



NETBALL WORLD CUP – NEW EVENT FORMAT

Following an extensive consultation process, the INF Board has approved changes to the Netball World Cup Event Format. This document provides an overview of the revised competition format, to be implemented at Netball World Cup Sydney 2015.

Principles applied to the new event format

- Four (4) sections of four (4) teams
- Create a 'world' mix of teams in the initial four (4) sections
- No more than two teams from the same Region may be in an initial section
- Seeded semi-finals – based on pattern 1 v 4 and 2 v 3
- All teams compete in 8 games
- All teams complete the World Cup with a final ranking

Process for allocating teams into sections

- Teams are seeded 1-16 based on their INF Rankings as at July the year prior to the World Cup Event. This follows the annual update which occurs on 1 July where oldest team results are removed and ranking re-calculated.
 - Pool A Teams seeded 1, 2, 9, 10
 - Pool B Teams seeded 3, 4, 11, 12
 - Pool C Teams seeded 5, 6, 13, 14
 - Pool D Teams seeded 7, 8, 15, 16
- In the event that more than two (2) teams from one Region are allocated into an initial Pool (A through D), then they are placed into a corresponding Pool and switched with the closest ranked teams below their ranking.

Sections for Round Robin Play

Pool A	Pool B	Pool C	Pool D
Team Seeded 1	Team Seeded 3	Team Seeded 5	Team Seeded 7
Team Seeded 2	Team Seeded 4	Team Seeded 6	Team Seeded 8
Team Seeded 9	Team Seeded 11	Team Seeded 13	Team Seeded 15
Team Seeded 10	Team Seeded 12	Team Seeded 14	Team Seeded 16

Key Differences

The key differences in the revised Event Format include:

- Duration of Event
- Method for allocating teams to initial four pools
- Number of games played
- Increased number of competitive games, ie games played between similarly ranked teams
- The top-ranked teams in the world will play each other in the first phase of the event, ie during the Preliminary Rounds, and will no longer have to wait until the Finals before they meet one another

Summary of Event Format Difference

	2011	2015
Number of Teams	16	16
Qualification	<p>6 teams automatically qualify (including host) and 10 teams qualify through the regional qualifiers.</p> <p>Host nation + top 5 ranked teams from the previous NWC automatically qualified.</p> <p>2 teams from each region (10 teams) qualify through the regional qualification events.</p>	<p>6 teams automatically qualify (including host) and 10 teams qualify through the regional qualifiers.</p> <p>Host nation + top 5 (other than Australia) ranked teams as per INF Rankings in July 2014 automatically qualify.</p> <p>2 teams from each region (10 teams) qualify through the regional qualification events.</p>
How teams are allocated 1-16 for the commencement of the competition (once qualified)	Once the 16 teams confirmed, top 5 ranked teams plus the host were placed into one of 4 pools (snaking format). The 10 other qualified teams are drawn randomly and allocated to pools according to a defined sequencing pattern.	Once the 16 teams confirmed, all teams ranked according to the INF ranking system. (This determines which of the 4 pools the teams compete in for the preliminary rounds)
Length of Event	8 days	10 days
Number of Rest Days	1 day	2 days
Numbers of Games per team	6 games	8 games
Number of Games across the Tournament	48	64
Number of Pools	4	4
Event Phases	3 including medal and placing games	3 including medal and placing games

Regional Qualifying Events

5 x regional qualifying events will be held in 2014, approximately one year out from the Netball World Cup:

Region	Host	Date
Americas	Canada	TBC
Oceania	Cook Islands	TBC – usually first week of June
Asia	Singapore	7-14 September 2014
Africa	Botswana	TBC
UK	Wales	30/31 May – 1 June 2014