



2008

15 Oct	NZ v ENG Test match DUNEDIN
18 Oct	NZ v ENG Test match PALMERSTON NORTH
26 Oct	NZ v AUS Test match Melbourne
2 Nov	NZ v AUS Test match Brisbane
14 Dec	Otago/Southland Talent Development Coaching Day INVERCARGILL
19 Dec	Netball Otago Office Closes for 2008
12 Jan	Netball Otago office Open for 2009

MESSAGE FROM NETBALL OTAGO

This will be the final Centre Circle Bulletin for 2008 and I would firstly like to acknowledge the excellent work Jo Morrison has put into collating, editing and distributing this bulletin. We hope it is an informative newsletter for you and if there is anything else you would like included please feel free to let us know.

We were all sad to hear of Barbara Ballantyne's death earlier this month. Barbara Ballantyne was synonymous with Netball and was a life member of the Central Otago Centre. She played a very active role in the Centre and we all miss her passion and enthusiasm for the game. Our deepest sympathy to Barbara's family and members of Central Otago Netball Centre.

As we wrap up the season we can be very proud of the achievements of our Representative Teams. Recently the Otago Netball Team came third at the National Champs behind Southland and Auckland with Debbie White and Millie Lees being named in the tournament team. Millie Lees, Hannah Broederlow and Jessica Moulds were all renamed in the NZ U21 squad who will be working hard towards the World Youth Cup in July of 2009. This effort follows on from the Lois Muir Challenge Team winning their tournament in April and our U21 team winning in July.

Dunedin hosted the South Island Secondary School Netball tournament and congratulations to all the teams from around the region who competed. Special mention to Columba College and Kaikorai College who won the B and C grades respectively. St Kevin's of Oamaru had an outstanding tournament coming second in A Grade and in the process earned a ticket to compete at the New Zealand Secondary Schools tournament in Auckland.

Finally, it was a fine finish to the season having the opportunity to host the Silver Ferns in Dunedin. Unfortunately the result didn't go quite our way but gave our Netball public a great spectacle. We will be pushing for more of these in the future!!!

Nicki Paterson
Regional Manager

TEST MATCH FEVER HITS DUNEDIN

Fanatical Fern fever hit Dunedin and an electric atmosphere could be felt in the crowd watching the Silver Ferns take on England. However, the deafening roar of bang-sticks and cheering was soon subdued as the English team stepped up its game and beat New Zealand 40-38.

It was certainly a turnaround from the first test match in Auckland two nights prior. The Ferns struggled in the attack end, with many balls ending up in English hands. Silver Ferns coach Ruth Aitken opted to start a changed line up from the first test, with Daneka Wipiiti starting at GS, Irene Van Dyk at GA and Maree Bowden in the WA position. Otago's Katrina Grant got the nod at GD, while the other positions stayed the same.

No changes were made to either side after the first quarter, with a score of 9-9. The Silver Ferns found some rhythm in the second quarter and went out to a four goal lead at half time. The second half saw some error ridden netball from both sides, and the match was contested right down to the wire. With a crucial turnover from the Silver Ferns with less than two minutes to go to square the match, the England team went out to a three goal lead. The Silver Ferns managed to pin one back, but it was too late and the England took the game for the third time in history 40-38.





NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

Central Otago Netball Centre

Central Otago Netball season concluded on 31st August with a very successful Primary Representative tournament. We hosted 22 teams from Dunedin, Taieri, South, Upper Clutha, and Eastern Southland. The day was superb with a picnic type atmosphere surrounding the day. Our Central teams finished a creditable 2nd in each of the age groups. Competition was of the highest level and augers well for the future.

Our Primary and Senior competition concluded on 30th August with Roxburgh again taking out the Senior competition.

On a sad note, we have just lost a very noble stalwart of our Centre. Barbara Ballantyne passed away suddenly on 1st October. Although Barbara never took to the courts she was one of those very hard working committee members, she ably ran our canteen for many many years. Barbara had been our President for four years and has been a committee member for as long as I can remember. She will be sadly missed.

Dunedin Netball Centre

The 2008 season finished in style with a carnival of netball held at the Edgar Centre on the final day of the season. The finals of all grades were held on the same day for the first time ever. Starting with the Junior Secondary School sections in the morning and leading up to the grand final which was held on Court 1 in the Lion Foundation Arena between Southern A and University Albion A. A crowd of approximately 150 people watched the final, which was a close fought battle up until the last quarter where Southern A ran away with the game to take out the Premier Grade for 2008. University Albion C won the Premier B Grade, while Columba College A took out the Senior A1 Grade. For all the other results you can check them out on the Dunedin Netball Centre website. www.dunedinnetball.co.nz Special awards were also awarded at the prize giving that followed the grand final, Gillian Pickering won the DNC Contribution to Coaching Cup; Jonathon Bredin won the Best Senior umpire award, while Clare Seymour was awarded for the Most Dedicated Umpire and Danielle Maulder took out the DNC Umpires Achievement Cup. Well done to all players, coaches, umpires and managers for a very successful season, we now look forward to 2009.

