball Mainland
- Julie Erskine – Netball South

Their co-ordination and development of bench officials ensured the smooth running of the ANZ Premiership (ANZP), National Netball League (NNL), and key tournaments. In 2025, the release of a new bench officiating resource will aim to standardise practices and further enhance pathways.

HIGH-PERFORMANCE UMPIRING

Our high-performance umpires achieved fantastic success in 2024. Internationally, 10 umpires represented New Zealand at seven international series and events, while NNZ umpire coaches served on World Netball's Umpire Appointments Panels for several series/tournaments.

WORLD NETBALL APPOINTMENTS

Umpires:

- Sasha McLeod – PacificAus Netball Series
- Marlissa Howard, Myron Elkington, Sasha McLeod, Cory Nicholls, Zak Middleton – NWYC Oceania Qualifiers [Cook Islands]
- Angela Armstrong-Lush, Gareth Fowler, Ken Metekingi – Australia vs England Test Series
- Cory Nicholls, Gareth Fowler, Angela Armstrong-Lush, Zak Middleton – Australia vs New Zealand Men's and Mixed Series
- Tania Fink – South Africa vs Malawi Test Series [Johannesburg]
- Cory Nicholls, Kristie Simpson, Myron Elkington, Sasha McLeod – FAST5 Series
- Gareth Fowler, Angela Armstrong-Lush – Vitality Horizon Series [England and Jamaica]

Umpire Appointments Panels (UAP):

- Jan Teesdale, David Pala'amo, Colleen Bond, Fay Meiklejohn – FAST5 Series
- Jan Teesdale, Kirsten Lloyd – Constellation Cup
- Fay Meiklejohn, Colleen Bond, Kirsten Lloyd – Taini Jamison Trophy
- Fay Meiklejohn – Mixers Nations Cup [Singapore]

Milestones:

- Myron Elkington achieved IUA status.
- Zak Middleton achieved ITID status.

These milestones reflect Myron and Zak's exceptional skill and commitment to their craft. Congratulations also to Gareth Fowler and Kristie Simpson on their IUA re-endorsements, which is a testament to their hard work and dedication.

This robust participation underscores the bright future of officiating, as depth continues to build within the pathway."

2024 NATIONAL UMPIRE SQUAD

Our National Umpire Squad delivered outstanding performances in the ANZP and NNL, continuing to build depth and experience to future-proof our program.

Milestones:

- Gareth Fowler officiated his 100th ANZP game.
- Zak Middleton marked his 50th NNL game.

We also welcomed Hayes Andrew, Lockie McLaren and Alanah Robinson to the National Umpire Squad this year.

2024 NATIONAL UMPIRE SQUAD:

- Hayes Andrew [NNL – 6]
- Angela Armstrong-Lush [ANZP – 131, NNL – 1]
- Caleb Binns [NNL – 17]
- Myron Elkington [ANZP – 37, NNL – 30]
- Tania Fink [ANZP – 48, NNL – 15]
- Gareth Fowler [ANZP – 104, NNL – 7]
- Marliisa Howard [ANZP – 8, NNL – 25]
- Lockie McLaren [NNL – 12]
- Sasha McLeod [ANZP – 65, NNL – 16]
- Ken Metekingi [ANZP – 76, NNL – 12]
- Zak Middleton [ANZP – 16, NNL – 50]
- Cory Nicholls [ANZP – 44, NNL – 31]
- Alanah Robinson [NNL – 10]
- Kristie Simpson [ANZP – 147, NNL – 1]

2024 National Umpire Squad Coaches and Selectors:

- Colleen Bond
- Pam Clayton
- Kirsten Lloyd
- Fay Meiklejohn
- David Pala'amo
- Jan Teesdale
- Sheena Tyrrell

With new initiatives on the horizon in 2025, including enhanced officiating resources, the future of Netball officiating in New Zealand is bright and full of promise.

Volunteering

NNZ and Cadbury continued their volunteer programme partnership during 2024. Cadbury has supported NNZ to continue to recruit, retain and reward our wonderful volunteers and ensure they feel valued and supported. This is through enabling our Centres to reward their volunteers through Volunteer of the Month Awards, Volunteer of the Year Awards and the Cadbury Volunteer Fund.

Highlights

- Nine Netball Centres received funding from the Cadbury Volunteer Fund. This fund was set up to enable Centres to run an initiative aiming to increase volunteer recruitment, retention or recognition.
- We increased the visibility of volunteers and shared Netball volunteers' stories on NNZ, Zone and Centre communication channels featuring six volunteers from Centres across New Zealand.
- We received 1,083 nominations for the Volunteer of the Month Awards nation-wide over the community playing season.
- We handed out 277 Cadbury chocolate hampers to Netball Centres for their Volunteer of the Month winners during the season.
- Five outstanding volunteers were announced in the annual Cadbury Volunteer of the Year Awards. These were presented as part of the New Zealand Netball Awards held in December 2024.
- The Volunteer Management Plan [a resource created for Centres by Centres and based on global volunteer best practice] continues to be rolled out across the country. With the goal of increasing volunteer capability, Centres will be utilising this tool over the next few years.



Tania Dalton Foundation

With athletes from six different regions and 13 sports codes represented, three Netballers – Caitlin Lafaele, Priscilla Rasmussen and Grace Tiko – were included in the 2024 cohort of Tania Dalton Foundation (TDF) Scholarship Programme recipients.

Launched in 2018, the Scholarship Programme provides a unique three-year financial scholarship to young sportswomen to assist them in their high-performance journey. From next year 87 young women will be participating in or have graduated from the programme.

“Our scholarship recipients shine in their chosen sport but getting to and remaining at the high-performance level for some can come with additional challenges due to family, education or work commitments,” TDF Chair Duane Dalton said.

The four-pillar programme is based around financial support, mentoring, personal development and paying it forward.



The new scholarship recipients were inducted into the programme at a special ceremony in Auckland on 5 December (2023) where they were welcomed into the Foundation by the graduating 2021 cohort year.

Caitlin Lafaele

Caitlin is in her first year out of St Mary's College in Wellington and has been part of the NZ Secondary Schools and Central Manawa squads while also winning the Netball NZ U18 Champs title as part of the Wellington U18 team. She is a member of the NZ U21 squad.

Priscilla Rasmussen

Priscilla attends Avondale College in Auckland and has played for the Marvels National Netball League team and the NZ Secondary Schools team. She is also an NZ U21 squad member.

Grace Tiko

A student at Cromwell College in Central Otago, Grace was a member of the 2023 NZ Secondary Schools team and attended the 2023 National Development Camp. She was also selected for the Steel Steps Accelerator Programme.



New Zealand Netball Awards

*Rangy and resolute defensive diva **Kelly Jackson** capped another stellar season, both domestically and on the international front, to claim the Dame Lois Muir Supreme Award for 2023.*

Jackson backed up a rare achievement after sharing the sport's top accolade with shooter Grace Nweke in 2022 to be recognised as the best Netballer across all competitions and campaigns in her own right in 2023.

The back-to-back acknowledgement for Jackson highlighted a memorable celebration in honouring the sport's standout players, coaches, umpires, administrators and volunteers at the 2024 NNZ AGM in February.

Showing consistent improvement and presence on the court, Jackson has pushed her game to impressive new levels through her general play and leadership skills. Unassuming and with an unflappable temperament, she has thrived since assuming the Te Wānanga o Raukawa Pulse co-captaincy duties in 2022.

As the last line of defence, the willow defender topped the rebounds and deflection counts while placing 2nd in intercepts across all players in the 2023 ANZ Premiership. At 1.92m, Jackson is one of the tallest defenders in the country, a constant threat with her disruptive lean and rebounding ability while adding another dimension with her ball hunting skills.

Jackson featured in all the Silver Ferns 2023 campaigns, becoming a regular starter and has continued to grow her game and impact at an international level.

In a players' vote and launched for the first time for the 2023 awards, Ascot Park Hotel Southern Steel midcourter **Kate Heffernan** was the inaugural winner of the Sandra Edge Medal as the Silver Ferns Player of the Year.

Still in the infancy of her international career, it has taken little time for the talented Heffernan to leave her imprint on the Netball court. Tall for a midcourter, Heffernan's long reach and athletic ability have proved a disruptive influence for opponents.

She has quickly become an accomplished performer across two midcourt positions, both as an attacker and defender, her impact being recognised when she was named Midcourter of the 2023 Netball World Cup.

Jackson's team-mate at the Pulse, dynamic young midcourter **Maddy Gordon**, was the winner of the Casey Kopua Most Valuable Player (MVP) as the 2023 ANZ Premiership Player of the Year.

Spending a full season at Centre along with a growing maturity and improved game structure to complement her court craft, the midcourt dynamo produced a compelling 2023 domestic season. Accurate and consistent with her ball skills, movement and feeding on attack, Gordon is equally reliable on defence through her relentless disruptive hunting and speed.

Gordon featured consistently in the top 10 for feeds, intercepts and deflections during the 2023 season across all players while showcasing the growing reliability of her athletic abilities in tandem with her overall court craft.

Winner of the Robyn Broughton Trophy as the ANZ Premiership Coach of the Year, **Tia Winikerei** made a memorable start to her tenure as head coach of the MG Mystics, ushering in a new era while guiding the team to the ANZ Premiership title in her first season.

The only new ANZ Premiership head coach in 2023, the homegrown Winikerei had already been heavily involved with the Mystics in recent seasons, holding the apprentice coach role for the previous two years to leave her well-prepared to step up and into the hot seat.

Gareth Fowler is one of New Zealand's leading umpires in recent years, and claimed the ANZ Premiership Umpire of the Year award for his consistency of performance and extensive experience at the top level.

Fowler has fashioned an impressive career in New Zealand's domestic competitions while also leaving his mark at international level at events around the world, including umpiring at two Netball World Cups, two Commonwealth Games and the Nations Cup.

In new acknowledgements to highlight success in 2023, **Amelianne Ekenasio** took out the Te Tuaka Rau – Silver Ferns Players' Award which is presented to the player who the players believe best upholds the mana of the Silver Ferns.

Mercurial Mystics midcourter **Elisapeta Toeava** clinched the Te Rau Mataaho – ANZ Premiership Players' Award – presented to the overall best performer in the 2023 ANZ Premiership, as voted by the players.

Leaving an instant impression, promising young Mystics defender **Carys Stythe** won the 2023 Aspiring Silver Fern Award.

The 2021 Secondary School Player of the Year earned her first full contract with the Mystics in 2023 where she made a seamless transition to top-level play in her first year out of school. A Silver Ferns Development squad member, the tall and athletic Stythe made numerous appearances for the Mystics in 2023 where her footwork, speed, rebounding and ball-hunting ability shone through.

Presented for the first time, Wellington's **Thomson Matuku** took out the Men's Player of the Year award.

With his unnerving accuracy from range, shooter Matuku was a key figure, and MVP, for the Net Blacks in claiming a second straight men's FAST5 Netball World Series crown with a stunning win over their great rivals Australia in the 2023 final.

Matuku also played for the New Zealand men's team in last year's three-match trans-Tasman Cup series which was played as curtain-raisers during the Constellation Cup.

Making the brightest of starts to her high-performance coaching career when guiding Central Manawa to a fifth title, rookie head coach **Ngarama Milner-Olsen** was recognised as the

2023 NNL
Coach of the Year.

A former Pulse player, Milner-Olsen is now extending her pedigree by gaining the appropriate qualifications on NNZ's coaching pathway.

Playing for the Comets, rising local talent **Lisa Putt** took out the NNL Player of the Year. The defender has been an influential figure in the Stars NNL feeder team for several years and played a big hand in the Comets strong 2023 season where they finished a close 2nd in the standings.

Named in the 2023 National Umpire Squad for the first time with one NNL match under his belt, **Caleb Binns** [Netball Central] continued his progress throughout the year to take out the NNL Umpire of the Year award.

Leaving his mark and making rapid strides in an eventful year, Binns went on to umpire the 2023 NNL Grand Final.

