



SEPTEMBER 2021



# Community Newsletter

Kia Ora Everyone

Spring is in the air and daylight savings has provided us with those extra hours in the evenings giving even more chances to get out for walks in your community – about the most us Aucklanders can do! We are ever hopeful of moving levels enough to allow summer social leagues to go ahead, however our Northland whanau have a green light as long as all health measures and Level 2 Covid guidelines are met.

Whilst we might be stuck in lockdown there is plenty of mahi happening at the Zone. This is our planning time with the community team feeding up to and into Netball NZ's Community Operations Plan, and building our own Zone Community Operations Plan for 2022. Like every organisation there are annual budgets to review and prepare which is linked to our Operations and overall Strategic Plan. Thank you to all Centres who joined our Engagement Zui – read on to find out more about this later in the newsletter.

The Performance team have campaigns to plan, pre-season requirements to organise and implement alongside recruiting the necessary personnel to make it all happen for 2022. Similarly our Event team are planning home games, ticketing and Mystics membership packages, keeping our social media channels active to stay connected with our Mystics Nation.

The health and wellbeing of our people is paramount as we navigate and survive this Covid environment – so please take time to check in with your staff, volunteers and mates. If you feel you or someone in your sports organisation needs further help this is available free of charge through Sport NZ's link with Vitae. Vitae offer a free and completely confidential service for people who feel they require some independent and expert support in employment health and wellbeing. Vitae can be contacted via phone on 0508 664 981 or via <https://www.vitae.co.nz/>.

Take care, look out for, and after each other...kia kaha!

Karyne Ross  
Community Netball Manager

## COMMUNITY TEAM PERSONNEL UPDATES

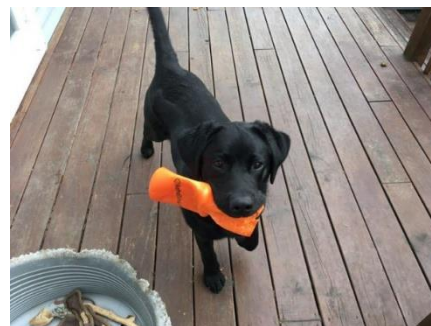
### Farewell to Suzie

Suzie has been with Netball Northern Zone in the role of NetballSmart Development Officer for four years. As a qualified physio she specialises in movement analysis and has just completed and successfully defended her PhD on this topic, much of which has formed the research basis behind the NetballSmart programme.

Suzie leaves us to take up a role at Wintec Waikato Institute of Technology as a Physiotherapy Educator for their Bachelor of Physiotherapy Honours programme, which for Suzie was the next step in her career putting all my PhD learnings to good use, with an institute that are still developing their exciting new blended learning programme. Not from a netball background, and English to boot, Suzie is now well versed in the inner world of netball and considers herself an honorary Kiwi.

On a personal level Suzie was the community teams master of games, making trips away (and zoom calls) fun and feeding all our sporties competitive spirits. She and wife, Jess, are fellow doggo lovers and whilst sadly losing their first pup Whisky are now parents to Rugby, a good solid kiwi icon!

We are very excited for Suzie as she starts her adventure in her new lecturing career and know the impact of her mahi for NetballSmart has been immeasurable. Best wishes – ka pai, haere pai!



### Farewell to Rez

Rez was engaged by Northern Zone for a fixed term to support umpire development across our Northland centres. She has been involved in netball for many years, coaching, administration roles and most passionately, umpiring.

Rez's work within the local schools at Kerikeri and Bay of Islands College has seen significant upskilling of secondary school age umpires, alongside connecting them back to their local netball Centres. Coming back into the netball environment has seen Rez return to court herself umpiring at a number of our centres and we hope continuing her own umpiring pathway and journey.

We thank Rez for her contribution and service to our Northland centres during this year. We have no doubt her skills will not be lost to netball and we will continue to see Rez in her whites, whistle in hand and sunny smile greeting everyone. Rez we wish you all the best wherever your next journey takes you and again, thank you for your mahi.



## ZONE NEWS FROM OUR BOARD

A huge thank you to everyone who participated in the Zone Centre strategy engagement workshop on Monday, 27 Sept and those who sent input following the workshop. It was great to meet, even though online and talk about how we can grow and strengthen netball. It is not now and never too late to share more ideas, so please contact Karyne if you have other suggestions you would like to share.