NETBALL OTAGO AWARDS EVENING

The 2008 representative season was celebrated with an awards evening at the Southern Rugby Clubrooms, which was attended by sponsors, officials, coaches, the Netball Otago Board and staff members and a number of representative players. This is the first time Netball Otago have held an awards evening, and hopefully it will be the first of many. It has been a great year for Otago netball, with the winning of the inaugural Lois Muir Challenge at the start of the season, followed by the Otago Under 21 team taking out the National Under 21 Champs and finishing with the Otago A team claiming third place at the Perry Foundation National Champs. Four players have also made the NZ Under 21 team to compete at the World Youth Championships next year, Jessica Moulds, Claire Kersten, Millie Lees and Hannah Broederlow.



Otago A co-captain Phillipa Finch scooped the main prize. Finch was named Otago's most valuable player after some consistent performances for her province during the national championship in Rotorua earlier this month.

Jessica Tuki was presented with the award for the most valuable team person, this is for the player that contributes the most both on and off the court.

Helen Bryant received the contribution to representative netball award, which is new this year. Bryant coached the Otago under-21 side which won the national tournament and was also manager of the victorious Lois Muir Challenge side.

Acknowledgment was also made to the bench officials, with Cynthia Wong and Margaret Weatherall receiving a contribution to bench officiating award. Umpire awards were presented to Margo Eckryod for the Most Promising Umpire, Marise Stuart for the Greatest Contribution to Umpiring and the Umpire of the Year award was awarded to Jono Bredin, who umpired the Perry Foundation National Champs final.

Prizes were kindly donated by Arthur Barnett, Brent Weatherall Jewellers and Stirling Sports. It was a very positive evening, a perfect way to cap off one of Otago Netball's more successful seasons.



UMPIRING INFORMATION



Congratulations to Jono Bredin (our own Officials' Development Officer and ANZ umpire) who has recently been upgraded to a NZ A badge which is the highest possible umpiring qualification in New Zealand. Jono was also appointed to control both a semi final and the grand final at the recent Perry Foundation National Champs.

Well Done to Marise Stuart who was recently upgraded to a NZ B badge at South Island Secondary Schools where she was appointed to control the A grade final. Liz Cairns was also appointed to control a final at this event.

Danielle Maulder and Marise Stuart have been selected to umpire at the New Zealand Secondary School Champs in Auckland. Good luck.

Congratulations to the Otago bench officials who have been appointed to control the upcoming Silver Ferns test in Dunedin. This is a great achievement!

Thanks to everyone out there for their huge effort over the season, and it will be great to see you all again in 2009!

Want to know more about Umpiring or Bench Officiating?

We are always on the lookout for new umpires and bench officials. It is a great way to give something back to the sport - no competition is possible without us. Otago is a great place to learn with every possible structure and support network in place.

It is a fun and rewarding experience and it is never too late to take up Umpiring or Bench official duties – Jono is only too happy to hear from you.

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OTAGO TEAM FINISH THIRD AT NZ CHAMPS

Captain's Report by Debbie White

The final placing of 3rd topped off a huge year for the 2008 Otago NPC team. In a short amount of time coach Georgie Salter took a (mostly) young inexperienced team and united them together. NPC is always a challenge with a short time span for a team to come together and make on and off court connections. This year was particularly difficult as several key members of the team were involved in the NZ Under 21 team which meant they missed large chunks of training time and even competition games. Training partners were extremely important this year and a big thanks has to go to Steph Brensell, Megan Graamans, and Megan Parke for their time and effort.

With such a young team and so many disruptions Georgie's innovative thinking was a massive factor in the teams cohesiveness and success. New combinations were tried in most games and all members in the team felt the faith that the coaching staff had in them to perform on court in any given game.

Again I commend Georgie's willingness to try new things and confidence she had in her own abilities, when she invited several specialist coaches to come in and work with different areas of court, Thanks to Jo Morrison, and Megan Anderson for their insights.

The coaching staff of Georgie and Grahame Johnston was a great success, their individual styles of coaching complemented each other, this could be seen by the huge gains that players made both in their own skill levels and also in team performances, the highlight being beating North in the final play off.