Waitākere were winners of the Sky Moment of the Year after winning the first-ever U17 male division title.

*Leaving an instant impression, promising young Mystics defender **Carys Stythe** won the 2023 Aspiring Silver Fern award."*

In an exciting new element, a male competition was run alongside their female counterparts at the Netball NZ U18 Champs in a dual-gender event, for the first time, in 2023.

MoreFM Silver Ferns Fan Favourite was awarded to the ever-consistent athletic and dynamic defender **Karin Burger**.

Versatile St Peters' Cambridge midcourter **Shaquaylah Mahakitau-Monschau** was awarded the Secondary Schools Player of the Year following an impressive 2023. A player with huge potential, Mahakitau-Monschau was a member of the New Zealand Secondary Schools team which travelled to Australia last year. Dynamic and elusive on court, Mahakitau-Monschau was a consistent performer for the NZSS team. Playing in the U18 A team, she was the Hamilton City Netball Centre's Player of the Year, her striking form during 2023 leading to her inclusion in the NZ U21 squad.

For her strong commitment to the smooth running of matches at several levels throughout the year, **Belinda Clark** [Netball Waikato Bay of Plenty] received the Outstanding Contribution to Netball by a Technical Official award. At the international level, statistician Clark was involved in Taini Jamison Trophy fixtures as well as the Constellation Cup.

Well-performed and long-serving playing duo, both at domestic and international level, **Bailey Mes** and **Claire Kersten** received the New Zealand Netball Players Association [NZNPA] Service Award in recognition of their outstanding contribution and support to enhancing the country's Netball professionals, including the demonstration of leadership and courage.



Amelianne Ekenasio



Carys Stythe

2023 Cadbury Volunteer Award Winners

Volunteer Administrator of the Year

Dedicating approximately 300 hours a year, **Natasha Lake** is the heart and soul of Netball in Central Otago.

President of the Central Otago Netball Centre, Lake's involvement stretches far and wide, her underlying sentiment being to keep Netball fun for all players, where her support for those playing in the D-grade competition to those in the A-grade remains unwavering. Everyone is important, and it is important to her that everyone has the opportunity to play and enjoy their Netball.

Involved in all aspects of Netball in the region, Lake is the first person at the Netball courts in the morning and the last to leave in the afternoon. And it's a busy day where she remains thoroughly invested throughout – from umpiring (sometimes four games a day), mentoring young umpires, organising the future FERNs programme, sorting out issues with spectators and running the office.

Lake also coaches a team that plays in the Upper Clutha competition on a Friday night, and umpires there as well, so volunteers across two Netball Centres. This involves an hour each way travelling, after her normal work day, and late nights. Her attention to detail, support of others developing their own Netball journey – be it playing, coaching or umpiring – is inspirational.

She has a thorough knowledge of how things work in the Netball world. With a relatively new Netball committee, this is essential; she is increasing everyone else's knowledge all the time and she shares information constantly. Lake genuinely cares about the other people involved in Netball – her committee members, umpires and the players.

Volunteer Official of the Year

As the umpire convenor for Whangārei Netball Centre, **Sue Robertson** has helped develop and inspire many to take up the whistle, investing her time, knowledge and expertise while providing maximum value.

Engaged at the Whangārei Centre for the competition months of March to August, Robertson commits to approximately 20 hours a week to all aspects of umpiring.

Her main role as umpire convenor is draw allocation and umpire coaching – allocating umpire coaches to umpires, organising the umpire coaches, running workshops and umpire coaching. She is on the ground both on Friday evenings and all day Saturday, runs (Northern) Zone theory workshops and offers her knowledge and skills to any group, club or school who would like a session on the basics.

Robertson's knowledge and encouragement, support and loyalty to umpires is unquestionable. Many credit her for their success – always freely giving of her time and knowledge and if she hadn't believed in them they may not have pursued higher awards.

While in most cases Robertson has an umpiring hat on, she also believes in sharing that knowledge with players and coaches to help ensure they are achieving the most from the game and continue to play, coach and grow.

Adding to her lengthy involvement, Robertson also sits on the Whangārei Netball Centre Board too, where the focus is to keep Netball moving forward. Happy working behind the scenes without expectation of recognition other than seeing the growth in others, she epitomises the spirit of the volunteer.

Volunteer Coach of the Year

Auckland Netball's **Kelly Wieczorek** logged up over 400 hours of club coaching during 2023, her dedication and limitless enthusiasm showing no bounds as she effortlessly added other roles to an already hefty workload.

Besides coaching two teams at Premier and Senior A level, respectively, Wieczorek coached at representative level while also taking on the club committee role of coach/manager liaison which often meant organising late-night training sessions not only for other teams but also the 17 or so other coaches at her club.

She provided advice, worked through problems, helped at all trials, spent considerable time with the Junior Programme and was a vocal educator/advocate for the NetballSmart protocols.

Shy about receiving any recognition, Wieczorek often takes a back seat when her name is mentioned but is always first to champion others around her.

She also volunteered her time for the Centre as an Auckland representative coach at the U16 level and then, because that wasn't enough, took on the 'Cook's' role for the U18 programme as well.

The community has benefitted hugely from Wieczorek's influence. She never holds back information, is open with her time and resources, and will spend many hours with anyone who needs help.

She loves mentoring other coaches, and during 2023 spent a great amount of time learning more about committee duties, while also helping out on Saturdays and just getting stuck in where help was needed.

Going above and beyond, Wieczorek has funded those who are less fortunate – for example, paying for a rep player to attend tournament without her family knowing, and she often has extra gear that she pays for herself so her teams can be the best prepared.



Natasha Lake

She is huge on proper warm-ups and player welfare. Wieczorek is currently organising a 'Club Netball Library' so other coaches can have easy access – she is hand-scanning all her resources, which is quite a feat considering she doesn't stop learning. She is a thoroughly selfless person who has added so much to so many.



Sue Robertson

Youth (U21) Volunteer of the Year

Volunteering out of the Christchurch Netball Centre, school student **Jasmine Cox** has dedicated approximately 200 hours during the season for four years, as an assistant coach and club umpire, to set an impressive example across the community.



Kelly Wieczorek

She has assisted in organising club trials and generally umpires these, as well as being a runner for the selectors when not umpiring. Cox has always helped with club fundraising activities, plays and umpires for her school team – both in Wednesday and Saturday competitions, assists on club registration day as well as with uniform distribution and collection at the start and end of the season.

The community has hugely benefitted from the time and commitment Cox has put into Netball as a player, coach and umpire. She gives freely of her time and is always ready to put her hand up to do more if anyone asks.



Jasmine Cox

Starting as a 14-year-old Cox has been doing this for the last four years where many of the club's younger players have benefitted from her involvement in their training sessions as well as her hands-on role as an umpire.

She has been through the CNC Whistler programme gaining, bronze, silver and gold awards. Cox is held in high regard by the club where she gives so much of her time, even though she now plays Netball for her school.

Respected and valued by everyone involved at the club, Cox, despite her youthful age, is integral to its smooth running, and her efforts and contribution are second to none.



Noeline Fisher

Volunteer Champion of the Year

Noeline Fisher is a true champion in every sense of the word. She has contributed to Kapi Mana Netball Centre since its inception in the 1970s, being one of the original board and executive members, and is now one of the few remaining members to still be involved through her volunteer work.

Generous with her time, Fisher's name and presence are synonymous with the Centre. The volunteer activities she undertakes today are essentially the same activities she undertook for the Centre 28 years ago in 1995.

Fisher gives many hours of service, with much of her work going unnoticed as everything runs so smoothly and efficiently which is a credit to her organisational skills.

She remains the Saturday competition organiser/announcer where her involvement is, generally, about 10 hours a week over the six-month competition season.

Fisher is responsible for manning the 'tower' each Saturday, timing games and making announcements of teams and upcoming events. She ensures that all aspects of the Saturday competition run smoothly, pole pads are in place, the courts are tidy and the pavilion is clean. It is, however, the extras that she does that makes her stand out as a special volunteer.

She is the kaitiaki of our trophies, caring for them and assigning them out each year. She brings in lunch each week so our umpires are fed. She treats our pavilion as she would her home, bringing her husband down to make repairs where she identifies issues. Fisher supports our staff members, providing work advice, and when they were expecting their babies, knitting garments and she even brought a bassinet into work so baby was comfortable.

Fisher undertook some te reo lessons, particularly to ensure she could pronounce team names accurately. She has developed a history book, so we don't forget our whakapapa. Essentially, Fisher does the work of three volunteers, and does it because she cares about Netball and deeply about the community.



Netball New Zealand Hall of Fame

Twelve of Netball's most influential figures, including administrators, umpires and players, were included in the first intake of inductees to the NNZ Hall of Fame, three of whom were awarded Icon Status.

Legendary Silver Ferns coach Dame Lois Muir, former NNZ President and long-serving international umpire Dawn Jones, and former key administrator and NNZ President Anne Taylor were acknowledged for their outstanding contribution with Icon Status at the Hall of Fame launch during NNZ's 97th AGM, held in Auckland on 24 February 2024.

In celebrating the first intake of inductees, the trio were joined by former Silver Ferns playing greats Joan Harnett, Judy Blair, Sandra Edge, Irene van Dyk, Laura Langman and Casey Kopua, past Netball World Cup winning coaches Taini Jamison and Dame Ruth Aitken, and former NNZ Board Chair and influential sports governance administrator Kereyn Smith.

Dame Lois Muir

pictured below [far left] with her team in 1983

Dame Lois Muir *DNZM, OBE*
General Member

Icon
Status

SILVER FERN #27
SILVER FERNS COACH #4

One of the sport's pioneers in the truest sense of the word, as a player, coach and administrator, Muir's influence has been profound. A trailblazer as a player when vice-captain of the Silver Ferns at the first World Cup in 1963, Muir continued to leave a blueprint for those who followed with an unrivalled and exceptionally successful 15-year tenure as Silver Ferns coach.

That was backed up by her unstinting administrative capabilities that helped steer Netball and women's sport in general into the limelight and onto a more equal footing with their male counterparts.

Taking her place as a board member of many high-profile organisations helped Muir gain leverage, expertise and respect in the business and commercial worlds, which greatly benefitted Netball.



Muir first made her mark as a player, excelling on the sports field, and, in a rarity for the day, was a dual international, representing New Zealand at both basketball (1952 – 1962) and Netball.

She became Silver Fern #27 when selected in the 1960 team for the historic three-test tour to Australia.

She remained a mainstay when re-selected in the 1963 team in another historic year, the inaugural World Tournament in 1963, the athletic Muir being selected as vice-captain.

Her longevity when taking over the mantle as the Silver Ferns fourth coach in 1974 led to Muir becoming a household name when generations of the sport's elite came under her wily tutelage. Widely admired and highly respected for her modern approach to the game, Muir set all sorts of records when staying at the helm for the next 15 years.

As coach of the Silver Ferns, Muir was involved in four world cups: finishing 3rd at her first attempt when the 1975 tournament was hosted in Auckland, jointly winning the title with Trinidad and Tobago and Australia in 1979, finishing runners-ups to Australia in 1983 and winning outright in 1987. At the end of her long tenure, Muir finished with an excellent 85 per cent success rate. This included 91 wins, 10 losses and six draws from 107 test matches.

Muir was awarded an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for services to Netball in 1984 and inducted into the New Zealand Sports Hall of Fame in 1993. In 2004 she was appointed a Distinguished Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit (CNZM), accepting redesignation as a Dame Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit in 2009, fittingly becoming Netball's first Dame in the process.

Muir continued as a national selector after finishing her role as Silver Ferns coach and served on several sporting bodies, including NNZ, the Hillary Commission, the Sports Foundation, the Masters Games and the New Zealand Sports Hall of Fame.

The Dame Lois Muir Supreme Award – the highest individual accolade a New Zealand Netballer can achieve – is named in her honour and presented annually at the New Zealand Netball Awards.



