



England Netball Annual Report 2024-25





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Welcome

With another year having drawn to a close I am proud to say that our sport is continuing to thrive in all areas as demonstrated throughout this report.

We have continued to see growth in participation with this year netball being only one of two team sports (the other football) with statistically significant growth in participation compared to last year. Netball's annual participation stands at 3.05m with 819,600 adults and children playing weekly. This makes netball the third most popular team sport (male and female combined) and the most popular team sport for women.

This growth has also driven our highest ever membership position with 121,000 people joining the membership movement. As part of our One Key campaign we saw members signing up earlier and given the opportunity to win some amazing partner prizes.

Alongside this we saw 31,000 programme participants engage with our sport through more informal routes. Our local delivery staff have used these programmes to increase diversity, focusing on creating opportunities for people from low-income areas to participate. This is an area which will remain a high priority in the coming years as we seek to open the doors of our sport to new audiences.

We recognise the importance of our young netballers to the future of our sport and Bee Netball moved its focus into schools and through a partnership with the Youth Sports Trust the programme is on track to deliver to 50,000 children across 5,000 schools by the end of the academic year.

With the rebuild complete we have now been able to turn our attention to the transformational parts of the Adventure Strategy with this year's focus being on initiating the professionalisation plans and activating NSL 2.0. This was no mean feat and presented challenges along the way.

After an open tender process, which was concluded in May 2024, eight franchises were offered places to compete in the newly launched Netball Super League for the 2025 season onwards. There were two newcomers with Nottingham Forest Netball and Birmingham Panthers now part of the League as we said an emotional farewell to Strathclyde Sirens, Team Bath, Severn Stars and Surrey Storm.

The change in composition of teams required a realignment of player pathways and territories. This understandably proved to be a difficult time for the membership in areas most impacted by the changes, however through collaboration with NSL Clubs, local volunteers and partners we were able to ensure a comprehensive player pathway across the country remained in place.

The new Netball Super League season opened with the new Netball Super Cup event with all eight teams competing on one day and introducing the first ever Soft & Gentle Super Shot to a sell out crowd. Congratulations to London Pulse who secured their first ever silverware since they joined the League.

To support the new League, a new feeder league (NXT Gen) was successfully launched with all Netball Super League Clubs represented and with the further addition of Team Bath to ensure geographical coverage of the pathway. This competition has proved to be a huge success, itself drawing impressive crowds and viewing figures.

The year has also seen its share of international excitement. The Vitality Roses were the only international team to compete against all the other teams in the top seven of the World Rankings. They took part in two overseas series against Australia and then New Zealand, winning the latter and successfully winning

one fixture against the Australian Diamonds to take the series to a decider in the final match which eventually ended in defeat.

November saw the launch of a new four-year series with Jamaica with two home and away fixtures in each edition, designed to attract new audiences and broadcast through a new agreement with the BBC. The Vitality Netball Nations Cup returned in January with an all new African line up of opponents (Malawi, Uganda and South Africa), the tournament saw the Vitality Roses lift the Nations Cup trophy for the first time. As a result the Roses were briefly ranked number two in the World Netball rankings which is the highest ever ranking achieved.

The successes of this year which are documented throughout this report could not be achieved without the continued dedication of all those who support the sport. From volunteers, coaches, officials, staff, Sport England and our continually growing list of partners. I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the part they have played.

During the year we have seen some changes to the England Netball Board saying farewell to long standing board members Bridget Blow (Chair) and Annmarie Wallis who have both contributed significantly to the sport's progress over the last decade. With change comes opportunity and the board were excited to announce in January 2025 the appointment of Baroness Sue Campbell as the new Chair of the Board to lead us into the future as we look to continue to transform the sport.

Fran Connolly
England Netball CEO





It's an enormous privilege to have joined England Netball at such an exciting time. In many ways it feels like I'm coming home having played, umpired and coached netball for more than 25 years at school, college, club and national level. As well as providing me with some of the most memorable moments of my playing career, it gave me lifelong friendships and a female friendly supportive community so it's wonderful for me to be back where it all started.

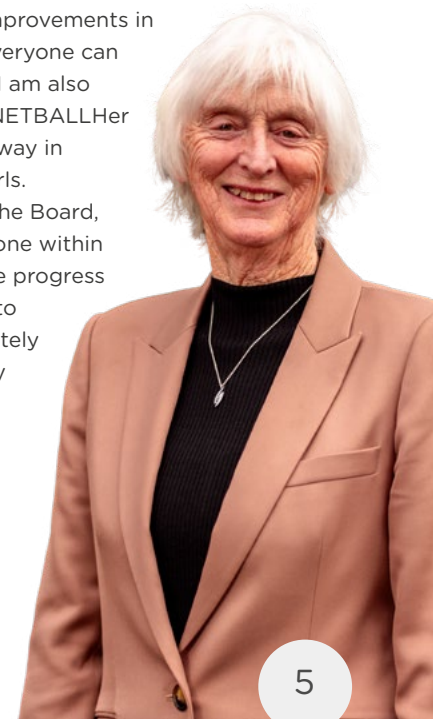
For as long as I can still make a difference and have the capability to change lives through sport then I want to be involved, and there is no better sport than netball to genuinely impact the lives of women and girls. And whilst all women's sports continue their ascendancy, netball retains a unique place in our sporting landscape.

In my first few months in role I have been impressed by the passion and expertise within both the staff and volunteers and am enthused by the commitment of the sport's dedicated fanbase.

There are a number of key areas that I am keen to help drive forward including supporting the Vitality Roses to seek to win the upcoming Commonwealth Games, support the professionalisation journey of the Netball Super League, grow the sport's fanbase by attracting new audiences and drive continuous improvements in our membership offer to ensure that everyone can have a true connection with our sport. I am also particularly excited by the pioneering NETBALLHer campaign which I believe can lead the way in revolutionising sport for women and girls.

I'm looking forward to working with the Board, the team at England Netball and everyone within the wider Netball Family to build on the progress that has been made so far and to help to grow this sport that I love. This is definitely a very exciting next chapter particularly with our Centenary on the horizon in February 2026.

Baroness Sue Campbell
England Netball Chair





A Game for Life

“We will enrich our approach to growing the game, ensuring that netball is a sport for everyone, at every stage of life.”



Clubs and Leagues

Our clubs and leagues are the lifeblood of our sport. Run by an army of volunteers from the Netball Family, our 3,000+ registered clubs and 250 leagues provide a way of life for women and girls up and down the country.

This network enables nearly 10,000 netball games to take place each week, giving thousands of players the opportunity to enjoy the game they love and feel a real sense of belonging. We are proud to support these vital organisations through a range of initiatives and ongoing engagement.

League Funding - we have continued to support a number of netball leagues at risk of closure through targeted funding to help them overcome venue-related challenges.

League Landscape Review Impact - following our comprehensive League Landscape Review, which identified a shortage of officials, we have adapted how we implement officiating courses, with a focus on increasing opportunities for adult umpires to gain qualifications.

Local Support - our dedicated staff team continue to work closely with clubs and leagues at a local level, offering tailored support to meet the specific needs and challenges they face. In particular, both regional teams and the officiating department provided support for clubs and leagues as they navigated the Rules of Netball update that came into effect in September 2024.

Digital Innovation - we have supported a group of passionate entrepreneurs to develop digital tools to assist with umpire allocation. Their evolving product is already making a difference, and we were pleased to offer support to help bring their ideas to life and contribute to the wider Netball Family.



Walking Netball

Programmes

Our participation programmes have once again proved hugely popular, with Back to Netball and Walking Netball leading the charge. Over 30,000 people took part in our programmes over the past year, with nearly 19,500 of them completely new to netball – a testament to the appeal and accessibility of our initiatives.

We remain committed to ensuring our sport is welcoming and inclusive for all. A key focus has been reaching individuals from underserved communities, and we're proud that 18% of all participants now come from communities with a high percentage of low-income households. This marks significant progress in making netball a sport where everyone can belong, flourish and soar.

This achievement is the result of deep-rooted collaboration with a wide range of partners – from national charities to local leisure providers and community-based organisations, including those working with specific groups, such as asylum seekers. These partnerships have been instrumental in breaking down barriers and creating more opportunities for people to get involved in netball.

Schools



This year, England Netball has put a significant focus on increasing our presence and extending our influence within primary schools through Bee Netball. Continuing to work closely in partnership with the Youth Sport Trust, we have made significant progress, building some incredibly strong foundations to grow from and extending the reach and impact of our sport on large numbers of children. A key focus of this work has been supporting the so-called 'Covid Cohort' – children who began their school journey during the pandemic and therefore missed out on crucial early social development. We co-designed our approach with School Games Organisers, teachers, children, and young leaders to ensure the support provided was meaningful and impactful and this collaborative method has delivered strong results, receiving positive feedback across the board and marking a real turning point in how we engage with, support and influence primary schools.