Heather Falconer, our manager had a relaxed and calm efficient manner which was enjoyed by all team members and no doubt the coaching staff. Janelle Casey the apprentice coach slotted in well with the two senior coaches. Physio Chrystal had a hard week keeping all the girls in peak shape but did so with a friendly manner.

I would rate this NPC a large success which stemmed from good working relationships between the team/ coaching staff/ and Netball Otago.

KIDS PROGRAMMES IN 2009

After a very successful year of providing a variety of programmes for kids aged between 5-12 years old. Netball Otago is underway in the planning stages for the 2009 programme. At this stage we are hoping to offer the following programmes:

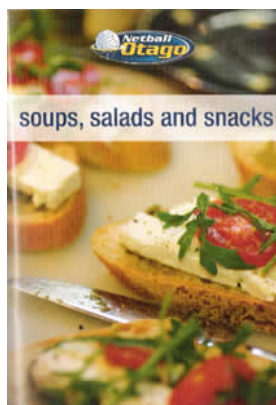
Toddler time	(under 5 years)	-	dates tbc
Future Ferns	(8-10 year olds)	-	Feb— April
Fun Ferns	(5-7 year olds)	-	May—July
Y7/8/9 Academy	(10-13 year olds)	-	May—July

Three Holiday Programmes will also be held through out the year, in April, July and September.

For more details regarding any of our Kids Programmes, check out our website www.netballotago.co.nz

You can also download registration forms online, be in quick to avoid any disappointment of missing out, spaces are limited.

RECIPE BOOKS NOW ON SALE



Netball Otago is delighted to announce the opportunity to purchase our Soups, Salads and Snacks Recipe Book. We contributions from many past and present netballers including Anna Stanley, Ruth Aitken, Sandra Edge, Lesley Rumball and Leigh Gibbs. This is an ideal gift for avid netball fans You can purchase a recipe book from the Netball Otago office



COACHFORCE

Watties Volunteer Coach Awards:

Acknowledging the amazing contribution coaches make to all level of sport is so important. Therefore awards like the Watties Volunteer Coach awards provide people involved in the sporting community the opportunity to nominate and reward coaches that have assisted in the ongoing development of sport, and given up their time on a voluntary basis to coach athletes and teams in their respective sports. Coaching is an integral part of any sport and it gives me great pleasure to see so many Netball coaches being acknowledged through this program. Nationally netball coaches have featured heavily and it just goes to show how much passion coaches have in giving something back to their sport and ensuring its long term future.

In Otago I would like to make a special mention to and congratulate the winner of the 2008 Student Coach category, Columba college student Samantha Faulks. She has been involved with school level coaching for the past 2 seasons and has amongst all her other commitments taken the time out and effort to assist her school develop the sport of netball. A coaches' role in the overall development of the players through great positive role modeling, educating them on the numerous health benefits and the building of strong teamwork is such an influential one, therefore young coaches like Samantha play an integral part in that development and the amount of dedication and commitment to achieve that is to be highly commended.

Congratulations to Samantha and all the netball coaches that were nominated for each of the category award winners, General Coach of the year, and Lifetime category, well done to you all and hope to see more of you up there next year.

Tess Molloy
CoachForce Otago/ Southland
NNZ

DEVELOPMENT CAMP 2009 Alexandra



Due to the success of the Netball Development Camp in 2008, we are happy to offer a Netball Development Camp in 2009. The camp is open to players, coaches and umpires aged 13-18 years. The camp programme includes:

Netball Skills	Fitness
Game plans / Tactics	Sports Psychology
Sport Massage	Team building activities
Nutrition	Expert Coaching

TO REGISTER:

Go to www.netballotago.co.nz and click on the Development Camp link, complete the registration form and send in to Netball Otago.

NNZ TALENT DEVELOPMENT SQUAD NAMED



Congratulations to the twelve players that have been selected in the Otago Talent Development Squad for Netball New Zealand. Twenty six players from around Otago were invited to trial for the squad, the calibre of the trialists was extremely high and places in the final squad very competitive.

The Talent Development Squad for 2008/2009 is

Ashleigh Hutton	North Otago	Anna Enright	Central Otago	Caroline Crowley	Dunedin
Gemma Cowie	Dunedin	Hannah Cooper	Dunedin	Hannah Williams	Dunedin
Kelly McAuslan	Dunedin	Kirstie Johns	Dunedin	Olivia Muir	Central Otago
Oriagh Fox	North Otago	Tiffany Banks	North Otago	Zoe Paterson	Central Otago

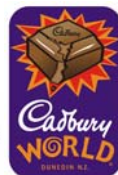
Mitchells Tavern

A huge thank you to our sponsors:

HONDA



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