



Sam CUTLER

19

Age:

Debut

England Caps:

Wing

Position:

Bristol Fijians

Touch Series Team:

Men's Open

TWC Team:

[@cuttlefish604](https://twitter.com/cuttlefish604)

Tweets by:

Favourite/best Touch moments:

Playing my first season this year in the NTS for Bristol Fijians and I remember when at the Manchester double header and playing Galaxy I was being told by Martin who was our coach to just “take the dump, take the dump” but the defence never came so being me I just put on the afterburners and stepped two players and scored. Was quite funny seeing Martins face as I turned round and everyone else was cheering. Also the socials have been awesome as new players join the team and also when our CTS team have been at the tournaments as well so we've got extra support and also the socials are even bigger.

Profile:

I have been playing touch for 5/6 years at my local touch rugby club, Chippenham Cheetahs having stopped playing union. The touch was always a good laugh but I had always been looking for more of a challenge in a game that was faster and more challenging, from this interest a few players from the England Senior Mixed came to Chippenham to do some training sessions with us and from there I was asked to go join them at their training for Bristol Fijians. Having trained with them 3/4 times I was put into the NTS side for the upcoming series, this was a great opportunity and I loved every minute that played this year with the team; I learnt so much and it helped me to develop my skills further. We had a strong campaign and I managed to score at least once in each round.

The season ended with the Nationals at Cambridge, I was selected to play for the South West Saxons and this was to be a whole new challenge having played mixed all season and now having to change and learn the ways of Men's; our national's team was quite inexperienced with regards to playing men's touch, so we did struggle against the stronger sides. However in our first game I was running an Aussie Up but just on instinct threw a dummy and sailed straight round the link which gave me a 2 on 1 and again threw a dummy and went straight past the winger for a touchdown. Having scored a few of the England Senior Mixed players looked rather confused as to how I had gotten through a gap that wasn't even there, this gave me huge confidence and allowed me to run with a bit more flare.

It has been a very quick turnaround for my Touch career in 12 months having gone from having my first training session at Bristol Fijians and not knowing what NTS to a year later where I am flying out to Australia to compete in the Touch Rugby World Cup and represent my country – never would I have dreamed I would get this far so quickly or ever.

For TWC2015 I would love to get a few touchdowns where I have done some work myself and not just dotted down to gain the glory for all the boys' hard work, and maybe try keep up with Sam Jones on the touchdown count following his form at Euros 2014.

Related posts:

[Two Touch players receive CRFC award and one goes on to international honours](#)

Sam Cutler and Jake Hyland were both awarded CRFC merit ties at the Christmas Lunch for reaching the final England trials of Touch. This honour was rapidly followed by Sam being informed he had made the England squad to travel to Australia next April. Absolutely fantastic.

The real challenge is now on to help Sam raise the funds to pay for his trip. Unfortunately Touch does not have the national funding to pay his way. £3k is what Sam has to raise so if you are a potential sponsor or in a position to help look out for the fund raisers in the New Year.