Bee Netball Expansion – during the academic year, Bee Netball reached 5,000 state primary schools, enabling 50,000 children to get involved in fun, inclusive activity. Crucially, this work has contributed to children's social development alongside providing important physical activity.

NETBALLHer in Primary Schools – we have started to embed key elements of NETBALLHer into Bee Netball delivery, particularly for children in Years 5 and 6, helping to prepare them for the changes associated with puberty in a positive and age-appropriate way.

Teacher Masterclass Case Study – a new Bee Netball teacher masterclass has been captured as a case study, highlighting the practical impact and enthusiasm of educators delivering netball in primary schools.

Safeguarding

We have continued to put a strong focus on safeguarding across the Netball Family, ensuring that all clubs meet safeguarding standards. A key priority has been supporting clubs with junior players to have a designated Club Safeguarding Officer (CSO) in place, with the appropriate DBS checks and training completed. Thanks to this targeted work, the safeguarding picture has improved throughout the year.

Since April 2024, we have recorded 60 safeguarding concerns, reviewed a further 60 online reports and responded to hundreds of email queries. While the majority of cases are addressed through advice, guidance or signposting, a small number have required formal investigation. A few cases were escalated to our Case Management Group, with two resulting in formal sanctions for coaches and clubs.

Netball remains a safe and enjoyable sport for the vast majority of participants, but we must not become complacent. There are still instances of poor practice, and safeguarding must stay at the heart of everything we do – even when striving for high performance. Striking the right balance between wellbeing and competitive ambition is a challenge, but it is a non-negotiable part of our commitment to the Netball Family.



Our Regions

Our England Netball local staff and nine regions support all areas of community delivery to 121,000 members and 30,000+ programme participants. Their efforts have also played a vital role in the increased diversity within netball (21.2% programme participants, 10.1% members are from ethnically diverse communities). You can find more information on diversity in our sport in our latest [Diversity & Belonging Report](#).

West Midlands

Total Members: 13,044

Total Programme Participants: 2,625

New to Netball Participants: 1,898

- In partnership with Energize, the County Sports Partnership, Bee Netball teacher development days were delivered across Shropshire equipping teachers to bring Bee Netball to life in their schools.
- April marked the first Holiday Activity and Food camp, welcoming around 50 children in receipt of free school meals to a full day of netball, providing them with lunch, snacks and Bee Netball merchandise.
- A newly launched Walking Netball Physical Activity session recorded 19 new participants within the first four weeks – a testament to the continued demand and impact of this programme.
- The March Walking Netball festival was a sell-out with 12 teams participating, and December's event added a festive twist while also collecting generous donations for a local women's aid charity.

South West

Total Members: 17,891

Total Programme Participants: 3,004

New to Netball Participants: 1,897

- In partnership with Active Gloucestershire, a new Walking Netball session for people living with long-term health conditions was launched.
- The Inara Project in Dorset partnered with England Netball to deliver sessions targeted at women from ethnically diverse communities, addressing gaps in local provision and creating inclusive spaces for participation.
- Facility Support Funding secured the future of a league based at Strode College courts in Somerset. The funding allowed the 2024/25 season to proceed, avoiding disruption.
- Collaboration with Wiltshire Council and the charity Doorway helped bring inclusive Walking Netball sessions to women facing homelessness, with over 20 women participating and new partnerships built in areas of high deprivation.



North West

Total Members: 13,625

Total Programme Participants: 5,946

New to Netball Participants: 3,326

- A Preston project enabled delivery of Back to Netball and Walking Netball sessions for local women, with links to NETBALLHer. The project supported wellbeing, leadership, and confidence building. One participant is now training as a Level 2 coach, with others progressing into volunteering and host roles.
 - A Ball Patrol competition to support the Vitality Netball Horizon Series received over 100 applications, with winners selected based on their volunteer contributions.
 - The region collaborated with Manchester Thunder throughout the Netball Super League season, including through ticket donations and the promotion of NETBALLHer at arena matches and an activation day at Liverpool ONE.
 - The ONE Awards at Bongo's Bingo, celebrating five years since the Liverpool World Cup, saw a record number of nominations and was supported by Liverpool ONE.

North East

Total Members: 5,075

Total Programme Participants: 1,683

New to Netball Participants: 1,013

- Thanks to Johnston Carmichael funding, 17 local clubs received vital equipment and 20 primary schools were gifted Bee Netball packs to enhance their delivery.
- Consett Beacons Netball Club in County Durham secured local funding to launch dedicated disability netball sessions.
- In Bishop Auckland, a sold out Netball Youth Camp marked a significant return for structured junior netball in South Durham and Cleveland County, with over 20 children participating in a day of skills, games and confidence-building.
- In Northumberland, over 30 women took part in a Walking Netball Camp that brought together players from across the region, creating new connections and strengthening the local network.

Yorkshire

Total Members: 7,426

Total Programme Participants: 2,842

New to Netball Participants: 2,088

- The team led impactful engagement in underserved communities, including work with South Asian groups, LGBTQIA+ players, and people in recovery from addiction. ParaNetball sessions were also piloted in two locations.
- Bee Netball has grown through strong partnerships with School Games Organisers, leading to festivals, umpiring sessions and teacher training at events like the Leeds Primary PE Leader Conference.
- Focused funding bids have enabled netball to be used as a tool to engage new audiences, with sessions making a positive impact on wellbeing and confidence.
- Action was taken to support at-risk leagues, boost umpire development through INTO Officiating courses, and grow club capacity with support towards Level 2 qualifications.

East Midlands

Total Members: 7,961

Total Programme Participants: 3,781

New to Netball Participants: 2,149

- A successful NETBALLHer Menopause Project in Leicester supported South Asian women through sport and education, receiving follow-on funding from Sport England to expand delivery.
- The region has focused on community coach recruitment, successfully onboarding new coaches and partners in underserved areas to widen the reach of netball.
- Two new registered leagues were launched, with one previously at-risk league now thriving thanks to Back to Netball initiatives and officiating mentoring, resulting in five newly qualified officials.
- Bee Netball has seen over 500 children introduced to the sport through school programmes across the region.
- The East Coast Project brought Walking Netball into village halls, supported by local authorities and using targeted insight to reduce access barriers and futureproof community delivery.

South

Total Members: 17,939

Total Programme Participants: 4,253

New To Netball Participants: 2,219

- With support from Thakeham, a Walking Netball session and New Year Festival was delivered in Hampshire, engaging over 200 participants, 28 of whom were new to netball.
- Bee Netball masterclasses for teachers and informal sessions for young leaders were delivered in collaboration with Berkshire School Games Organisers.
- Cosmopolitan Roses Netball Academy was established in 2023 to serve the high Muslim population in Windsor and Maidenhead. £2,500 was secured from Berkshire Community Foundation to host an Open Day for women and girls to try netball and 51 women now play regularly.
- The management of local netball leagues in Oxfordshire has been streamlined, with three leagues unified under a single governing committee.

East

Total Members: 20,557

Total Programme Participants: 3,495

New to Netball Participants: 2,142

- The region delivered its fourth annual Walking Netball Festival, with 17 teams and 155 participants taking part in a day of inclusive match play and community celebration.
- A total of 23 Netball Youth Camps were delivered across the year, with 150 children attending for the first time.
- Working closely with Hertfordshire Constabulary Community Police Officers a unique Back to Netball project for asylum seekers was delivered. Sessions began in a car park near temporary housing, with further expansion supported by Everyone Active and Hertfordshire County Netball Association. Over 100 women have engaged with the programme, and its impact was recognised with a social inclusion award from the High Sheriff of Hertfordshire.

London & South East

Total Members: 19,552

Total Programme Participants: 3,228

New To Netball Participants: 2,722

- We connected with new partners in the Isle of Sheppey to support setting up a new Walking Netball programme. Funding was received to enable members of the local community to become Walking Netball Hosts.
- Thanks to funding from the Wembley National Stadium Trust, four new Level 2 coaches were qualified in the borough of Brent.
- Partnering with Merton Council, free Walking Netball sessions have helped people both mentally and physically.
- The 'Beyond the Court' programme continues to run in partnership with the Met Police. This is a free programme run for young women that is fun, engaging and community focused.



Competition

National Clubs

In association with the British Army, the National Clubs competition brings together the top 18 teams in the U14 and U16 age categories from across the country. All 18 teams successfully navigated their respective regional competitions to qualify for the National Finals, where they were initially grouped by their finishing place within their region, with six sections in all, each one containing a winner and two runners-up or vice versa.

For the 2023-24 season, at U16 level, Turnford took home the title, with Issy Read of Kingsway Power being named the tournament's Most Valuable Player; and at U14 level, Leeds Athletic came out victorious, with the winning club's Isabella De Jager securing the Most Valuable Player award.

ParaNetball

Hosted at the Netball Centre in Loughborough, the ParaNetball Championship for athletes with special educational needs and disabilities, including physical, learning and behavioural, was won by Priory Ruskin (schools event) and Ellesmere Port, Chester and Neston Special Olympics (clubs event).



