

BCNETBALL

**British Columbia Netball Association
(BCNA)**



**Annual
General
Meeting
2023-2024**

Table of Contents

| | |
|-------------------------------|----|
| President’s Report | 2 |
| Vice President Report | 4 |
| Marketing Report | 5 |
| High Performance Report | 7 |
| Umpiring Report | 11 |
| Special Events Report | 13 |
| Diversity Report | 14 |

President's Report

Ann Willcocks

It has been a positive, successful year for netball. We are thrilled to welcome new members from Comox Valley and Revelstoke. Nelson will be joining in the next few months.

A. Sport for Life

Player Programs

1. Recreational Play for Adult Women, Men and Mixed Teams

Recreational play and leagues for women and mixed team have been successful. Whistler, Kelowna, Fernie and Lower Mainland teams have enjoyed weekly play. The Netball Metro Vancouver Association league began play in September and has enjoyed a successful season. Thanks go to the leaders of the leagues, teams and clubs for their dedication to their players.

2. Junior Programs

- High School Program.

The high school program has been very busy. The students had the opportunity to participate in three tournaments, one every month. The Burnaby School District ran a very successful league. Thanks go to the coaches and organizers for their commitment to the students. Special thanks as always to Sabrina Versteeg for her leadership of the school program.

- Summer Student Program.

I'm delighted to report that we have received Federal Government Grants again this year. One high school student, one university student and one graduate have been hired. The workers will run the junior programs, the secondary school programs and organize and run special events. Our partnership with the Burnaby School District will continue with the workers teaching netball for grade 5 – 7 students at Burnaby Summer School. They will run a program for secondary students that will run in June/ July/August. They will also run day camps in conjunction with summer sport programs.

3. Special Events and Tournaments

We have enjoyed a variety of events this year including Fast5, Mix and Match and the annual Kelowna Tournament. It has been encouraging to have an enthusiastic group of players participate in all the events. We continue to explore ways in which we can offer a variety of events.

B. Excellence - High Performance Program_for Youth, Women and Men

The BC provincial and national team players continue to be recognized as carded athletes by the Canadian Sport Institute.

The U16/U18 teams played at the Western Canadian Championships in November in Alberta. The U23 and senior women's team played in the national championships in Toronto in May. The players on the U21 national team from BC will compete in Guadeloupe in July. The players on the senior women's team will compete in Singapore in September. Unfortunately, the men's competition this year has been cancelled because other provinces did not have the resources to participate.

C. Coaching and Officiating

1. Umpiring

This year has offered opportunities for umpires to improve their skills. There have been virtual and in - person coaching sessions throughout the year. We were happy to host some international umpires who conducted clinics and shared their knowledge and expertise with us. We also witnessed international umpiring at its' best at the national championships.

2. Coaching

Our coaching certification program will get up and running next year with WN coaching certification courses being run in the Fall and Spring.

D. Promotion and Marketing

We have used social media to communicate the business of the organization. We are continuing to expand and improve the use of the BC Netball website and social media. Thank you to everyone who has supported netball by sending photos and volunteering to help with livestreaming at our events.

E. Organizational Readiness

The board has met regularly to administer the business of the association. We have followed our strategic plan and worked to achieve our objectives in all parts of the program. We are in compliance with all ViaSport and Government requirements for provincial associations. We have upheld the constitution and complied with BC Netball policies and procedures. The new requirements for a representative for diversity has been filled by Darren Huang. The board members will complete the indigenous cultural training and have welcomed Tracy Leach as our indigenous adviser to the board. We have met all requirements to be recognized as an Accredited Association which is a new designation this year.

We have met the eligibility for core funding from ViaSport. We are working with the Gaming branch to qualify for gaming funding for the junior program.

F. Recognition

I should like to thank all the people who volunteer their time to organize, coach and umpire so that players may enjoy netball. Thank you to the leaders of the teams and clubs who make netball happen for so many people. Thank you to all players who choose to play our sport.

