



# Bedfordshire County Netball

## County Player Development Programme Invitational Tournament 2023

For the third year Bedfordshire hosted the Invitational Tournament with 32 County Player Development Programme Squads (Under 13 and Under 15 age groups) from all over the country taking part. This event is a super opportunity for the Squads to compete and put into practice their hard work over the 2022/2023 season.

This year the event was held on 29 April 2023 at Bedford Academy, Bedford. The weather was very kind to us with plenty of sunshine throughout the day.

Bedfordshire County has some great volunteers and many thanks must go to the working group: Gloria Keech, Juliet Jones, Julie Bassett, Kay Smith, Jo Randell and Maggie Jackson for all their hard work in ensuring that all areas of the tournament were in place. Also special thanks to our additional tremendous Bedfordshire Volunteers who supported the event on the day who came from the Bedford, Heritage, and Luton Leagues.

Also, the Young Leaders trained by Nicky Knight from Maulden Netball Club.



24 umpires were provided by Bedfordshire to officiate at the event with special thanks to Bedfordshire Officiating Mentors Bern Palmer, Chris West and Louise Harwood for mentoring them during the day. An excellent opportunity for Umpires to experience an inter-county event.



Bedfordshire County Netball would like also to thank Bedford Academy in Bedford for allowing us to use their wonderful facilities to enable us to host this event and the School's staff for their assistance on the day. <https://www.bedfordacademy.co.uk/>

Bedfordshire has a close relationship with Saracens Mavericks, the Super League club and it was a delight to welcome Lisa Mather, a mid- courter from their squad who came for the afternoon and was so enthusiastic and empathetic when she chatted to and answered many of the questions from the squads – she was such a hit with the players and presented the medals at the end of the day.



The matches were competed in good spirit and our thanks go to all the coaches and families from all the counties who supported the event.

The finishing placings were as follows: congratulations to everyone, particularly the Winners and Runners Up!

	<b>Under 13</b>	<b>Under 15</b>
<b>1</b>	Manchester	Sussex
<b>2</b>	Hertfordshire	Manchester
<b>3</b>	Surrey	Berkshire
<b>4</b>	Cheshire	Surrey
<b>5</b>	Berkshire	Norfolk
<b>6</b>	East Essex	East Essex
<b>7</b>	Cambridgeshire	Kent & Hertfordshire
<b>8</b>	North Bucks	x
<b>9</b>	Kent & Oxfordshire	Cheshire
<b>10</b>	x	Birmingham
<b>11</b>	Birmingham	North Bucks
<b>12</b>	Bedfordshire Bedford	Oxfordshire
<b>13</b>	Norfolk	Cambridgeshire
<b>14</b>	Suffolk	Bedfordshire Bedford
<b>15</b>	Bedfordshire Luton	Suffolk
<b>16</b>	Essex Thurrock	Essex Thurrock

A gallery of some images from the day will be available shortly.