



MESSAGE FROM NETBALL OTAGO

2008

- 5 Apr Dunedin Premier Club Comp begins
- 5 Apr 5th Otago Netball Comp begins
- 7 Apr ANZ Champs Begins (see draw below)
- 10 Apr 'Talking Tactics' Invercargill
- 12 Apr DNC Senior Grade Comp begins
- 20-23 Apr NO Dev Camp Alexandra
- 28-30 Apr Holiday Prog. Dunedin
- 26-27 Apr LMC Finals weekend - Rotorua
- 4 May Game in Action Workshop—DN
- 10 May DNC Secondary Sch Comp begins
- 10 May Upper Clutha Open Day
- 11 May Sunday Fun Ferns begin
- 11 May Central Otago / Upper Clutha U15/U17 Academy Day
- 18 May Central Otago / Upper Clutha & 5th Otago U15/U17 Academy Days
- 25 May Central Otago / Upper Clutha & 5th Otago U15/U17 Academy Days
- 1-2 June CHCH U19/U21 Invitational Tournament
- 7-9 June Otago Secondary Schools Tournament —Dunedin
- 28-29 June Otago U19/U21 Invitational Tournament
- 14-18 July National Age Group Champs—Hamilton
- 18-20 July Bush Rd Tournament - Dunedin

Congratulations to South Otago Netball Centre for reaching their 75th Jubilee. Well done to Pauline Dodds, Barbara Hollows and their jubilee committee for making the celebrations happen. I attended the dinner on Saturday 5 April along with 120 committed current and ex-south otago netball enthusiasts including life members. What a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the hard work and achievements over 75yrs. We look forward to the next 75!

March and April have been busy months with centres gearing up for their club and school competitions – it is hard to believe that we have another season just around the corner. The Otago Premier Team who is competing for the Lois Muir Trophy has had two wins from two games and we anticipate the weekend in Dunedin when they will meet Cook Strait (combination of Wellington and Tasman), and Canterbury. We are looking forward to the Development Camp for Secondary School players in Alexandra – we have had unprecedented interest in this camp and unfortunately have had to turn girls away. Now we will just keep our fingers crossed for good weather.

The next 17 weeks for those of you privileged to have sky no doubt will be a testing time. I'm wondering how I will fit in 5 games of netball viewing around work, netball and family commitments. I guess the housework can wait! This is sure to have a positive affect on our sport and wait with interest how our new franchise, the Steel, will compete in this very competitive tournament.

Check out our new Netball Otago website which is due to go live at the end of the month. www.netballotago.co.nz

Nicki Paterson
Regional Manager

ANZ CHAMPIONSHIPS



The Inaugural ANZ Championship began in the weekend, with an exciting first round of netball. The Vixens took out the Pulse 50-33 in the first match of the competition at the TSB Arena in Wellington. In the double header on Sunday afternoon, after trailing the entire game the Firebirds beat the Fever in a close fought match 48-46 in Brisbane; on this side of the Tasman in another nail biter, the Canterbury Tactix fought off the Mystics, eventually winning 48-44.

In perhaps the game of the round, the Magic came out on top against the Thunderbirds in a physical encounter at the Energy Events Centre in Rotorua. The score finishing up at 46—42 to the Magic. The final game of the first round was the Southern Steel away to the Sydney Swifts, both champions in 2007 of their domestic leagues, this was always going to be a great battle. It was unfortunately a game of two halves for the Steel, after being level at half time, the Swifts powered on the points and eventually won 53-42.



SOUTHERN STEEL SEASON DRAW

7 Apr	Swifts	v Steel	Sydney
14 Apr	Pulse	v Steel	Wellington
21 Apr	Tactix	v Steel	Christchurch
27 Apr	Thunderbirds	v Steel	Adelaide
5 May	Steel	v Mystics	Invercargill
10 May	Steel	v Tactix	Invercargill
19 May	Magic	v Steel	Hamilton
31 May	Steel	v Pulse	Invercargill
7 Jun	Steel	v Vixens	Invercargill
16 Jun	Steel	v Fever	Dunedin
23 Jun	Mystics	v Steel	Auckland
30 Jun	Steel	v Magic	Invercargill
6 Jul	Steel	v Firebirds	Dunedin





NEWS FROM AROUND THE CENTRES

Central Otago Netball Centre

Central Otago Netball held their 47th Annual General Meeting on 11th March with most Clubs/Schools represented. An Open Forum was held prior to the meeting to discuss increase in Affiliation Fees and to set other levies for the season, and how the new umpires rules may or may not affect our Centre.

