

# NETBALL FRANCE

## national squad expectations - u21s

Athletes in the Netball France National Squad are expected to uphold high standards of behaviour and respect, both on and off the court. They will abide by Netball France's Codes of Conduct at all times, in addition to any other codes or policies they may be subject to.

### ELIGIBILITY

In line with World Netball Player Eligibility for International Events, to trial and participate in the National Squad, Athletes must satisfy at least one of the following requirements (and will be required to provide Evidence of Eligibility to Netball France and World Netball):

1. be born in France or have at least one parent or grandparent born in France; OR
2. be a citizen and/or a national of France in accordance with the laws of France; OR
3. be legally resident in France for a period of two years immediately preceding any international competition or match the Athlete may participate in. In this case, the athlete must be able to demonstrate through the provision of satisfactory Evidence of Eligibility that they have had their permanent home in France for two years and they have a close, credible, and established link with France.
  - a. If you have a carte de séjour pluriannuelle and can prove you have been in the country for two years, it is likely you will be eligible.
  - b. If you have a carte de séjour temporaire or other residency card/visa but have been in the country for two years, you will need to provide evidence that your life is in France (some examples may include rental contracts, utility bills, education, employee contracts, payslips, tax returns, evidence of purchase of property, carte vitale, etc.) and Netball France will need to submit an application to the World Netball Exceptional Circumstances Eligibility Committee on your behalf.
  - c. Short absences from France are unlikely to change the place/location of the player's primary and permanent home and are, therefore, unlikely to interrupt a player's period of Residence. By way of a guideline however, it is likely that, save where the World Netball Exceptional Circumstances Eligibility Committee determines that exceptional circumstances exist so as to justify a departure from this guideline, as a minimum requirement, on aggregate at least 10 months actual physical presence in France in each of the two consecutive years preceding the Submission Date of the International Event will be required to demonstrate that France is the place where the player has their primary and permanent home.

Please note that Netball France must abide by World Netball regulations regarding player eligibility. Whilst we will do our best to work with individual athletes to ensure they are considered eligible, World Netball makes the final decisions regarding an Athlete's eligibility to compete for a country.

Athletes who have previously competed in international netball for another country are eligible to compete for France, however they may only compete for one nation in a calendar year. Therefore Athletes currently competing for other nations, but who meet the eligibility criteria to compete for France, are eligible to trial and participate in 22/23 National Squad, as the squad will not be participating in international competition until 2023.



Netball France reserves the right to consider exceptional Athletes who will become eligible in a forthcoming season, provided there is a commitment to the Squad in the long term. In such cases, the Athlete will be able to train but will be unable to represent France in competition (international events) until they meet the eligibility criteria.

Please note that Athletes will be required to provide evidence of eligibility to Netball France in order to confirm their place on the squad, if they are selected.

## **TRAINING AND COMPETITION**

The National Squad Program will consist of a combination of at home and in person training. Athletes are expected to complete all parts of the program, and their progress will be supported and monitored by the coaching staff.

Athletes are expected to attend all in person commitments, including training and competition. The U21s squad is expected to have an in-person training camp approximately every 3 months, with dates to be announced shortly. Locations for training camps are TBD, and athletes are responsible for their individual travel to/from all training camps. Netball France will work with athletes and clubs in the locations of training camps in an effort to acquire hosting for all travelling athletes. Attending all training camps is obligatory. Failure to attend a session may result in an athlete being suspended or dropped from the squad.

The current competition date for the U21s squad is the Europe Netball U21s Challenge, 6-9 October 2023 in England.

## **SKILLS AND FITNESS**

A high standard of skills and fitness is required to compete at international level. Athletes will be provided with at home programs on topics such as ball work, shooting, and strength & conditioning. Completing these programs is mandatory, and athletes will be supported and monitored by Netball France National Squad Coach(es).

## **INJURY AND ILLNESS**

Athletes must notify their Team Manager and Coach as soon as they become injured or ill during an event or competition, or at any time the injury or illness will interrupt their training. Athletes are required to still attend in person training camps if injured. If they are ill, they should not attend.

## **SELECTION TO COMPETITION**

No Athlete on the National Squad is guaranteed selection to any competition or match play event.

## **ANTI-DOPING**

Athletes must remain fully compliant with all applicable anti-doping rules (WADA, Netball France, Europe Netball, World Netball, and the organiser of any event in which the Athlete participates). It is the Athlete's personal responsibility, which they cannot delegate to anyone else, to ensure such compliance.

Athletes must ensure that any medication or substance taken in any form does not contain any substance prohibited for use by the Anti-Doping Rules (<https://www.wada-ama.org/en>).

Athletes must ensure that they advise and keep Netball France (through their Team Manager) advised of all medication, whether prescribed or not, that they are taking.



## MEDIA AND PHOTOGRAPHY

All participants of the National Squad Program consent to their performance being filmed or recorded by or on behalf of Netball France when they are training, competing, or otherwise carrying out any activity as part of the National Squad. Such films and recordings may be used by Netball France for training, coaching, advertising, and/or commercial purposes.

The Athlete agrees to use all social media in a responsible manner and not to publish or disseminate anything that might bring Netball France into disrepute.

## TERMINATION

Continued participation in the National Squad is subject to satisfactory performance by the Athlete and conformance with programmes, reporting requirements, policies, procedures, and reasonable requests of Netball France.

Netball France reserves the right to suspend or de-select an Athlete from the National Squad Program for breaking the Codes of Conduct or any other policy an Athlete may come under, for unsatisfactory performance, for failing to attend National Squad commitments, or for any other reason that the Netball France Board deems fit. No refund will be given if an Athlete is suspended or de-selected from the squad.

## FINANCIAL COMMITMENT

Netball France is a non-profit organisation and currently receives no government funding or sponsorship. Costs are projected and may change prior to or throughout the season; any additional associated costs will be discussed with the squad by team management.

Athletes must make prompt payments to Netball France to meet financial commitments related to the National Squad Program, as follows:

- 🏐 An annual National Squad Program fee; and
- 🏐 Competition entry fees and/or tour fees (if selected into a representative team); and
- 🏐 Trial fee

Athletes are also responsible for all travel to/from training camps, and any other costs that may be associated with participating in the program.

It is estimated the annual National Squad Program fee for the U21s squad will be **€225** including training camps, your training kit (shorts and top), and match kit for athletes selected for competition. Payment plans will be available.

No refunds will be given if an Athlete is suspended or de-selected.

With regards to competition entry and tour fees, the total fee will be dependent on the length of competition, location, etc. By agreeing to be part of the National Squad Program, Athletes agree to pay these fees if selected.

If an Athlete is in financial difficulty or the cost of the program is a barrier to their participation, please do not prevent yourself from trialling – contact Netball France at [contact@netballfrance.com](mailto:contact@netballfrance.com) to discuss options.

