

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

May 2022



With the netball season in full swing, it is great to see all the netball community out on court. Whilst covid is still causing disruption on a team by team basis, all competitions are going ahead as planned which is fantastic.

The ANZ Premiership is drawing to a close with a must win Elimination Final between the Robinhood Stars and MG Mystics all set for Wednesday evening at Pulman Arena. Get your tickets – don't delay as they will be snapped up in no time! A great season by both teams regardless of the result, given the difficulties faced this year.

The winner will progress to face the Te Wānanga o Raukawa Pulse in the Grand Final on Sunday 12 June in Wellington.

Whilst that level of netball is nearing its conclusion, the representative season at U14, U16 and U18 level is getting underway. Pukekohe held the first tournament of the circuit with the new two round 40-minute game format in play for the first time. This was a result of Zone facilitated consultation and discussion between Centres, seeking to improve representative programmes including the format of circuit tournaments. It is great to see this level of collaboration in the Northern Zone.

It is that time of year when we collect the membership data. Thank you to those that have already submitted your data and shortly we will be seeking your insights into variances. This is vital information as it allows us to understand where participation is growing or declining. We can then respond accordingly. This data flows through to Netball NZ to provide a national picture of participation.

Thank you to all the volunteers we have in our Zone. The sport cannot run without the many coaches, umpires, managers, administrators and many more volunteers that help every week. We are excited to see the Cadbury Volunteers' of the Month from May and make sure you are nominating your volunteers each month.

Please pass this newsletter on to your staff and board / committee members. We would love the information to be shared as wide as possible. Together we can all make a difference and help to improve the netball experience for our participants.

The Zone staff are here to help, so please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Phil Vyver

CEO

ZONE NEWS FROM OUR BOARD

Scenario planning

While it's great to be back on court playing netball there is still a lot of uncertainty and disruption. A recent example for the Northern Zone was the postponement of the MG Mystics ANZ Premiership game against the Pulse. We had a workshop with centre board members and a sponsor event being hosted by 2Degrees set to occur prior to the game. Hence the game postponement caused disruption to players, sponsors, fans, the venue, broadcaster and incurred time and cost to reschedule.

Ongoing uncertainty and disruption have caused the Zone to refresh our scenario planning so that we are ready to act quickly i.e. conserve cash and look after staff, when the unexpected occurs. We encourage you to do the same and be prepared.

The form of the scenario planning can be up to your centre board or committee, based on how you operate and how much buffer you have on your balance sheet. It could be a conversation in a committee meeting or a simple one pager e.g., if revenue is 10% or 25% lower than planned, we reduce or defer xx and yy. Alternatively, you may prepare another version of your budget with different revenue and cost assumptions.

Reference to your strategy and asset and maintenance plan may also guide options and priorities. It's not important to predict the type and size of disruption, but rather to have options and plans ready, to respond when the unexpected does occur.

Attend centre board and committee meetings – please invite us

As promoted in previous newsletters we (members of the Zone Board) would like to participate in a board or committee meeting at every centre this year. This is part of our effort to enhance communication and collaboration, specifically with a governance focus, so complementary to the community advisory group and Centre Connect workshops and other regular collaboration.

We are keen to attend in person later in the year or online if that is how the meetings are being run for now. Please contact Phil Vyver – phil.vyver@netballnorthern.co.nz to schedule this participation.

Enjoy netball being underway again at your centres and we hope you have been able to support the MG Mystics and Robinhood Stars in person!

Take care everyone, noho ora mai,

Mary
Board Chair

WHANGAREI NETBALL CENTRE – GOOD NEWS STORY

We love a good news story, and this gives us all the feels - thanks Jess from Waiotira School for sending this through to us, and to Bella's whanau for letting us share.

"Waiotira is a small rural school with a roll of 28 students, but we manage to organise 2 Junior netball teams. One of these teams is a Yr 1/2 team that has 7 players and plays on Monday nights.

In this little chicks team we have one student/player for which this format of netball is making a huge difference. Her name is Bella and she has Cerebral Palsy. Being able to participate in a sport alongside her peers means so much to her, her friends, our school and her whānau.

