

OFFICIAL INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

USA NETBALL 2017 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Dear Team/Club and Supporters,

On behalf of USA Netball Association, Lee County Sports Development, and Florida Netball Association, you are invited to participate in the USA Netball 2017 National Championships™.

Venue: Wa-Ke Hatchee Park Recreation Center,
16760 Bass Road, Fort Myers, FL 33908

Date: Friday, July 21, 2017 to Sunday, July 23, 2017
Opening Ceremony starts at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday July 22nd, 2017

Enclosed with this package are:

1. Information for the USA Netball 2017 National Championships.
2. Entry, registration and waiver forms.
3. Rules and Guidelines.

**\$2,500 Prize to the
winner of the Senior
Female Club Category**

The various categories in which teams can participate are outlined in the enclosed package. USA Netball welcomes participation by all netball teams from within the **United States and overseas** to compete for National or Open titles at the 2017 Championships. Spectators and supporters are welcome with free entry for children aged 12 and under, and \$5 for general admission.

Take advantage of early registration as it assures your team of a confirmed place in the competition.

Final closing date for team entries is July 15, 2017. For further information, please contact USA Netball Match & Tournament Director at mto@usanetball.com or technical@usanetball.com.

Join us in spectacular Fort Myers, Florida for a great weekend of spectacular Netball and the crowning of the USA Netball Association National and Open Champions.

Sincerely,



Patrick S. Heron
President, USA Netball Association



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GENERAL INFORMATION

DATE OF CHAMPIONSHIPS: Friday, July 21, 2017 – Sunday, July 23, 2017

TOURNAMENT CATEGORIES:

National and Open Club Championships for the following:

- a. Senior and U-21
- b. Male teams
- c. Senior mixed

NEAREST AIRPORTS:

Fort Myers International Airport (RSW)
Sarasota International Airport (SRQ)
Tampa International Airport (TPA)
Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport (FLL)

HOTEL INFORMATION:

Go to <http://www.leecountysportshousing.org/event/1014>

TRANSPORTATION:

Each team shall provide their air and ground transportation
Car rental discount can be had from any of the below companies

Dollar Car Rental: 1-800-800-4000 and give corporate code
"3028654"

Advantage Car Rental: 1-800-777-5500 and give corporate code
"CD007C2914"

Enterprise Car Rental: 1-800-736-8222 or 1-800-RENT-CAR and
give code "sports"

Thrifty Car Rental: 1-800-THRIFTY and give code "3028653"

REGISTRATION:

Please return enclosed registration form with respective fees.
A player can only register and play on one team¹
Please read and be very familiar with all enclosed rules.



¹ Except playing on a mixed team



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Entry Form

_____ is delighted to enter the USA Netball 2017 National Championships. Our non-refundable entry fee of \$_____ is enclosed.

NAME (Club/Association): _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

To avoid **the late fee of US\$25.00**, this form and the applicable fees must be received by July 1, 2017. **Final date for registration is July 15, 2017.**

All checks or Money Orders must be made payable to: USA NETBALL.
A late fee of US\$25 shall be added to all entries after July 1st, 2017
Please mail entry form and payment to:

USA Netball Association
PO Box 1105
Bowling Green, NY 10274

Amount of check/money order: US\$ _____



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Team Registration & Waiver of Liability

In consideration for the privilege of participating in USA Netball 2017 National Championships hosted by the Lee County Sports Authority, the undersigned, as a representative/member of the respective below named club/team, do hereby forever waive, release, relinquish and hold harmless and totally not liable, the **USA Netball Association, Inc.** and its members/agents, **Lee County Sports Development** its members, employees and/or agents, and the **Wa-Ke Hatchee Park Recreation Center Gymnasium**, its trustees, officers, employees and agents, from any and all injuries which may arise from or as a result of my participation and my club/team participation in this same Netball National Championships as well as for any loss of personal items and undertake to be responsible for any accompanying children or any other person who is not a participant in this event. As a member or affiliate of the below named association/club or team, I am aware of the risks involved in any athletic activity and assume all responsibility for any injuries sustained as a direct result of or arising from participation in or attendance at the USA Netball National Championships including but not limited. By signing below, the undersigned and her/his club members, family members and supporters also acknowledge that **USA Netball Association, Inc.** is merely licensee and not an agent of **Lee County Sports Development**.

Event Date: Friday, July 21, 2017 to Sunday, July 23, 2017
 Event Venue: Wa-Ke Hatchee Park Recreation Center, 16760 Bass Road, Fort Myers, FL 33908

Team Name: _____ Association (if applicable): _____

	<u>PRINT NAME</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>
Team Members:	1. _____	_____
	2. _____	_____
	3. _____	_____
	4. _____	_____
	5. _____	_____
	6. _____	_____
	7. _____	_____
	8. _____	_____
	9. _____	_____
	10. _____	_____
	11. _____	_____
	12. _____	_____
PCP:	13. _____	_____
Coach:	14. _____	_____
Umpire:	15. _____	_____
Certification:	_____	Date: _____



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USA NETBALL 2017 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Rules and Guidelines Governing the Championships

The rules of International Netball Federation (INF), in conjunction with the rules outlined below, governs this championship.

1. The championship shall consist of three days of play commencing on:

Saturday, July 22nd, 2017 at 9:30 AM ET:

A. Club Championships (Open)

Categories: Female, Male, and Mixed²;

Entry Fee: Members	US\$200.00
Non-Members	US\$250.00

B. Junior Club Championships (U21)

Categories: Female only: (must be U-21 at 1/1/2017)

Entry Fee: Members	US\$160.00
Non-members	US\$180.00

Friday, July 21st and Sunday, July 23rd 2017

- C. State Association Tri-Series Championships – Two teams will play for supremacy over three 1 hour games starting with**

Game 1 – Friday, July 21st at 6PM

Game 2 – Sunday, July 23rd at 10:30 AM

Game 3 – Sunday, July 23rd at 4PM

All entry fee(s) shall be non-refundable. Sections may be amalgamated dependent on number of entries.