I should like to thank the BC Netball Board of Directors for their continued dedication to our sport.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Willcocks -- President

Vice President Report

Dana Graf

BC Netball is proud to provide quality services and programs for children and youth in our communities across the province. The safety, rights and well-being of the participants we serve is the top priority as we build and maintain a positive sport culture and a safe environment for our programs. In 2021, BC Netball established the following safe sport protocols in accordance with viaSport's guidelines on Safe Sport:

1. Established the BCNA Code of Conduct to Protect Children (BCNA-CCPC): [Microsoft Word - BCNetball C2K Code of Conduct FINAL v1.0](#)
2. Created a Safe Sport webpage on BC Netball's website: [Safe Sport \(bcnetball.ca\)](#)
3. Updated the BC Netball General Code of Conduct and the Volunteer and Employee Screening Policy: [Policies & Procedures \(bcnetball.ca\)](#)

These policies remain in effect and no updates were required in 2023-2024.

With support from ViaSport, seven (7) coaches and new BCNA Board Members completed their Commit to Kids Training this year.

I would like to thank ViaSport and all those who continue to support BCNA's efforts to ensure all netballers have a positive and safe experience.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana Graf
Vice President

Marketing Report

Sophia Chen, Danette Mui

Website

BC Netball's domain and web hosting services are provided by Just Host. It is important to renew both domain and web hosting services before their expiry dates to prevent loss of content from our website.

There is a free add on that was automatically added when we renewed our webhosting, "sitelock-security – lite". So long as this remains free, we will keep the sitelock security as there is no incentive to not have it.

Domain

Expiry: January 21, 2025

Rate: \$15.99/yr CAD

Web hosting

Expiry: August 18, 2025

Rate: \$14.99/mo CAD (Plus Hosting)

Sitelock Security – Lite

Expiry: August 18, 2025

Rate: \$0.00/year

Administration

Visual Watermark

- Good for 3 computers (2 are occupied)
- 400 fonts
- 10 watermark templates
- Faster watermarking speed
- 3 watermarks per image or video
- 2 years of key recovery
- For Windows and Macs
- Crop, resize and compress photos

Rate: \$39.95 CAD

Social media

BC Netball currently has a social media presence via Facebook and Instagram—with Facebook and Instagram being the major social media handle used. BC Netball's Facebook page currently has around 5700 "likes," which has amounted to a 119% increase from the previous year. We currently have over 5800 followers, which is a 123% increase from last year. This year was conducted basically as normal, many posts were towards advertising netball opportunities be it in the form of tournaments, and

clinics. Since last year, we have seen our Instagram followers increase by 17.5% which currently amounts to 638 followers.

To keep our social media presence growing, we can continue to post regularly to our official Facebook and Instagram pages, and experiment with the type of content posted.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank our volunteer photographers and helpers for contributing to our picture albums and game recordings. Having quality pictures and videos on our Facebook page is a major incentive for netballers to follow us, making the contributions of our photographers and helpers invaluable. We would also like to thank those who have contributed posts to our Facebook page and Instagram.

Respectfully submitted,

Sophia Chen & Danette Mui
Marketing Director



We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia through the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development as well as viaSport's from the grants that have been approved for us.

High Performance Report

Maria Hodgins

The high-performance program had an exciting and rewarding year of competitive netball.

The BC and national team U18/ U21/U23/senior women and men players continue to be recognized as carded athletes by the Canadian Sport Institute.

Provincial Teams

Western Canadian Championships November 2023

The Western Canadian Championships took place in Calgary on November 10th to 12th 2023. The U16 and U18 teams participated in a tri series against Alberta teams. BC had a fantastic showing with both divisions coming away with the gold medal.

U18

Special thanks to coaches Lil Binns, Lianna Wong and Julia Carollo

Players:

Katharine Doerksen
Holly Hancock
Eri Jung
Nyomi Khau
Amber (Jia Yan) Lee
Soléne Pango Salas
Elyse Piskacek
Ella Ricketts
Loliyo Charles-Pione
Janelle Yang

Reserves:

Cheryl Chong
Jaya Kooner
Kennedy Payne
Marissa Wu

U16

Special thanks to coaches Amonda Francis and Jacqui Kelly

Players:

Myra Aziz
Danelle Billones
Sophia Bonilla

Makenna Chan
Nyla Fazmin
Chloe Ham
Heti Kaushal
Kylie Quach
Kaelyn Robinson
Evelyn Shen

Reserves:

Lauren Chow
Emily Hancock
Lar Sisrian
Faith Tang

National Tournament May 2024

The National Netball Championships were held in Ontario on May 18/19.

