



Annual Report 2022
Year Vision 2023

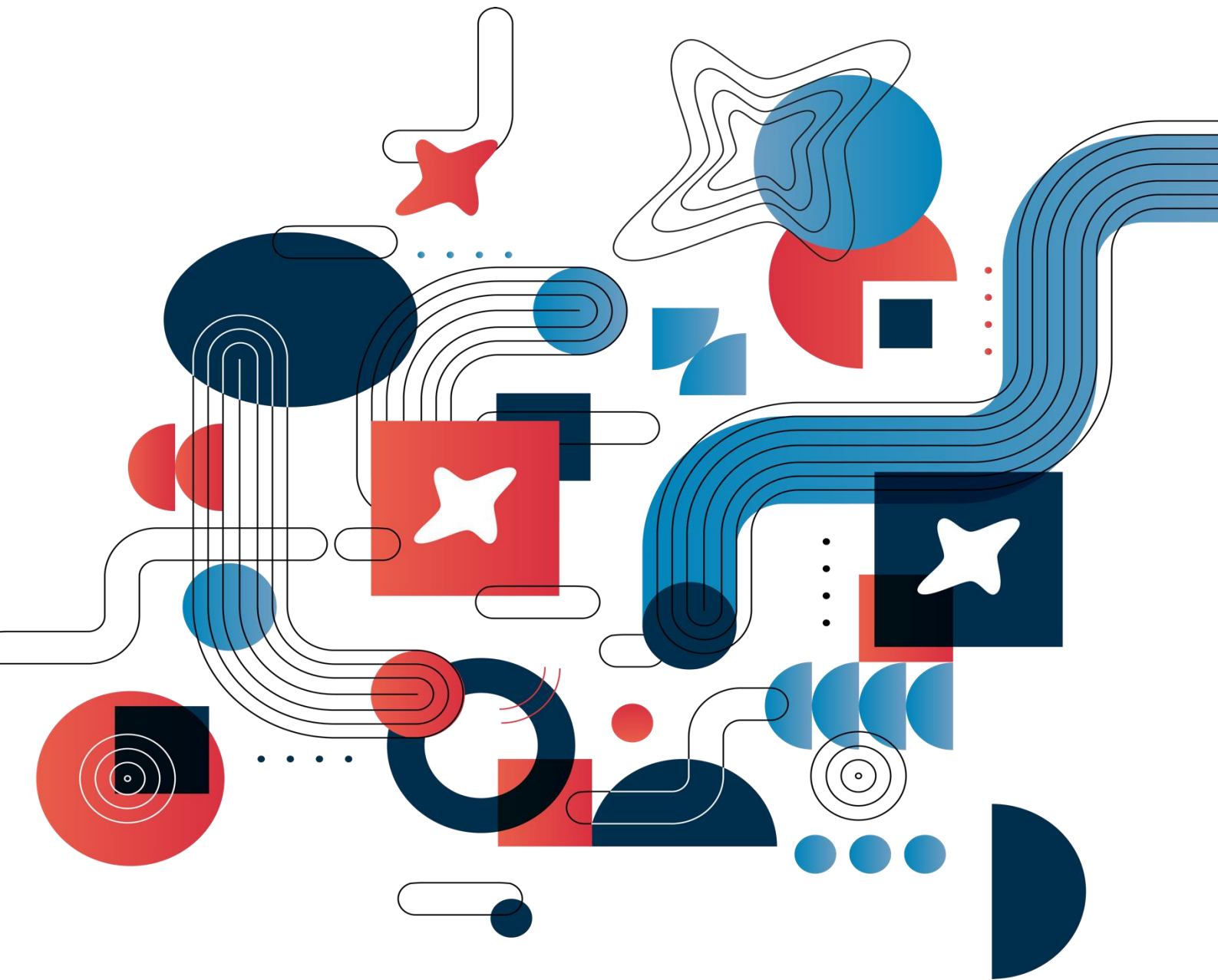


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Executive Summary

This document has been prepared to provide an overview of the progress of British Roundnet in 2022 towards its five-year vision and to outline the goals for British Roundnet in 2023.

The document also provides an outline as to the vision of British Roundnet, in line with its restructure and re-organisation that took place at the end of 2022. The vision outlines our purpose, our main goals, our vision for the sport and how we will provide an inclusive environment for the sport to grow.

2022 has been a very successful year for the organisation, going through a full re-brand, creating an international squad programme from scratch and securing our first set of sponsors amounting £5,000.

