**SURREY STORM PLAYER PERFORMANCE PATHWAY AND TRIALS - PLAYER/PARENT FAQ**

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**Surrey Storm Player Performance Pathway - Frequently Asked Questions**

**Is there a cost to attend trials?**

Each athlete needs to pay a one off £15 fee (excl. an Eventbrite fee will be added at checkout) which then covers all phases of the trial.

**I was in an U19 NPL squad last season and I am still eligible for that age group, what is the appropriate trial for me in the new structure?**

In line with the updated pathway, you should apply for the Surrey Storm U19 Academy and Surrey Storm Player Development Academy. If successful, for the U19 Academy you would be part of the squad which would play in the England Netball Age Group competition league, previously known as the NPL competition.

**Is this ASPIRE programme part of the Surrey Storm and England Netball Pathway?**

NO. ASPIRE is a programme designed to give athletes who ASPIRE to represent Surrey Storm and/or play netball at the highest level the opportunity to access Surrey Storm coaches and develop the skills and game understanding to the level required and to be successful at the next trial opportunity.

**Can I move from the ASPIRE programme to the Player Development Academy or one of the Age group academies during a season?**

No. England Netball regulations stipulate movement within a season can only happen within the Player Performance Pathway, as ASPIRE sits outside this structure movement is not possible, unless in exceptional circumstances where an Academy is not at capacity and has a space available and England Netball rules allow. In these circumstances the Surrey Storm Pathway Lead will manage this process.

**Can I trial at any county/franchise?**

Athletes who are still eligible for Under-15 programmes may trial for and attend any County Player Development Programme in any county, to provide choice for parents and athletes.

Athletes who are no longer eligible for Under-15 programmes due to their age, can trial for and attend any VNSL Teams’ Player Pathway Programme.

**Who is eligible to be selected to play for Surrey Storm U15 School Games team?**

Athletes can only be selected who are from the assigned County Academy programmes or from the Surrey Storm Player Performance Pathway which are the U17, U19 or Development Academies.

**I missed the registration deadline for trials; can I still apply?**

Unfortunately, we are unable to accept late applications, unless there are exceptional circumstances. You can contact the Pathway Lead to discuss your circumstances, and their decision will be final.

**Will trials be skills and drills or match play?**

Surrey Storm representative team selections will mostly involve via match play, and during match play your individual skills, game understanding and fitness will also be assessed.

**I am eligible for the U17s trials; however, I play regional U19s for my club, what trials should I apply for?**

All players should apply to trial for the age group in which they are eligible for by unless they represented Surrey Storm last season and have been invited by the Pathway Lead or nominated coaches to trial in the age group above.  The selection panel will consider players for all levels of the Surrey Storm Pathway they are eligible for.

**What should I wear and bring with me to trials?**

Please follow the instructions in your invitation email/letter for what to wear, as this may differ for different age groups and ensure you bring plenty to drink, energy boosting snack and any individual netball equipment you usually wear, such as strapping or supports.

**Will I play mostly in my 1st choice position?**

Players are asked, if possible, to provide two choices of position, and will at a minimum play in both. Players may on occasion be asked to play in a different position, this could be for several reasons, we encourage you to see it as a positive opportunity and give it your best go, the selectors will know you are out of position.

**Where are the trials and what time do, they start and finish?**

Venues and arrival and finish times will vary depending on the event, please check your invitation email/letter carefully at each stage.

**Will I receive feedback and how will it be given?**

Depending on the stage of the trials process, feedback is not possible for all players, however clear information is available in the Selection Criteria so players can review and reflect on their own performance at trials. For later stages of trials feedback will be provided in line with the Surrey Storm Pathway Selection policy and the advertised process.

**When will I know the outcome of my trial?**

Emails will be sent within 76 hours of the trials taking place. Please note there may be a delay where trials fall just before a Bank Holiday.

**If I am unsuccessful for a place on the Surrey Storm Performance Pathway and representative teams, are there any other options for me?**

Outside of the England Netball recognised performance pathway, Surrey Storm is introducing a new programme called the ASPIRE programme to be based at Andover, HSDC, Ranelagh and St Theresa’s.

**If I was a part of the NPL programme/U17 Academy last year, do I need to trial again?**

If you were in academies (including the futures programme) you will need to trial from the entry point of your year group. However, if you played in an NPL age group, you would enter trials at round 2.