Dawn Jones CNZM, OBE General Member

With her astute mind and attention to detail, Dawn Jones left a considerable impression across many facets of Netball, first making her mark as an exceptional umpire.

Jones obtained her local and national umpiring qualifications during the 1960s. She accompanied the Silver Ferns team to England in 1974, in the process launching a unique international umpiring career which spanned 85 test matches while including four world championships and two World Games. Jones was New Zealand's top-ranked umpire for 15 years and umpired more than 200 first-class matches.

She was the figurehead of NNZ when becoming President in 1987 before our structure changed from an executive to a board-run model in subsequent years. Wearing many hats in Netball, Jones also held the demanding position of principal of Diocesan School for Girls, in Auckland, during this time (1975 – 1993) making her achievements all the more remarkable. She was also a Justice of the Peace.

On retiring from active umpiring, Jones became a member of the International Netball Federation's (INF) umpiring committee, chairing its umpiring advisory panel from its establishment in 2008 until 2013, and was a key force behind the introduction of new rules and a new rule book.

In the 1994 New Year Honours, Jones was awarded an OBE for her services to Netball and education. In 2015, she was honoured with a Lifetime Achievement award at the Halberg Sports Awards. In the 2016 Queen's Birthday Honours, she was made a CNZM.



Anne Taylor OBE General Member

After her playing days, Anne Taylor became a certified coach and umpire, going on to umpire the first televised Netball test match in New Zealand in 1969.

Taylor slotted into governance and administrative roles with ease where her influence in key areas moved Netball ahead in leaps and bounds while leading the sport through some defining moments.

In 1978 Taylor was appointed President of NNZ, a position she held until 1987, and during her tenure was a prime mover in the decision of the New Zealand Netball Association (NZNA) to move its head office from Wellington to Auckland. This facilitated better access to sponsors while she also hired a marketing company which helped with the success of the Silver Ferns and continued to raise the profile of Netball by significantly increasing media coverage and commercial sponsorship.

Taylor was responsible for starting a league for club teams too, sponsored by the Bendon Group, and obtaining sponsorship for the long-running Milo Test Series. In 1985, while still with NNZ, Taylor also became the Executive Officer of the Oceania Netball Federation as well, a position she held until 1995. She was appointed vice-president of the International Federation of Netball Associations in 1989 and subsequently became President, serving until 1999. Other positions Taylor held include membership of the New Zealand Council for Recreation and Sport, the Hillary Commission and the New Zealand Sports Drug Agency.

In 1987, Taylor received a Halberg Award for her services to sport and in 1988 was awarded an OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours.

Other inductees: Former playing greats Judy Blair, Joan Harnett, Sandra Edge, Irene van Dyk, Laura Langman and Casey Kopua left their mark in decisive fashion during widely different phases of Netball's evolution.



Judy Blair MNZM
Athlete Member

With teams being named on a more regular basis, Judy Blair became one of the first players to be selected in multiple Silver Ferns teams (1960, 1963, 1967). The Cantabrian had been part of the groundbreaking 1960 Silver Ferns tour to Australia, when aged just 18, and the first World Cup in England in 1963.

After the heartbreaking one-goal loss to Australia at the inaugural World Cup, Blair vowed to carry on to the next one, reinventing herself from a shooter to a wing attack in the interim with exceptional results. Far from the norm for the era, she had her first child in between world tournaments, returning to the court immediately while excelling in the midcourt.

In a defining moment for the sport in New Zealand, Blair captained the Silver Ferns to their first World Cup title, in Perth in 1967.



Joan Harnett ONZM
Athlete Member

Canterbury stalwart Joan Harnett left an indelible mark on the game, gaining her first Silver Ferns selection in 1963. A revelation for all she accomplished in Netball, Harnett's ability to read the game and instinctive qualities as a shooter made her one of the greats.

She was credited with changing the public perception of Netball in New Zealand, often referred to throughout her career as the 'belle' of the court.

A match winner, Harnett's international career spanned from 1963 to 1971 and included three world championships [England, Australia and Jamaica]. She was voted Player of the Tournament at the 1967 World Cup in Perth.



Sandra Edge MBE
Athlete Member

A rare breed of player, the energy and spontaneity of free-spirited midcourter Sandra Edge brought a new dimension to how the game was played.

Edge's exceptional talents and athleticism meant she could play most positions on the court but it was from Centre where she shone brightest, her unique abilities frequently proving to be game-changers.

Based on a strong work ethic, she set the highest of standards for herself and at the same time breathed new life into the game. Edge's natural exuberance and dazzling skills established the benchmark for future generations worldwide.

Competing in three world championships, Edge won the complete set of medals – gold in 1987, silver in 1991 and bronze in 1995.

...Judy Blair became one of the first players to be selected in multiple Silver Ferns teams (1960, 1963, 1967)."

Hall of Fame



Irene van Dyk MNZM
Athlete Member

Ageless super-shooter Irene van Dyk had a huge impact on Netball, almost single-handedly changing the way it was played, both in New Zealand and around the world, while contributing immensely to its growing popularity.

Van Dyk's talent showed no bounds when she made New Zealand her home in 2000 after emigrating from South Africa in her late 20s. She quickly became one of the key faces of the Silver Ferns and went on to rewrite the record books while continuing to play at the highest level into her 40s.

Van Dyk became the most talked and written about Netballer of her time while redefining the position of goal shoot with telling effect.

A crowd favourite, the affable shooter reached a number of significant milestones during a glittering career, where she was the world's best at the peak of her powers.



Laura Langman ONZM
Athlete Member

Winning the Dame Lois Muir Supreme Award title in 2015, 2016 and 2019 put the stamp on Laura Langman's remarkable career.

Pushing to new boundaries was the hallmark of Langman's exceptional career, playing an integral role in leading the Silver Ferns on their stunning ride to the World Cup title in 2019. The effervescent bundle of energy put the seal on her contribution as one of the game's greats when winning a first world title after three previous unsuccessful attempts.

Langman became New Zealand's first Netballer to surpass 150 test caps in 2019. This included winning two Commonwealth Games gold medals with the Silver Ferns [2006 and 2010] before calling time as the most capped Silver Fern in history with 163 internationals beside her name.

The athletic and fleet-footed midcourter was a striking presence in the Silver Ferns engine room, with her exacting standards, drive, preparation and ability to stay injury-free combining to produce an outstanding Netballer.



Casey Kopua ONZM
Athlete Member

Seemingly destined to plug the only gap in her glittering résumé, inspiring defender Casey Kopua came out of retirement in style to help the Silver Ferns clinch the 2019 Netball World Cup title. It was a fitting finale for Kopua, who had come up empty-handed in three previous attempts at claiming Netball's greatest prize.

Sheer determination, durability and resilience went hand in hand throughout Kopua's well-renowned career, overcoming triumph and adversity along the way to leave her mark as one of New Zealand's and the world's greatest defenders.

From the outset, Kopua brought a strong, no-frills work ethic both on and off the Netball court, fiercely proud and loyal being her ingrained traits. Setting the on-court standards with her strength in the air, through-court carries, ability to make an intercept out of nothing and single-mindedness proved an infectious mix as others fed off her exceptional exploits.

Kopua received the ultimate accolade in 2009 when assuming the Silver Ferns captaincy at the relatively young age of 24. During 2014, she captained the Silver Ferns for a record 62nd time, eclipsing Lyn Gunson's long-held record of 61 tests as captain.



Taini Jamison OBE
General Member

A trailblazer in the sport she loved, Taini Jamison was an inspiring and influential figure who left her mark in many ways throughout her decades-long involvement, but she ultimately left her most memorable imprint on the coaching front.

In a natural progression, Jamison became the first Māori coach of the New Zealand Netball team when appointed Silver Ferns coach #3 in 1967. In what was to become a history-making year for New Zealand Netball, Jamison guided the Silver Ferns to a first world title when they swept all-comers in the second edition of the Netball World Cup, held in Perth.

Four years later, she coached the Silver Ferns to the runners-up position at the 1971 Netball World Cup in Jamaica.

In 2008, the Taini Jamison Trophy was established. It is contested when any Netballing nation, other than Australia, play the Silver Ferns in New Zealand while honouring an exceptional legacy.



Dame Ruth Aitken
DNZM, ONZM
General Member

Dame Ruth forged an outstanding career as a coach having been a successful member of the Silver Ferns team that were joint winners of the 1979 World Netball Championships.

Over her nine-year tenure (2002 – 2011) as the Silver Ferns coach, Aitken stood out as one of New Zealand’s most successful coaches across all sports. With her at the helm, the Silver Ferns won the 2003 Netball World Cup, culminating in the Coach of the Year Award the same year, back-to-back gold medals at the 2006 Melbourne and 2010 Delhi Commonwealth Games and gaining the World Netball Series title in 2009.

Aitken led the successful development and promotion of new initiatives to encourage increased participation at all levels of coaching, employed as the NNZ Coaching Director from 2011 to 2013.

From 2013 to 2016, she was Technical Director and National Coach for Singapore Netball where she played an instrumental role in shaping the success and development of the Singapore national team.

Aitken also played an important role as Development Officer for the Pacific Sporting Programme (PSP), an initiative which delivered Netball training to a wide range of participants in Fiji, the Cook Islands, Samoa and Tonga.

Her knowledge and experience have been recognised both nationally and internationally as a member of the INF Coaching Advisory Panel (2011 – 2014).



Kereyn Smith CNZM, MNZM
Athlete Member

On the back of an outstanding career in sports governance and administration, former NNZ Board Chair Kereyn Smith has left a telling imprint on the sport.

Smith spent 11 years on the Board of NNZ, including six as Chair, closely followed by her five-year term as World Netball Vice President, much of it during a time of significant change for Netball.

During her time with World Netball, she was involved in the delivery of many international events, including Netball World Cups, World Youth Cups, and the exciting new concept of the FastNet World Netball Series (now the FAST5 Netball World Series).

Smith was also instrumental in driving the restructure of the international body as well as developing umpiring, coaching and marketing panels. A key leader at World Netball Congress Meetings in 2007, 2009 and 2011, her resourcefulness helped Netball communities around the world take the initiative in pushing the sport to new levels, and empowering its associated personnel.

With NNZ, Smith helped guide the transformation of the code from amateur to semi-professional status.

Acknowledgements

A stalwart of the Kapi Mana Netball Centre, Ngahiwi Meroiti was awarded a Queen's Service Medal (QSM) in the 2024 New Year Honours.

Honoured for her services to Netball, Meroiti (Ngāti Toa, Ngāti Porou, Ngāti Raukawa, Ngāti Tama) is a Life Member of the Kapi Mana Netball Centre, having been a member for more than 30 years.

A qualified umpire, she has been the umpire co-ordinator, coach and assessor for the Centre intermittently since the late 1990s.

Following the COVID-19 pandemic, Meroiti resumed these roles and was instrumental in revitalising the umpire cohort and growing the number of qualified umpires at the Centre. She served as a Board member from 2002 until 2012 and was the President between 2012 and 2016. She has held various positions within the Centre, including draw convenor and responsibility for finances and grant funding.

Meroiti has also been a prominent figure in coaching where she has coached at Premier 1 level and has led her club team to eight Premier 1 championships.



She has successfully coached and managed Kapi Mana representative teams, coached at secondary school levels for Tawa and Mana Colleges and coached and managed at regional levels as well.

Meroiti served as assistant coach of the Capital Shakers in 2005 and as a representative selector. She has also been involved in Māori Netball for more than 15 years as a coach and manager, and is now treasurer for Ikaroa ki te Tonga.

Established in 1975, the Queen's Service Medal is awarded by the Government of New Zealand to recognise and reward volunteer service to the community. It replaced the Imperial Service Medal as an award of New Zealand.

Many years of dedication were recognised for stalwarts Allison Ferguson, Adine Wilson and Marilyn Milne who were acknowledged in the 2024 King's Birthday Honours for their service to Netball.