Monday 16th was her first night and she had an absolute blast. She was able to participate fully in the warm up, skills session and join in the game. Just the fact that it is a rubber ball with grips makes it easier for her to catch but then the 'adjustable' hoop which means every player in the team and their ability can be celebrated. The inclusiveness of this format is something we think should be valued and we have noticed how much of a difference it is making to our tamariki.

This is all because of the format of the game for this age group and we hope that it creates some wonderful memories and an attitude that 'anything' is possible, especially for Bella."



ZONE SCOUTING GROUP

Netball Northern Zone is calling for ***Expressions of Interest*** for representatives who would like to be part of forming a Zone Scouting Group.

The overarching objective of this group would be to identify players with the potential to play performance and high-performance netball in the future.

Scouts would part of a group who attend tournaments and competitions within the Northern Zone region. This could be:

- At your local netball centre; in the school or club competition.
- At representative tournaments held in the Northern Zone.
- At and school tournaments held in the Northern Zone.

Further opportunities may to scout may include:

- The National U18 tournament
- The National Open Age tournament
- Regional Secondary Schools Championship (UNISS)
- National Netball League (NNL) matches

Scouts will be provided with professional development about the Northern Zone scouting philosophy and process and given the opportunity to contribute to the succession planning for the Northern Zone region.

The scouting group would share the load and the initial step can be as simple as collecting information about players from your local netball centre.

*We are looking for people who are interested in talent identification, and have **any** of the following attributes:*

- Want to learn more about scouting.
- Coached or are currently coaching.
- Played at an elite level and may be coaching.
- Understand athlete development is progressive and takes time.
- Willing to look outside of here and now. E.g., can look at a player and see their potential to be great in the future (with time and training)
- Willing to work collaboratively with zone and other netball centres to build a database of understanding about Northern Zone players.
- Is open minded, will listen to diverse thinking, and share their honest opinion.

If this sounds like you, please register your interest by sending an email saying why you are interested, along with a brief CV, to tia.winikerei@netballnorthern.co.nz by June 15th, 2022.

PAPAKURA OPENING DAY PARADE

Centre Relationship Manager, Amanda Dyason and Community Netball Manager, Karyne Ross, were thrilled to accept Papakura Netball Centres invitation to Opening Day. The parade is a long-standing tradition and always a fun occasion – even on a cold and windy day!



PUKEKOHE NETBALL CENTRE OPENING DAY

Netball Northern Zone Board Chair, Mary Gardiner, and Centre Relationship Manager, Amanda Dyason were excited to attend Pukekohe Netball Centre's Opening Day. A fun day with a piped band which lead team parades, and a special presentation for Pukekohe Netball New Zealand Service Award recipients, David Ronaldson, Raewyn Ronaldson and Katherine (Kat) West. David had the honour of shooting the first hoop to open the season officially.



MANUREWA PARADE DAY

Amanda Dyason, Centre Relationship Manager, joined Netball New Zealand President Carole Maddix, to celebrate the opening of the netball season at Manurewa Netball Centre. Long other South Auckland based Centres, Parade Day is a tradition that continues today with schools and clubs enjoying the opportunity to dress up and create banners.



CENTRE CONNECT – JUNE 2022

CENTRE CONNECT YOUTH VOICE

**Tuesday 14th June and Thursday 16th June
7:00m - 8:30pm**

**Are you a passionate netballer keen to share
your voice? If you are aged 16-25 we'd love you
to join us at our Centre Connect.**

**Come along to a session with a number of guest
speakers to participate and contribute to
increasing youth voice! Check the Netball
Northern Facebook Page for zoom links!**

Guest Speakers:

**Jessie Taylor (Marvels Player)
Ciccone Hakaraia-Turner (Netball New
Zealand Youth Board)
Arizona Leger**



UMPIRE INTERVIEWS

Umpiring is an exciting, rewarding, and challenging role. It allows people to give back to the game as well as meet and connect with others. Umpires are athletes just like players and many train to develop themselves on and off the court. Community umpires are essential to the enjoyment and delivery of netball at your local centre.

We would love you to get to know some of the umpires from our Zone that take to side-lines over the season and hear how they got started, what they enjoy about umpiring and what they find most challenging.