NPL tournament

Surrey Storm U17s and Loughborough Lightning U19s and U21s were crowned champions in Nottingham, with the Players of the Tournament named as Ané De Wet (Team Bath) in the U17s, Emily Pawlett (Loughborough Lightning) in the U19s and Hannah Knightbridge (London Pulse) in the U21s.

School Games

Surrey Storm were crowned 2024 School Games National Finals champions at the UK's biggest multi-sport event for young athletes, beating Manchester Thunder in the final.

National Schools

The England Netball National Schools competition is the biggest and longest running competition in English netball. Supported by principal partners of the event, the British Army.

18 teams took part in each competition, all of whom had progressed through the County Rounds, from which the top schools advanced to the Regional Schools Finals, with the top two sides from each age category from each region then qualifying for the National Finals weekend.

This year's winners were: Yarm School in the U14s, with Gilbert Player of the Tournament going to the school's Phoebe Arvanitis; Putney High School in the U16s, with the school's Timi Adewale winning Gilbert Player of the Tournament; and Hartpury College in the U19s, with Queen Ethelburga's Izzy Doughty picking up the Gilbert Player of the Tournament award.





Netball Performance League

London Pulse took the title in both the U17 and U19 Netball Performance League (NPL) competitions at the end of March. The NPL provides the game's outstanding youth players with a performance environment and regular, highly disciplined and intense competition. This year's leagues, starting in late November, saw 11 clubs go head to head. The U17 Player of the Year was Natasha Hough of London Mavericks while Team Bath's Ané de Wet picked up the U19 award.



Premier League

Premier League Netball is the highest level of club netball in the country with the teams making up the three divisions having come through a gruelling county, regional and national pathway to take one of the available 30 places. Over 600 athletes took to court during the season.

Oldham won Division 1, Division 2 champions were The Downs and Blackpool came out on top in Division 3.

The respective Players of the Year were Darcy Griffin from Academy, Hannah Francis-Smithson from Tameside and Sophie Marsland from Sussex Thunder.

Weston Park Blades were voted Club of the Season, the award recognising and celebrating the club for their off-court standards, including providing a high-quality home match experience for visiting teams and demonstrating good sportsmanship.

At the Premier League 3 Play-Offs in April, Hatfield, Team Jets and YMCA Magic booked their place in Division 3.

All Premier League 1 fixtures were live-streamed via englandnetball.tv, alongside selected Premier League 2 and 3 fixtures, with over 18,000 views of games over the season.



ONE KEY

Extraordinary Experiences

"We will transform the way our sport is consumed, tailoring every touch point to provide an exceptional experience at every step of the journey."

EXPERIENCES
ENDLES

Membership

England Netball membership unlocks exclusive access to extraordinary netball experiences – from playing opportunities with registered clubs and leagues to tailored learning and development pathways designed to elevate coaching and officiating skills. It inspires members, challenges them, protects them – and with every experience, brings them closer to the sport they love.

2023-24 Season

The 2023-24 season came to a close on 31 August 2024, supported by over 121,200 members – a 5% year-on-year increase, marking yet another record-breaking year for netball. With more women and girls choosing to be part of our Netball Family, membership continues to unite us in our shared love of the game.

Throughout the season, members benefited from access to community competition, performance pathways, coaching and officiating development, exclusive content, and enhanced health and wellbeing initiatives.

2024-25 Season

The 2024-25 season launched with the ONE Key, Endless Experiences campaign – a celebration of everything membership makes possible. Running across August and September, the campaign engaged over 103,000 members who joined early and entered our prize draw featuring nine unique prizes and surprises. One lucky England Netball member, Sarah Burgess from Queen B's Netball Club, won the ultimate prize of a trip to Florida.

With some emails achieving open rates of up to 85%, member engagement far exceeded expectations – particularly impressive in a year without the boost of a Commonwealth Games or Netball World Cup. Special thanks go to Experience Kissimmee, Vitality, Gilbert Netball, The Gym Group, and the Vitality and Future Roses for their generous contributions to the prize offering.

As of 31 March 2025, membership stood at 118,524 – a 1.5% increase year-on-year. Growth was largely driven by strong performance in our junior categories, which saw a 3.7% uplift, while adult membership saw a modest decline of 1.1%. Understanding and responding to the needs of our adult community will remain a priority for the year ahead.



Membership Benefits

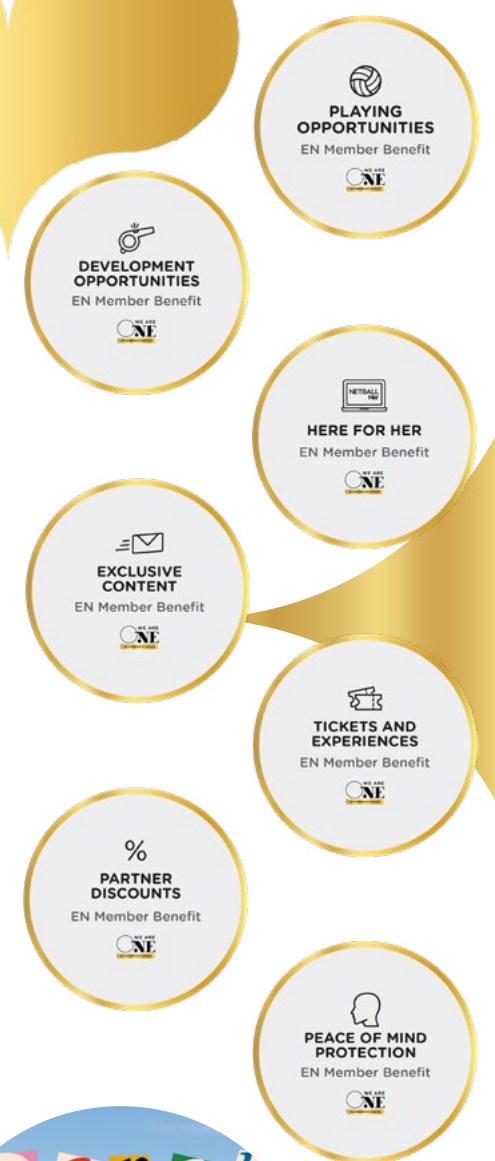
This year, benefits included: access to playing and development opportunities; exclusive content and expert knowledge around female health; partner discounts; priority access to tickets and experiences; and comprehensive on-court protection.

In January, we introduced Howden's Benefits Platform, unlocking even more savings – including up to 40% off cinema tickets and up to 6% off groceries at major UK supermarkets.

Membership Moments

One of the most memorable surprises of the campaign came when the Vitality Roses personally called members to thank them for renewing.

At the Vitality Netball Horizon Series, we invited local Bee Netballers for a special behind-the-scenes experience, while Flava Netball, a club rooted in Manchester's Caribbean community, was given the opportunity to play on court ahead of a fixture – a celebration of their fantastic work as an engaged and inspiring member club.





A World Leading Game

“We will set new standards for netball, showcasing inspiring performances by outstanding players in international tournaments and domestic leagues and events.”

Vitality Roses

The international window marked a truly historic and transformative period for the Vitality Roses.

For the first time ever, a nation played every other team in the world's top seven within a single international window – a bold move that reflects England Netball's commitment to challenge and progression.

In a testament to the team's performances and consistency, England rose to number two in the World Netball World Rankings – only the third time this has been achieved since rankings began.

The Vitality Roses went on to win the Vitality Netball Nations Cup for the first time since the competition began in 2012, a stand-out moment that signalled a new chapter in the team's competitive journey. This came after a major victory in New Zealand, as the team lifted the Taini Jamison Trophy – a feat only achieved once before – securing the series after just two matches against the then-world number two.

Another historic milestone was the launch of the inaugural Vitality Netball Horizon Series – a four-year commitment to play Jamaica both home and away. Although Jamaica ultimately won the series, England pushed them to the final shot in two of the four matches and secured a match win on home soil – laying solid foundations for future encounters.

A further significant highlight came in Australia, where England recorded just their third-ever win on Australian soil, and did so in the same venue set to host the 2027 Netball World Cup – an early statement ahead of that major event.

On the court, the Vitality Roses saw the debut of four athletes during the season, while adapting to significant squad evolution. Having

lost nine players since 2022, including six since 2023, the team fielded an entirely new defensive and mid-court unit, and managed without eight shooters selected since 2023 who were unavailable for the Vitality Netball Nations Cup. Where the Netball World Cup 2023 squad had over 900 caps, this Nations Cup squad brought just over 300 caps to the court – a bold new era marked by emerging talent.

Alongside the Vitality Roses' fixtures, England Netball's 'A' team competed against incoming national sides, with fixtures led by an experienced coaching team including Olivia Murphy, Victoria Burgess, Tamsin Greenway, and Karen Greig.