Improvements need to be made in our offering for Scotland and a renewed focus made upon schools and coaching programmes. Further support is needed within the marketing and tournament departments and we will seek to hire new assistant staff through Q1 of 2023.

This is the third edition of this document and is updated annually, prepared for the Annual General Meeting to serve as a document that takes stock of the previous year's organisational activity.

Abbreviations and Terms

Term	Meaning
BR	British Roundnet
NGB	National Governing Body
IRF	International Roundnet Federation

1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the document

- 1.1.1 The purpose of this document is to outline on an annual basis the progress of British Roundnet (BR) as the National Governing Body for the sport of roundnet in Britain, tracked against its five-year vision document published in January 2021.
- 1.1.2 This document will be made public each year prior to the annual general meeting so that the members can understand what BR has achieved in the last year, what's going to happen in the future, and ultimately where our members investment (through annual membership and events) is headed.
- 1.1.3 This document also includes an initial section relating to the BR purpose, mission and vision which will generally remain unchanged year on year dependent on when the five-year vision document is next updated (due in 2025/26).

2. Our Purpose

2.1 What is British Roundnet?

- 2.1.1 British Roundnet is the National Governing Body (NGB) for the sport of roundnet in Great Britain. With this distinction comes the responsibility of hosting national and regional events, attending international tournaments and growing the sport of roundnet at every level – both recreational and competitive.
- 2.1.2 Whilst it is important that we foster the elite level of our sport, as an organisation we recognise the importance of promoting equality – in all its forms – within the Roundnet community. It is not only our responsibility but our duty to ensure that inclusivity is at the heart of our organisation and is translated into how we organise and run Roundnet on a national level.
- 2.1.3 British Roundnet is on the path to setting up a charity in 2023 alongside its current company. The benefits of this are outlined later in this document but this means major organisational changes have occurred in the management structure of the origination to help us better serve our purpose as a national governing body.

3. Our Mission

3.1 Mission Statement

- 3.1.1 British Roundnet wants to pursue the growth of the sport within all home nations in Great Britain, whilst maintaining a high level of international and national competitiveness helping all to access and play Roundnet.
- 3.1.2 The mission statement compiles a variety of goals that we have set out in the following section.

4. Our Vision

4.1 To grow the sport of Roundnet in Great Britain

- 4.1.1 It is our top priority to pass the pre application assessment of the Sports Council's Sport Recognition Policy in the year of 2023. This was targeted in 2022, but after discussion it was decided that a stronger submission could be made in 2023 after the conclusion of the 2022 world championships. This process is particularly rigorous and will take an active effort from the entire board over a number of years to achieve the goal of full recognition. Our vision outlines some of the ways BR will pursue this goal as well as annual documents that will chart our course towards recognition.
- 4.1.2 There is a gap in British sporting culture for niche sports (as shown by Ultimate Frisbee) to grow and thrive - especially at university level. People want to keep active and want a sport they can take with them anywhere.
- 4.1.3 As part of growing the sport, creating and hosting events is at the centre of expansion – looking to create new exciting series / events should always be one of the primary focal points of the BR.
- 4.1.4 Growing the sport requires expansion into the grassroots – schools, universities etc. This is explained further in section 4.2.
- 4.1.5 BR also have official country representatives for England, Scotland and Wales who are a key link between the players of each country and the BR Executive Management Team. This enables an important feedback loop that can help BR listen to and provide for the needs of specific players in specific areas of Great Britain.

4.2 Inspire Grassroots Roundnet

- 4.2.1 New sports require gentle introduction to potential players as the likelihood of picking up Roundnet organically is quite low. Therefore, BR need to be the catalyst for new players to join the sport.
- 4.2.2 This makes schools and universities a primary focus for BR, as these environments are the best places to introduce new sports to excited young players. With the funding of tournament and membership revenue¹, BR will be able to provide schools and universities with training sessions and new equipment to help get the sport started in their area.
- 4.2.3 On a club level, BR also wants to recognise groups of players who regularly play the sport of Roundnet. Clubs are a massive part of local sport and British Roundnet wants to foster these environments too.
- 4.2.4 Our board comprises two grassroots development leaders who will be overseeing the extension and development of Roundnet as a sport at these key levels.

