



**INTERNATIONAL  
NETBALL  
FEDERATION**

**6<sup>th</sup> January 2017**

### **International Netball Federation and Gilbert sign new four-year agreement**

Gilbert has been chosen as the official supplier and exclusive ball by the International Netball Federation for use in all INF events. These include the Netball World Youth Cup 2017 in Gaborone, Botswana, the Netball World Cup 2019 in Liverpool, England, and the Fast5 Netball World Series in Melbourne, Australia. Gilbert will also continue as the official kit supplier of match officials and other technical officials for all international umpire appointments.

The Hon. Molly Rhone, OJ, CD, President of INF, said: "In Gilbert, we have a partner who wholeheartedly understands and supports our commitment to growing netball around the world and our vital mission to promote empowerment through our sport. As international netball goes from strength to strength, so does our collaboration with Gilbert. We are excited to be continuing our long term strategic partnership and to sharing in even greater success for netball globally."

Gilbert's Sales and Marketing Director, Richard Gray, said: "We are very proud to continue our association with INF to ensure that Gilbert remains at the forefront of world netball. This renewal underlines Gilbert's position as the ball of choice for netballers all around the world. We have been working closely with INF for many years and continue to support their exciting new developments, which will benefit the sport and its millions of supporters throughout the world. The arrangement is a genuine partnership that will continue to build the netball franchise worldwide."

The Gilbert netball is already the choice of leading clubs and national bodies worldwide, including top ten nations: Australia, England, Jamaica, Malawi, New Zealand, South Africa, Fiji, Scotland, Trinidad & Tobago and Wales.

This agreement comes at a strategic time for the International Netball Federation as they launch *Netball 2020*, a new four-year strategy, which puts governing with integrity, thrilling world class events and empowerment through netball at the forefront of their vision and mission.

## **ends**

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## **Notes for Editors**

### **International Netball Federation**

Over 20 million people play netball around the world, in more than 80 countries. The International Netball Federation (INF) is the sole, internationally recognised, governing body for netball, affiliated to SportAccord, the International World Games Association and the Association of Recognised International Sports Federations, receiving funding from the International Olympic Committee.

Currently, 73 National Netball Associations are affiliated to the INF, grouped into five Regions - Africa, Asia, Americas, Europe and Oceania - each with a respective Regional Federation.

### **Gilbert**

Gilbert launched their first netball range back in the 1990's and has become one of the most established netball brands worldwide. Gilbert Netball are a world renowned netball brand committed to distinction and excellence globally, whilst continuously striving to improve

alongside its partners and the netball elite. Gilbert assist with the development of this much loved game by strengthening relationships in netball emerging countries, Gilbert products are sold in every netball playing region and country around the world.

Gilbert is the leading provider of equipment for netball and has adapted its unrivalled ball engineering experience from rugby to netball, thus producing the best-performing patented grip patterns available.

The Gilbert range now caters for much more than just balls. The Gilbert range of teamwear, clothing and equipment is endorsed by international players and netball teams worldwide. The Gilbert range has been developed and designed for the requirements of netballers, officials and supporters to support the netball family at every level to achieve their goals.