Ferguson, a former NNZ Board Chair, was made an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit (ONZM) while former Silver Ferns captain Wilson became a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM). Milne received the King's Service Medal (KSM).

A commercial litigation lawyer, Ferguson has volunteered in Netball in a variety of roles at national and regional levels. She was a director of the NNZ Board from 2014 to 2018 and then Chair from 2018 to 2023 and oversaw investment in player pathways to ensure continuity of Netball's high-performance programmes, while



introducing greater player numbers at the elite level.

Ferguson was Board Chair of Auckland Netball Centre from 2000 to 2009, where she was the driving force behind the establishment of a new 56-court venue at Stonefields. She applied her legal expertise on a pro bono basis for the establishment of Auckland Netball at Stonefields, part of a wider sports hub near central Auckland.

She joined the Diamonds Netball Franchise Board in 2006 and was appointed to the New Zealand working committee for the development of a new trans-Tasman Netball competition, which became known as the ANZ Championship.

Ferguson secured a sizeable donation for Netball, which was applied to enable the construction of the first indoor venue for Netball in Canterbury, the new home of the Christchurch Netball Centre.

She received an Auckland Netball Service Award in 2007, a Netball New Zealand Service Award in 2017 and was made a Life Member in 2020.

Adine Wilson captained the Silver Ferns from 2005 to 2007, making her debut with the national team in 1999 after also captaining the NZ U21 Netball team.

She was part of the Silver Ferns team that won the Netball World Cup in 2003 before captaining the team to their historic first Commonwealth Games gold medal in 2006. Wilson retired from international play in 2007, following 79 test appearances.

She was a board member of the New Zealand Netball Players' Association (NZNPA) from 2007 to 2023, chairing the Board from 2017 to 2023. Wilson was prominent in establishing the NZNPA, eventuating in Netballers having a collective voice as the sport headed into the semi-professional era. She was a board member of Auckland Netball from 2012 to 2022.

Domestically, Wilson played for Southern Sting from 2001 to 2007 and captained the Southern Steel in 2009. Since 2018 she has been an athlete mentor for the Tania Dalton Foundation, which supports young women in sport through a range of programmes, and is a current Trustee. She has been a Sky sports presenter and commentator since 2013.

Wilson is also a member of the Integrity in Sport and Recreation Establishment Board.

Marilyn Milne has been contributing to her community through Netball for more than 60 years and has held various roles and responsibilities

during this time throughout the Otago, Canterbury and Nelson/Tasman Netball communities, serving as president, secretary, coach, umpire, selector and as an executive member.

She was the inaugural coaching educator with Canterbury Netball Union in 1996, teaching Netball skills to those in primary and secondary schools. She served as the Nelson College for Girls' Netball co-ordinator, responsible for more than 50 teams, and was the coach and manager for their Senior A team.

In a wide-ranging résumé, Milne was the facilitator of the Growth and Development Group for Nelson Netball and has been on the South Island Secondary Schools' Management Committee since 1996, serving as secretary from 2009 to 2022. She has assisted and mentored many students and has organised South Island Masters Games tournaments.

Milne is a nationally recognised Netball bench official and has represented the Nelson region at national tournaments and games, including at Trans-Tasman

Secondary School Championships and Silver Fern games.

In a clutch of achievements, she has been awarded a Service to School Sport New Zealand Award, an NNZ Service Award, a South Island Secondary Schools' Service Award, a Lifetime Contribution to Sport Award from Sport Tasman, and is a Life Member of Nelson Netball.



Marilyn Milne

Silver Ferns captain Adine Wilson became a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM).





Entwined in Netball from an early age, Gareth Fowler found his true calling as an umpire and after an 18-year odyssey ran out with the whistle for his 100th national league match on 10 June 2024.

Fowler became just the fourth New Zealand umpire to achieve this milestone, following Angela Armstrong-Lush, Jono Bredin and Kristie Simpson in joining the centurions club, after whistling his first match at the elite level in 2016.

With his first outing coming in the former trans-Tasman league, Fowler's 100th took place in his home city of Wellington at the ANZ Premiership clash between the Pulse and the Mystics.

He is grateful and proud of where he's been and where he's landed, but does not gloss over the trials and tribulations in what is one of the most challenging and thankless roles in high-performance sport.

"It makes me reflect on the effort that I've put in over my 18-year umpiring career, the sacrifices that I've had to make from a personal and worklife perspective, the hours that I've toiled in terms of being physically fit enough to do this and the effort of ensuring that I'm operating at the best of my ability over a

long period of time," he said.

"It also makes me think about the people that I've met and the lifelong relationships and friendships I've developed in Netball. The sport is a core part of my sense of self and being."

Fowler first became interested in umpiring as a player and, while playing in various men's national tournaments, umpired on behalf of his team. That led, in 2006, to joining the umpire's group at Netball Hutt Valley, the appeal being almost instant.

"I was really lucky and can't thank the crew at Netball Hutt Valley enough," he said. "I've been a huge benefactor of their support for a really long period of time. They had a really good environment where we could learn and develop and that supported me in gaining my New Zealand Badge in 2008."

Quickly rising in the ranks, Fowler was selected as part of NNZ's high performance umpiring programme in 2010 before his progress stalled.

"I really struggled for a number of years where I've needed more time to develop as an umpire and as a human, which meant I didn't umpire my first ANZ [Championship] game until 2016," he said.

"I'd been to tournaments and a few internationals in the Pacific and not done as well as I had hoped. It all took some time to really click.

"Because your mistakes are so obvious and clear, umpiring is a very lonely sport. You've got to put in a lot of graft, and be quite self-critical but you can be overly self-critical and that can have a detrimental impact on your performance, too.

"So, getting to grips with the balance of all that over that six-year period took me quite some time, with much introspection, reflection and learning until I felt comfortable operating at that more elite level."

Having umpired two World Cup semi-finals, a World Cup final, a Commonwealth Games semi-final and final and several ANZ Premiership finals, the status of the game does not sit front and Centre for Fowler when he has the whistle in hand.

His biggest driver is for players to be able to demonstrate their skills to the best of their abilities in a spectacle that people want to engage in, is exciting and which draws people to Netball.

The sport has gone through significant changes during his time as an umpire, which has also meant changes to the way the game is officiated.

"The game has changed a lot in a really good way," he said. "It's not only the physical conditioning and strength of the athletes, but the rules have changed too. And the rules have changed in a way that's sped up the game and made it quite different."

Key ingredients for umpires are having a natural affinity for the game, an intuitive understanding of what's being done in a game and why, and making sure you're in the best place to see as much as possible at the right moment – mental capacity remains at the forefront of ultimate success.

"The natural ability and learning the techniques only get you so far because it's the resilience and the mental fortitude which gets you from being good to great to excellent," Fowler said.

"I've had a number of difficult experiences during my umpiring career, both on and off the court, and I've made some clangers of errors as well. You've got to be able to bounce back from those things and break through what can be a really challenging barrier.

"That takes a lot of resilience and a willingness to do the hard yards, and be persistent and not only self-critical but also kind to yourself. So, it's important to not put so much pressure on yourself to deliver so you can develop at your own rate.

"That top two inches is what differentiates the top umpires from those that only get so far because at a certain point it can become really hard for everyone, and the ones that make it are the ones that can break through that barrier."

Now perched at the top of his game in a remarkable career, Fowler has stood the test of time through his dedication, resilience, honesty, support network and by having a sense of humour.

Life Members in the order they were conferred:

+ Now deceased

1932 Irene McInnes +
1949 Betty Armstrong +
1949 Myrtle Muir +
1965 Stella Schnack +
1966 Sara Foster+
1967 Rena Mackenzie MBE +
1967 Catherine Vautier OBE +
1968 Eileen Lane BEM +
1969 Evelyn Bell +
1969 Margaret McAughtrie +
1975 Ona Coatsworth +
1975 Edna Yates QSM +
1977 Jean Lodge MBE +

1978 Doreen Brown MBE +
1978 Joyce McCann MBE +
1978 Gladys Symes OBE +
1981 Marjorie Jenden QSM +
1987 Anne Taylor OBE
1989 Lois Muir DNZM OBE
1991 Judy Russell MNZM
1991 Betty Steffensen QSM
1993 Dawn Jones CNZM OBE
1994 Joyce Ellis +
1994 Dal Knuckey QSM +
1997 Monica Leggat MNZM +
1999 Christine Archer

2002 Fay Freeman ONZM
2003 Sheryl Dawson MNZM
2006 Sheryl Wells CNZM
2010 Robyn Broughton ONZM +
2010 Taini Jamison OBE +
2011 Marian George QSM
2012 Kereyn Smith CNZM MNZM
2017 Leigh Gibbs CNZM ONZM
2018 Yvonne Willering CNZM ONZM
2021 Ruth Aitken DNZM ONZM
2021 Waimarama Taumaunu ONZM MBE
2022 Shirley Hooper
2024 Beverley Douglas MNZM



We live this game.

Life Membership: Beverley Douglas

Much admired for her invaluable contribution across many facets of the game, former national President Beverley (Bev) Douglas was awarded Life Membership of NNZ in 2024.

With over 50 years' involvement in Netball, Douglas became a stalwart of the sport while holding a multitude of managerial and administrative roles following an active playing and coaching career.

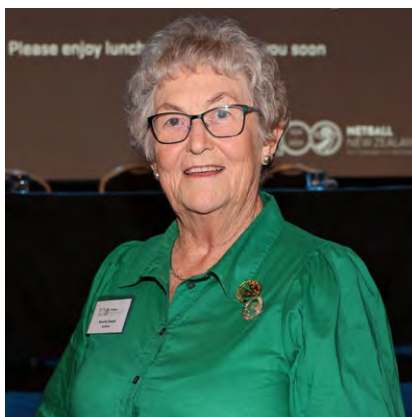
Her first taste of Netball was as a player at Lichfield Primary School, in the South Waikato District, in 1959. Douglas soon left her mark on the court when making the Morrinsville College first team as a third former, also gaining her local umpiring badge while still at school. From the fourth form and for the following three years, she represented Waikato Sub Association at the national tournament.

Following her marriage in 1967, Douglas moved to Auckland where she joined the local Ōtāhuhu Netball Club. From 1968 to 1971, she played A grade for Tāmaki Mangere under Pam Barham, who captained the Silver Ferns at the first Netball World Cup in 1963 before moving to and coaching Australia. Barham's influence on Douglas resonated strongly and led her down the coaching pathway.

From 1971 to 1974, Douglas coached the College Rifles Premier team, loving the club and level but finding it difficult with two small children.

That led to a new and exciting venture with Papatoetoe High School which coincided with the growing popularity of college Netball as the preferred sport for girls. She even took a school team to Australia during this time.

From 1979 to 1988, Douglas was coach of the Papatoetoe Rangers Premier team. The club grew from just a few teams to 22 by the time she finished.



As a representative coach, Douglas coached the Auckland Sub Association U18 team in 1979 until 1982, the U21 team in 1983 and the seniors from 1984 to 1987. This involved travelling to all the national tournaments during those years.

There were no bounds to what she contributed across the breadth of Netball as she moved into management with great success during the 1990s. Douglas was manager of the New Zealand U21 team from 1992 to 1994, which included the World Youth Championships held in Fiji in 1992 where New Zealand won the title for the first time.

From 1994 to 1996 she managed the Young International and Youth Teams, who toured Canada and South Africa, before becoming College Rifles manager from 1996 to 1998.

In 1997 Douglas was appointed as the Manager Facilitator for NNZ.

She was involved in the administration side of Netball from a young age, her lengthy experience beginning while she was still a player.

Her roles included Auckland Netball Association Executive (1969 – 1971), Secretary Auckland Netball Association (1972 – 1974), President Papatoetoe Rangers Netball Club [22 teams, 1982 – 1990], Auckland Netball Union Secretary (1989 – 1992), NNZ Board member (1997 – 1999), Diamonds Franchise Board member (1998 – 2006), Auckland/Waitākere Netball Region Chair (1999 – 2005), Auckland Netball Board member (2006 – 2017), President NNZ (2015 – 2018) and President Auckland Netball Centre (2018 – 2022).