Meet our next community umpire:

Name: Narelle Parker

Age: 42

Netball Centre: Kaipara Netball Centre

Umpire Qualification: Centre Badge

About you: I'm a mum of three girls aged 4, 8 & 10 and keep myself busy with our two businesses as well as mum taxi duties!

When did you start umpiring and how did you get started? I started umpiring when I was only 9 years old. I come from a big netball family being 1 of 10 children & it was just something I loved watching on the side-line & really wanted to do.

Why do you enjoy umpiring? I love the challenge, the fast pace of a good game and at the end of the game it really makes me feel satisfied watching the kids I'm umpiring each week having a great time and learning how to play a clean & safe game.

What has been your biggest challenge? I would say getting back into umpiring as an adult, my fitness.

What has been your best experience? I love a good finals game, I umpired one of our A grade for our year 5 & 6 final and the fast pace of the game and the atmosphere was electric. It was not only a great game to watch but to umpire I was on a high for the rest of the day.

What would be your best advice for new umpires? Keep calm, be confident and just love the learning process and enjoy the experience, there is nothing like it.



NETBALL NZ CONNECTIONS CONFERENCE

The inaugural Netball Connections conference will be held alongside the 2022 FAST5 Netball World Series to be held in Ōtautahi Christchurch from 4th – 6th November 2022.

This is a fabulous opportunity for NNZ, Zones and Centres to connect in person following 2 years of online AGM's. The conference plan is as follows: Friday 4th November - Connections conference opening day; Saturday & Sunday 5th/6th November - Community and High Performance sessions prior to the Fast5 Netball World Series* *The sessions on the 5th & 6th will be completed in time for those that want to attend the Fast5 Netball World Series matches.



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Connections Conferences 2022, 4-6 November, Central Christchurch

4th November - Connections conference opening day

5th/6th November - Community and High Performance sessions prior to the Fast5 Netball World Series*

*The sessions on the 5th & 6th will be completed in time for those that want to attend the Fast5 Netball World Series matches.

Theme

Netball beyond the game.

Purpose

This conference is an exciting opportunity for the leaders in our game (from grassroots to the very elite) to connect, learn from each other, challenge ourselves and each other, see opportunities to grow participation and grow the quality of netball experiences in our sport at all levels.

Audience

The audience includes all stakeholders in our netball community - The World Netball Board, NNZ Life members and Board, Zone Boards, Silver Ferns High Performance team, ANZ Premiership Coaching and Management, Netball Centre Staff, Community Netball Leaders.

Full conference schedule, guest speakers and pricing to be confirmed at a later date.



Fast5 Netball World Series tickets are on sale on the 25th of May 2022.

<https://www.silverfernstravel.co.nz/>



**NETBALL
NEW ZEALAND**
POI TE KAWHITI AOTEAROA

MYSTICS MENS



On Sunday May 22nd 2022, the Northern Mystics Invitational Men and the Northern Stars Invitational Men played their second televised match at Pulman Arena in Auckland. The match was hard-fought and the Stars came ready for battle. Like the first match, the game was filled with speed, athleticism, and a spectacular display of skill. The contest lasted until the final whistle with the Stars rising to the top, winning the match by 1 goal (43-44). The Mystics were heavily disappointed in the result, yet celebrated the fact they had another opportunity to showcase Men's netball to the world for only the second time in history.

While the preparation window for such a game was limited, (only one training assembly during the weekend of May 7th and 8th), the Team used the time productively. They built on their learnings from game one, refined what they had learnt in earlier training, adding a few more tools to their kete. The training weekend was made extra special when the Team shared dinner and enjoyed a games night with the MG Northern Mystics.

The game score between the two teams is one each. Game one to Mystics (55-45), and Game two to Stars (43-44).

Mystics Invitational Men's Team for game 2

Kruze Tangira
Kevin Bell
Joseph Tukaki
Quintin Gerber
Thomson Matuku
Dennis Napara
Joshua Vercoe
Caleb Vercoe
Ephraim Ormsby
James Brown
Jordan Lameta
Wiremu Britton-Rua



WITH THANKS TO OUR FUNDERS...