4.3 Grow and improve international ties

- 4.3.1 Roundnet is an international sport which was demonstrated at the inaugural Roundnet World Championships held in September of 2022. BR are committed to providing a voice for Great Britain on the international stage, ensuring the sustainable development and management of the sport on a global scale through discussions and conversations with international partner NGBs.
- 4.3.2 Being able to link with and share ideas with other NGBs around the world helps to develop the sport of Roundnet in Great Britain much faster than it otherwise would have done without BR. From these conversations, BR can learn about best practices, compete on the international stage and join important worldwide discussions on the development of the sport of Roundnet.

¹ A more detailed explanation of how BR manages its finances can be found in the company structure and information document.

4.4 Provide support for and develop our elite players

4.4.1 BR wants to provide a platform for the highest-level players in the country to compete. Whether this be on a national or international level, BR will support and develop talent through dedicated tournaments, squad selection days and development days.

4.4.2 This will enable players of all levels to have aspirations to join elite players at competitions and provide a progression path for aspiring players of the sport. This elite level will develop much further once more people are playing Roundnet and will require more resources in the future after review.

4.5 Foster fun, drive competition

4.5.1 Ultimately, due to being so easy to pick up, Roundnet is one of the most fun and exciting sports to play. It's new, easy to learn and inclusive. Therefore, BR want to promote this aspect as much as possible to appeal to players of all abilities to help grow the sport.

4.5.2 Eventually, many players of sport want to be able to test their abilities and providing for this key aspect of competition is important to BR not only for player development but also for the development of the sport as a whole. Competitions allow for large promotional campaigns and often entice more people into trying out the sport.

4.6 Support and Champion GB charities

4.6.1 BR is run by volunteers and is seeking to develop a charity arm of the organisation. Therefore, British Roundnet recognises the importance of charity work across Great Britain. It is important for us to help and support where possible charities that would benefit from the work that British Roundnet does. Whether that be financially, through running free Roundnet training sessions or through the donation of equipment; British Roundnet is committed sharing its success and the sport as a whole to any community.

4.7 To Develop the Sport Collectively with the International Roundnet Federation, European Roundnet Association and other International NGBs.

4.7.1 BR is a fully recognised member of the International Roundnet Federation (IRF). BR is committed to the healthy development and fair administration of the sport of Roundnet on a national and international level. BR recognises that the sport of Roundnet is developing on an annual basis with regards to rules, equipment and organisation. Therefore, BR is committed to holding those accountable for the fair organisation, production and administration of the sport and to ensure it is accessible to all.

5. Review of Roundnet in Britain: 2022

5.1 High Level List of Achievements in 2022

5.1.1 Through 2022, the BR team worked hard to continue the development of the sport. Our achievements, some of which are detailed further in the sections below, included:

- Ran a full majors schedule, including nationals
- Ran a university schedule, including nationals
- Built an international squad from the ground up; 7th Place at Worlds (Men's and Women's)
- Secured c. £5,000 worth of funding for 2022/2023 season
- A full rebrand, including new website
- Restructure, including hiring of trustees and multiple volunteer roles across all departments
- Submitting a full Bid to host the 2024 Roundnet World Championships to the IRF

5.1.2 British Roundnet has over 100 registered members, however we expect there are over 800 active players.

5.2 Overview and Vision Delivery

5.2.1 2022 has been almost a return to normality after a difficult two years for sport in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. We were delighted to run our full suite of major events, with the English Open becoming our most attended event ever with over 120 participants and spectators (see 5.3 for more details).

5.2.2 Over 2020-2021 we achieved our short term goals set out in our five year development plan. We are pleased to report that these gains and no

progress has been lost in any respect with regards to financial stability, player base growth and international competition. In fact, in 2022 these goals have remained at the forefront of our planning.

- 5.2.3 In reaching 2022, British Roundnet sat in the very middle of the second phase of our five year plan which covers the medium term period of 2021-2023. The goals listed in the medium term include; pre-application to UK Sport, Re-investment of funds, host all major tournaments in house and increase commercial appeal and activity.
- 5.2.4 Across the year, British Roundnet achieved a myriad of these goals and a number of others – most notably hosting all of our major tournaments in house and the re-investment of funds into our membership base.
- 5.2.5 Most significant of our achievements this year is the successful raising of sponsorship funds for the World Championships and for the 2023 season. This came as a result of our re-brand, which was a key target for the marketing team for 2022, and has enabled British Roundnet to reinvest into our players and host more exciting tournaments.
- 5.2.6 The pre-application process for British Roundnet to UK Sport was not started in 2022. It was decided that a stronger application could be made after the introduction of a re-organisation of the staffing and volunteer structure of British Roundnet and after the conclusion of our third events season. The restructure of British Roundnet's management comes at a time where strategic advice and good management is needed most as we look to continue to expand and scale on our current trajectory. It was decided that specialist, expert knowledge is required to ensure that British Roundnet is working as efficiently as possible and to help the current volunteer team to navigate the everchanging world of Sports organisation.
- 5.2.7 Finally, Britain's representation at the World Championships in 2022 is one that we believe our members can be incredibly proud of. Finishing 7th in both the Men's and Women's tournaments out of 30 countries demonstrates the talent pool across the home countries. This representation would not have been possible without the organisation of the whole British Roundnet team in mobilising a Player Development Squad and international team on a very tight schedule.
- 5.2.8 This year has been incredibly successful for Roundnet as a sport but particularly British Roundnet as we mature as an organisation and become more accustomed to our role within the development of the sport in England,

