



INTERNATIONAL
NETBALL
FEDERATION

18th March 2021

Netball World Youth Cup 2021 – Q&A

What was the process for consulting with teams?

A NWYC 2021 Decision Making Framework, which provided a risk assessment of the prevailing situation, was shared with the qualifying teams who provided feedback and updates on the current Covid-19 situation within their nation and its impact on their attendance at the event. Responses were received from 17 out of 20 teams.

Who has been involved in the decision-making process?

The following have been involved in the decision-making process for the cancellation of the NWYC2021.

- INF Board and CEO
- INF Technical Delegate – Kate Agnew
- INF Medical Committee Representative – Sharon Kearney
- INF Head of Events – Lindsay Impett
- INF Director of Oceania – Wainikiti Bogidrau
- NWYC 2021 Organising Committee

What were the risks identified with event going ahead?

The main risks surrounding the event identified as part of the risk assessment included:

- Financial viability of attending and economic impact of Covid-19 on Member's business operations.
- Potential cost of quarantine and length of quarantine in both host and home nation.
- Restrictions on international travel.
- Speed of change in relation to Covid-19 spread and quarantine requirements.
- Inability of athletes to train and prepare.
- Welfare of youth athletes.
- Protection of Fiji as a low Covid-19 nation.
- Preparedness of the host to provide a Covid-19 safe environment.
- Ability and responsibility for dealing with a Covid-19 outbreak at the event.
- Likelihood of vaccine in a team's home nation.
- Lack of insurance for travel/health.
- Clash of event with academic terms.

Why is the event cancelled and not postponed?

When NWYC2021 was postponed to December 2021 INF investigated the possibility of moving the event to 2022, 2023 or indeed 2024. It was noted that 2022 was already a significant year for the sport with the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham, England and the five regional qualification events for the NWC2023. Teams highlighted that they are already stretched by having a Commonwealth Games followed by a Netball World Cup in the two years following a pandemic. 2024 was considered too close to



**INTERNATIONAL
NETBALL
FEDERATION**

the next NWYC event planned for 2025 when a new cohort of U21 players would be competing for the title.

The INF concluded at that time that the only possibility for postponement was for the event to take place in the period December 2021 – January 2022.

How does INF plan to manage events in the future regarding Covid-19?

INF is constantly reviewing its event procedures and protocols regarding Covid-19 and the impact on its international events. The health and safety of the netball family is our utmost priority and INF will ensure all events meet local government guidelines, general health and safety, and Covid-19 measures.

How will the youth athletes be affected by this decision?

INF acknowledges that not hosting this event could result in some athletes missing out on the opportunity to compete at a World Championship level for their country. Whilst this is a huge disappointment for these athletes, the potential risks associated with continuing with the event greatly outweighs the negative impacts of not hosting the event for these athletes.

INF also acknowledges that not hosting this event could also impact on the development of the sport in some countries. However, the INF also recognises the potential negative financial impact on teams attending this event should they be required to quarantine which could result in a future lack of funding for development of the sport in the future.

Which teams qualified for the event?

The qualifiers for the Netball World Youth Cup 2021 in alphabetical order:

Australia
Barbados
Cook Islands
England
Fiji
Jamaica
Malaysia
Malawi
New Zealand
Northern Ireland
Samoa
Scotland
Singapore
South Africa
Sri Lanka
St Lucia, Tonga
Trinidad and Tobago
Uganda
Wales



INTERNATIONAL
NETBALL
FEDERATION

What is the Netball World Youth Cup?

The Netball World Youth Cup is the pinnacle of netball competition for emerging players and has been held every four years since 1988. 20 teams with players aged under 21 compete for the title.

Where was the Netball World Youth Cup due to take place?

INF awarded Fiji Netball with the rights to host Netball World Youth Cup in February 2017. The Netball World Youth Cup, 2021 was due to take place on the island of Viti Levu, Fiji in the capital city of Suva from the 10th – 19th June at the newly renovated Vodafone Arena. The event was postponed to December 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

When will the next Netball World Youth Cup take place?

The next Netball World Youth Cup is set to take place in 2025. A host for the event is yet to be announced by INF.

Where can I find out more information on the Netball World Youth Cup?

For more information on the Netball World Youth Cup and International Netball, visit the INF website [here](#).