Behind the scenes, the Vitality Roses welcomed a new coaching team structure, with Anna Stembridge appointed as Assistant Coach, and Sharni Norder and Jo Harten joining as Specialist Coaches – bringing invaluable insight and leadership from their international playing careers.

Finally, we said a heartfelt thank you to Denise Egan (Chair) and Mary Beardwood, who stepped down as Vitality Roses Selectors, after years of dedicated service to England Netball's elite programme. Their legacy is felt in the many athletes they helped nurture, select, and support at the highest level.



Future Roses

The 2023-24 season saw significant investment and evolution across the Roses Pathway, strengthening the future of elite netball in England and ensuring the next generation of Roses is better supported, resourced, and ready to succeed.

A key step forward was the enhancement of the Roses Pathway structure, creating greater alignment and clarity across age groups and programmes. At the heart of this change was the appointment of Sonia Mkoloma as Roses Pathway Head Coach – bringing elite experience and leadership to the development of future stars. Mkoloma was joined by Lauren Palmer and Tamsin Greenway as Assistant Coaches, creating a high-performing, experienced coaching unit capable of shaping England's next wave of talent.

To further elevate support around athletes, England Netball recruited a full-time Strength & Conditioning Coach, Physiotherapist, Performance Analyst, and a part-time Performance Psychologist. This enhanced multidisciplinary team ensures athletes across the pathway are better equipped both physically and mentally to meet the demands of elite competition.

On court, our young athletes gained valuable international experience and exposure, with the U21 team touring New Zealand and Australia, a good showing at the FAST5 Netball World Series in New Zealand, and a comprehensive win for our U17s as champions at Europe Netball – clear signs of the depth and promise within the programme.

This year also saw the formalisation of new agreements with Pathway Clubs and



County Netball Associations, setting out the respective roles and responsibilities in delivering the national Player Pathway. Under the new structure:

- Pathway Clubs deliver Academies and competition squads at Under 23, 19, 17 and 15, alongside Player Development Programmes for athletes aged 17-21.
- County Netball Associations deliver Player Development Programmes for Under 13 and Under 15, playing a vital role in early talent identification and development.

Together, these changes ensure a more consistent, joined-up pathway experience for young athletes, underpinned by clear expectations and robust delivery at every stage.



International Competitions

Australia and New Zealand tour

 **Australia (A) – lost series 2-1 – L (57-70), W (61-59), L (69-56)**
 **New Zealand (A) – won series 2-1 – W (59-58), W (59-55), L (61-56)**

The Vitality Roses fell just short against Australia then triumphed over New Zealand in a thrilling tour Down Under across September and October.

Beginning their trip against the reigning world champions, the Vitality Roses were defeated in Adelaide but won the second match in Sydney, where the Vitality Roses mounted a superb late comeback to claim a dramatic victory. The hosts went into the final period with a 45-43 lead but the Vitality Roses produced a series of defensive turnovers and took the lead with just over three-and-a-half minutes remaining, holding on to seal a famous victory – their first over Australia, in Australia, since the historic Commonwealth Games gold medal match in 2018.

Speaking after the game Vitality Roses Head Coach Jess Thirlby said: “It’s very satisfying... it’s a hugely significant moment for this team in their journey... We have got debutants in here, we’ve got people who have never played Australia before, so to have found a way to win this early in this team’s evolution is really satisfying and it is significant. It’s important that we acknowledge that and build confidence, but we’re also part of a three-game series and we’re not done yet.”

A ruthless Australia win in Bendigo concluded the series, leaving the visitors knowing that they could take on and beat the very best in their back yard. Thirlby said;



“I am super proud of the effort. Winning was massive in our history and doing that in front of an Australian crowd, which is a hard place to come and play. I feel like some of our young guns have stood up and that is really exciting.”

Just four days later, the team had crossed the Tasman and were taking on New Zealand, competing for the Taini Jamison Trophy in a three-match test series beginning with a pulsating encounter at the Trusts Arena in Auckland.

With the Silver Ferns ranked second in the world heading into the series they were always going to prove tough opposition, but the visitors were up to the task. The two sides were locked 29-29 at half-time in a fiercely competitive tussle but England took a one-point lead into the final quarter and held on to take the match 59-58.

The second game in Porirua, just north of the New Zealand capital Wellington, proved equally as thrilling. The Vitality Roses trailed the hosts 31-27 early in the third quarter but England fought back before surviving late pressure to take


a decisive 2-0 lead in the series, winning the Taini Jamison Trophy for the first time since 2021.

The series then moved on to Invercargill, where the Vitality Roses missed the opportunity to claim a 3-0 clean sweep after slipping to a 61-56 defeat. The Silver Ferns opened up a four-point lead by half-time and while the visitors narrowed the gap in the third quarter, New Zealand regained control in the closing stages to take a consolation victory.

The series win saw the Vitality Roses leapfrog New Zealand in the world rankings and move into second place – only the third time they had ever held that position since the rankings were introduced in 2008.

Thirlby concluded: “We had two big objectives both in Australia and New Zealand and it was to beat both nations on their home soil and to make sure we grow the experience across this team and we did that in abundance and were able to get results that have most probably pleasantly surprised other people.”

Vitality Netball Horizon Series

 **Jamaica (H & A) – lost the series 2-1 with one drawn game - D (49-49), W (55-47), L (49-50), L (53-61)**

The Vitality Roses were edged out by Jamaica in the rollercoaster four-match Vitality Netball Horizon Series in November.

Competing for the Rhone Hornsby Trophy for the first time – named in honour of Molly Rhone on behalf of Netball Jamaica and Jean Hornsby on behalf of England Netball – the Sunshine Girls were in inspired form, fighting back from 1-0 down to take the series 2-1.

The series-opener in Manchester set the tone for what was to come, with both sides giving their all in a thrilling 49-49 draw, Shanice Beckford scoring in the final second to take a share of the spoils.

The Vitality Roses delivered a polished display the following day at the same venue, producing a powerful second-half performance to claim a 55-47 victory, with the match having been tied at 24-24 at half-time.

The series resumed a week later in Jamaica, and the hosts were clearly buoyed by a return to home soil after an extended period with no test matches being played on the island. The Sunshine Girls were fast out of the blocks, taking a 12-10 lead in the first quarter and they managed to hold off a late surge



from the Vitality Roses to edge the match 50-49 and level the series.

Two days later, the stage was set for a tantalising finale at the National Indoor Sports Centre in Kingston. The visitors made a strong start, opening up a 15-11 lead at the end of the first quarter, only for Jamaica to fight back and leave the Vitality Roses trailing 28-26 at half-time.

Roared on by a passionate home crowd, the Sunshine Girls led 42-39 by the end of the third quarter and continued their momentum in the fourth, winning the match 63-51.



FAST5 International World Series

A young Vitality Roses team finished fifth at the FAST5 Netball World Series 2024 after a hard-fought weekend of competition on 9-10 November in Christchurch, New Zealand.

FAST5 is a shorter, faster-paced version of the game with five players on each side. For the 2024 event, an extended Power Play period allowed more chances for double points while there was also a new trial around using possession. Once the ball had progressed out of one third of the court (towards the attacking team's scoring end), it couldn't be passed backwards into that third again.

U21 tour to Australia

A landmark tour of Australia at the start of the year saw the England U21 squad gain invaluable experience of competing in high-intensity training matches against the development squads of the two top-ranked nations in the world. Sonia Mkoloma, Roses Pathway Head Coach, was keen to expose the squad's cohort of 16 players to a different environment, while immersing themselves and learning all the time from two of the world's great netball nations.

"A lot of these girls haven't been away to tour before," she says. "So, going across to play Australia and New Zealand – the world's number one and two – is important, especially in your youth years of netball, just to understand what it's like, the intensity of the netball, and what to expect moving forward."

The young Roses lost their four fixtures against Australia but secured a win along with a loss against their New Zealand counterparts.

Vitality Netball Nations Cup



Nations Cup (H) - Malawi (W - 62-36), Uganda (W - 59-48), South Africa (L 59-61), then beat South Africa to win the final (W 61-55).

The tournament, featuring South Africa, Malawi and Uganda alongside England, took place over successive weekends in February in Nottingham and London and was a brilliant advert for the sport. South Africa, ranked fifth in the world, had won the Africa Netball Cup in December and just come off the back of a three-test series against Jamaica, while Uganda were ranked sixth in the world and Malawi, who faced the British Army netball team in a warm-up match ahead of the series, were ranked seventh.

The home side was disrupted by the non-availability of Eleanor Cardwell, Lois Pearson, Berri Neil, Helen Housby, Sasha Glasgow and Nat Metcalf but a young Vitality Roses squad finally came out victorious in their sixth Vitality Netball Nations Cup final, beating South Africa 61-55 at the Copper Box Arena.

Olivia Tchine was named Vitality Player of the Series after scoring 49 goals with 100% accuracy in the final - her record in the entire tournament was 151 goals from 159 shots, giving her an exceptional 95% success rate.





