

NEW ZEALAND

Sport is very popular in New Zealand and despite New Zealand being a very small nation, it has enjoyed great results in many sports such as rugby union (The national sport) and also rugby, cricket, netball, motorsport and many other sports.

New Zealand's most popular sport is rugby union, the national sport. Other popular sports include cricket, which is said to be the national summer sport, rugby league, soccer and netball (the top ranking female sport by participation); golf, tennis, and a variety of water sports, snow sports such as skiing and snowboarding are also popular.

Netball is the most popular women's sport in New Zealand. It is a ball sport played between two teams of seven players. The sport is often called women's basketball. It developed in the 1890s in England, from where it spread to other countries.

The national team, the Silver Ferns, is second in the world today. As in other netballplaying countries, netball is mainly a women's sport; men's and mixed teams also exist.