



AUGUST 2021



Community Newsletter

Kia Ora Everyone

Not what we had hoped for or wanted but unfortunately, we find ourselves back in Level 4 Lockdown (Level 3 for Northland) and netball unable to continue. It is incredibly disappointing as we got so close to the end of the netball season. I certainly feel for the many players, coaches, umpires, administrators and supporters that were in the final stages of preparation for end of season tournaments. I know my daughter was heartbroken by the cancellation of AIMS Games, and I am sure that feeling we replicated in many families over the last couple of weeks as events have been cancelled.

Thank you to the UNISS Committee and Howick Pakuranga Netball Centre for the work you put in preparing for UNISS. Not to be for a second year in a row, let's hope it is third time lucky in 2022! I have also seen the news that the National Secondary School Championships have been cancelled which is a further blow.

However, these are challenging times and we certainly agree with the decisions to cancel these events as we seek to work together to stay home and stay safe. A covid free NZ is certainly a lot more fun than lockdown!

As we look ahead to the future, I would draw your attention to a meeting we are holding of Centres on the 27th September (either in person or online, depending on where we are at by then!). We are reviewing our Zone Strategy and as part of that process we are keen to hear from as many Centres as we can. Your input and feedback is highly valuable to this process (details later in the newsletter).

Prior to lockdown, it was great to be able to send some of our Mystics players and coaches north, with our zone development staff and NetballSmart officers for development days. It is always great to get out in the Northland community. This was postponed from our first attempt that was thwarted by the March lockdown, so great to be able to hold this weekend.

Finally, I must acknowledge the great work of our elite netball teams in our Zone. The Mystics and Marvels were champions for the first time. Such a great achievement! It was also wonderful to see the Comets have an outstanding season and the Stars were front runners for so long in this year's ANZP. It was also fantastic to see the Auckland Under 18's win the national title with strong performances from other Centres in our Zone as well. It has certainly been a brilliant year for netball in our Zone!

If you are looking for information around government and other funding support, I have found that Aktive do a great job in this space – if you have not already done so then bookmark this page to keep up to date with the latest:

<https://aktive.org.nz/covid-19-resource-hub/covid-19/>

Kia kaha

Phil Vyver

CEO

NORTHLAND DEVELOPMENT DAYS

The Northern Zone community team travelled to Whangarei Netball Centre and Bay of Islands Netball Centre recently to support development opportunities for Northland players and coaches. Our Coach Development Officers, Netball Development Officers, and NetballSmart officers undertook Coach development through the delivery of practical workshops, and player development through the delivery of NetballSmart Dynamic Warmups, skill development utilising aspects from the Netball New Zealand Year 7/8 Player Development Programme, and performance level player development for the 18-25year old group.

The performance level player and coach development was headed by our Franchise coaching staff of Helene Wilson, Rob Wright and Tia Winikerei, alongside our Netball Development Officers – a fabulous opportunity to learn directly from the team with a wealth of knowledge that won this years' ANZ Premiership.



Coach and player development is critical to ensuring quality experiences for our netball participants. Northland's geographical spread creates barriers to providing face to face quality professional development. These development events ensure we reach as many of Northlands passionate netball whanau as possible.

Whangarei Netball Centre Year 7-13 players, and their coaches, thoroughly enjoyed the practical sessions. It was a great opportunity to learn some new skills and gather tips from the experts. Having the ANZ Premiership Cup and team members present provides role models for young aspiring netballers in Northland. If you can see it, you can be it!

Bay of Islands held their annual field day which saw local Northland centres visiting with rep teams and Year 7/8 PDP programme teams for a competitive and fun outing respectively. Hundreds of tamariki in attendance from local clubs and centres took part in player development activities, and enjoyed the amazing opportunity to meet Netball Development Officers and Mystics players, Sulu, Fa'amu & Saviour up close and personal. The days focus was on skills for attack, defence and creating space, and ensuring full inclusiveness and fun was had by all. The connections and mahi tahi of our Northland Centres continues to grow and bodes well for the future of our game in the North.