U17 Europe Netball

Across five games at the Europe Netball U17 Event in Belfast, the England U17s squad, with eight athletes gaining their first caps at this level, triumphed to take the title thanks to a series of commanding performances that culminated in victory over Scotland in the final.

Netball Super League

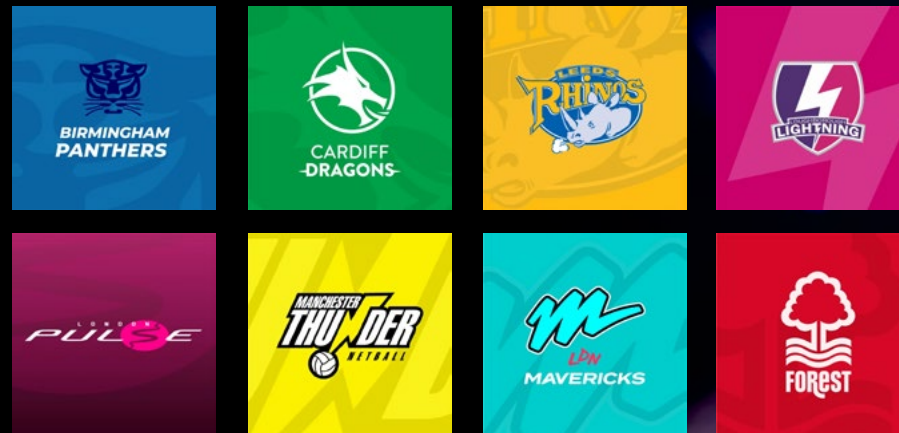
2025 saw the relaunch of the Netball Super League, a seminal moment in the history of the sport as eight teams took netball one step further on its journey to professionalisation, bringing more games to major arenas than ever before and increasing the average player salary by 85%.

After a rigorous tender process, and with selection based on the ability to deliver the on and off-court advancements needed to “raise the standards of the League”, the teams were announced in May 2024. The contributions of Clubs who had not been awarded a place in the relaunched League – Team Bath, Surrey Storm, Severn Stars and Strathclyde Sirens – were recognised, with five-time champions Team Bath however retaining a place in the NXT Gen League.

Brand new Clubs Birmingham Panthers and Nottingham Forest Netball joined Manchester Thunder, London Pulse, Loughborough Lightning, LexisNexis Cardiff Dragons, London Mavericks and NIC Leeds Rhinos in the League, with each squad reduced to 10 players and at least 50% of games being played in major arenas across the country.

Following a landmark broadcast deal that made all 2025 NSL games available to view live and free-to-air, three matches per round were shown on Sky Sports, while one was streamed on BBC iPlayer and the BBC Sport website. All matches were made available internationally through NetballPass.

As previously, the teams that finished in the top four qualified for the semi-finals but in the revamped competition, the top two qualified for the Major Semi-Final, from which the winner progressed directly to the Grand Final. Third place then took on fourth in the Minor Semi-Final with the winner facing the loser of the Major Semi-Final for a place in the Grand Final. For the first time, the Grand Final was held at London’s O2 Arena.



New rules were introduced to create closer competition and more thrilling matches.

Soft & Gentle Super Shot – shooters were able to score two-point shots from a designated area of the shooting circle during the final five minutes of all four quarters.

No draws – matches featured a 10-minute period of extra time if the scores were level after 60 minutes. If the score was still level at the end of extra time, play continued until one team reached a two-goal lead.

Tactical timeouts – each team could call one 90-second tactical timeout per game, called by a player on court after a goal has been scored.

Bonus points – losing teams, who finished within five goals or less than the winning team’s score, scored one point.



NXT GEN LEAGUE

NXT Gen League

As part of the journey towards professionalisation, the NXT Gen League was established to give top level netball a structure that allows talent to thrive.

The League featured nine teams, eight of them aligned to NSL Clubs, alongside Team Bath. Each squad had a minimum of 16 and a maximum of 20 players, with all nine teams playing each other twice in a home and away format and fixtures aligned to NSL matches where possible. With its own distinctive brand identity, the NXT Gen League is closely interconnected with the NSL but exists as a standalone competition, providing extended opportunities for emerging talent, to nurture and develop the next generation of world-class players and provide a pipeline of talent for the NSL.

Squads featured athletes under 23, with up to four players aged over 23 to support and enhance the quality of the competition. These players are likely to have previously played in the NSL but not have been signed as a registered player this season, or they may be players over 23 returning from pregnancy or injury, or players that clubs believe will support the competition and environment for the NXT Gen League.

In an incredibly tight league, Loughborough Lightning pipped Team Bath to the title by virtue of amassing four bonus points to Bath's two after 11 wins each. NIC Leeds Rhinos finished with the same number of wins but just one bonus point meant they ended up in third place. London Pulse made up the top four, managing one win fewer, while the new teams, Nottingham Forest and Birmingham Panthers, finished fifth and sixth respectively.



A spectacular season

The Netball Family came to watch in their thousands, embracing the new competition and the new rules, supporting teams old and new, engaging with social media (the Women's Sport Trust said the NSL enjoyed a 524% increase in TikTok views!), filling arenas, watching on BBC and on Sky and seeing real quality and excitement on offer, with a 23% increase in games with less than a five-goal winning margin.

50%

of games this season were played in major arenas, including the Grand Final taking place at The O2 for the very first time.

The League has seen a **229% INCREASE** in live viewing hours this season.

Rounds 1-14 saw a **42% INCREASE** in average club ticket sales compared to 2024.

37% INCREASE

in ticket sales compared to last year's Season Opener, with a total of

7,541 TICKETS SOLD



9,800+ FANS

Not only was it the **biggest Grand Final ever**, but it was also the biggest England Netball ticketed event ever, and the biggest netball match in England in over 20 years.

The 2025 season saw at least a **46% INCREASE** in total viewing figures, with final figures from the end of the season still to be added.



18.5%

growth in followers versus the start of the 2025 season



117%

increase in impressions (up to 42.5m)



300%

increase in reach



103%

increase in engagement.

Pulse pick up first trophy

Before the regular season got under way, London Pulse beat surprise package NIC Leeds Rhinos 20-15 to walk away with the Netball Super Cup at the Utilita Arena in Sheffield.

Each game in the new curtain-raiser lasted 14 minutes, with Thunder suffering heartbreak in the semi-final, going down 17-16 to Pulse while NIC Leeds Rhinos edged out league newcomers Nottingham Forest 15-13. Earlier in the day, London Mavericks' Australian Emily Andrew had made history by scoring the first-ever Soft & Gentle Super Shot in the NSL.

In the final, Pulse built a lead over Rhinos before pulling away and ensuring the first silverware of the season was heading to their trophy cabinet.



The season unfolds

Having won the Super Cup, London Pulse started as they meant to go on by hitting the top of the standings thanks to a controlled victory over newcomers Nottingham Forest. They were joined in opening night victory by NIC Leeds Rhinos, who got past the other new franchise Birmingham Panthers, and London Mavericks, who beat LexisNexis Cardiff Dragons, while the marquee match-up of the round saw Loughborough Lightning overcome Thunder in a rematch of last season's Grand Final.

In round two, Nottingham Forest earned their first win in their first ever home match as they beat LexisNexis Cardiff Dragons while Pulse beat holders Lightning to serve notice to the other sides that they were the team to beat. After round three, during which Usain Bolt watched Thunder beat Forest, only Pulse remained undefeated as the League showed that any side could beat any other on their day.

Round six saw Birmingham Panthers claim their first win, with an exhilarating victory over Nottingham Forest and then in round eight Forest sensationally ended Pulse's unbeaten streak.



It was LexisNexis Cardiff Dragons' turn to notch their first victory of the season in round nine as they defeated Birmingham Panthers. In round ten, a second defeat of the season for Pulse to Lightning saw the holders move level on points, while Thunder kept up the pressure in third as they won at the M&S Bank Arena in Liverpool, bringing elite netball back to Liverpool for the first time since the 2019 World Cup. This round also saw a host of famous faces and influential figures from the worlds of sport, media, commercial and entertainment descend on the Copper Box. Among others, Mary Earps MBE and Ebony-Jewel Rainford-Brent MBE were in attendance, showing cross-sport support among powerful female athletes, boosting the League's profile and visibility.

As the regular season drew to a close, netball featured heavily on The One Show as former England player turned commentator Ama Agbeze, Nottingham Forest Netball Head Coach Chelsea Pitman, and Pulse star Liv Tchine put Lauren

Laverne and Alex Jones through their paces in a Super Shot challenge, with presenters Gabby Logan, Vernon Kay and actor Mark Strong excelling!

