

PLAYER PATHWAY PROGRAMME

SCREENING EVENT

2023 - 24 GUIDANCE

The Player Pathway Programme screening event guidance is designed to assist organisers in creating a conducive environment and effective processes for assessing and selecting athletes for England Netball Player Pathway programmes. While the guidance specifically focuses on County Player Development Programmes (PDP) Screening events, the principles can be applied to other player pathway programmes as well.

County PDP Under 15 and Under 13 Screening Event

What are we looking for?

Netball is an invasion game where athletes need to understand the principles of attack and defence. We are therefore looking for athletes who have had an exposure to a wealth of invasion games and can display Game Sense. With this in mind, we want to select athletes into the County Under 13 and Under 15 Player Development programmes who have:

- Game Sense.
- Effective ball handling and movement skills.
- An understanding of playing positions in at least 2 playing positions.

Key Guidelines

- These are only guidelines on how to run a County Player Development programmes Screening Event
- This is not designed to be exhaustive, but purely a guide, with some useful hints and tips to help to ensure the event runs smoothly.

The objective is for it to be a:

- a) positive experience for athletes attending whilst still
- b) identifying the athletes with the ability and/or potential to develop through the Player Pathway .

This means Athlete Identifiers need enough time to observe the athletes and that the athletes have enough time to demonstrate their skills across all three areas: Movement and Ball Skills, Game Sense Activities and Match Play.

Organisation

The organisation of the event is largely down to each individual County and it has to work within the constraints that each have, whether that be budget, facility, man-power or timings or other factors.

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County Decisions: The County Performance personnel meet mid season relating to the Screening event:

1. Who are the appointed personnel leading this event – Roles and Responsibilities.
2. What does the Screening Event look like? Discuss the feasibility and make decisions on the following areas and any others that are specific to your County.
 - a) Each age group should be run as separate events.
 - b) Ideally all the three above components (Movement / Ball Skills, Game Sense and Match Play) would be delivered in one or multiple days, however if this is not possible, they could be split over a series of evenings. i.e. 2 x 3hour sessions or 3 x 2hour sessions.
 - c) The number of athletes that attend the event should be dictated by the number of courts and good quality Athlete Identifiers available. Approximately 20 Athletes per court.
 - d) The appointed Lead Organiser should ensure that coaches are available to lead Warm Up and Cool Down and deliver all the games, practices and match play. The appointed coaches should be separate from the Athlete Identifiers at the Screening event.
 - e) Decide on the paperwork templates.
 - f) Decision on key issues that might arise, such as:
 - If ill or injured when will the athlete be given another opportunity to screen,
 - Does the county have to fulfil their full quota of athletes,
 - If 2 athletes are being compared and there is just one space where will the preference be,
 - Are spectators permitted,
 - Roles and responsibilities of invited personnel,
 - How are athletes not in the programme observed and identified at tournament / leagues etc,
 - Is feedback to be given post the event.

Feedback

1. At the PDP Under 15 and Under 13 Screening events, the organisers should not feel obliged to provide feedback to all those athletes who have been unsuccessful. The number of athletes is sometimes too large for volunteers to take this task on.
2. However, if it is agreed that feedback will be given then please make sure that the process is made clear to all athletes and parents at the beginning to prevent any issues.
3. Please ensure the feedback is written by a person who is understanding the criteria (Appendix 1) and the player pathway.

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Communication by appointed County Leads

1. Ensure the County web site has the up-to-date County Selection Policy, the Selection Criteria (Appendix 1), the EN Nominator Document and details of the Screening event(s) on it.
2. Ensure that the date/s of the event are released as soon as possible to ensure all schools and clubs are aware and therefore all nominated athletes are able to attend, bearing in mind school holidays.
3. Ensure when communicating to League Secretaries, County School Secretary, Clubs and Schools they directly receive the documents that are on the website relating to the screening or they are referred to where they can be found.
4. Invitation to all Screening personnel sent well in advance.
5. Set a date / time via zoom or face to face when all personnel appointed to meet to include the following areas:
 - a) Organise Athlete Identifiers according to courts, positions or both.
 - b) Ensure all selection paperwork is ready and handed out to all Athlete Identifiers at event.
 - c) Athlete Identifiers are aware of collecting and recording evidence on Ball Handling, Movement Skills, Invasion games and Match play.
 - d) Make Athlete Identifiers aware of the appropriate behaviours identifiers should display i.e. neutrality, confidentiality etc.
 - e) Arrange how the final selection procedure will be carried out.
 - f) Ensure when having discussions and asking for input regarding selection decisions, that the starting point is rotated around the table and that you do not always start in the same place.
 - g) Remind Athlete Identifiers of key criteria for selection (Appendix 1).
 - h) Ensure declaration of interests are made by Athlete Identifiers and ensure all non decision makers are kept away from the court.
 - i) Aware of the clear focus of the event i.e equal number across all court areas, emphasis on Game Sense or Skills.
 - j) Evidence from the Ball Handling , Movements Skills , Invasion Games and Match Play should be evidenced and all areas considered when selection decisions are made.
 - k) Explain that feedback (if being given) will be collated based on the Athlete Identifiers evidence and this will occur if athletes request it within "x" period post the vent time given in an appropriate timely manner to athletes, coaches and parents.
 - l) Remind appointed Coaches to hand planned session to Athlete Identifiers for reference - reminder that the coaches are not involved in screening players.