Congratulations to the BC teams on a terrific performance which resulted in gold medals in both divisions.

Open women – BC first place, Ontario 2nd and Quebec 3rd.

U23 women– BC first place, Ontario 2nd and Quebec 3rd.

A special thank you to coaches Ann Willcocks (open) and U23 Amonda Francis. And managers Mary Webb (open) and Tasha Dacunha (U23)

Open Team

Celine Antipas
Holly Butterfield
Brigit Cecic
Kat Dang
Amonda Francis
Michelle Kao
Jacqui Kelly
Sarah Kerbrat
Adrienne Parkin
Lianna Wong

U23

Katharine Doerksen
Kaitlyn McElgunn
Jaiden Leong
Clara Kong
Juree Jung
Holly Hancock
Janelle Yang
Nyomi Khau
Liyo Pione
Ella Ricketts

BC Men's Team

The men are important members of our high-performance program and are recognized by the Canadian Sport Institute. However, this year it has been challenging to find opportunities for top level competition for the players. A national Championship Tournament for the men had been planned. Unfortunately, no other province was able to travel to BC so it was cancelled.

Also, the planned national men's team did not happen as there were not enough men who were prepared to travel to St. Kitts for the tournament.

Canadian Teams

U18 Youth Commonwealth Games Trinidad and Tobago August 2023

Canada Netball was invited to participate in the Youth Commonwealth games held in Trinidad and Tobago August 4 to 11, 2023. Other countries participating in the FAST 5 tournament were Australia, Botswana, England, St. Vincent & Grenadines, Scotland, South Africa, and host country Trinidad & Tobago. Congratulations to the 7 of 10 BC players who were selected to represent Canada. The team did well with many close games, placing 6th, and the tournament served as a great opportunity for team development.

A special thanks to coach Amonda Francis and manager Julia Carollo

BC players

| | |
|-----------|----------|
| Jaya | Kooner |
| Janelle | Yang |
| Ella | Ricketts |
| Loliyo | Pione |
| Holly | Hancock |
| Katharine | Doerksen |
| Nyomi | Khau |

Nations Cup in Singapore October 2023

The Canadian team participated in the Nations Cup in Singapore. Other countries in the tournament were Papua New Guinea, Cook Islands, Sri Lanka and 2 teams from the host country Singapore. Eleven BC players were selected to the Canadian National team. The team had a strong performance and placed 4th.

A special mention to Amonda Francis who was named MVP for Canada.

A special thanks to coach Ann Willcocks and Jill McIntosh and manager Mary Webb.

BC Players

Sarah Binns
Alyssa Binns
Kat Dang
Carmen Duursmea
Amonda Francis
Michelle Kao
Sarah Kerbrat
Clara Kong

Adrienne Parkin
Lianna Wong
Bridgita Cecic

Nations Cup in Singapore in September 2024

The Canadian team has again been invited to participate in this year's international tournament. Nine BC players have been named to the Canadian team. They continue to train throughout the summer, and we wish them well in the competition in September. Congratulations to:

Holly Butterworth
Brigita Cecic
Katrina Dang
Amonda Francis
Michelle Kao
Sarah Kerbrat
Nyomi Khan
Adrienne Parkin
Janelle Yang

A special thanks to coach Ann Willcocks and manager Mary Webb

U21 Canadian Team - Americas Qualifying Championships in Guadeloupe July 2024

The U21 Canadian team will be participating in the Americas Qualifying Championships in Guadeloupe July 2024. This is a qualifier for the World Youth Cup in 2025 in Gibraltar. The following BC players were selected to represent Canada. This will be an exciting opportunity and experience for the team.