Lightning and Pulse confirmed their spots in the Play-Offs with wins in round 11 and they were joined by Thunder after round 12 and London Mavericks after round 13. After the full 14 rounds, Pulse topped the table and then beat Lightning in the Major Semi-Final by a single goal to qualify for the Grand Final. Round 14 also saw netball legend Geva Mentor bow out from the elite game, the 40-year-old calling time on her illustrious career after more than two decades on court, including a Commonwealth Games gold, a Netball World Cup silver and two Netball Super League titles with Team Bath in 2006 and 2007.

Having beaten Mavericks in the Minor Semi-Final, Thunder came undone against Lightning, leaving the season's top two sides, Pulse and Lightning, to battle it out in the Grand Final.





Pulsating Pulse take the crown

Just six years after they joined the League – and they finished bottom in 2019 – London Pulse won their first Netball Super League title with a brilliant 53-45 victory over defending champions Loughborough Lightning at the O2 Arena.

Lightning were going for their third successive win and Pulse's triumph saw them upset the Thunder and Lightning duopoly that had dominated netball for the past five seasons.

Victory wrapped up a fabulous treble for Head Coach Sam Bird's youthful squad, who won the Netball Super Cup and topped the regular season table by five points from Lightning.

The final whistle saw the majority of a record-breaking crowd of over 9,800 fans (the largest netball crowd in England since 2002) go wild as the Pulse players embraced each other before sinking to the floor in celebration.



A Visible Presence

“We will elevate our sport to a new place of prominence achieving landmark visibility, drawing new audiences to the game, whilst evolving our identity and taking the sport to new uncharted territory.”

Broadcast & Digital

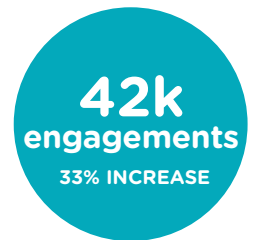


The year marked a transformative leap in how England Netball engages with fans, athletes, and the wider sporting public, underpinned by powerful partnerships, digital innovation, and a bold vision for growing visibility and accessibility across all platforms.

One of the most significant developments was the announcement from broadcast partner Sky Sports, who confirmed they would be tripling coverage of weekly Netball Super League (NSL) games streamed, offering more fans the chance to follow their favourite teams than ever before.

Ahead of the 2025 season, the NSL launched a brand-new website to coincide with the first-ever Netball Super Cup, resulting in a 93% increase in page views compared to the same point in the previous year's season – a total of 1.2 million views. This was supported by a new visual identity for the NSL, creating a fresh, modern look and feel that resonated with audiences online and across broadcast.

The Netball Super Cup's digital performance set the tone for the season to come, achieving:



Compared to the 2024 Season Opener, these results show the growing appetite for elite domestic netball.



Other standout moments included:

- The live draw of the Super Cup pools broadcast on Sky Sports News, bringing fans closer to the action.
- The launch of the new NSL match ball designed by Sophie Tea, in partnership with Gilbert Netball – celebrating inclusivity and the unique beauty of the female form. This collaboration extended the League’s reach by tapping into Sophie Tea’s large, diverse online audience and bringing fresh eyes to the sport.

To elevate the matchday experience, a new stats capture interface and app was introduced for Technical Officials. Feeding live data into the NSL website, this tool eliminated manual processes courtside and reinforced the website’s role as the ultimate second-screen experience for fans.

While end-of-season data is still to be finalised, the year has already seen exceptional social media impact, with:

- England Netball channels delivering over 55 million impressions
- NSL channels delivering over 30 million impressions
- A combined average follower growth of 10%

In broadcast, the Vitality Netball Horizon Series was shown on BBC Sport, while the Vitality Netball Nations Cup and series against Australia and New Zealand were televised via Sky Sports, maintaining high visibility across traditional and digital channels.

Another innovation was the rollout of ScorePlay, a new digital asset management platform. This tool uses AI to automatically tag photography and video content and notify athletes and clubs, making content instantly available for download and sharing. Following a successful trial with the Vitality Roses during the Vitality Netball Nations Cup, the platform was rolled out to the entire NSL ahead of the 2025 season.

Our volunteer community was also celebrated through a series of “gamemaker spotlights” across our channels during international fixtures and major events – showcasing the vital contributions of those who support the game from the sidelines.

Finally, in January 2025, the appointment of Baroness Sue Campbell as Chair of the England Netball Board attracted widespread media coverage. This included features on BBC Sportsday, Sky Sports News, and BBC Radio 4’s Woman’s Hour – underlining the significance of this leadership moment for netball and women’s sport more broadly.





NETBALLHer one year on!

NETBALLHer continues to gain traction as a pioneering force in the intersection of sport and female health, with England Netball remaining steadfast in its commitment to creating lasting, whole-system change – not just within performance pathways, but across the entire netball landscape.

Rather than focusing on a single strand, NETBALLHer addresses the complex and interconnected needs of women and girls in sport, embedding inclusive, supportive, and empowering practices throughout every level of the game.

A Resonant Voice

“We will amplify our voice to influence, inform and ignite positive change.”

NETBALLHer Advisory Board



Sports Bras

Getting a great fit

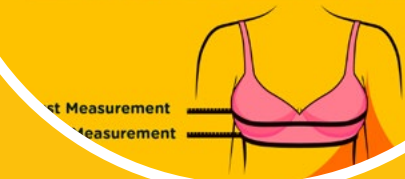
Getting
measure
your bra sta
Mo

How to measure your bra size

1. Measure under your breasts, around your rib cage (underband = inches)
2. Measure around the fullest part of your bust across the nipple line (inches)
3. Subtract the underband measurement from bust measurement. Use the chart below to convert that difference (inches) into your cup size

Conversion chart:

+1	+2	+3	+4	+5	+6	+7	+8	+9	Difference (inches)
A	B	C	D	DD	E	F	FF	G	Cup size



England Netball's work in this space is now widely regarded as sector-leading, with increasing recognition from across the sporting landscape. We've shared our learnings and approach with multiple stakeholders, including a dedicated session with the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and our inclusion as a case study on the IWG Women and Sport Insight Hub.

In November England Netball established the NETBALLHer Advisory Board made up of 13 individuals with influence and experience working across grassroots sport, health, governance, policy, elite sport, law and advocacy, all of whom are dedicated to advancing opportunities for women and girls.

This year saw further powerful steps forward, including:

- A pledge to the Inclusive Sportswear Charter, reinforcing our commitment to kit choice across the game. We also launched inclusive kit guidance aligned with domestic rules, ensuring players at every level feel confident, comfortable, and free to express themselves on court.
- NETBALLHer featured prominently at key conferences and events across and beyond the sector, including Sport England, the Active Partnership Network, British Gymnastics, and Storyhouse Theatre, demonstrating its relevance across wider discussions around inclusion, health, and female empowerment.
- Deeper integration with delivery partners, such as the WI Learning Hub, which incorporated NETBALLHer content to engage new audiences through community learning.
- Between April 2024 and March 2025, eight NETBALLHer Champions have been recruited across the country. These dedicated volunteers are helping to ensure that female health remains a priority for women and girls in their local netball settings, from participation programmes to leagues and clubs



The year also saw NETBALLHer unlock exciting new partnerships with organisations such as Soft & Gentle, NIXI Body, Superdrug Online Doctor, and Here We Flo, enhancing our commercial portfolio while extending our reach into areas such as puberty and menopause education, often in collaboration with local authorities.

In an NSL first, we delivered a two-day, League-wide media event, welcoming every athlete in the League. The event featured a dedicated NETBALLHer activation, providing space for athletes and coaches to share personal insights into the topics shaping women's sport.

We also capitalised on the timing of the Netball Super Cup coinciding with International Women's Day, using the opportunity to highlight how NETBALLHer is #AcceleratingAction. A fan-facing activation on the concourse invited attendees to explore and reflect on their own understanding of female health – fostering dialogue, curiosity, and connection.

Throughout the year, NETBALLHer maintained a consistent presence at all major events, with impactful on-site activations and in-arena branding, helping to embed the campaign across all levels of the game. Participation programmes also saw further integration, with age-appropriate references to NETBALLHer themes included in the Bee Netball offer delivered through the School Games Organisers network.

With each new season, NETBALLHer continues to challenge the status quo and set new standards – championing the physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing of every woman and girl in sport.



HERE FOR HER
EN Member Benefit



Dedicated to Difference

In 2024-25, England Netball continued to advance its commitment to equity and inclusion, embedding belonging into every aspect of the game. Our 'Dedicated to Difference' Action Plan, formally approved by Sport England in November 2024, has helped shape the roadmap to creating a more inclusive, representative sport – one where everyone feels seen, heard and valued.

A series of learning and education sessions were delivered to Executive and Leadership teams, with a focus on anti-racism, anti-discrimination, and unconscious bias, helping to shift mindsets and deepen understanding across the organisation.

We also contributed insight and experience to two critical pieces of research:

- Racial Diversity and Inclusion in Sports Leadership (Loughborough University)
- Black Girls & Sport (Women in Sport)

These findings continue to inform how we dismantle structural barriers and build true belonging within the netball community.