Wales and Scotland. I am certain that the more detailed departmental reports below demonstrate the breadth of work we have undertaken over the last year.

5.3 Tournaments

5.3.1 In 2022 British Roundnet were able to deliver:

- Welsh Open - Kicked off the year and gave out 4 invites more to GB selection day.
- English Open - Biggest tournament we've ever held, 51 teams , also first women's division at a major.
- University Regional Satellite Events, Round 1 and 2.
- First University Nationals hosted at Southampton, won by Chichester.
- Nationals 2022 - Women's, Open and Intermediate divisions. Sponsors present. scheduling issues meant we ran out of time a bit. Lessons were learnt.
- EURA Tour Stop Sheffield - Europe's best came to compete in open, women's and mixed division.
- British Roundnet Squad Selection Day
- British Roundnet Squad Training Day
- World Championship Programme and Travel (Detailed in section.

5.3.2 We were not able to deliver a Scottish Open this was due to resourcing and still not having a Scottish representative as part of British Roundnet. Growing Roundnet in Scotland requires the delivery of an event in the country and this is something we will look into for 2023.

5.4 Grassroots and Player Development

5.4.1 The development of grassroots roundnet saw less of a focus in 2022, particularly at a schools level. However, we are still working with coaching providers to deliver roundnet sessions to schools to encourage engagement with the sport within the school curriculum.

5.4.2 We had a very successful University season, with our first ever set of regional round events exclusively for students. This culminate in a University National Championships in Southampton which was a great success.

- 5.4.3 The focus of the grassroots team in 2022 was on the formation and development of our international squad. Starting the initiative from scratch, the team partnered with Chichester University and invited players who had won or finished second in domestic British Roundnet events to attend training days at the university. This culminated in a successful 'Selection Day' which was funded by British Roundnet with the support of Sponsors. The squad were then developed and engaged with right the way up until the world championships and the hard work resulted in a 7th place squad finish for both the men's and women's squads (from 32 countries).
- 5.4.4 British Roundnet also partially funded a visit to the UK from one of the world's top players, Preston Bies, to deliver a training clinic to both members of British Roundnet and exclusively to the British Roundnet International Team.
- 5.4.5 British Roundnet also partially funded one of the top coaches from within the UK, Scott Beeks, to deliver a coaching clinic in London for British Roundnet members.

5.5 Equality, Inclusion and Social Responsibility

- 5.5.1 Towards the end of 2022, British Roundnet onboarded a new head of Equality Social Responsibility with the role being vacant for the most part of the year.
- 5.5.2 That being said, equality in participation has been an important aspect of event planning this year with our first women's division being offered at Nationals 2022 and, through player feedback, improved tournament schedules to place the same emphasis on the women's matches as the open division matches.
- 5.5.3 We have been proud of the way that we selected our men's and women's world championships teams and stood up for equal representation at the world championships by voting in favour of making the men's and women's squad sizes the same.
- 5.5.4 We were unable to place a focus on partnering with other charities to support their causes this year due to the pace at which British Roundnet developed. However, in 2023 we will be looking to understand how we can support the development of other causes through our events.

- 5.5.5 Seeking partnerships with charities that make inclusion the norm, increasing access to sport for disadvantaged and disabled people.
- 5.5.6 Looking at event impact on local, national and global scales. Focusing on environmental impact through recycling refuse and carbon off set initiative, as well as social impact on communities by engaging with active members to support and encourage participation.
- 5.5.7 Create an accessible resource of how to access the sport in different areas across the UK directing interested parties to active clubs and groups

5.6 England, Wales and Scotland Representatives

- 5.6.1 England continues to be at the forefront of roundnet development in Britain with London Roundnet remaining one of the largest countries across the home nations. Importantly, a number of university clubs have become well established in 2022 thanks to the newly formalised University season run by British Roundnet.
- 5.6.2 Wales saw limited growth in 2022 with the university of Cardiff club contending with less activity than usual. The Welsh open remained a popular event and highlighted the potential for roundnet growth, particularly in the south of the country.
- 5.6.3 Roundnet remains a niche sport in Scotland and there were no events in the country during 2022 due to resourcing issues and there being no Scottish representative to assist with hosting.