Between 1989 and 2004 Douglas was also involved in important behind-the-scenes roles which included being the TVNZ Netball statistician, World Cup statistician, and Event Manager for the Diamonds, Auckland Area and the Fisher & Paykel Series and New Zealand tests.

She received a Papatoetoe Rangers Netball Club Service Award in 1984 and was made a Life Member of Auckland Netball in 2007. Douglas also achieved her Provincial and NZ Theory umpiring qualification.

In the wider community, Douglas has been on the Board of the Pauanui Sports and Recreation Club since 2008, becoming President in later years. Douglas has also been Club Captain of the Pauanui Women's Golf Club Committee, President of the Pauanui Bridge Club, and has organised community fundraising events.

Acknowledged for her services to Netball and the community, Douglas was made a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM) in the 2022 New Years Honours.

In Remembrance

Known throughout New Zealand for her immeasurable impact across the coaching environment, the Netball community mourned the passing of Ivy Topping in 2024.



From her early years as a schoolgirl growing up in England, Netball was an integral piece of Topping's DNA. Once emigrating to New Zealand 55 years ago, her enthusiasm, passion and boundless joy for the sport crossed generations of aspiring coaches and players.

In 1990, Topping was appointed to what she considered her dream job, as one of the coaching officers for NNZ and, with it, the responsibility of covering all provinces in the lower North Island. She was over the moon to be getting paid for doing something she loved. The role was a mixture of working with coaches and introducing coaching courses.

Topping had 10 years in the role followed by three years with Sport Taranaki and Netball Taranaki. She was then lured away for the next seven years by Leigh Gibbs to be part of CoachForce with NNZ.

CoachForce had four coaches spread across the country with the focus being on coach development. Topping's region was from Waikato south in the North Island where she would run regional courses as well as joining the other coaches to organise national programmes.

During her stints with NNZ, there was plenty going on for Topping. She wrote or rewrote seven books – 'Defending' which she would rewrite under 'On Defence' in her second term in the job; 'Game Plans'; 'Team Building' which is a resource used in schools; and she rewrote 'On Attack'. Also there was 'My Team and Me' and 'My Little Team and Me'; designed for secondary school students who were coaching lower high school or younger teams.

In addition, there were coaching courses run in Samoa [twice], the Solomon Islands and in Rarotonga.

Topping attended many Netball World Cups, and since 1991 had travelled to Birmingham, Sydney twice, Jamaica, Singapore, Auckland, Liverpool and Cape Town, often alongside her great friend Dame Lois Muir, the legendary former Silver Ferns coach.

That all started when Topping's daughter Carron was a goal shooter for the Silver Ferns between 1990 and 1995.

Hailing from the town of Petts Wood in south-east London, Topping progressed through the U14 and U16 ranks into the A team at Bromley County Grammar School for Girls and so began her lifelong Netball odyssey.

On finishing school, Topping gained distinctions in Physical Education (PE) Theory and Education from the University of Sheffield, playing top PE college Netball at the time while the teaching practice also provided the opportunity for more and more coaching, at primary schools initially and then at secondary schools.

Topping's first teaching employment was at Sudbury High School in Suffolk, an all-girls' school. Being in the PE Department, she coached many sports and activities and loved every moment of it.

An intrepid spirit and an opportunity for a better life brought Topping to New Zealand in 1969, the 25-year-old involved in a scheme called 'Bring out a Briton' as the New Zealand Government recruited for more teachers.

It was an advertisement from Waitara High School, in Taranaki, that lured Topping to the other side of the world and from where she launched her remarkable influence on Netball in New Zealand following such a massive personal decision.

Until 1990, Topping was involved in teaching at both Waitara High School and Manukorihi Intermediate.

She continued to play locally, before concentrating solely on coaching in 1975, where she was involved with school teams, Taranaki age-group teams, Taranaki Premier teams and a season with the Waikato Senior team.

She was also entrusted with the New Zealand Development Squad players, where 30 girls, all trying to make a claim for the Silver Ferns, received coaching over a couple of camps. To top off her growing involvement, she took on the Western Flyers for three seasons, a team made up of the best from Taranaki, Whanganui, Hawke's Bay and Manawatū.

Topping received a Netball Taranaki Service Award in 2000, which was followed in 2011 with an NNZ Service Award.

In honouring Topping's wishes, granddaughter Marcia Jerram played in the 2024 Synergy Hair Netball League (SHNL) Grand Final, the defender lining up for the Comets against Central Manawa in the season finale.

Marcia's mum, Carron, who is part of the Comets management team, was also on hand, as Topping's daughter and granddaughter paid fitting tribute to her enormous legacy in the most appropriate way.

Ivy passed away peacefully in June after battling cancer.

NNZ pays tribute to the life of Dame June Hinekahukura Mariu, a trailblazer both on and off the court, former Silver Fern #22, teacher, youth advocate and community leader, who died in August at the age of 92.



In a life full of achievements, Hinekahukura Mariu became the fifth captain of the Silver Ferns in 1960 and was the first to lead the national team to a prized inaugural win the same year. She was also a New Zealand softball and indoor basketball representative.

After Netball, she became an equally influential figure as the national president of the Māori Women's Welfare League from 1987 to 1990, chair of the Te Whānau o Waipareira Trust and a member of the Treaty of Waitangi Fisheries Commission.

Hinekahukura Mariu worked as a teacher and as a lay advocate with youth and their whānau in West Auckland, appearing at the Rangatahi Court based at Hoani Waititi Marae.

She was the National Co-ordinator for Aotearoa Māori Netball and a trustee of the Māori Women's Development Fund.

Hinekahukura Mariu's considerable contribution to Netball and the wider community was recognised on multiple occasions, including receiving a Queen's Service Medal [QSM] in 1985 and becoming a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit [CNZM] in 2006. In 2012, she was appointed a Dame of the New Zealand Order of Merit [ONZM] in the Queen's Birthday and Diamond Jubilee honours list.

Hinekahukura Mariu's selection as Silver Fern #22 had historical significance for the New Zealand team. As the first team to be selected since 1948, the 1960 edition proved the turning point for Netball in New Zealand and with it, the start of the modern era for the sport in this country.

Playing under the then recently-adopted international rules of seven-a-side, the 1960 Silver Ferns team set off across

the Tasman for a 15-game tour 22 years after their historic first-ever test against Australia.

Elevated from the Auckland provincial team, shooter Hinekahukura Mariu, at 28 years of age, was named the Silver Ferns fifth captain and entrusted with leading a 10-strong team on their historic mission. It was the first national team to undertake a full-scale tour, which included three tests and 12 other games. The team from 1960 represented a new breed of player and laid the foundation for the game as we know it today.

Growing up in Hicks Bay on the East Coast, Hinekahukura Mariu was a natural athlete across multiple sports from early on. Well suited to the play-making role of goal attack, she had the distinction of becoming New Zealand's first winning captain when the Silver Ferns prevailed 49-40 in the first test in Adelaide.

In mirroring the trans-Tasman rivalry that has long since continued, they lost the second test in Melbourne 39-44 and suffered a heart-reaking 45-46 loss in the final test.

"You met such wonderful people," Hinekahukura Mariu recalled of her involvement with Netball.

"It really taught you how to embrace people. I was the only Māori on the team but it didn't matter. Netball was a game you all played no matter what colour or creed you were. You all belonged to New Zealand."

With no secondary school in Hicks Bay, she was sent to Queen Victoria boarding school in Auckland. She suffered terribly from homesickness but found some solace in her sport, playing nine-a-side outdoor basketball in the Auckland secondary schools' competition, which was played on Auckland's famous Windmill Road courts.

On finishing school, she trained as a teacher but continued to play Netball. She played for Arahi in the Auckland club competition, "which was one of the big shot teams in those days."

She went on to make the Auckland team and progression to the Silver Ferns came in 1960. Much to her surprise and delight, Hinekahukura Mariu was chosen to captain the side.

"It was a great honour indeed," she said. "They were a great bunch of girls. I remember my Uncle John, who they named the marae after, the Hoani Waititi Marae, out here in Henderson. He taught all the girls [on our team] a Māori song which we performed over there [Australia]."

On returning home, Hinekahukura Mariu married and retired from international Netball but her passion remained strong and she moved into successfully coaching at school, club and provincial level while also becoming a Silver Ferns selector.

Her work in the community involved much time encouraging family well being and helping more Māori women participate in sport, which included obtaining funding to start Māori Netball.

There were many segments to the life of "Whaea" or "Aunty June", as she was affectionately known, and once her sporting days were over she devoted herself tirelessly to her community.

Hinekahukura Mariu's experiences with Netball laid the foundation for her success as a pillar in the community and helping those less fortunate. She has left a lasting legacy across many fields during her much-acclaimed life.

Service Awards

1967

Ona Coatsworth + Waikato
Joan Durbin + Auckland
Joyce Ellis + Auckland
Eileen Lane + NZNA
Jean Lodge + Rotorua
Jean Rountree + Auckland

1968

Doreen Brown + NZNA
Pat Cairney + NZNA
Vonnie Flood + NZNA
Kay Palmer + NZNA
Vi Rainey Waikato
Iris Weston + NZNA
Edna Yates + Canterbury

1969

Peggy Bithell + Taranaki
Margaret Gibson + Wellington

1970

Rona McCarthy + Hawke's Bay
Hazel Paul + Wellington
Isobel Stuart Auckland

1971

Douglas Coleman Te Puke
Myra Denniston Western Bay of Plenty
Phyllis Ford South Canterbury
Taini Jamison + Rotorua
Barbara Marchant Wellington

1972

Ina Graham + South Waikato
Marjorie Jenden + NZNA
Gladys Symes + Hawke's Bay

1973

Alice Gemming Western Bay of Plenty
Hazel Wickens Te Kawanu

1974

Betty Ditford + Canterbury
Lorraine Duffy + Hutt Valley
Olive Husband Ashburton
Joyce Lee + Canterbury
Margaret Pierson Hutt Valley
Helen Yates + Canterbury

1975

Dixie Cockerton + Matamata
Pat Cullen + Wellington
Alison Elder Canterbury
Florence Gough + Canterbury
Eileen Hoglund (née Penman)
Ashburton
Dorothy Hughes Canterbury
Dal Knuckey + Hawke's Bay
Joyce McCann + Wellington
Alice Nichol + Canterbury
Shirley Peacock + North Shore
Joyce Prevett Matamata
Squib Ramsey Matamata
Annette Taylor Hutt Valley

1976

Val Gavin + Otago
Edna George Otago
Doreen Hes + Southland
Lena McTaggart Otago
Yvonne Sycamore + South Waikato
Nancy Whittleson Otago
Clara Williamson Poverty Bay

1977

Yvonne Atkins Hawke's Bay
Violet Byers + Otago
Myrtle E Lee Hawke's Bay
Ellie Moon Waikato
Anne Taylor Waikato

1978

Sonia Deeble King Country
Pam McCloy Otago
Mary McConnell + Otago
Margaret McDougall South Auckland
Lois Muir Otago
Judy Russell Auckland
Shirley Smith + Wellington
Anne Temple Wellington

1979

Molly Dorne + Horowhenua
Edna Hansen Manawatū
Dale Wortman Wellington
Betty Plant + Wellington
Nancy Read + Canterbury
Jo Selby Manawatū
Oonah Shannahan + Canterbury
Betty M Steffensen Manawatū

1980

Cherrie Beattie Te Kawanu
Dorothy Dee + Nelson
Marian George (née Smith) North Shore

1981

Losene Collins Hawke's Bay
Val Fletcher West Auckland
Bev Fryer Poverty Bay
Irene Gurr + Manawatū
Dawn Jones Auckland
Joyce Prankerd Wellington
Shirley Sanderson Matamata
Jean Skelsey Whanganui
Annabel Sutton Hawke's Bay
Anne Tippet Southland