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- m) Remind appointed person (s) to communicate separately at the beginning of the day with families / club coaches / teachers watching the event on:
- The purpose of the screening event
 - The organisation of the day
 - How the athletes will receive the outcome of the screening event
 - Explain if feedback is going to be given, When and How?
 - Ensure they are aware that they cannot enter the court area.

Appointment of the Personnel for the Screening Event

1. A person within the County is designated to appoint the Organiser of the Event, Administrator, Chair of the Athlete Identifiers, the Athlete Identifiers, umpires (for the match play) the Coaches and Person(s) responsible for the communication with the players and families on the day of the event.
2. A person appointed to administrate the event ie organise groupings, develop / print paperwork, organise match play and amend match play on the day (if necessary).
3. Key contact required for athletes, coaches and teachers to answer questions and late minute withdrawals.

Considerations

- a) The Chair has just the one role and is responsible for the Athlete Identifiers and the screening process in accordance with the selection policy.
- b) Athlete Identifiers should be appointed based on the knowledge and understanding when identifying potential performance athletes and have completed an Athlete Identifiers ~~Course~~ Workshop.
- c) It is important to have an approximate ratio of 1 Athlete Identifier : 8 athletes.
- d) It is important to source the Athlete Identifiers from a range of clubs and other counties to ensure the decisions are as impartial as possible.
- e) Coaches should be appointed with the knowledge that they are aware of the criteria (Appendix 1) and can plan and deliver a Movement and Ball skill session and Game Sense Activities and demonstrates the ability to coach / ask questions of the athletes in a fair and balanced manner. They should be informed they are not involved in decision making and discussions of athletes.
- f) Personnel should be appointed to look after athletes when injured, answer queries of athletes and families and meet with spectators at the beginning of the day.

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Appendix 1

Selection Criteria (roles and responsibilities of players)

SELECTION CRITERIA

Whenever selecting Players for the County Player Pathway Programme, the Selection Panel shall apply in all Screening activities:

1. Evidence of Skill or Quality
2. Demonstrate Consistency
3. Demonstrate Under Pressure
4. Demonstrate in Multiple Context with Consistency

When selecting athletes for the England Netball Player Pathway programmes, at any level the Selection Panel shall apply the core playing competencies, personal qualities and other considerations listed below.

- Movement and Ball Skills Criteria
- Invasion Games: Game sense Criteria
- Match Play: Roles and Responsibilities Criteria

MOVEMENT & BALL SKILLS CRITERIA

Catch	Pass	Footwork	Movement Skills
One handed control	Release Point	Take Off	Change of Pace
Two handed control	One handed and two handed	Landing	Change of Direction
	From both sides	Jumping	Multi Directional
		Footwork Rule	

Take Off	<p><i>Demonstrate efficient technique from a stationary and moving start</i></p> <p>Straight movement forward and backward</p> <p>Diagonal movement to the left and right</p>
Footwork	<p>Demonstrate efficient running technique</p> <p>Able to sprint and change direction</p> <p>Side step</p> <p>Speed of footwork</p> <p>Recovery footwork</p>

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	Working a number of combinations Turning from a sprint movement
Jumping	Demonstrate efficient technique Able to jump off left or right foot Able to jump from both feet simultaneously Able to turn in the air
Landing	Demonstrate safe and balanced technique Able to land on left or right foot Able to land on both feet simultaneously Able to pivot in all directions with outside turn
Ball Handling	Catching 2 and 1 handed. Passing 2 handed and 1 handed and variety. With and without a defender