This workshop was a critical part of our Zone strategy, planning and budgeting process. The Zone board team has two workshops planned during October to reflect on Zone KPI outcomes this year, your centre feedback, Poipoia, existing partnership commitments with NNZ and centres and key challenges of sport in a Covid disrupted environment, all linked to our purpose. The main focus for the Zone Board and staff team, as with centres, is to prioritise effectively. There is not enough funding for everything we would love to do and hence reflecting on key challenges and which initiatives and actions deliver the best outcomes is our focus.

Preparation and refinement of the strategy, plan and budget are an iterative process and we have a first draft budget prepared which sets the parameters for our priority setting in the strategy and plan. To ensure we continue to improve our financial stability the Zone will maintain the principle that only funded activity will occur as we strive to reduce the amount of community support for the Mystics team. Good progress has been made this year and the Board is delighted (and relieved) the Zone is no longer in negative equity. This gives us choices and more flexibility as we endeavour to grow and strengthen netball.

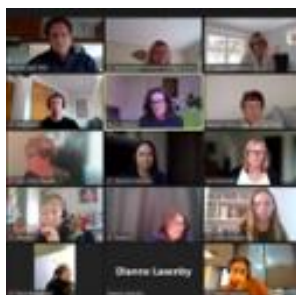
Mary Gardiner  
Board Chair

## CENTRE STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENT HUI

Lockdown didn't stop Northern Zone holding our Centre Strategic Engagement Hui – we just moved it online!

A huge shout out to all the Centres that engaged, sharing their knowledge, experience and thoughts on how to Grow and Strengthen netball in our region. There was robust discussion with plenty of feedback for our Zone Board to consider as they refresh the Zone Strategy.

Thanks to our Zone Board members and CEO Phil Vyver, the note takers tackling Padlet, who enjoyed connecting with our Centres. A huge thank you to our facilitator, Kyle McLean for your warmth, approachability and keeping the session moving. In Kyle's words **"Go fast go alone, go far go together"**.



## CENTRE CONNECT SERIES

This series is interactive, sharing best practice, brainstorming ideas and innovations and builds on centre connections, experience and knowledge of centre personnel alongside regional/national, cross code insights and Zone knowledge. We are excited to collaborate with our Centres through this series.

Dates are as follows: Please note we have changed the order of topics 😊

Zui 1 - <b>Sideline Behaviour</b>	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> October – 7pm	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> October – 10am
Zui 2 – <b>Volunteers</b>	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> November – 7pm	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November – 10am
Zui 3 - <b>Participation</b>	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> November – 7pm	Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> November – 10am

The Zoom link will be sent to Centres and posted on our Facebook page the week prior to each Zui.



## NZEPP NOVEMBER-DECEMBER TRAINING BLOCK

The Northern Netball Zone is running a NZEPP pre-Christmas training block on Monday and Wednesday nights along with two Saturday sessions from Monday 22nd November till Wednesday 22nd December.

Trials for places in this block will be held on Monday 1st and Wednesday 3rd November - VENUE TBC

Players who are interested in participating can register [HERE](#)  
Registrations close on the **Thursday 21st October 2021**.

Further information around trials will be communicated prior to November 1<sup>st</sup>.

		<b><u>NZEPP NOVEMBER – DECEMBER CALENDAR</u></b>			
<b>NZEPP Trials</b>					
<b>Monday PM</b>		<b>Wednesday PM</b>		<b>Venue</b>	
1 <sup>st</sup> November		3 <sup>rd</sup> November		TBC	
<b>Trialist's notified of results</b>					
<b>NZEPP Training Block</b>					
<b>Monday PM</b>		<b>Wednesday PM</b>		<b>Saturday AM</b>	
22 November		24 November			
29 November		1 December		4 December (TBC)	
6 December		8 December		11 December (TBC)	
13 December		15 December			
20 December		22 December			

## TĀMAKI MAKAURAU SECTOR SUPPORT FUND

Sport NZ announced this week further financial support for Auckland regional play, active recreation, and sport organisations. The fund will be administered by Aktive in conjunction with the local RSTS – Sport Waitakere, Sport Auckland, Harbour Sport and CLM Community Sport.

The fund opens on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October and closes on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2021. All information can be found on the Aktive website under their Covid 19 resource page. Please follow the link below to read the guidelines, FAQ and view the application form.