1982

Norma Burns North Otago
Pat Cleland Wellington
Ainsley Jacobs Howick Pakuranga
Diane Madgwick North Shore
Nita McLean Western Bay of Plenty
Isabel Reeves South Waikato
Dorothy Smith Wellington
Betty Woodham Marlborough
Molly Wright South Waikato

1983

Janice Blissett Temuka and Districts
Margaret Herron (née Thompson) Otago
Audrey Thurlow Otago

1984

Rangi Delamare Eastern Bay of Plenty
Dorothy Fathers + Thames Valley
Nola Harris + Kaikōura
Nita Shannon Eastern Bay of Plenty
Dorothy Simpson North Canterbury
Aroha Turnbull Thames Valley

1985

Edith Findlay Southland

1986

Betty Harding Hawke's Bay
Norma Peggs West Auckland
Bernice Wood Taranaki

1987

Maureen Donovan King Country
Joan Williams Howick Pakuranga

1988

Heather Brewer West Auckland
Fay Freeman North Shore
Mavis Kennedy South Canterbury

+ Now deceased



1989

Christine Archer Wellington
Monica Leggat + Waikato
Julia Murray + Canterbury
Eileen Robinson South Canterbury

1990

Ruby Aberhart Nelson
Barbara McIntosh Mid Canterbury
Anne Vernon Manawatū
Betty Wells Waitākere

1991

Billie Armstrong Canterbury
Anne Carnie North Shore
Shona Cooper + North Shore
Mairie Erickson + Canterbury
Shirley Mackle Temuka and Districts

1992

Elaine Collett + Waimate
Sheryl Dawson Bay of Plenty Coast
Lois Fowler Auckland
Frances Howard Western Districts
Noeline Ryder + Waimate
Nancy Toomer + Kapi Mana

1993

Rita Cosgrove + South Canterbury
Marlene Flavell Auckland
Valerie Fowler Howick Pakuranga
Lyn Gunson Waikato
Nita Hornbrook + Nelson
Audrey Leath Ashburton
Patricia Maddocks Wellington
Marilyn Munro Wellington
Jill Shanley Waikato
Lorraine Stowell Ashburton

1994

Edna Balle Pukekohe
Carole Craighead Auckland
Audrey Hinton Pukekohe
Lyn Miles Canterbury
Annette Orangi + Canterbury
Kathleen Thomas Sunrise Coast
Sheryl Wells Auckland
Heather Williamson Midland

1995

Lois Bush + Auckland
Jean Hansen Northland
Beverley Harrison Howick Pakuranga
Keitha McKendry + Manawatū
Margaret Sheppard Pukekohe

1997

Janet Hefford Canterbury
Jessie Thompson Canterbury
Valerie Winder Whanganui

1998

Flora Beynon Buller/Westland
Kathleen Farrell Waikato
Shona Foxcroft + Temuka and Districts
Alwyn Stiven West Otago
Joyce Wallace Waimate
Yvonne Willering North Harbour

1999

Margaret Burgess North Harbour
Shirley Davis Auckland
Wilma Hendry Otago
May Laws + Otago
Gay Netton Horowhenua
Ann O'Brien Otago
Rose Williams + Bay of Plenty Coast

2000

Kathy Doyle Wellington
Kate Leebody Southland
Beryl O'Sullivan Manawatū
Beverley Raine Taranaki

2001

Sheena Armishaw Whanganui
Colleen Bond Southland
Hazel Burrowes + Southland
Dorothy Fitzpatrick Marlborough
Jean Gillett + South Canterbury
Pat James Howick Pakuranga
Kay McIntyre North Harbour
Maureen Russell Thames Valley
Georgina Salter + Otago
Beverley Tibbles West Coast

2002

Robyn Broughton + Southland
Mary Meek Rangitikei
Margaret Perry Wellington
Ian Schrader + Otago
Carolyn Sengelow South Canterbury

2003

Lyn Bailey Howick Pakuranga
Annette Lewis Horowhenua
Lyndsay Meads Katikati
Doreen Neil Rotorua
Hiraina Hilda Ross + Harbourside
Mary Thompson Rotorua

2004

Irene Collins North Harbour
Joanna Paora Hutt Valley
Mirth Solomon + Rotorua
Elaine Tollen Manurewa
Doreen Tucker + Dunedin
Noeline Ward Canterbury
Isobel Whyte Hurunui

2005

Marjorie Carr Waikato
Eileen Margaret Crowe Christchurch
Maureen Flannagan Manawatū
Kereyn Smith Netball New Zealand
Sylvia Smith Waikato
Margaret Spencer + Auckland Waitākere

2006

Norma Bates North
Maree Bernasconi Pukekohe
Annette Parkinson Manawatū
Noeline Ramsey Waiuku
Rebecca Tukukino Bay of Plenty

2007

Anne Bloomfield Western
Tina Karaitiana Gisborne
Te Aroha Keenan Auckland Waitākere
Violet Lynch + Eastern Southland
Margaret Nicholson Waikato
Susanne Trim Manawatū

2008

Annette Bradley Whangārei
Jan Castle Howick Pakuranga
Suzanne Driscoll Hutt Valley
Anne Marie Leech Mid Canterbury
Julie McDonald Howick Pakuranga
Dianne McTigue Mid Canterbury
Kay Norris Christchurch
Christine Rodda Christchurch
Sheena Tyrell Mid Canterbury

2009

Margaret Bennie Otago
Monica Burns Southland
Robyn Harding + Auckland Waitākere
Nancy Lewin Kāpiti Centre
Susan Miller Counties Manukau
Theresa Strachan Taranaki
Waimarama Taumaunu Wellington
Patricia Wyatt Bay of Plenty
Diane Yorke Bay of Plenty

2010

Jan Gallop Tasman
Linda Liggins Manawatū
Lyn Pellow Auckland Waitākere
Ronwyn Wilkins Motueka

2011

Paula Bailey Auckland Waitākere
Karen Brown Southland
Madge Cathro Taranaki
Lee-Anne Clark Auckland Waitākere
Shelley Fissenden Kaikōura
Susan Hare Hutt Valley

Geraldine Hodgson + Nelson
Raeline Ottley Waimate
Ivy Topping + Taranaki

2012

Dame Ruth Aitken Netball New Zealand
Dulcie Brunel North Harbour
Joanne Davis-Goff Waikato
Tracey Fear Netball New Zealand
Leigh Gibbs Netball New Zealand
Adrienne Hayes Christchurch
June Kilgour Howick Pakuranga
Colleen Lyons Otago
Carole Maddix North Harbour
Raewyn Mills Papakura
Helen Schulz North Harbour
Cathie Shaw Waikato
Eleanor Simmons North Harbour
Rhonda Turner Papakura
Michele Wallace North Harbour

2013

Edna Brown Hamilton City
Dorothy Craighead + North Canterbury
Isabel Forrester North Canterbury
Lynette Gubb Rodney
Diane Moloney South Canterbury
Lynn Stratford South Canterbury
Mureen Turfrey Eastern Southland

2014

Ngamahirau Grace Barnett Hawke's Bay
Tasi Betteridge Hutt Valley
Yvonne Brew Upper Clutha
Iwi Courtney Howick Pakuranga
Julie Erskine Invercargill
Julie-Ann Hallett Waikato Bay of Plenty
Leigh Knight Papakura
Briar Martindale Papakura
Sylvia McCleary Hawke's Bay
Bronwyn Meek Auckland
Michelle Newton North Harbour
Grace Rhind Papakura
Sheryll Roy + Dunedin
Jan Skilton North Harbour
Gail Wenmoth Rotorua

2015

Ann Condor Central Otago
Alison Cormack Eastern Southland
Therese Dixon Papakura
Rayma Gunson Whangārei
Margaret Marsh Christchurch
Aileen Mason Waitākere
Amanda Nottingham Christchurch
Valerie Temm Hamilton City

+ Now deceased

2016

Jane Andrew Nelson
Ann Bourne North Harbour
Jono Bredin Dunedin
Jan Clough Manawatū
Kathy Hely Selwyn
Anne Marett Mid Canterbury
Veronica Martin Gisborne
Marilyn Milne Nelson
Maree Smith Nelson

2017

Rosemary Adlam Mid Canterbury
Beverley Douglas Netball New Zealand
Adrienne Ensor Dunedin
Debbie Hodges Netball New Zealand
Shirley Hooper Netball New Zealand
Sharon Kearney Netball New Zealand
Raewyn Lovett Netball New Zealand
Kerry Manders Netball New Zealand
Karla Newlands Mid Canterbury
Sally Paki Paki Nelson
David Pala'amo Christchurch
Lee Piper South
Barbara Reid Mid Canterbury
Lesley Rumball Netball New Zealand
Julie Seymour Netball New Zealand
Nina Smith + Howick Pakuranga
Irene Takao Gisborne
Lorraine Tapp Dunedin
Fatulatetele Tolo Wellington

2018

Sherrill Beale Gisborne
Geoff Bendall Waitākere
John Bongard Netball New Zealand
Glennys Burney Christchurch
Dianne Dickens Eastern Southland
Judith Downer North Harbour
Sandra Edge Wellington
Allison Ferguson Auckland
Carol Ferguson Pukekohe
Bridget Gane Marlborough
Julie Hansen Gisborne
Ann Hay Wellington
Raewyn Henry Northern Zone
Shirley Hocquard Marlborough
Natalie Kelly Waikato Bay of Plenty
Christena Loomans Papakura
Lorna Manu Waitākere
Robyn Mayo Pukekohe
Karen Naylor South Canterbury
Ngami Prattley Eastern Southland
Anne Reid Eastern Southland
Bubs Reweti Wellington
Jan Teesdale Waikato Bay of Plenty
Ann Tod Netball New Zealand
Beryl Turketo Waitākere

2019

Lyn Barr North Harbour
Gail Benseman Mid Canterbury
Lillian Cattell Manurewa
Pam Clayton Waikato Bay of Plenty
Elaine Curtis Waitākere
Gail Griffiths North Harbour
Marcia Hardcastle North Harbour
Gayle Hare Wellington
Casey Kopua Waikato Bay of Plenty
Lee Manaia Manurewa
Jo Morrison Dunedin
Cathy Roa Kapi Mana
Martha Taru Wellington
Zora Vitasovich Waitākere

2020

Robyn Daly Christchurch
Robyn Garner Howick Pakuranga
Lynette Imrie Hutt Valley
Kay Jenkins Christchurch
Karen King South Canterbury
Yvette McCausland-Durie Manawatū
Lee McKenzie Christchurch
Fay Selby-Law Manawatū
Fay Trezise South Canterbury

2021

Karen Betty Pukekohe
Lynette Brady North Harbour
Jennifer Gerrand Hamilton City
Elizabeth Hicks Pukekohe
Tania Karauria Auckland
Margaret Kelly Hamilton City
Eleanor Kitching Waiuku
Kora [Piwi] Pene Hutt Valley
Pam Pennell Auckland
Kirstin Scully Dunedin
Margaret Webby Hamilton City

2022

Stephanie Bond Auckland
Julie Coney Auckland
Lesley Dick Christchurch
Mary Gardiner Auckland
Teresa Irwin Central Southland
Genny Jarvis Hutt Valley
Roger Ledingham+ Nelson
Bernice Mene Netball New Zealand
Todd Miller Netball New Zealand
Lesley Murdoch Netball New Zealand
David Ronaldson Northern
Raewyn Ronaldson Pukekohe
Brenda Rowberry Netball New Zealand
Anna Stanley Netball New Zealand
Katherine West Pukekohe
Donna Wilkins Netball New Zealand
Dianne Williams Northern

