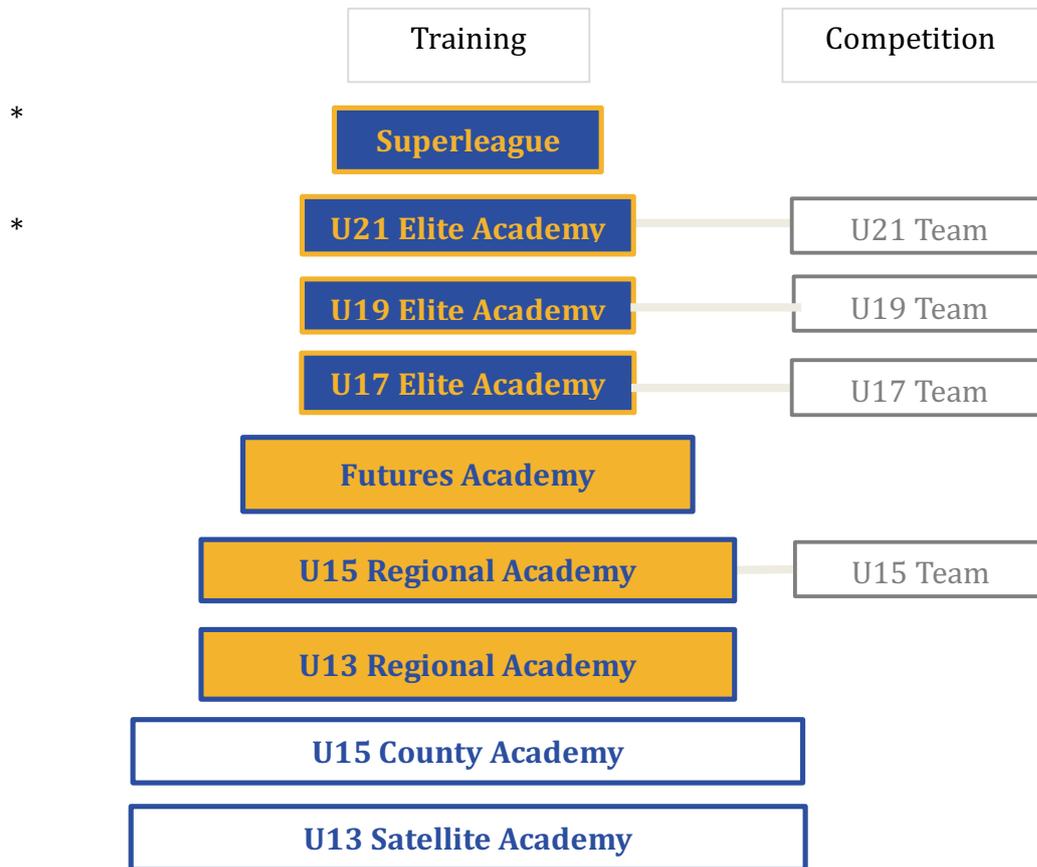




April 2019

## Leeds Rhinos Netball Pathway 2019-2020 Season



\*Note our recent application to England Netball to join the Superleague was successful for entry in the 2021 season. At that stage, we will form a Superleague and U21 team; for the 2020 season, all other categories in our Academy will remain as in the diagram.

### Changes:

The U19 and U17 Elite squads will remain as per the 2019 season. Our current U19 and U17 Academies will merge to become our new Futures Academy for 16-19 year olds.

Leeds Rhinos U15 and U13 Academies will continue with the revised name of 'Rhinos Regional Academy' and will be delivered in Leeds and Barnsley. The aim is to provide a better geographical spread, reduce travel time for young athletes and increase accessibility. The venues, training days and times will be confirmed.



### Pathway Explained:

Whilst each and every athlete journey is unique and rightly so, there is a structure and framework for athlete development, which can be seen in the diagram and descriptions below.

The Satellite Academy is the first step on the England Pathway for U13s. They are delivered by County Netball Associations on behalf of England Netball, delivering about 15 sessions per year. Players in this age group should also be playing school sport and club/hub netball.

The County Academy is the next step on the England Pathway for U15s. They are also delivered by County Netball Associations on behalf of England Netball, delivering approximately 30 sessions per year. Players in this age group should also be playing school sport and club/hub netball.

The U13 Satellite and U15 County Academies are delivered by North Yorkshire, West Yorkshire, South Yorkshire, and Humberside counties to provide the support and skills set needed for players to progress to the next level of the pathway, the Rhinos Regional Academy delivered by Leeds Rhinos Netball.

The U13 and U15 Rhinos Regional Academies provide an advanced training programme for players in the Satellite and County Academies who have potential to progress through the performance pathway. The Rhinos Regional Academies offer an additional 30 sessions per year with some access to sport science support and competition opportunities. The training runs in parallel to County and Satellite Academy training and where possible players should attend both (equating to approximately 45-60 sessions per year). An U15 team will be selected from the academies to compete in the UK school games/England Netball competition each summer. Players at this stage of the pathway should also be playing competitive club and school netball.

The Futures Academy is for 16-19 year olds and offers 48 weeks of netball training and strength and conditioning per year. The Academy aims to bridge the gap for players who are too old for County academy and are not yet ready for Elite Academies. The emphasis will be on training with informal competition opportunities throughout the year, with some sports science support. Players in this age group should also be playing school or college netball and be playing competitive club netball.

The U17 and U19 Elite Academies offer 5 hours of training per week for 48 weeks of the year, consisting of strength and conditioning and netball training, and access to sports science support. The U19 and U17 teams will be selected from these Academies to compete for Leeds Rhinos Netball in the NPL league and tournament organised by England Netball. Players at this age and stage of the pathway should also be playing in regional and/or national level competitions with their club and playing school/college netball. Some athletes may also be in the Roses National Academy.