GAME SENSE CRITERIA

ATTACK	DEFENCE	BEHAVIOURS
Transition	Transition	Thinking
Width/Depth	Winning Ball	Patience
Options/Choices	Working Together	Never Give up
Ball Side	Delay / Deny Opportunity	Leadership
Maintaining Possession		

MATCH PLAY: ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES CRITERIA

In order to better align all player pathway programs, we have adjusted Match Play: Roles And Responsibilities Criteria. If you are conducting screening events and trials, please consider adding updated documents to your process and website, and please make necessary adjustments to the information that is available. The implementation of adjusted criteria will remain in line with Athlete Identifiers Workshop guidelines.

Table on the next page of this document highlights all the adjusted and additional criteria for the 2023-24 season.

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Match Play Roles and Responsibilities Criteria - The ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES of the playing positions for County Under 15 and Under 13 Player Development programme

	Movement and Ball Handling	Effectiveness in Position	Transition	
GS	Change direction & change of pace. Lands balanced, turns to goal but may be inconsistent in delivering correct pass accurately. Sound catching technique. May have physical capacity but limited movement skills at present.	Confident from a range of distances. Aiming for 80% & greater volume of shots. Is generally available when CC hit the circle edge. Strong rebound position and take in the air.	Dictates to opponent to limit her availability through the court. Shows signs of working with others in a pair or unit.	
GA	Change direction & change of pace. Lands balanced, turns to goal but may be inconsistent in delivering correct pass accurately. Sound catching technique. May have physical capacity but limited movement skills at present.	Confident from a range of distances. Aiming for 80%. Is generally available when CC hit the circle edge. Is generally available 1st phase on Centre Pass when required. Strong rebound position and take in the air.	Dictates to opponent to limit her availability through the court and may take intercepts. Shows signs of working with others in a pair or unit.	
WA	Change direction & change of pace. Lands balanced, turns to goal but may be inconsistent in delivering correct pass accurately. Sound catching technique. May have physical capacity but limited movement skills at present.	Is generally available 1st phase on Centre Pass when required. Accurate feed and can keep possession. Generally available on circle edge	Dictates to opponent to limit her availability through the court and may take intercepts. Shows signs of working with others in a pair or unit.	
C	Change direction & change of pace. Lands balanced, turns to goal but may be inconsistent in delivering correct pass accurately. Sound catching technique. May have physical capacity but limited movement skills at present.	Deliver Centre pass. Links and connects both attack defence. Accurate feed and can keep possession. Generally available on circle edge.	Shows signs of working effectively with the WD for effective 2 on 1 at the centre pass. Shows signs of working with others in a pair or unit.	
WD	Change direction & change of pace. Lands balanced, turns to goal but may be inconsistent in delivering correct pass accurately. Sound catching technique. May have physical capacity but limited movement skills at present.	Puts pressure on receipt of WA on 1st phase of Centre pass –shows signs of working with WD 2on1. Dictates WA movement in the attacking third and puts pressure on feeds. Takes interceptions off opponent.	Transitions from defence to attack providing option for the initial turnover. Sets up in position to provide an option on a back line pass Shows signs of offering a reset option to maintain possession.	
GD	Change direction & change of pace. Lands balanced, turns to goal but may be inconsistent in delivering correct pass accurately. Sound catching technique. May have physical capacity but limited movement skills at present.	Puts pressure on receipt of GA on 1st phase of Centre pass. Limits shot volume - Strong rebound position Takes interceptions off opponent. Challenges for rebounds Shows signs of switching with GK	Transitions from defence to attack providing option for the initial turnover. Sets up in position to provide an option on a back line pass Shows signs of offering a reset option to maintain possession.	
GK	Change direction & change of pace. Lands balanced, turns to goal but may be inconsistent in delivering correct pass accurately. Sound catching technique. May have physical capacity but limited movement skills at present.	Dictates & restricts GS movement. Limits shot volume –variety of marking the shot. Takes interceptions off opponent. Challenges for rebounds. Shows signs of switching with GD	Transitions from defence to attack providing options including on the transverse line. Delivery of the back line pass with success.	

Positional Criteria – Each athlete assessed by giving 0-4 stars.

1. Evidence of skill or quality
2. Consistent demonstration
3. Consistent demonstration under pressure
4. Demonstration in multiple contents with consistency