2023

Kate Agnew Netball New Zealand
Julie Bennett Auckland
Barbara Bialy Hutt Valley
Mary-Rose Cullen Invercargill
Leana de Bruin Netball New Zealand
Gareth Fowler Netball New Zealand
Deborah Fuller Netball New Zealand
Laura Langman Netball New Zealand
Leah Lazarus North Harbour
Kirsten Lloyd Wellington
Murray Lockwood Northern
Maree McMillan Invercargill
Nicki Paterson Dunedin
Kristie Simpson Netball New Zealand
Dame Noeline Taurua Netball New Zealand
Joyce Walsh Christchurch
Adine Wilson Auckland
Lyn Wilson Dunedin

2024

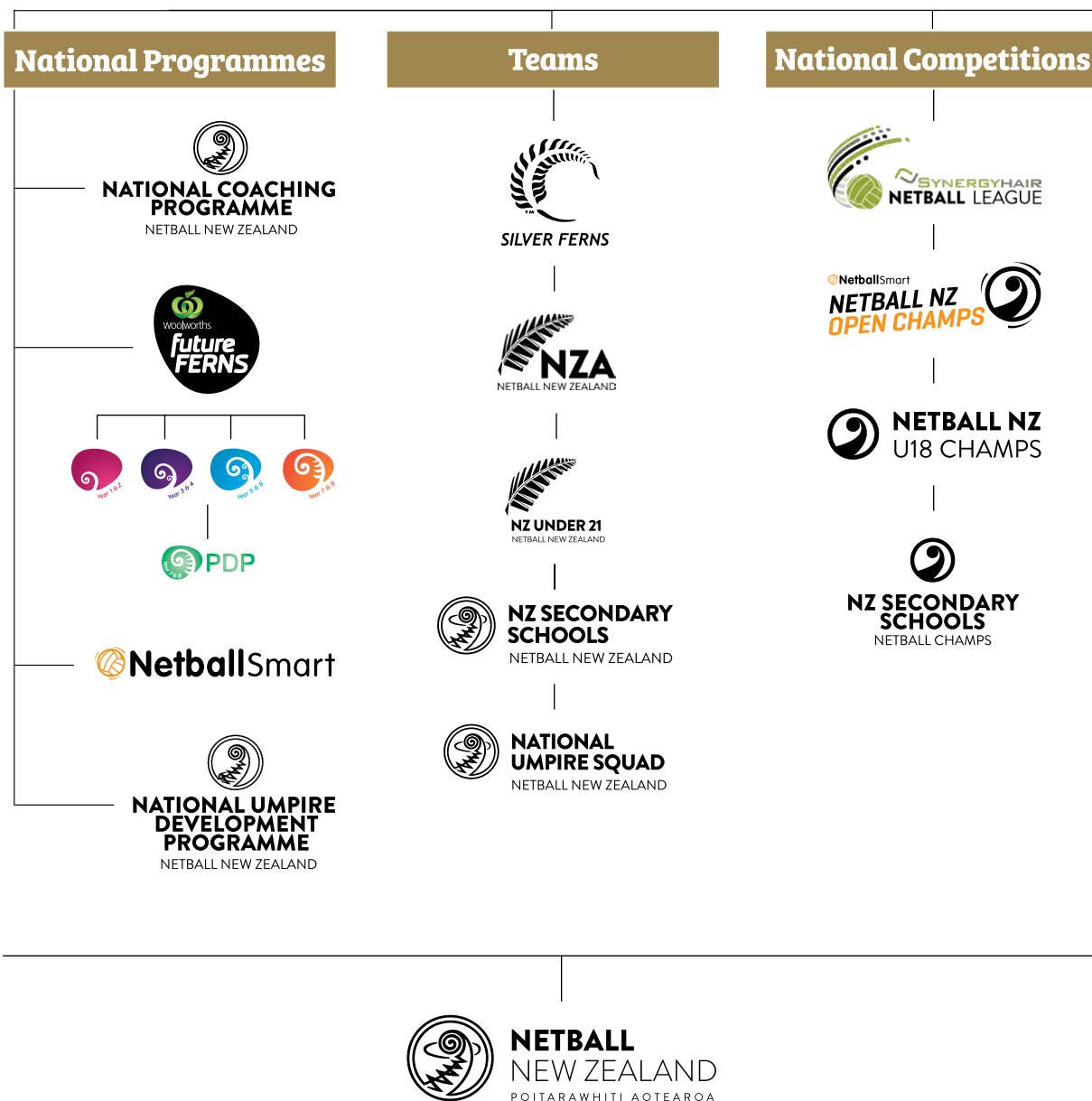
Mathew Chambers Manurewa
Pauline Coultas Howick Pakuranga
Shirley Hobson North Canterbury
Maggie Lloyd Marlborough
Patrick Maxwell Manurewa
Sandy Phear Taranaki
Andrew Rogers Manurewa
Irene van Dyk Netball New Zealand

+ Now deceased





The Netball System





Major Events



ANZ Premiership Netball



Zones



83 Netball Centres



Year ending 30 November 2024

Financials





Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members of Netball New Zealand Incorporated

RSM Hayes Audit

Level 13, 125 Queen Street,
Auckland CBD, Auckland 1010

T +64 (9) 367 1656

www.rsmnz.co.nz

Opinion

We have audited the consolidated special purpose financial statements of Netball New Zealand Incorporated ('the Society'), its Subsidiaries and Associates (together 'the Group'), which comprise:

- the consolidated special purpose statement of financial position as at 30 November 2024;
- the consolidated special purpose statement of financial performance for the year then ended;
- the consolidated special purpose statement of movements in equity for the year then ended; and
- the notes to the consolidated special purpose financial statements, including the basis of reporting and the significant and other accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying consolidated special purpose financial statements on pages 72 to 78 present fairly, in all material respects, the Group's consolidated special purpose statement of financial position, the consolidated special purpose statement of financial performance and the consolidated special purpose statement of movements in equity in accordance with basis of reporting accounting policies as set out by the Group for the year ended 30 November 2024.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) (ISAs (NZ)). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report.

We are independent of the Society in accordance with Professional and Ethical Standard 1 *International Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners (including International Independence Standards) (New Zealand)* issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board and the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' *International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards) (IESBA Code)*, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other than in our capacity as auditor, we have performed an assurance engagement on the Society's NZCT Grant Remittance. The performance of this service has not impaired our independence.

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 of the consolidated special purpose financial statements, which describes the basis of reporting. The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on pages 74 and 75. As a result, the consolidated special purpose financial statements may not be suitable for another purpose.

Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Other Matter

The financial statements of the Group for the year ended 30 November 2023 were audited by another auditor who expressed an unmodified opinion on those statements on 20 December 2023.

THE POWER OF BEING UNDERSTOOD
ASSURANCE | TAX | CONSULTING

RSM Hayes Audit is a member of the RSM network and trades as RSM. RSM is the trading name used by the members of the RSM network. Each member of the RSM network is an independent accounting and consulting firm which practices in its own right. The RSM network is not itself a separate legal entity in any jurisdiction.



Other information

Those Charged with Governance are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Group's annual report for the year ended 30 November 2024 (but does not include the consolidated special purpose financial statements and our auditor's report thereon).

Our opinion on the consolidated special purpose financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of audit opinion or assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the consolidated special purpose financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information identified above when it becomes available and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the consolidated special purpose financial statements, or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed on the other information obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of those charged with governance for the consolidated special purpose financial statements

Those charged with governance are responsible, on behalf of the Group, for the preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated special purpose financial statements in accordance with the basis of reporting accounting policies as set out by the Group, and for such internal control as those charged with governance determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the consolidated special purpose financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the consolidated special purpose financial statements, those charged with governance are responsible on behalf of the Group for assessing the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless those charged with governance either intend to liquidate the Group or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the consolidated special purpose financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated special purpose financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (NZ) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of users taken on the basis of these consolidated special purpose financial statements. A further description of the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the consolidated special purpose financial statements is located at the XRB's website at:

<https://www.xrb.govt.nz/assurance-standards/auditors-responsibilities/audit-report-8/>

Who we report to

This report is made solely to the Society's Members. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state those matters which we are required to state to the Members in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Group and the Group's Members for our audit work, for this report or for the opinions we have formed.

A stylized, handwritten-style logo for RSM in blue ink.

RSM Hayes Audit
Auckland

19 December 2024

A decorative graphic in the bottom right corner consisting of several overlapping blue and white squares and rectangles of various sizes, creating a modern, abstract pattern.

Consolidated Special Purpose Statement of Financial Performance

for the year ended 30 November 2024

	Notes	NNZ Group 2024 (\$000)	NNZ Group 2023 (\$000)
Operating Revenue	3	28,431	26,794
Operating Expenses	3	(26,510)	(25,814)
Operating Net Surplus for the year		1,921	980
Share of deficit from Associate	9	(23)	(30)
Operating Surplus for the year		1,898	950
Transfers from/(to) Reserves		(1,429)	(700)
Net Surplus for the Year after Transfers		469	250

Consolidated Special Purpose Statement of Movements in Equity

for the year ended 30 November 2024

	Accum. Funds (\$000)	Poipoia Reserve (\$000)	Int'l Teams' Reserve (\$000)	Total (\$000)
Members' Equity Balance as at 1 December 2023	5,805	2,922	800	9,527
Movements for the year				
Operating Surplus for year	1,898			1,898
Transfer (to)/from Reserves	(1,429)	1,000	429	-
Total Movements for the year	469	1,000	429	1,898
Members' Equity at 30 November 2024	6,274	3,922	1,229	11,425

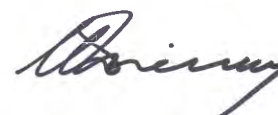
	Accum. Funds (\$000)	Poipoia Reserve (\$000)	Int'l Teams' Reserve (\$000)	Total (\$000)
Members' Equity Balance as at 1 December 2022	5,555	2,272	750	8,577
Movements for the year				
Operating Surplus for year	950			950
Transfer (to)/from Reserves	(700)	650	50	-
Total Movements for the year	250	650	50	950
Members' Equity at 30 November 2023	5,805	2,922	800	9,527

Consolidated Special Purpose Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 November 2024

	Notes	NNZ Group 2024 \$000	NNZ Group 2023 \$000
Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	7	12,501	12,525
Trade and other Receivables		825	491
Prepayments		230	356
Total Current Assets		13,556	13,372
Plant and Equipment	5	154	153
Investment in Associates	9	101	247
Investments	8	4,742	4,433
Total Non-Current Assets		4,997	4,833
TOTAL ASSETS		18,553	18,205
Liabilities			
Trade and other Payables		2,569	2,221
Income Received in Advance	6	4,559	6,457
Current Liabilities		7,128	8,678
Total Liabilities		7,128	8,678
Equity			
Poipoia Reserve	10	3,922	2,922
International Teams' Reserve	10	1,229	800
General Funds	10	6,274	5,805
Total Equity		11,425	9,527
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		18,553	18,205

SIGNED FOR ON BEHALF
OF THE BOARD:



Matt Whineray
Chair

19 December 2024



Shane Harmon

Chair, Audit and Risk Committee
19 December 2024



Notes to the Consolidated Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 November 2024

1 General Overview

Reporting Entity

Netball New Zealand Incorporated (NNZ) is an Incorporated Society registered under the Incorporated Societies Act 1908. The consolidated special purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with section 23(i) of the Incorporated Societies Act 1908. For the purposes of financial reporting, NNZ is a public benefit entity (not-for-profit).

The consolidated special purpose financial statements and the accompanying notes summarise the financial results of activities carried out by NNZ and its Subsidiaries (together the 'NNZ Group').

The purpose of NNZ Group is to promote and administer the sport of Netball in New Zealand.

The consolidated special purpose financial statements for NNZ are for the year ended 30 November 2024. They were authorised for issue by the Board on 19 December 2024.

Basis of Reporting

The consolidated special purpose financial statements have been prepared applying the accounting principles of accrual accounting and double-entry accounting. The consolidated special purpose financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis unless stated otherwise.

The consolidated special purpose financial statements comprise the Consolidated Special Purpose Statement of Financial Position, Performance, Movements in Equity and accounting policies as well as the notes to these statements.

