

Netball's hottest competition heads to New Zealand

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

World Netball Series, the thrilling showcase competition for the world's most important women's team sport, will be coming to Auckland, New Zealand, in November 2012. The International Federation of Netball Associations (IFNA) today announced that Netball New Zealand has been awarded the right to host the three-day competition from 9-11 November. The tournament will take place at the superb Vector Arena in Auckland.

The top six netball teams in the world, by IFNA ranking, will compete in the Fast Net format which is fast, furious and fun. Fast Net, developed by IFNA in collaboration with the best teams in the world, is a high-speed, high-octane variant on the traditional game. Since its launch in 2009 it has proved a hit with players and spectators, including an international TV audience.

The Honourable Molly Rhone, President of IFNA, said: "I am delighted to confirm that next year's competition will be held at the Vector Arena in Auckland. New Zealand loves netball and will be excellent hosts for this thrilling competition. We are really looking forward to bringing Fast Net to Auckland next November. The Fast Net Ferns have won World Netball Series in 2009 and 2010 and will be keen to regain the title in 2012."

Further information relating to the event will be released by Netball New Zealand.

Notes to Editors:

World Netball Series

The World Netball Series is a new event created to showcase netball to the world using a new set of rules. The Fast Net format provides a fast, dynamic and exciting environment for players and spectators.

The main rule changes are as follows:

shorter quarters – 4 x 6 minute quarters rather than 15 minutes

Power Play – a team can have one quarter where their goals will count for double

points.

Long shots – goals can be scored from outside the circle and are worth double

Rolling substitutions – teams can make an unlimited number of substitutions whilst

play is in progress.

- Centre passes – are taken by the team who conceded the last goal rather than

alternating between the teams

Coaching – is allowed during the game from the marked coaching area

Time outs – all injury stoppages are limited to 30 seconds.

Fast Net made its international debut at in October 2009 in Manchester and was held in

Liverpool in 2010 and 2011. The new format has been a resounding success with huge

demand for Fast Net competitions.

For further details please visit: www.worldnetballseries.com

The International Federation of Netball Associations (IFNA)

IFNA is the sole, recognised, international governing body for the sport of netball. Netball is

a recognised Olympic Sport and IFNA is therefore affiliated to the General Association of

International Sports Federations, the International World Games Association and the

Association of Recognised Sports Federations.

Currently, more than 75 National Netball Associations are affiliated to IFNA, grouped into

five Regions - Africa, Asia, Americas, Europe and Oceania - each with a respective Regional

Federation.

IFNA also organises the World Netball Championships and the World Youth Netball

Championships.

For further details please visit: www.netball.org