

[www.mavericksnetball.co.uk](http://www.mavericksnetball.co.uk)

**@SaracensMavs**
@MavericksNpl

In 2004 the concept of a Netball Super League was launched as a replacement for the Inter-Counties and the Super Cup Competitions. As holders of the Inter-Counties, Bedfordshire was keen to get involved, and along with 2nd placed Essex Met, an application was made. Under the leadership of Gloria Keech and Maggie Jackson, Beds Met Mavericks was established in 2005 as a founder member of the **NSL (Netball Super League)** representing East of England. Other clubs in that launch year were Brunel Hurricanes, Celtic Dragons, Leeds Carnegie, Loughborough Lightning, Northern Thunder, Team Bath and Team Northumbria.

The first challenge was where to play as the criteria was a fully sprung wooden floor with a minimum spectator capacity of 500. Only the Herts Sports Village, University of Hertfordshire, Hatfield met the criteria, plus the bonus of good road networks across the region. Although based at the University, Mavericks was one of only two clubs not directly associated with a university, the other being Northern Thunder. As other venues were built, Mavericks also played some matches at the Essex Sport Arena, Colchester and the Marshall Arena, Milton Keynes.

Why the name Mavericks? The dictionary defines maverick as unconventional or independent minded person. What better name for the combination of these two counties and the creators. Although the originally named Beds Met Mavericks, the club rapidly became known as Mavericks. With a sponsorship deal, they became the Galleria Mavericks in 2005 until 2008. Over the subsequent years, the Club was renamed several times. In 2009 it was Hertfordshire Mavericks. In 2016 with a sponsorship deal, benecos Mavericks. Then in 2019 they formed a partnership with rugby union club, Saracens Rugby and became Saracens Mavericks.

**First Year - October 2005/2006**

**Franchise Lead: -** Gloria Keech

**Coaches: -** Maggie Jackson, Fiona Murtagh, and Sam Bird.

**Team Manager**: - Heather Nolan

**Franchise Support/Web Site Design: -** Jo Munnion/Webb.

**Finance** - Gerry Pereira

**Team -** Naomi Siddall/Stenhouse - Captain**,** Lucy Cadge, Lynsey Armitage, Vicky Diss, Louisa Brownfield, Heather Clarke, Sasha Corbin, Janet Colbourne, Natalie Seaton, Debbie Jones, Amanda Newton, Verona Jackson, Ann Marie Muller, and Naida Hutchinson.
**Kit Supplier**:- Tempest Sports

Over the years, Mavericks have developed and attr

acted many internationals and overseas players. At time of writing these have included:

**England**

Ama Agbeze Sasha Corbin
Karen Atkinson Chloe Essam Jo Harten
Louisa Brownfield George Fisher Lindsay Keeble
Ella Clark Jodie Gibson Amanda Newton
Kadeen Corbin Layla Guscoth Razia Quashie

**Northern Ireland**
Shaunagh Craig Michelle Drayne

**Australia**
Sarah East Karyn Bailey Samantha May

**New Zealand**
Keshia Grant Joline Henry Jo Trip

**Jamaica**
Jhaniele Fowler

**Trinidad & Tobago**
Samantha Wallace

In addition, development squads have been started which provide feeder players into the senior squad.

Mavericks has a good record of reaching the Super League Finals. In the first six years 2005 to 2011 they won twice and were runners-up in the other four. The next time was in 2015 when they were runners-up. Covid-19 cancelled the Super League for 2019/20.