These inspiring events are not possible without the support of our fantastic funders. Thank you whole heartedly to Oxford Sports Trust and Foundation North. The impact for these Northland tamariki to have access and exposure to these opportunities for their growth in netball from Mana Wāhine cannot be quantified.



CENTRE CONNECT SERIES

Centre Connect – coming to you soon!

Traditionally the Zone has run an annual Centre Forum being an opportunity for socialising our annual operating plan and generating discussions on various topics with our Centres. It was also a great opportunity for our Centres to connect with each other. Attendance due to travel and time barriers has been sporadic and Covid life makes future planning of in-person events even trickier. This year we are taking a progressive approach and have chosen to utilise a series of Zui that will be interactive and Centre led in terms of finding solutions to some of our most challenging issues. This model is being implemented based on the feedback gained from our recent survey to Centres to identify the challenges and the favoured way to connect. We will run three Zui – with each one being run twice – once during business hours and repeated that evening, with topics to cover Sideline Behaviour, Participation Trends and Volunteers. We are working on finalising dates but aiming for the October-November period. So keep watch and look out for our invitation heading your way soon. We hope to bring our Centres together in person in March for our AGM.

CENTRE STRATEGY ENGAGEMENT

The Northern Zone Board are reviewing our current strategic plan and would value input and feedback from our member Centres. We invite 2-3 representatives from your Governance Board, Senior staff or key committee personnel to join us on Monday 27th September at Auckland Netball Centre Meeting Room. The session will begin promptly at 4pm through to 6pm however we welcome your arrival from 3.30pm for afternoon tea.

Please RSVP no later than Wednesday 22nd September midday via email to Jenna Pule, Netball Operations on netballops@netballnorthern.co.nz

We look forward to an interactive and lively session and thank you in advance for your support of netball in our Zone.

Should the Covid-19 Level at that time not allow in person meetings, then the meeting will revert to an online session at the same time. This option will also be made available to our northern centres who may not wish to travel down to Auckland.

TU MANAWA FUNDING

Aktive and the four Auckland RST's have significant funds available to support initiatives to get more Aucklanders, particularly, Tamariki and Rangatahi, involved in sport or active recreation.

The fund is an activation fund to help cover programme or service delivery costs. This includes costs of:

- Programme or project delivery (e.g. venue or equipment hire, transport to the event)
- Equipment (as part of a programme or project)
- Officials, where these are required for the delivery
- Delivery staff wages (e.g. activity leader, coordinator).

Applications are now open, and your local RST or Northern Zone Centre Relationship Manager can help with the application process ensuring your concept becomes a reality and successful in your application.

Click here <https://aktive.org.nz/tu-manawa-active-aotearoa/to> check opening and closing date and links to your RST local contact.

Sport Northland manages the Tū Manawa Active Aotearoa on behalf of Sport NZ in Northland. Their focus is on:

- Children and young people in higher deprivation communities
- Girls and young women (5-24); and
- Disabled children and young people (5-18)
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There are two types of funds – Full fund for initiatives over \$50,000K and Fast Fund for initiatives up to \$10,000. This is a great opportunity to work collaboratively with another code or local community organisation to implement initiatives to get Northlanders active.

Follow this link to find out more <https://www.sportnorthland.co.nz/Helping-Sport-Happen-Whakatinana-Hkinakina/T-Manawa-Active-Aotearoa-Fund>

Sport Northland staff or Netball Northern Zone staff can support you in bringing your concepts to life through this funding.

PAPAKURA NETBALL CENTRE

Papakura Netball Centre are currently looking to fill some vacancies on their board. I have included the link to the Northern Zone website where you will find the job description along with contact details if you would like to apply. Please feel free to share this with anyone you think may be interested.