EMMNA continued its impressive growth this year, with rising participation in Mixed Leagues and increased visibility of the men's game. The 2024 EMMNA National Championships were held in August and saw a record breaking level of participation, with 44 teams from 33 clubs taking part. After 160 high energy and hotly contested games London Giants (mens) and Stunt Netball (mixed) were crowned champions. This is the fourth year England Netball has supported the event run by EMMNA, including with the selection, appointment and assessment of more than 40 umpires.

This year we tested and implemented new delivery models that prioritised female health and community engagement, helping to remove access barriers and welcome new participants from all communities. Highlights included:

- A menopause-focused programme in Leicester, developed in partnership with Active Women and led by Megan Sayers, which combined female health education with the introduction of netball to South Asian women.
- A bespoke project in Stevenage supporting women seeking asylum, offering connection, community and play through netball.
- Across our School Games Organiser network, 40% of Bee Netball participants identified as being from

ethnically diverse communities, showcasing the power of netball in reaching and resonating with new and diverse audiences.

And in a landmark moment for representation in officiating, England Netball celebrated the first wheelchair user to become a qualified umpire – a powerful reminder that the court is a place for everyone, in every role.

We also continued to champion inclusion through key calendar moments, using our platforms to raise awareness, spark conversations and highlight lived experiences. Events like Race Equality Week and International Women's Day became powerful backdrops for storytelling and celebration, amplifying voices across the netball family.



Celebrating Pioneers and Progress

This year's Vitality Netball Horizon Series saw the introduction of the Rhone Hornsby Trophy, a tribute to Molly Rhone (Netball Jamaica) and Jean Hornsby (England Netball) – two trailblazers whose vision and leadership have shaped the global netball landscape. This symbolic gesture underscored the deep-rooted connections and mutual respect between the two nations, and the shared legacy that continues to inspire new generations.

A Thriving Collective

“We will unite our people and partners behind our purpose, nurturing and unlocking potential and achieving common goals.”



Volunteers Week

2024 marked the 40th year of Volunteers' Week, when England Netball joined thousands of charities and organisations recognising the contribution volunteers make across the UK. In 2019, we launched our volunteering strategy: “Building a movement, empowering volunteers to enrich lives through netball”.

Fast forward to 2024 and we know that an estimated 30,000+ people volunteer across a variety of different disciplines at every level of the game.

United by their love for the sport, netball simply wouldn't happen without the time, talent and expertise of volunteers.

Whether responsible for opening up the netball court gates at 8am on a Saturday, sitting on a county league committee, selling programmes at an international event or acting as a primary carer, their support, in all its forms, is invaluable.

Volunteers' Week festivities culminated with 'The Big Help Out' - the UK's biggest-ever mass volunteering event - which offered taster opportunities for people to experience volunteering whatever they are interested

in, from helping at sports clubs to participating in litter picks.

Gary Lineker joined Geva Mentor for a youth sports day that featured both football and netball for Connect Stars, a London-based community group.





Hosted by Katharine Merry, 250 guests attended the ONE Awards in October at the National Motorcycle Museum & National Conference Centre in Solihull. Together, they celebrated the incredible contributions and inspiring achievements of the Netball Family.

In 2024, a total of 1,239 nominations were submitted with nine fantastic regional events held over the summer. Winners from each category were then reviewed by a national panel, led by England Netball President Joan Mills, to determine the national recipients.

On the evening, several Pass On Your Passion and Long Service Awards were also presented.

Young Volunteer of the Year: *Ellie Taylor (North West)*

Ellie facilitates junior volunteers as part of a coaching plan at Phoenix Netball Club in Liverpool, allowing older players to pass on their passion to children in year two and three. She provides a voice to all members, which ensures the club fosters an environment where young players can thrive.

Teacher of the Year: *Sarah Wilcox (South)*

A PE teacher at Amersham School, Sarah dedicates many hours a week to teaching over 80 children in extra-curricular netball, training over 20 squads, organising fixtures against other schools, entering tournaments and arranging netball-related school trips.

Inclusion Award: *Cosmopolitan Roses - Haroona Zaman and Sadia Hussain (South)*

Cosmopolitan Roses Netball Academy aims to tackle the under-representation of Asian and Muslim netball players. Haroona and Sadia aspire to see netball thrive globally while empowering individuals to realise their full potential.

Coach of the Year - Children and Young

People: *Elizabeth Roche (London & South East)*

Elizabeth has gone above and beyond by supporting a player and their parents this season. The player has been diagnosed with an eating disorder, and even though she has not been playing netball recently, Elizabeth has continued to get her involved with her team and club.

Community Official of the Year: *Sara Bostock (East Midlands)*

Sara's dedication to training and mentoring officials has been instrumental in shaping the future of officiating across the East Midlands and beyond. Her leadership as the Technical Official Lead Coordinator for Loughborough Lightning has ensured top-notch officiating standards in all competitions within both the region, the Netball Super League and international fixtures.

Pioneer of the Year: *Leanne Hobin (North West)*

Leanne is the founder of a grassroots club. Under her stewardship, St Helens Bees Netball Club has witnessed a remarkable 64% growth in the past year, creating a nurturing environment where girls as young as three can embrace the sport.

Outstanding Contribution of the Year: *Jenny Taylor (North West)*

Jenny's dedication and passion for netball is phenomenal. She mentors new coaches at Empire Netball Club and coordinates the Merseyside Junior League, organising venues and fixtures and facilitating 65 teams playing netball every week.



Unsung Hero of the Year: *Stacey Boxall (South)*

Stacey embodies everything that is positive, proactive and innovative about junior netball development. She has been instrumental in establishing a new junior development league in Sussex, catering for 38 teams across four age groups, enabling developing young players to access regular competition in a safe and nurturing environment.

Club of the Year: *Penketh Panthers (North West)*

Run entirely by volunteers, Penketh Panthers is inclusive to all who want to play netball, and their philosophy of fun, fitness, fair play, friendship and family is at the heart of every planned activity, training session, award ceremony and fixture.

Coaching and Officiating

This year, we accelerated investment in the Learning & Development and Coach Education & Development team, recruiting key roles to deliver the ambitious changes outlined in the People Plan. The appointments of a Learning & Development Operations Manager, a Head of Coach Education & Development, and additional support staff, position us well to grow and strengthen the pathway for coaches and officials in the coming year.

Reflecting our commitment to development, over 5,000 coaching and officiating course places were sold this year, with over 2,000 learners achieving certification, driving forward our vision for a thriving netball community aligned to our growth ambitions.

The coaching team have developed resources to support all levels of the game from Bee Netball coaching support to the launch of new pathway CPD which saw 77 coaches in attendance.

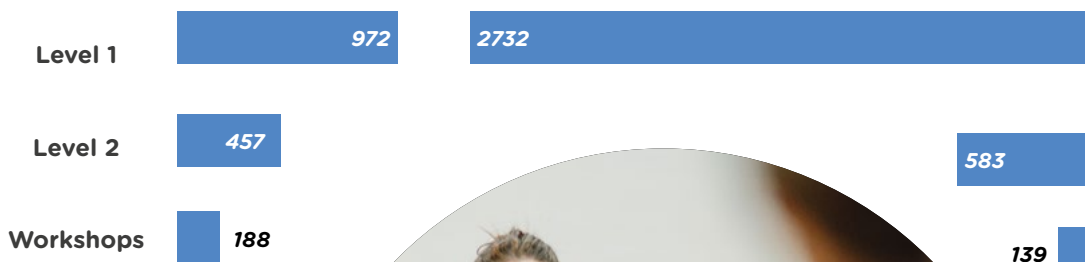
Our officiating team played a key role in supporting the Netball Family through World Netball's Rules of Netball Update. Between May and December 2024 a joint effort between England Netball and County Officiating Leads saw 7,990 people attend Rules of Netball Update Sessions ran both virtually by England Netball and face-to-face by counties. A further 38,595 people watched two additional videos released to reinforce understanding and provide a flexible approach to learning.

A number of officials have also reached key milestones and achievements in their officiating journey this year.

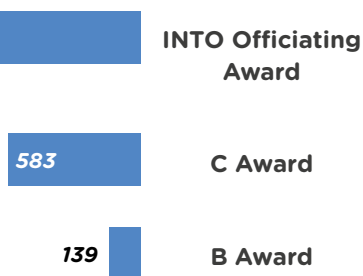
- New International Umpire Appointments:
 - Caswell Palmer (North West), Louise Cole (South West), Lizzy Saunby (East Midlands).
- New International Talent ID status:
 - Sophia Wilson (North East), Megan Elliot (South).
- Jackie Mizon was appointed to the World Netball Umpiring Testing Panel.
- At the Vitality Netball Nations Cup Gary Burgess became only the second umpire in history to officiate 150 international test matches.
- In NSL Gary Burgess became the first NSL umpire to reach 250 matches and Louise Travis marked her 200th match appearance.