Congratulations to:

Janelle Yang
Katharine Doerksen
Kennedy Payne
Solene Pangoo Salas
Holly Hancock
Nyomi Khau
Nyla Fazmin
Liyo Pione

A special thanks to coach: Amonda Francis and manager Chiara Bordignon

The High-Performance program couldn't be run without the help of Ann Willcocks and Mary Webb and all the coaches, umpires and organizers who put hours of work and effort into developing our athletes and growing the sport. Much appreciation and a big thank you to all involved.

Respectfully submitted by: Maria Hodgins, Director of High Performance

Umpiring Report

Careene Andrews

STRATEGIC GOALS - UMPIRING

STRATEGIC GOAL 1:

To promote and develop umpires and player understanding of current World Netball rules across British Columbia through in-person and virtual education.

STRATEGIC GOAL 2:

To increase knowledge, interpretation, and application of the umpiring rules of netball.

STRATEGIC GOAL 3:

Achieve success on court for umpiring officials and players

OBJECTIVES:

1. Develop umpiring program across BC
2. Development and implementation of umpiring criteria, policies, and procedures
3. Facilitate a minimum of 6 umpiring clinics per annum
4. Identify and develop umpiring champions through an officiating mentoring program

INDICATORS OF SUCCESS:

- Umpiring program implemented
- Umpiring Criteria, Policies and procedures developed and implemented
- Pool of certified umpires representing all BC clubs
- All clubs in BC have the current World Netball Rules either through the World Netball booklet or APP
- Certification presentations

It has been a fantastic year to see so much netball played again over the past year (post COVID) and along with this comes more demand to build our umpiring pool. Before providing this update, BC Netball encourages many of you to join the umpiring team. We understand it can be nerve wrecking sometimes, but we can begin slowly and build your knowledge along the way. And we all know that netball cannot be played without our umpires so a big thank you to those who have started their umpiring journey or who continue to develop their umpiring skills.

One of the biggest changes over the year has been the release of the new World Netball rules which BC Netball adopted in January 2024. This involved the immediate implementation of virtual “new rules” workshops in order for clubs to inform their players before teams started playing again. We were able to facilitate 3 virtual sessions with over 50 attendees from all clubs in attendance – thank you for your participation and many questions as we moved our way forward in learning the new rules. And a big “well done” to all the players who adapted quickly to the new rules. The changes also involved the updating of the umpiring certification theory test. A quick summary of most of the changes were:

- Substitutions / technical changes – players can now substitute during a game
- Goal scored – the goal is now scored when the ball is released from the hand – not through the hoop
- No tossup – umpire gives to controlling team
- Shortpass – space to deflect or intercept
- Stoppages – dried blood ok, but not on clothing
- Centre pass – controlling umpire calls name
- Replay ball – one tap
- Throw in – no longer have to wait for player to be on court
- Game Management / Behaviour / Safety of players – lots of changes in this area (no longer any cautions, advances of play, ordering off can be replaced after 4mins, head/nick injury, foul play)

It has been a year full of virtual and in-person umpiring workshops in addition to observing, guiding, and certifying umpires. It has been a nice blend of options for BC Netball to support the umpiring pathways for individuals this year. We facilitated 3 online virtual sessions and 3 in-person workshops. There have also been lots of opportunities to observe and guide umpires through the many tournaments held during the year. We were also very fortunate to have the guidance of four World Netball umpires who held an umpiring session in 2023 – a unique opportunity to learn from the very best in the World.

Of worthy note, BC Netball would like to express our excitement with the noticeable eagerness from youth interested in umpiring. We held a youth umpiring clinic with over 75 in attendance and from this came a strong interest in becoming certified – 5 youth passed their theory test with very high results, well done! We were able to hold another youth session, again with over 20 in attendance. And it is fantastic to see youth “just give it a go” and picking up the whistle. Our future umpiring pool looks positive.

