## NETBALL AMERICA® LAUNCHES 1ST USA NATIONAL NETBALL LEAGUE®



(November 8, 2023 – New York City, New York) <u>Netball America</u>®, the premier Netball organization in the USA is thrilled to announce the launch of the USA <u>National Netball League</u>® ushering in a revolutionary era that promises to be the next big thing in the realm of women's sports. This launch will be announced through the global broadcast of the <u>U.S. Open Netball Championships</u>® this weekend.

This groundbreaking program by Netball America® brings together top clubs from across the USA, creating unforgettable and world class Netball experiences for athletes, coaches, umpires, and spectators alike. This league was previously piloted on the West and East Coasts of the USA

from 2015 to 2018. A launch was planned for 2020, but due to the pandemic it was postponed.

Beyond the court, the National Netball League® stands as a transformative platform, creating unmissable sponsor and partner opportunities for brands to get behind this American grass roots sport.

The 2024 and 2025 years will focus on the women's league with a plan to integrate men and mixed competitions from 2026. We aim to start with 6 Netball clubs for the 2024 season. The National Netball League® will also be played in various cities and states across the USA in order to help with the development and growth of Netball America® member clubs in these areas.

"Our audience is the global Netball community as they are very interested in seeing the development of USA Netball. Our event livestreams have reached over 100,000 viewers and we see the National Netball League® inspiring women to rediscover the joy of sports, fostering a nationwide community that celebrates diversity and fitness. By joining us on this journey you will engage with a diverse community showing your support for women, minorities, and the LGBTQIA+ communities," says Netball America® CEO Sonya Ottaway.

Netball America's National Netball League® was established to provide opportunities for USA Netball athletes to play competitive games against other clubs following international Netball standards. This current format does not currently exist in the USA. This League will allow athletes to gain playing experience in full 1 hour Netball games while also offering opportunities for officials and coaches to obtain experience and accreditation. These events will incorporate American teachers and students to enable them to learn more about Netball.

Netball America is now in 33 U.S. States and Canada and is rapidly expanding with over 50 member clubs. This partnership with Gilbert Netball, along with their high-quality Netballs will be a valuable asset to our member clubs, players and coaches, and will empower players of all ages and abilities to experience the joy of Netball.

## **About Netball**

Seven players per team on court, a 10-foot hoop, three seconds to pass, no dribbling, no contact, no backboard, and no running with the ball. Netball is an exciting, inclusive sport that can be played by all genders of all ages. Not many people know Netball was invented in America in 1895 as the original women's basketball, from there it spread throughout the Commonwealth countries. Netball fans celebrated when in 1995 Netball became a recognized Olympic sport and a strong push for 2032 Olympic inclusion.

**Email:** Info@NetballAmerica.com

Visit <u>www.NetballAmerica.com</u> for more information.