Coaching

Attendance



Officiating



Partnerships

Our partnerships continue to evolve, bringing new opportunities and strengthening our commercial and community offer.

New partnerships this year include:

- Superdrug Online Doctor (England Netball and NSL)
- Soft & Gentle (England Netball and NSL - featuring the Super Shot for NSL)
- Collection Cosmetics (England Netball and NSL)
- Nike (renewed kit deal) and Kit Queen (new addition to the partnership)
- Here We Flo (NSL and England Netball - supporting NETBALLHer)
- NIXI Body (England Netball - supporting NETBALLHer)
- Apple Music (England Netball and NSL)
- SiS (Science in Sport) - Sports Nutrition partner for the Vitality Roses, now extending support to the pathway and Future Roses.
- Rayburn Travel and Sports Tours - joined to support the Experience Kissimmee 2026 school and youth club netball trip to Florida and enhance our commercial event offerings.

This year's membership campaign was boosted by generous partner contributions, including prizes such as a trip to Florida.

A standout moment was the Nike relaunch at the Vitality Netball Nations Cup, unveiling a fresh look for National Anthem jackets to celebrate the renewed partnership.

Vitality also launched their Changing the Game campaign, working closely with Vitality Roses, Walking Netballers, and Back to Netballers to encourage more women to get active and enjoy netball locally.

%
PARTNER DISCOUNTS
EN Member Benefit



Governance

England Netball's commitment to strong governance saw a number of changes to the Board. At the 2024 AGM it was announced that Bridget Blow (Chair) and Annmarie Wallis (Chair of Audit & Risk) had reached the end of their maximum term. Annmarie stepped down from her position on the Board and the position of Chair of Audit & Risk was taken up by Jill Emney (Independent Non-Executive Director) who had been co-opted onto the Board the previous year to allow for a handover period.

England Netball sought agreement from the members to amend the articles to allow Bridget Blow to extend her term by a further period of no more than a year. This was to allow for the Chair recruitment process to reach a conclusion. Following the conclusion of the process England Netball were pleased to announce the appointment of Baroness Sue Campbell to the Board as Chair, following which Bridget Blow resigned.

The Board are very grateful for the contributions of Bridget and Annmarie over their time as Non-Executive Directors.

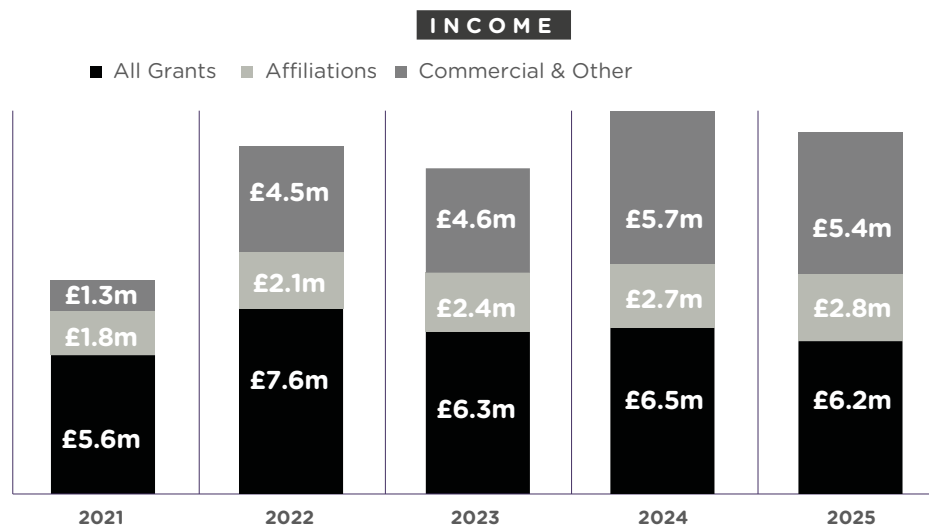
In addition, the Board welcomed Richard Kenyon (Chief Commercial and Communications Officer, Everton FC) as a Co-opted Non-Executive Director for a year. Richard was appointed by England Netball to be a representative on the Netball Super League Board and has also joined the England Netball Board for this year to ensure a rounded understanding of the sport.



Finance

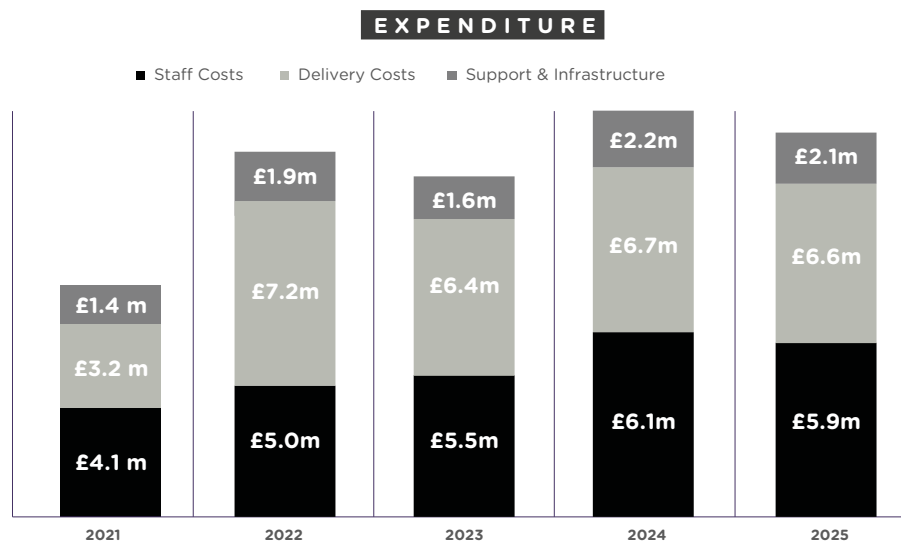
Income

Income for the year was £14.4 million compared to the previous year of £14.9 million, a decrease of £0.5 million (-3.3%). This decrease was attributable to lower grant funding revenues received and recognised in the year (-£0.3m) as we saw the additional post-Covid funding end. Membership affiliation revenues increased due to an increase in member numbers and a small increase to fees (+£0.1m).

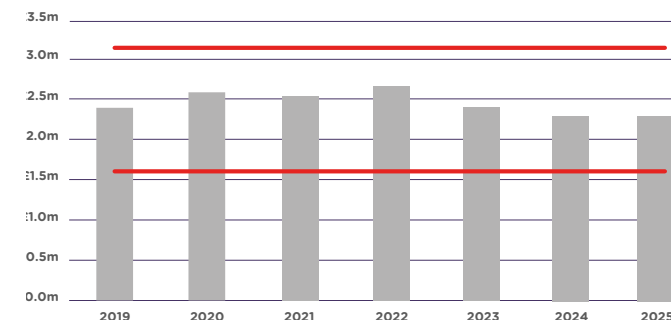


Expenditure

Total expenditure for the year was £14.5m, a decrease of £0.5m (+3.6%) compared to the previous year (£15.0m), reflecting the decrease in costs across the organisation including staff costs and delivery costs making savings where possible in response to the reduced grant funding.



England Netball Reserves



Balance Sheet

There has been a small investment into fixed assets during the year with a new NSL website.

At the end of the year England Netball maintained a healthy cash position of £3.0m which is lower than the previous year (£5.2m) due to the timing of the receipt of Sport England grant funding.

The general reserve position has decreased by the deficit generated (£49k) to £2.2m which is within the minimum and maximum targets required by our current reserves policy.

Balance Sheet (Key Items)

	2024-25	2023-24
	£'000	£'000
Fixed Assets	177	188
Current Assets		
Cash	3,148	5,201
Debtors	2,771	1,006
Liabilities		
Creditors	(3,846)	(4,095)
Net Current Assets	2,073	2,112
Net Assets	2,250	2,299
General Reserve	2,250	2,299

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Vitality
Vitality ALL HORIZON SINCE 2004

We're here for... Bras & Kit



Life insurance

Life insurance with Vitality

Life insurance with Vitality



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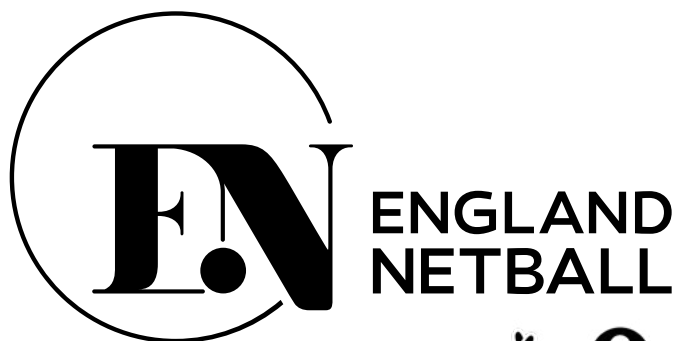
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We're here for... Bras & Kit

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Vitality ROSES VS JAMAICA



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