Sally Bell was elected to the Chair for her 4th consecutive year - with Sally at the helm the Centre is under excellent leadership. Sally has drawn up a Draft Rules & Regulations booklet and after viewing through this at the Forum it will now be finalised and put out to all Clubs and school - a hands on reference for all.

There will be no grading days this season - we will enter straight into the competition rounds commencing 10th May. Primary school netball will also commence this day.

With plenty of coaching clinics, game development academy and tournaments coming up Central netball has a lot to look forward to. Thanks to Nicki Paterson for her attendance - the faces of Otago Netball are a vital part of communication.

South Otago Netball Centre

The first weekend of April (5th - 7th) is the South Otago Netball Club's 75th Jubilee. Starting with a meet and greet on the Friday night and finishing with an Awards dinner on the Saturday night at the Rosebank Lodge. News about the success of this weekend will be in the next bulletin.

Trish Robins has stepped down as the South Otago Netball Club President. The Committee would like to thank Trish for all of the time that she has put in as the President and wish her luck with all those spare hours she will now have (it might be time to take up a hobby)! For the first time in years we ran a 6 week Spring Mixed Twilight Netball Competition in August/September last year. Because of the huge success we are now running a Spring Competition. The South Otago district has jumped at the chance to play in this social competition and all walks of life are taking part. It is a great way of letting the rest of the district understand our passion for the game of netball and maybe recruiting some new players - the netball courts are a hive of activity and excitement on a Wednesday night and all though it is competitive on the court everyone is enjoying themselves and there are smiles on all the faces (including the men). I HUGE thanks goes to Amanda Hyslop for all of the organising she has done as well as running the competition.

Dunedin Netball Centre

The first games of the Dunedin Netball Premier competition were played on Saturday 5 April. This season sees the inclusion of the College Men's Premier team in the Premier A competition which add a new dimension to the competition, and with the final of the Pre-season Night League coming down to one goal between Uni-Albion A and Southern A the Premier A Grade is set to be extremely competitive. On 26 March trials were held for both Under 15 and Under 17 Academy Squads, this is a programme supported by Netball Otago to develop the young talented players throughout the region. Gill Pickering and Lana Morrison are the Head Coaches of the U15 and U17 teams respectively. The squads will train together over the next six weeks, then a Dunedin Netball Centre U15 and U17 team will be selected to compete in a variety of tournaments throughout June, July and August. We look forward to an exciting and competitive season ahead.

North Otago Netball Centre

Congratulations to Georgie Salter who has been appointed to the position of North Otago Netball Game Development Officer. This is a part time position which runs through the netball season. Georgie's responsibilities are coach development, co-ordination of the Academy Programme and promoting netball in North Otago. We are very excited about having such a high caliber coach in this position.

Upper Clutha Netball Centre

The Upper Clutha Netball Grading Day is on Saturday 12 April starting at 9am. We have 24 teams registered this season. Our competition begins after the school holidays, on the 8th and 9th of May, once again playing over Thursday and Friday nights. We have an Open Day on Saturday 10 May where we have Netball Otago Regional Manager Nicki Paterson and Game Development Officer Jo Morrison attending the open day to run through some skills and drills with our young players and coaches. Upper Clutha is pleased to be hosting the Country Day U15/U17 Tournament on June 15th. A new blog for Netball Upper Clutha has been set up this year. All news and dates will be regularly updated, feel free to visit the site <http://netballupperclutha.blogspot.com>

Taieri Netball Centre

The Taieri Netball competition is due to start on 10th May for years 5-8 and 17th May for years 3 & 4.

The following courses coming up:
Future Ferns Umpiring and coaching Clinic at Taieri College on 8th May
Starting out in coaching at Taieri College on 13th May
(with 20th as a reserve day if too many for 13th May)
Umpiring with Jono at Taieri College on 21st May
Visit our website www.taierinetball.co.nz for more details.



