

## PRESS RELEASE – 5 JULY 2018

### **“Schools Sports welcomes Schools Netball**

*Schools Netball to broadcast on DStv Now free app*

In 2018 School Sports will add a new dimension to the tournament, as the top schools at Nationals will advance to a final Top 8 Botho and Top 4 Ubuntu competition, where South Africa’s best netball schools will be crowned.

Schools Sports has partnered with Schools Netball SA to promote the national u/19 championship like never before. Through Schools Sports’ relationship with key broadcasting partners and match-day experience, School Sports will be working with SASN to bring a bigger and better national u/19 schools tournament. Schools across South Africa will participate in the national tournament each year on a district, through provisional and finally nationals. After pool games, teams will proceed to the next level of competition.

Staying with the trend of innovation, Schools Netball will be broadcast live on a new free channel on DSTV NOW which will be accessible to anyone who downloads the DSTV NOW app.

Schools Netball code manager Jana Arlow believes Schools Netball will be another pearl in the crown of Schools Sports and will aid in producing the next crop of local netball excellence.

“Schools Netball is a thrilling addition to the Schools Sports’ brand that will see the best of South Africa’s netball talent compete at the highest level.

“There is a longstanding tradition of South African netball brilliance and this competition will prepare these athletes for Varsity Netball, club netball and beyond.”

Arlow thanked the Schools Sports’ sponsors for their continued appreciated involvement, as well as, DSTV for aligning their new brainchild with the new school’s tournament.

“A huge amount of gratitude goes to our sponsors Twizza and KeyHealth, without their support this platform of South African netball couldn’t exist. We are also massively excited to be part of DStv Now’s new innovation.”

The tournaments will run from 20-22 July (Nationals) and 9-12 August 2018 (Top 8 and Top 4). This year the Nationals will end with the Quarter Finals, with the Top 8 teams from nationals advancing to the new Top 8 tournament, which will take place between 9 – 12 August. The Top 8 and Top 4 Super Weekend in August will again follow a round robin format, with semi-finals and finals on the same weekend.

#### **For more about the School Netball:**

**Facebook:** facebook.com/SchoolSportsSA

**Twitter:** @SchoolSports\_SA

**Instagram:** @SchoolSports\_SA

**Official hashtag:** #SchoolsNetball