5.7 Finance

- 5.7.1 For a full run-down of BR's financial position after 2022, please refer to the Financial Report for 2022 and year ahead.
- 5.7.2 This year we were successful in raising over £5000 through crowdfunding, kit sales and most importantly sponsorship. This has been used to support our delegation to the 2022 World Championships in Belgium and to invest into tournaments and events for the upcoming 2023 season. We are excited to continue to develop our relationship with our partners over the coming year and continue to grow.
- 5.7.3 It is down to the generosity of the members and our sponsors and partners that BR is in a strong financial position for 2023.

5.8 Marketing

- 5.8.1 2022 has been a milestone year for British Roundnet's image. We have successfully navigated a full organisational re-brand with the help of Arianne Cantwell from media group Sky.
- 5.8.2 The new name 'British Roundnet', responds to how other sports position themselves within the UK Sport market. The new look has been developed in consultation with our members and through regular design team meetings throughout the year.
- 5.8.3 The brand was successfully updated and a new website published in time for the World Championships in Belgium and represents a new era for the organisation as we seek official sport status in 2023.
- 5.8.4 At events in 2022 we successfully provided brand activation opportunities for our sponsors (notwithstanding the sponsorship spaces available on the world championships kit). We have procured marketing materials to place on location at our events in 2022 and into 2023 and have successfully integrated our social media with brand partnership opportunities.

6. Vision and Goals for British Roundnet: 2023

6.1 Overview

- 6.1.1 2023 promises to be a fantastic year for Roundnet in Britain. Supported by our set of excellent partners and sponsors, British Roundnet is in an even stronger position to deliver high quality events and support our members at every level of Roundnet – from university level through to international competition.
- 6.1.2 This year the process of pre-application with Sport England will finally begin as we reach a position where we feel we are able to do so. This will only occur after the formation of British Roundnet's charity arm which is an important goal for the first quarter of 2023.
- 6.1.3 Acting as a Charity and a Company will enable British Roundnet to more effectively fundraise and recruit volunteers alongside benefitting from the advantages that charities have compared to normal businesses. We hope

that this structure will enable British Roundnet to continue to grow at a good pace. It is important to note that the company that represents British Roundnet will remain a non profit organisation and any profits that are made from the company will be donated to the charity, British Roundnet.

6.1.4 As we reach 2023, we enter the third phase of our five year development plan which includes our long term goals. These goals are:

- 'Global Competitiveness': Ensuring Roundnet players in Britain are some of the best in the world and that British Roundnet is engaged in the international organisation of Roundnet.
- 'Encouraging the Creation of Home Nation NGBs': Act as catalyst for home national NGBs to be set up to encourage participation on more local scales.
- 'British, Welsh, English and Scottish National Squad Quality': Maintaining high levels of squad development across the home nations.
- 'Host a Roundnet World Championship': Bring the pinnacle event of the Roundnet calendar to Britain to encourage growth of the sport and leave a legacy.

6.1.5 Whilst the goals above refer mostly towards the progression of elite level Roundnet, it is important to note that the short and medium term goals that have a more inward focus on community and grassroots development remain at the heart of our purpose as a national governing body.

6.1.6 We also recognise that some of the longer term goals are only achievable with strong, community based foundations and that it may in fact take longer than 2025 to achieve some of the more ambitious statements above.

6.1.7 That being said, 2023 looks to be a year that will enact real change in the path and course of Roundnet in Great Britain. With our structural changes, developments in our strategic vision and the opportunity to build on new financial investment our event season promises to be strong and organisationally we are looking forward to increasing the number of people playing and actively engaging in our great sport.

6.1.8 The following sections go into further detail about our key goals for 2023. Some of which are focussed around the medium and long term goals listed in our five year development plan and other are more niche and demonstrate the plans that lie ahead for our members over the coming year.

6.2 Pre-Application to UK Sport Council with Sport England

6.2.1 We anticipate to begin the pre-application process with Sport UK / Sport England in the first quarter to half of 2023. After passing the pre-application process, BR will move onto the full application process which we have been preparing for in relation to governance and policy documents since the formation of our organisation (British Roundnet) in January 2020.