OTAGO PREMIER TEAM IN ACTION

This weekend
Edgar Sports Centre
Dunedin

LOIS MUIR TROPHY DRAW

Saturday 12 April

6:00pm Southland vs Cook Strait
7:30pm Otago vs Canterbury

Sunday 13 April

10:30am Otago vs Cook Strait
10:30am Canterbury vs Southland

Edgar Sports Centre
Gold Coin Donation



UMPIRING INFORMATION



At World Champs in November, the rules of netball had a revamp for the following eight years. There are a few minor changes, but the significant change is in relation to stoppages. The following rule has been implemented by IFNA:

No coaching is permitted during any Stoppage by any Bench Team Official or bench player. However, the Team Manager may approach the players at the Sideline for the purpose of providing re-hydration.

The first stoppage for each team in each quarter or half shall be up to two (2) minutes from when time is held to decide whether an injured or ill player is fit to continue. This decision shall be left to the Primary Care personnel. No other Team Official from the Bench is permitted on Court.

For each subsequent stoppage for each team, the injured or ill player must leave the Court and has thirty (30) seconds to do so. The injury or illness must be treated Courtside and not on the Court. The injured or ill player may be substituted or the position may be left vacant.

Important points to note

The first stoppage is up to two minutes as it has been in the past. Even if this stoppage is 20 seconds, the first stoppage is deemed taken.

The second stoppage is up to 30 seconds for the player to leave the court. This time limit is not to arrange substitutions/treat/change bibs etc. The player must immediately move to the nearest sideline and in most cases this should occur quickly. If substitutions are to be made they will have to be completed during this time before play restarts. The umpire will not wait.

You can leave the position vacant (providing it is not a Centre) and a player may return to that position after the next goal, stoppage or interval.

If an injury is more serious the umpires will use their discretion.

If a player calls time for blood, this counts as a stoppage for the purposes of this rule and is subject to the same restraints.

However if an umpire notices blood independently, time is stopped by the umpire and this is not deemed a stoppage for the purposes of this rule. Furthermore the time of this stoppage will be decided by the umpire. There must still be no coaching during this time. Bench players must remain off court and are only permitted to warm up at a stoppage. They must not assist in any other duties. There have been no rule changes affecting the substitution or team change rules; they now just have to fit within the timeframes outlined above. The penalty awarded for breaking of this rule is a free pass to the opposing team where the ball was when play stopped when play resumes. If a team already has the ball, then a pass could be advanced up the court. For repeat offences officials may be warned or removed from the sideline.

Things to consider in Centre competitions

Where a team does not have a named manager or primary care person, the coach needs to be permitted to perform these functions (i.e. treat an injured player or bring the drink bottles to the edge of the court). They must still not coach at this time. It is important that this no coaching element is enforced at all levels. If there are any queries please do not hesitate to contact Jono Bredin

(Officials' Development Officer) jonobredin@gmail.com



WELL DONE JONO!

Jono Bredin has been selected in the ANZ Netball Championships Umpiring Squad. There are seven umpires from New Zealand that have been selected. Well done Jono on your selection!

REBELS KIDS PROGRAMME

The 2008 Rebels Kids Programme has been running for the past five weeks at the Edgar Sports Centre. 35 kids have been learning the basic skills of netball from coaches Sara Farr and Kerry McKenzie, both Dunedin Premier Grade players. This year's programme has been sponsored by Cadbury's World, all participants receive a netball, bag, chocolate and a chance to win some fantastic prizes.



With three weeks of the programme to go, the feedback from the kids and parents has been very positive. We are running more programmes for kids throughout the season, with the next being the April Holiday Programme. This is being held on 28-30 April at the Edgar Sports Centre from 9am—1pm. In May, the Sunday Fun Ferns Programme begins, again this is being held at the Edgar Centre; this is designed specifically for 5-7 year olds, for them to learn the very basics of the netball.



PROGRAMMES FOR KIDS

Netball Otago will again be offering a wide range of programmes for budding netballers this season.