There were a multitude of netball events held over the year which could not happen without the support, dedication, and voluntary time of the umpires. Words cannot express our gratitude to all of the umpires who continue to volunteer their time to ensure the BC Netball program is a success and that we continue to build capacity, not only of our umpires but of our future netballers. ‘Some’ of the events’ where umpiring support was provided included:

- May 2023 – High School Tournament (14 umpires)
- June 2023 – All Start Tournament (5 umpires)
- June 2023 – Kelowna Tournament (6 umpires)
- September 2023 – March 2024 – Saturday league (high number of umpires involved)
- November 2023 – Alberta U16 & U18 Tournament (3 umpires)
- April 2024 – High School Tournament (8 umpires)

We had ten (10) umpires certified or re-certified over the pass year and it was an honour on behalf of BC Netball to hold presentations to them during the year. Congratulations to you all. And one final mention, but certainly not least, BC Netball wishes to congratulate Kevlar McCalla who was awarded the Presidents Sports Award for volunteers who represent the spirit of volunteerism, dedication, energy, commitment and contribution to the development of sport. It has been a great year to see so much netball played again and subsequently then providing numerous opportunities for the BC Netball umpiring program to flourish! Thank you again everyone.



Careene Andrews
BC Netball Umpiring Director

Special Events Report

Katherine Comberbach

The 2023/24 season was another enjoyable year for BC's Netball Special Events.

Our season was set to kick off in September with the Opening Tournament, but it had to be canceled due to a lack of team registrations. Only Checkers registered and paid for two teams, which were subsequently refunded. The October 29th Mix and Match event also had to be rescheduled due to gym availability conflicts. Consequently, our first event was the Fast Fives Mixed Tournament on November 19th. This tournament was well attended and enjoyed by three teams from Checkers, two from Comets, and one from UBC.

In 2024, we began with a friendly Mix and Match tournament, featuring a diverse group of players from Checkers, Comets, UBC, and three junior stars from United. Players were assigned teams on the day, fostering energy, clean fun, and a sense of community. The season concluded on March 19th with another thrilling Fast Fives event, with four teams participating: one from Checkers, two from Comets, and one from UBC. It was a fun day, highlighted by some incredible three-pointer shots from skilled players.

At the start of the season, we successfully outlined a better membership program to accommodate various types of memberships, ensuring players could participate in special events. This new program has been well received by the clubs in BC.

Diversity Report

Darren Huang

BC Netball is committed to fostering an inclusive and diverse environment within our organization. This report highlights our achievements and potential opportunities to enhance inclusiveness and diversity within our community.

Achievements

Although netball has traditionally been a predominantly female sport, we have had great success involving other genders in our sport. Recreationally, we hold mixed games and tournaments where all genders are welcome to participate. On a high performance level, we have a provincial men's team and support their endeavours to try out for the national men's team.

BCNA Current Practices

We are in the process of conducting a review of current BCNA practices and determining best practices as they relate to diversity and inclusiveness. A review of our website shows that our front page and post photos are reflective of diversity, with individuals of different ethnicities, genders, and age groups represented in these photos. Our website posts are inclusive of different genders, age groups & regions in BC, and they display cultural sensitivity.

We find ways to help junior athletes participate so that economic barriers do not preclude them from the sport. We are supportive of efforts to set up netball programs in new communities within BC. We run both recreational and high performance programs, and have programs for ages ranging from elementary school children to adults. We currently have leagues in Fernie, Kelowna, Metro Vancouver, Victoria, Pemberton, and Whistler. We look forward to the upcoming Indigenous Cultural Training.

Potential Opportunities

At BCNA, we are always striving to improve ourselves and to better our community. We have identified potential opportunities to enhance inclusiveness and diversity within our organization.

There is an opportunity to revisit our missions & values and add more context or restate them to be more inclusive.

- How does BCNA want to be inclusive and diverse?
 - Age, disabilities, LGBTQ+, race, creed, sex, gender, and ethnicity, etc
 - Can we be more explicit, for example safe space logos or statement on website
- Current mission: "to grow netball in British Columbia"
 - Eg "to grow netball in British Columbia so athletes of all race, creed, sex, gender, and ethnicity can enjoy the sport"
- Current vision: "to lead and coordinate netball in British Columbia"

Respectfully submitted,

Darren Huang
Diversity Representative