England Netball delivers the Roses National Academy via centralised weekend camps, bringing together the ‘best’ U17 and U19 players in England for extra coaching, training and competition opportunities. The opportunity to be selected for England U17 and U19 teams comes from playing in Rhinos Elite Academy squads and any other targeted players within the system who are performing in the NPL league.

If the Superleague application is successful, Leeds Rhinos Netball will deliver the U21 Elite Academy and Superleague in partnership with Universities to provide a “full time” training and competition environment, which prepares athletes for delivering success at the elite level.

Age categories:

- U19 Elite Academy – Must be 18 or younger as of midnight 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019
- U17 Elite Academy – Must be 16 or younger as of midnight 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019
- Futures Academy – Must be a minimum of 15 years old as of 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019 and 18 or younger as of midnight 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019
- U15 Regional Academy – School years 9 & 10 from 1<sup>st</sup> Sept 2019
- U13 Regional Academy – School years 7 & 8 from 1<sup>st</sup> Sept 2019
- U15 County Academy – School years 9 & 10 from 1<sup>st</sup> Sept 2019
- U13 Satellite Academy – School years 7 & 8 from 1<sup>st</sup> Sept 2019

[Please note the different approach to age qualification at different levels of the pathway, as it shifts from a school year to a calendar year, which is to do with England Netball competition regulations]

Selection:

The table below outlines how a player can be selected for each level of the pathway.

	Academy training	Competition squad
U13 Satellite	Selection will come through open trials organised by the county. Players may be invited from a Leeds Rhinos hub to attend a screening session.	NA
U15 County	Selection will come through open trials organised by the county. Players may be invited from a Leeds Rhinos hub to attend a screening session.	NA
U13 Regional	2019: Players will be nominated through the Satellite Academy or Leeds Rhinos hub to attend a trial organised by Leeds Rhinos Netball. All players from last years U13 Academy will be automatically nominated, provided they meet the relevant age and selection criteria detailed alongside the selection policy	Players will be nominated by their Regional Academy Head Coach to attend a screening session



	2020: Players will be nominated through the Satellite Academy only	
U15 Regional	2019: Players will be nominated through the County Academy or Leeds Rhinos hub to attend a trial organised by Leeds Rhinos Netball. All players from last years U15 Academy will be automatically nominated, provided they meet the relevant age and selection criteria detailed alongside the selection policy 2020: Players will be nominated through the County Academy only	Players will be nominated by their Regional Academy Head Coach to attend a screening session
Futures Academy	Selection will come through open trials organised by Leeds Rhinos Netball, provided they meet the relevant age and selection criteria detailed alongside the selection policy	Selection will come through the training environment
U17 Elite Academy	Selection will come through open trials organised by Leeds Rhinos Netball, provided they meet the relevant age and selection criteria detailed alongside the selection policy	Selection will come through the training environment
U19 Elite Academy	Selection will come through open trials organised by Leeds Rhinos Netball, provided they meet the relevant age and selection criteria detailed alongside the selection policy	Selection will come through the training environment
U21 Elite Academy	Selection will come through open trials organised by Leeds Rhinos Netball, provided they meet the relevant age and selection criteria detailed alongside the selection policy	Selection will come through the training environment
Superleague	Recruitment by the Head Coach and Director of Netball for Leeds Rhinos Netball.	Selection will come through the training environment

Open trials mean that anyone can apply to attend the trial via an online registration process. To trial for a Rhinos Regional Academy, players will need to be invited or nominated by their respective coach (eg Rhinos or County coach).

All selections will be done in accordance with the selection policy and selection criteria, which will be made available on the website at time of the trial window opening.

#### Satellite and County Academy Trials



We include information that we know on County trials, but additional details can be found on their respective websites or by contacting each County Performance Manager/Coordinator below.

North Yorkshire: U13s – 6<sup>th</sup> July & U15s – 7<sup>th</sup> July  
Debbie Wright  
performanceNY@gmail.com

West Yorkshire: U13s – 6<sup>th</sup> July & U15s – 7<sup>th</sup> July  
Yvonne Williams  
performancemanagement@wynetball.co.uk

South Yorkshire: TBC  
southyorksacademy@gmail.com

Humberside: TBC  
Helen Smith  
Helen@lemoncherry.co.uk

#### Rhinos Regional Academy U13/U15 Trials

REGISTRATION – All current players will receive a form by email to complete and return.

U15 Regional Academy:  
8<sup>th</sup> June, 11am-4pm  
Hayfield School, Doncaster

U13 Regional Academy:  
9<sup>th</sup> June, 11am-4pm  
Hayfield School, Doncaster

Any players who are successful at these trials will not be required to attend Satellite/County Academy trials but will automatically be offered a place in the relevant Academy.

Any players who are not successful in these Rhinos Regional Academy trials should attend their relevant Satellite/County Academy trials listed above. Please note that you must also register to attend these trials, via information on the relevant county netball association website/email.

#### U17 & U19 Rhinos Elite Academy Trials

7<sup>th</sup> September, 11am-4pm  
York University

Any player who is unsuccessful will be invited to trial for the Futures Academy.



## Futures Academy

8<sup>th</sup> September, 11am-4pm  
York University

Any players who have been unsuccessful in gaining a place in the Futures Academy and who are too old for County Academy will be signposted to our Leeds Rhinos Hubs where additional training can be accessed. Hubs are in Leeds, York and Barnsley and information will be distributed after the trial date.

Should you need more clarity about which trials to attend, please speak to the relevant Head Coach (e.g. County/Rhinos) in the first instance.

**Emily Perry**  
**Lead Pathway Coach**  
**Leeds Rhinos Netball**