2. The tournament shall be open to all USA Netball members or bona fide members of another INF and/or AFNA registered governing body. Non-members of USA Netball will be allowed to compete as above but their scores shall count towards the Invitational Competition tally. **Only bona fide USA Netball member clubs and State Associations may participate in the National categories of the championships.**

² Mixed Teams shall have no more than 3 male players with one male in each third at the start of play.



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- Registration for the Club Championships shall take place on Friday July 21, 2017 at the Candlewood Suites, 9740 Commerce Center Ct, Fort Myers, FL from 8-9 PM ET. Players for each team participating in the National Clubs Tournament must be bona fide members of that club as set down in the USA Netball Constitution. Confirmation of membership will be checked.
- For participants in the Under 21 category, a valid form of identification must be provided at registration to verify age.
- The Parade and Presentation of Teams shall commence at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, July 22nd, 2017. Matches will commence at 10:00 a.m.

Umpiring

- The Umpire's decision is final and shall be given without appeal. Umpires will be appointed by the USA Netball Technical Director in conjunction with the Match & Tournament Director and Tournament Referee(s). *USA Netball reserves the right to test Level 2 and 3 USA Netball umpires at this event.*

Games & Points

- The tournament draw will be circulated one week prior to commencement of the tournament.
- Points shall be awarded as follows:

Win: 5 points; Draw: 3 points; attaining more than 50% of the winning team's score: 1 point. If any team fails to take the court at the appointed time, their opponents shall be awarded 5 points. The non-defaulting team will be awarded the average number of goals scored against the defaulting team by other opponents in the same section. This will be calculated at the end of the round of games in that section.
- In the event of a tie on points when group placements are determined, goal difference (goals for minus goals against) shall be used to break the tie. If there is still a tie, goal average (goals for divided by goals against) shall be used to determine the higher placed team. If there is still a tie after invoking these two methods, a match consisting of 2 minutes each way between those tied teams shall take place. During the semi-final and final rounds, if the match is drawn at the final whistle, 2 minutes extra time each way will be played. If at the end of the extra time the game is still drawn, the scoring/time-keeping officials shall signal end of extra time but play will continue until one team leads by 2 goals. That team will then be declared the winning team.

Time

- The duration of each match shall be announced at the time that the draw is published.
- There will be **no stoppage time** and **no injury time**. In the event of an injury, the player(s) involved shall be removed from the court immediately and play continues. In the event that a serious life or limb threatening injury occurs, the umpires have the discretion to call time until that player maybe safely removed from the court by qualified medical personnel; otherwise an injured player will be removed from the court immediately with a



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substitute filling only that injured player's position. Team changes may ONLY take place at an interval. Random team **changes within the course of play are not permitted**. The umpires shall deem any infringement of this rule within the auspices of the off-side rule and players must return to their original starting position. No delay of play will be permitted while this takes place and the non-offending team can continue play.

Start of Play

12. The umpire's whistle, in conjunction with the timekeeper's signal, shall indicate the start and end of the game and each interval. The umpire's whistle shall determine "time".
13. Players are allowed to register and play on only **one** Club team in each section (all female, all male or mixed) for the duration of the Club Championships but players may compete in two sections, i.e. female and mixed or male and mixed. Similarly, players are allowed to register and play on only one State Association or Invitational Elite representative team for the duration of the Championships.
14. **Each registered team, regardless of the section (all female, all male or mixed) participating, MUST consist of a minimum of five and a maximum of 12 players.** In the mixed section, only three male players shall be on court at any one time. The male players shall start and remain playing as a defending player, a center court player or an attacking player in line with those positions' designated playing areas.
15. Captains need to toss and report the result to the appropriate scorers' table at least five (5) minutes before the start of each scheduled game. They shall notify the umpires in a timely manner.
16. All teams must be ready to play within one minute of the end of the previous game. See Rule 8 above.

Awards

17. ***A monetary prize of US\$2,500 shall be awarded to the first place team in the Open Female Club Category regardless of whether the team is from within the USA or from overseas.*** Trophies and/or medals will be awarded in each respective category of the Championships. Other prizes will be announced at registration, if needed. National Club championship is open only to bona fide members of the USA Netball Association.

Other

18. No updates to a registered Member's club roster shall be permitted within 14 days of the commencement of this tournament. Such membership registration together with tournament registration forms will be ratified by the Membership Director prior to the commencement of the Championships. It is the responsibility of the registered Member Club or Association to ensure compliance with this rule. Copies of registration forms must be available for review during the tournament registration process.
19. The tournament referee(s) shall have the right to amend, delete or add to these rules:



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- a. Prior to the Championships. Teams will be notified of any changes within 24 hours of the change.
 - b. During the Championships notification will be given to teams within five minutes of any such amendment.
20. Any matters outside the parameters of these rules shall be resolved at the discretion of the tournament referee(s) if such matter(s) should occur during the tournament. All other matters will be dealt with by the USA Netball Association Match & Tournament Organizing sub-committee.
21. Any person (of whatever capacity) who abuses (physically or verbally) another attendee (of whatever capacity) or who deliberately causes damage to any equipment, fixtures or furnishings at the tournament shall be removed from both the competition and the premises and may be precluded from participating in any future USA Netball event as well as face legal charges.
22. Every player and championships attendee shall adhere to the standards of behavior as outlined in the USA Netball Code of Conduct which will be available at the championships.

