



INTERNATIONAL NETBALL TOURNAMENT PRESENTED BY NETBALL AMERICA
[LAS VEGAS 9-11 NOVEMBER 2012]

Successful people don't always have the best of everything they just make the best of everything! As a passionate netball coach and “friend” [on this side of the world in Africa] I would like to congratulate you and wish Netball America success for this event in Las Vegas the best place to be from 9-11 Nov 2012!

A popular quote states the following: *If your “ship doesn't come in ... swim out to it!”* I would like to applaud Netball America for your enthusiasm, initiative, hard work, professionalism and guts to “swim out” and present this U.S. Open Netball Championships. You are an inspirational example of how to develop and promote participation in Netball. In the years to come you will reap the benefits from your great idea to involve a record number of States as well as international participants. To be able to participate in sport and especially NETBALL (our passionate sport), is a privilege ... a privilege that YOU create to each participant.

During July 2012 I was lucky, privileged and honoured to have the opportunity to assist the Netball America National University Netball Team and Ilze Gideons [the head coach and one of my ex-students and players in South Africa] at the World University Championships in Cape Town, South Africa. It was an exciting and positive experience to see how the players and staff revealed PASSION / DESIRE to reach their goals. They can be proud of how far they have come in a short period – I admire the players fight and their ability to learn so quickly.

“Happy are those who dream dreams and are ready to pay the price to make them come true!” I know one of your dreams is to become a competitive Netball Entity You are on the right track, keep on keeping it up in your already competitive American sporting arena. Events like this provide opportunities for peak moments, experiences and memories to treasure in any sports person's career. I sincerely hope that this Championship will be most enjoyable; develop good relationships between all the participants and may NETBALL be the ultimate winner.

Sandra du Plessis, Netball Coach [Netball South Africa Level 4 Coach]

To Netball America, tournament participants and supporters

Every once in a while a person gets the opportunity to be part of something special. Earlier in 2012 I received a request to be part of TEAM USA Netball and realized that this was one of those opportunities. Never did I envision what an experience it was going to be.

The USA has a very rich history of overcoming big obstacles and this team did the same. I believe from this humble beginnings a giant will arise. The determination and gutsy performances from each and every one of the players have garnered huge support and respect from opposition and supporters alike. The different sporting background from the US ladies provides them with a different skill set when applied to netball will bring a whole new dimension to the game of netball. I believe that this will in future give representative teams from Netball America an advantage when competing internationally.

Unfortunately I would not be able to attend these championships but believe that you will be impressed when seeing the ladies participating at these championships.

My best wishes for Netball America and all their efforts to establish netball as a recognized sport in the USA.

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