

INF Service Award

Presented at INF Congress - Glasgow - August 2013



Chris Burton

Chris has enjoyed an extensive and successful netball career spanning more than 30 years, involved as a player, coach, umpire and administrator at all levels of the sport. Employed from 1991 to 2012 by Netball Australia as the National Director of Umpiring, Chris continues to be dedicated, not just to Australia's umpires and their development, but, in recognition of the long term benefits to all players and the game itself, she is equally and passionately dedicated to the development of umpiring skills globally.

Chris' first experience of elite netball came when she was selected as a member of the team of her home state of South Australia. She made the national team in 1964, and was a key member for more than a decade, serving as vice-captain from 1972 to 1975. Chris competed in two World Championships, earning a silver medal in 1967 and a gold in 1975.

It was during her playing career that Chris was awarded the All Australia Umpires Badge. Following her retirement as a player, she umpired at the Netball Australia National Championships for the next 13 years, as well as the Netball Australia Super League. She also officiated at three World Championships and one World Games.

Chris has been a member of the Umpires Appointments Panel at numerous World Championships, Commonwealth Games and World Youth Championships. She has also served for extensive periods on the International Netball Federation's Rules Committee, Umpires Committee and Testing Panel, contributing her broad knowledge of the game.

In 1999 Chris was elected as a Board member of the International Netball Federation and served, with distinction, until 2007.

Chris continues to be involved in netball at the highest level, as an Umpire Coach for the ANZ Championship and a member of the International Testing Pool, sharing her knowledge with the current generation of elite umpires.

Chris' extensive contribution has already seen her receiving the Order of Australia Medal (OAM), for Services to Sport and Netball.

The International Federation is delighted and honoured to be presenting its highest Award to Chris and we thank her for her outstanding contribution to our sport over many years.