<https://www.netballnorthern.co.nz/zones/northern/useful-info/jobs/papakura-netball-centre-board-members.html?fbclid=IwAR2fL6IDRINwohj4P37jzKL8cdbP-3IKgXYu2wSKRwUBobSNxRoDPs-BdI>

NETBALLSMART

While we have been busy running pre-tournament workshops, we now find ourselves in another lockdown. We want to encourage everyone to stay active and healthy in their bubbles as well as being prepared for final rounds of this season and preparing for the next. We have several resources which you can use as a fun at home workout in your bubble or create into a workout of your own.



https://netballsmart.co.nz/images/netball-smart/pdf/Body_weight_Strengthening.pdf

https://netballsmart.co.nz/images/netball-smart/pdf/Core_Control_and_Stability.pdf

<https://netballsmart.co.nz/images/netball-smart/pdf/NetballSmart-Prep-n-Play-Resource-web.pdf>

UMPIRE

Whangarei Field days

We had a great weekend in the north working with our netball centres at Field days. Congratulations to the umpires that achieved their Centre Practical Awards and Zone Practical Awards as well as the Umpire Coaches challenging themselves in development and working on their coaching skills.

Thank you to everyone who supported the weekend and to Oxford Sports Trust <http://www.oxfordsportstrust.org.nz/> for your support to ensure we can build capability in our centres by developing our umpires and umpire coaches.



Zone Theory Exam 2

Congratulations to all 48 Northern umpires that passed their Zone Theory exam in August. They faced a challenging night encountering a few issues with the online system so well done on a great effort. Now our umpire coaches can look forward to many more umpires to support through the pathway.

Did you know that umpires use different whistle blows throughout the game? See if you can find the answers to these exam questions.

An umpire's whistle starts and stops play. Select the appropriate length of whistle for each play.

1	At the beginning of a period play or to restart play after a stoppage. a) Long whistle b) Medium whistle c) Short whistle
2	For an infringement, toss up, to restart play or when needed to indicate the ball is out of court. a) Medium whistle b) Short whistle c) Long whistle
3	To instruct timekeeper to hold time a) Medium whistle roll b) Long whistle roll c) Short whistle roll
4	To end a period of play a) Long whistle roll b) Medium whistle roll c) Short whistle roll
5	Warning whistles are given prior to the game: (choose all that apply) a) 10 seconds before play b) 4 minutes before play c) 30 seconds before play d) 12 minutes before play

NORTHERN MYSTICS

On the back of winning the 2021 ANZ Premiership title, the Northern Mystics have confirmed their team for the 2022 Season. With announcements released in 3 stages over the past few days, we concluded our team today announcing our shooting trio.

Captain Sulu Fitzpatrick returns in Mystics colours alongside Phoenix Karaka, who is returning to the court after the arrival of her first child and Michaela Sokolich-Beatson, returning from double Achilles Injuries.

Flair, consistency and reliability have been rewarded for our midcourt quartet to wear the blue strip again next season. Led by the skill-set of Peta Toeava, our midcourt remains stable with the return of the 'engine room duo' Tayla Earle and Fa'amu Ione, with Claire O'Brien added to the mix for her first full season with the team next year.

New Silver Fern Grace Nweke will anchor our shooting circle again for 2022 and will be joined by Filda Vui, who has been rewarded for her contribution this year along with Monica Falkner who is making the move across town to join our shooting circle after a season with the Stars.



The graphic features the Northern Mystics logo on the left, which includes a stylized bird or wing design. To the right, the text 'INTRODUCING YOUR 2022 TEAM' is displayed in large, bold, white letters. Below this, two rows of player portraits are shown against a blue background with a subtle pattern. Each player's name is printed in white and green text directly beneath their portrait. At the bottom of the graphic, the website 'www.northernmystics.co.nz' and the hashtag '#MYSTICSNATION' are displayed in white and green text.

NORTHERN MYSTICS

INTRODUCING YOUR 2022 TEAM

SULU FITZPATRICK **PHOENIX KARAKA** **MICHAELA SOKOLICH-BEATSON** **TAYLA EARLE** **FA'AMU IOANE**

CLAIRE O'BRIEN **PETA TOEAVA** **MONICA FALKNER** **GRACE NWEKE** **FILDA VUI**

www.northernmystics.co.nz **#MYSTICSNATION**

With thanks to our funding partners



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