



PRESS RELEASE

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DALLAS TO HOST 2015 U.S. OPEN NETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

International Tournament Coming to Texas for First Time

DALLAS (Oct. 29, 2015) – The cities of Dallas and Duncanville along with the Dallas Sports Commission will host the 2015 U.S. Open Netball America Championships, Nov. 6-8.

The 7th Annual U.S. Open will have 22 teams occupying five courts over three days of fast netball action. The 2015 Championships consist of 18 women's teams and four co-ed teams competing for the national championship title. Teams will represent 17 U.S. cities and six countries from as far away as Australia, the UK and Vancouver.

"We are excited to hold the national championships in Dallas, an iconic American city and perfect location to showcase the best of the U.S. to our national and international teams," said Sonya Ottaway, Netball America President and former USA athlete.

The tournament will be at Duncanville Fieldhouse, 1700 South Main Street, Duncanville, Saturday, Nov. 7, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 8, 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Key event sponsors include: Gilbert Netball, Dallas Tourism Improvement District, Double Tree Ocean Point Miami, The Diva Cup, Vitoria Sports, Interact Sport, Visions in Education, Disney Netball, World Out Games, Bedessee Sporting Goods, Inferno Sports, and Anderson Designs.

On Thursday, Nov. 5 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. there will be a free training session at the Duncanville Fieldhouse for students 16-28 interested in learning netball. Training will be led by global netball icon, Vicki Wilson. Vicki was the former #1 Australian netball team captain and World Ranked #2 New Zealand Silver Fern assistant coach. The aim of this training is to recruit college athletes to represent the U.S. during the World U.S. Championship 2016 in Miami.

“We invite everyone to come out and see this exciting sport that’s been around for over 100 years and actually began in the U.S., said Ottaway. It’s free to spectators and also students who want to participate in the training session Thursday night.”

Netball is played by over 20 million people in 70 countries and is the fastest emerging sport in the U.S. In the last five years Netball America has established 38 leagues in 31 states and has successfully introduced the sport as part of the U.S. educational curriculum.

Netball is similar to basketball although the rules, equipment and number of players are slightly different: no dribbling; no running with the ball; seven players per team; ball must be passed in 3 seconds; ball and basket are slightly smaller; there is no backboard; and players are designated to certain areas of the court.

In 1995, Netball became a recognized Olympic sport and a strong push is underway for its inclusion in the Olympic Games Program.

Additional Information:

<https://www.facebook.com/NetballAmerica>

About Netball America:

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