These consolidated special purpose financial statements are presented in New Zealand Dollars, which is NNZ's functional currency. All amounts have been rounded to the nearest thousand, unless otherwise indicated.

The accounting policies have been applied consistently for all accounting periods unless stated otherwise. Where necessary, comparative information has been reclassified and repositioned for consistency with current year disclosures.

Use of Judgements and Estimates

In the process of applying the Group's accounting policies and the application of accounting standards, NNZ has made a number of judgements and estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are based on historical experience and various other matters that are considered to be appropriate under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Key estimates and assumptions used in the preparation of these consolidated special purpose financial statements are:

- Note 5: Useful lives of Plant and Equipment
- Revenue Recognition: Judgement is required to determine the point at which revenue is earned.

Going Concern

The consolidated special purpose financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, which contemplates continuity of normal business activities and the realisation of assets and the settlement of liabilities in the ordinary course of business. The Board consider it appropriate for these consolidated special purpose financial statements to be prepared on a going concern basis.

OTHER ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Consolidation

The Group financial statements include the parent (NNZ) and its subsidiaries (New Netball Team Ltd, NLNZ Ltd, WBOP Magic Ltd) and Netball Waikato Bay of Plenty Zone and its Associates.

The consolidated special purpose financial statements are those of the consolidated entity ('the group'), comprising the financial statements of the parent entity and all of the entities the parent controls. The group controls an entity where it has the power, for which the parent has exposure or rights to variable returns from its involvement with the entity, and for which the parent has the ability to use its power over the entity to affect the amount of its returns.

The financial statements of subsidiaries are prepared for the same reporting period as the parent entity, using consistent accounting policies. Adjustments are made to bring into line any dissimilar accounting policies which may exist.

All inter-company balances and transactions, including any unrealised profits or losses, have been eliminated on consolidation. Subsidiaries are consolidated from the date on which control is obtained by the group and cease to be consolidated from the date that control ceases.

Investment in Associate

An associate is an entity over which the Group is able to exercise significant influence. Significant influence is the power to participate in the financial and operating policy decisions of the investee but is not control or joint control of those policies.

The Group's interests in associates are accounted for using the equity method after initially being recognised at cost. Under the equity method, the Group's share of the profits or losses of the associate is recognised in the Group's Consolidated Special Purpose Statement of Financial Performance. Unrealised gains and losses on transactions between the Group and an associate are eliminated to the extent of the Group's interest in the associate.

Taxation

NNZ is a non-profit body for taxation purposes under section CW 46 of the Income Tax Act 2007 and as such no taxation is payable on the profit for the year.

Goods and Services Tax

Income, expenditure and assets and liabilities are recognised exclusive of Goods and Services Tax (GST), with the exception of accounts receivable and accounts payable which are recognised inclusive of GST, where invoiced.

2 Significant Accounting Policies

The accounting policies set out below have been applied in preparing the consolidated special purpose financial statements for all periods presented.

Revenue Recognition

Revenue from exchange transactions, including goods and services received in kind, are recognised as earned and when the revenue can be reliably measured. Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received.

Broadcast, Sponsorship and Event Income are classified as revenue from exchange transactions. Sponsorship and Broadcast are recognised over the period of the contract and as the benefits are supplied by NNZ. Event Income is recognised in the period of the event. Interest income is recognised on an accruals basis using the effective interest rate method. Dividends or similar distributions shall be recognised when NNZ's right to receive payment is established.

Funding and Grants are classified as non-exchange transactions. Revenue from non-exchange transactions is generally recognised in full on receipt. In some cases non-exchange transactions contain a requirement that will result in the repayment of the amount if certain conditions are not met. In this case NNZ recognises a liability for deferred income and revenue is recognised once these conditions have been satisfied.

Contra is to recognise in-kind contributions. They are recognised as sponsorship revenue and expenses when amounts are quantifiable in terms of the Sponsorship contract.

Membership Income is classified as an exchange transaction and is recognised on receipt from the Zones and Centres.

Accounts Receivable

Accounts Receivable are recognised at original invoice amount less any allowance for uncollectable amounts. Bad debts are written off when identified and recognised in the Consolidated Special Purpose Statement of Financial Performance.

Accounts Payable

Accounts payable and accruals represents liabilities for goods and services provided to NNZ which have not been paid at the end of the financial year. These amounts are usually settled within 30 days. The liability for wages and salaries, including annual leave, is recognised in accruals in respect of employees' services.

Foreign Currency

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into New Zealand Dollars (functional currency) at spot exchange rates at the dates of the transactions. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the reporting date are translated to New Zealand dollars at the exchange rate at that date. The foreign currency gain or loss on monetary items is recognised in revenue or expenses as part of the surplus or deficit.

Uniforms

Uniforms are expensed at the time of purchase, unless purchased for future squads.

3 Operating Surplus/(Deficit)

	NNZ Group 2024 \$000	NNZ Group 2023 \$000
Broadcast and Sponsorship	14,999	15,638
Sport NZ and High Performance Sport NZ	3,553	3,649
Grants	3,539	3,115
Event Revenue	2,320	2,214
NNZ Membership	473	452
Zone Membership	468	454
Change in Market Value of Investments	429	150
Other	2,650	1,122
Total Revenue	28,431	26,794
Accounting and Audit Fees	65	47
Depreciation	62	98
Rental and Operating Lease Expenses	387	375
Game Development and Events	3,777	3,441
Elite Programmes and Events	16,112	16,098
Operations	5,775	5,217
Strategic Initiatives	332	538
Total Expenditure	26,510	25,814

4 Employee Benefits

Short-term Employee Benefit Obligations

Liabilities arising in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave and other employee benefits (other than termination benefits) related to the reporting period, that are expected to be settled wholly within twelve months. These are measured at the [undiscounted] amounts based on remuneration rates which are expected to be paid when the liability is settled. The expected cost of short-term employee benefits in the form of compensated absences such as annual leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. All other short-term employee benefit obligations are presented as payables in the Consolidated Special Purpose Statement of Financial Position.

	NNZ Group 2024 \$000	NNZ Group 2023 \$000
Total Employee Benefits	7,537	7,692

5 Plant and Equipment

	NNZ Group 2024 \$000		
	Cost	Accum Depn	Book Value
Office Alterations	73	11	62
Office Equipment	83	74	9
Furniture and Fittings	110	95	15
IT Equipment	585	517	68
Total Plant and Equipment	851	697	154
	NNZ Group 2023 \$000		
	Cost	Accum Depn	Book Value
Office Alterations	64	6	58
Office Equipment	135	123	12
Furniture and Fittings	149	126	23
IT Equipment	759	699	60
Total Plant and Equipment	1,107	954	153

All Plant and Equipment is stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the items. Where an asset is acquired in a non-exchange transaction for nil or nominal consideration the asset is initially measured at its fair value. Any gain or loss on disposal of an item of Plant and Equipment is recognised in surplus or deficit.

Subsequent expenditure is capitalised only if it is probable that the future economic benefits associated with the expenditure will flow to the entity. All other repairs and maintenance costs are recognised in surplus or deficit as incurred.

Depreciation is charged on a straight-line basis on all Plant and Equipment over the estimated useful life of the asset. Work in Progress is not depreciated. The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed and adjusted prospectively, if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period. The depreciation rates of Plant and Equipment are as follows:

- Office Alterations 10 years
- Office Equipment 2 – 5 years
- Furniture and Fittings 2 – 15 years
- IT Equipment 2 – 5 years

6 Revenue in Advance

	NNZ Group 2024 \$000	NNZ Group 2023 \$000
Current		
Broadcast and Sponsorship	355	2,436
Funding and Grants	4,204	4,021
Current Revenue received in Advance	4,559	6,457

Revenue is deferred and recognised as a liability when it relates to a specific event or project. Revenue is recognised when the conditions have been satisfied.

7 Cash and Cash Equivalents

	NNZ Group 2024 \$000	NNZ Group 2023 \$000
Cash at Bank	12,501	12,525
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	12,501	12,525

NNZ has an undrawn overdraft facility of \$200,000 (2023: \$200,000 undrawn).

Cash and Cash Equivalents include cash on hand and at banks, and short-term deposits with an original maturity of three months or less held at call with financial institutions.

8 Investments

	NNZ Group 2024 \$000	NNZ Group 2023 \$000
ANZ Managed Fund	4,742	4,433

Investments have been valued at market value as at 30 November 2024. The change in market value during the year is recognised through the Consolidated Special Purpose Statement of Financial Performance.

9 Investments in Associates

	NNZ Group 2024 \$000	NNZ Group 2023 \$000
Opening Balance	247	277
Contribution	30	-
Share of Surplus/(Deficit)	[176]	[30]
Investments in Associates	101	247

The Investment in Associates is a 50 per cent share in Sportfit Limited Partnership. The equity method has been applied in accounting for investments in associates.

10 Members' Equity

	NNZ Group 2024 \$000	NNZ Group 2023 \$000
General Funds	6,274	5,805
Poipoia Reserve	3,922	2,922
International Teams' Reserve	1,229	800
Total Members' Equity	11,425	9,527

During 2024, the Board of Netball New Zealand resolved that a portion of the 2024 surplus be ringfenced to ensure that the strategic direction of Netball will continue.

Poipoia Reserve: This reserve is to be used to achieve strategic priorities in 2024, \$1,000,000 was transferred to the Poipoia Reserve (2023: \$650,000).

International Teams' Reserve: This reserve is to be used to support international campaigns. This may include Silver Ferns, New Zealand A, U21s and New Zealand Secondary Schools as appropriate. \$429,000 was transferred to the International Teams' Reserve in 2024 (2023: \$50,000).

11 Commitments

	NNZ Group 2024 \$000	NNZ Group 2023 \$000
Commitments under Non-cancellable Operating Leases		
Not later than one year	456	347
Later than one year and not later than eight years	1,136	1,404
Total Operating Lease Commitments	1,592	1,751

Payments made under operating leases are recognised in surplus or deficit on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease. Leases are classified at their inception as either operating or finance leases based on the economic substance of the agreement so as to reflect the risks and benefits incidental to ownership.

Lease incentives received under operating leases are recognised as a liability and amortised on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease term.

12 Netball Waikato Bay of Plenty ('the Zone')

In November 2020, Netball Waikato Bay of Plenty was placed into administration due to financial hardship.

The Netball New Zealand Board has determined that, Netball Waikato Bay of Plenty Zone will remain under NNZ administration until the changes to the Incorporated Societies Act are fully implemented. Due to the nature of the relationship it was determined NNZ has control over the Zone which has resulted in Netball Waikato Bay of Plenty Zone's financial statements being consolidated within the Group's financial statements.

13 Related Party Transactions

The ANZ Premiership commenced in 2017; this competition is owned by NNZ. New Netball Team Ltd was established for the sixth team (Northern Stars), that participates in the competition. This company is 100% owned by NNZ and is also consolidated into the NNZ Group results.

NLNZ Ltd was established for the Mainland Tactix Team that participates in the competition. This company is 100% owned by NNZ and is consolidated into the NNZ Group results.

WBOP Magic Ltd was established for the WBOP Magic Team that participates in the competition. This company is 100% owned by NNZ and is consolidated into the NNZ Group results.

Key Management Personnel:

	Remuneration Paid	
	2024 \$000	2023 \$000
Directors	99	89
Senior Management	1,441	1,468

The Chief Executive Officer and Executive team consists of eight full-time equivalent employees (2023: nine).

14 Guarantees and Contingencies

There were no Guarantees or Contingencies for 2024 (2023: nil).

15 Subsequent Events

There have been no events subsequent to balance date that would have a material impact on the Consolidated Special Purpose Financial Statements (2023: nil).

Thank you to our Partners.





NETBALL
NEW ZEALAND
POITARAWHITI AOTEAROA

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Telephone: +64 9 623 3200 | Email: info@Netballnz.co.nz | NetballNZ.co.nz