6.3 Full Events and Tournaments Schedule

6.3.1 For 2023, the following events have been planned:

- Welsh Open
- English Open
- London Open
- Scottish Open
- Women's Open
- University Regional Satellite Events
- University Nationals
- Nationals 2023

6.3.2 EURA Tour Stop: British Roundnet will be supporting London Roundnet to help deliver the London Spikeball Tour Series stop. This is an exciting event to assist with and we look forward to welcoming players from all across Europe to the capital of England.

6.3.3 We are looking forward to bolstering our tournaments team with a number of assistant staff as the scale and number of events hosted by British Roundnet grows in the future,

6.4 2024 Roundnet World Championships Bid

6.4.1 We have put in place a five strong selection committee that are currently in the process of confirming the strategy for delivering the selection of our British squad for the roundnet world championships 2022.

6.4.2 We are aware that this will be a mammoth task and huge expectation of our community to play for their country in Belgium. BR is committed to supporting the selected squad as much as possible; we want to make a team that stands for our values and mission and who each share the desire

to be pioneers for the sport - both fantastic players and representatives of Britain.

6.4.3 Further details will be provided in the coming initial months of 2023.

6.5 British Roundnet Charity Application

6.5.1 To ensure our status as a non-profit and to further assist in our fundraising activities, British Roundnet proposed to members in late 2022 that the organisation become or sets up a charity arm with the current directors becoming the trustees of the charity.

6.5.2 This resolution was passed and has been written into the constitution for inclusion at the 2023 Annual General Meeting.

6.5.3 In becoming a charity, British Roundnet will benefit from a wide range of advantages that it could not otherwise as an ordinary company. These include the easier onboarding of volunteers and trustee talent, the reduced costs on services, the ability to fundraise more clearly and effectively and not requiring to pay corporation tax on donations.

6.5.4 British Roundnet as a charity will also be partnered alongside a company that will act on behalf of the National Governing Body at times when it would be incorrect for a charity to organise such functions. This includes the sales of merchandising, the sponsorship of elite level players and any other function that would not fall under being part of the purpose of a charity as set out by the charities commission.

6.6 Grassroots and Player Development

6.6.1 2023 will see the return of a renewed focus on schools Roundnet and coaching. A small scale schools event and developing a coaching strategy (looking at how we offer and licence the British Roundnet Level 1 course) are two key considerations for 2023.

6.6.2 The first ever European Championships involving national teams is planned for Italy (9th-10th September) 2023. This will require the formation of a national development team based upon the national squad that was taken to the world championships in 2022. We will look to work with Chichester University again to help facilitate efficient training and selection of national team players.

6.7 Equality, Inclusion and Social Responsibility

- 6.7.1 For 2023, we will be exploring how we can work more closely with charities that share our vision for inclusive sport for all. The output from this may be policy changes, new events and initiatives to help support greater inclusion in Roundnet.
- 6.7.2 We will also look to increase our grant funding offering to help develop local Roundnet communities with financial support.

6.8 England, Wales and Scotland Representatives

- 6.8.1 National representatives have now become the only role, aside from a third of the trustee board, that is available for election at each AGM of British Roundnet. It was deemed important to retain these roles as part of an election to ensure the connection between British Roundnet and the player base in each home nation country.
- 6.8.2 After the British Roundnet AGM 2023, no members stood for any of the representative roles. This leaves the English, Wales, Scottish rep roles open.
- 6.8.3 This will be a focus for Q1 of 2023 – to fill these roles and improve ties between British Roundnet and the communities from each home nation that we serve and administrate.

6.9 Finance

- 6.9.1 For specific predictions for the year ahead, please see the financial review for 2022 and preview for the year ahead.
- 6.9.2 As a non-profit, BR will always be striving to deliver the best value to its members through reinvestment in the sport or in its membership base. The BR team and trustees work as volunteers and are only paid expenses for travel to events and this will continue for the year ahead.
- 6.9.3 As BR transitions to a charity, we are looking for someone with financial expertise to fill the Chief Financial Officer position which should help us navigate increasingly complex financial waters.

6.10 Marketing

6.10.1 For 2023, we will need to build on our strong new organisational brand. To support the media team, we will be looking to bolster through the hiring of new assistant marketing roles.

6.10.2 We will also seek to maintain strong ties with our sponsors and look to better integrate our content with their brands to maximise their exposure through British Roundnet.