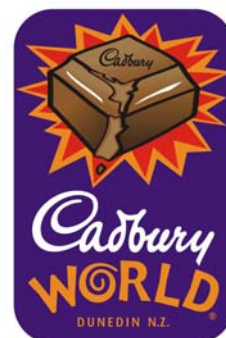
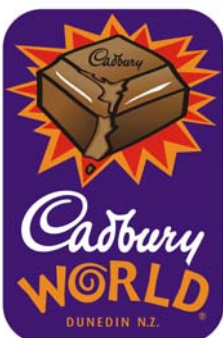
APRIL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME:

The April Holiday Programme will run from 28-30 April, 9am—1pm at the Edgar Centre, Dunedin. It is available to 7-12yr olds.

SUNDAY FUN FERNS:

The Sunday Fun Ferns Programme starts on Sunday 11 May. It is a 6 week programme on Sunday's 10.00-11.00am at the Edgar Centre Dunedin. It is available to 5-7 yr olds.

For any further information or to register a player, please contact the Netball Otago office on (03) 455 1702



COACHFORCE

We have held a number of coaching workshops presented by various Netball NZ personnel in Dunedin over the past few months. Firstly, we were extremely lucky to have former Silver Ferns captain and wing attack Adine Wilson present a 'Working on the Wing' workshop at the Otago Girls' High School gym in early March. This was a fantastic start to the season for all the coaches present, giving them fresh ideas to use with the teams for the season ahead.

Netball NZ Coachforce coach Dianne McTigue, presented four NNZ Modules over the course of a weekend later in the same month; Player Centred Coaching, Planning, Attack 1 and Skill Analysis 1. It was great to see a number of coaches from all over the Otago region attending these modules. The feedback from the modules was very positive. We hope to offer the same modules in Central Otago later in the year.

These NNZ modules are the next progression on from the 'Starting out in Coaching' workshop that was offered to all coaches last year, and will be offered again in all Centres over the next two months. Check below for dates and venues.



If you are interested in attending any of the modules or would like any further information please contact Jo Morrison at the Netball Otago office on (03) 4551702

STARTING OUT IN COACHING WORKSHOPS

Dunedin Netball Centre

Future Ferns/Year 7&8	21 May	Edgar Centre	6-9pm
	22 May	Edgar Centre	6-9pm
Secondary School/Club	8 May	Edgar Centre	6-9pm

Taieri Netball Centre

Future Ferns/Year 7&8	13 May	Taieri College	6-9pm
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Central Otago Netball Centre

Future Ferns/Year 7&8	19 May	The Terrace School	6-9pm
Secondary School/Club	12 May	The Terrace School	6-9pm

South Otago Netball Centre

Future Ferns/Year 7&8	12 May	Rosebank Primary School	6-9pm
Secondary School/Club	7 May	South Otago High	6-9pm

North Otago Netball Centre

Future Ferns/Year 7&8	16 April	Rec Centre	6-9pm
Secondary School/Club	17 April	Rec Centre	6-9pm

Upper Clutha Netball Centre

Open to all levels	26 May	tbc	6-9pm
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All information has been sent out to your local school and clubs. If you need any more information or a registration form please contact Trish Purdie-Smith at the Netball Otago Office.

OTAGO PREMIER TEAM Captain's Report by Millie Lees

The exciting new Lois Muir Challenge started on 29th March in Christchurch where we faced tough opposition from the Waikato! We knew this team was going to be very competitive and the first quarter proved just that. The game was physical and fast but those early morning fitness trainings enabled us to pull away with a fantastic win in our first encounter!! Early the next morning we were up against Canterbury B in a training game, our confidence had been boosted from our previous win and we finished convincingly, winning by a large margin. The week that followed was filled with intense training for our highly anticipated game against Southland! Both teams wanting to prove their worth, we knew it as going to be a physical, exciting battle.

The score remained pretty even for the first 3 quarters however we finished the strongest, coming away in the last quarter to win by 3 goals leaving the court relieved and exhausted! We look forward to our next games in Dunedin and then Rotorua, determined to continue our success.

A huge thank you to our sponsors:



RICOH

OTAGO TYRES

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HONDA



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