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

This provides all Centres with a timeframe to collect information for their application, ahead of the opening date. Whilst you can complete a draft of the application NO applications can be submitted until opening date.

Support for applications is available from your local RST, Aktive or your Zone Centre Relationship Manager.

## UMPIRE

### **NZ Theory Exam 2**

We had 13 candidates successfully sit and pass the 2<sup>nd</sup> NZ Theory exam for 2021. Congratulations to all of you on a great result! It is great to see the number of umpires sitting their theory exams and progressing along the pathway in 2021. Our results for 2021 in total are:

Zone Theory passes: 62

NZ Theory passes: 17

## NETBALLSMART

We know that strong Netballers can be safe and skilful players. Check out NetballSmart's video below to hear the perspective of Erikana Pedersen, Sam Winders and Holly Fowler.

<https://fb.watch/7U-Gd-Keya/>

Give the NetballSmart [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages a follow for lots of valuable off-season information!

Also, if you want to chat about how to reduce injury risk in your upcoming summer/social leagues, please don't hesitate to reach out to Katie at [netballsmart@netballnorthern.co.nz](mailto:netballsmart@netballnorthern.co.nz)

## MANUREWA NETBALL CENTRE

A massive congratulations to Sand-Ina Cameron from Manurewa Netball Centre for being named an ANZ local legend!!

ANZ local legends were introduced for the first time this year to celebrate the thousands of unpaid volunteers who support Netball and Sand-Ina was recognised as one of New Zealand's six most treasured contributors to the Netball Community, what an achievement!!

Sand-Ina was awarded the lease of an indoor training venue and clubrooms for the next 3 seasons valued at just under \$12,000 for her club plus \$1000 for herself to help her continue her support of netball in the community.



## CADBURY VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

**Cadbury Volunteer of the Year** nominations (for our five National Volunteer awards) are now open online on the NNZ website <https://www.netballnz.co.nz/get-involved/volunteering>

There are 5 Volunteer awards:

- Cadbury Volunteer Coach of the Year
- Cadbury Volunteer Official of the Year
- Cadbury Volunteer Administrator of the Year
- Cadbury Youth Volunteer of the Year
- Cadbury Community Volunteer Champion of the Year

Nominations will be open for 2 weeks closing on Sunday, 10 October at midnight.

## SPORTY CRM UPDATE

Sporty is now providing SuperCRM Member Management solution **free for all sports clubs** in New Zealand.

One of Sporty's more recent developments has been [SuperCRM Member Manager](#) - a powerful customer relationship management (CRM) solution that gives sports organisations at all levels a secure method of seeing, managing and communicating with their members, keeping all contacts, notes and financial details in one place.

For more information or to sign up full details are at [www.sporty.co.nz](http://www.sporty.co.nz).

## MYSTICS

Unfortunately due to Covid-19 lockdown restrictions, the Netball Northern Zone End of Season function had to be postponed with no idea of when, or if, we could hold this event at a later date.

We felt it was important to acknowledge our teams achievements and present player awards before players begin assembling for their respective teams for the 2022 season, and therefore held our Awards presentation online on **Saturday 25 September**.

Both our Northern Mystics and Marvels team members were present along with Netball Northern Zone Staff, Board, Sponsors and long standing season members. We enjoyed the opportunity to meet online and acknowledge the awesome achievements of both our teams with our community.

## MYSTICS AWARDS

### FANS CHOICE

Sulu Fitzpatrick

*For the player voted by the fans of Mystics Nation who has consistently performed, and they have brought enjoyment to those watching the team succeed in 2021.*



Sometimes a person stands so strong in their values that their behaviours and actions reflect not only who they are, but the influence they have on those around them. To influence the belief and grow the support of the Mystics Nation is no mean feat and in 2021 the people have chosen someone who not only plays a standard of netball that has been acknowledged with her selection into the Silver Ferns, but more importantly a person who they feel has led this team into new levels of possibilities with her dedication to serving others.

### MANAWAROA

Peta Toeava

*For the player who has displayed the courage, grit and determination required to grow either their game or themselves through being open to learning through experience with the support of others.*



High Performance can be defined as “your ability to outlearn your opposition”. Learning can be defined as “something acquired through experience”. When you mix these things together the experience usually involves stepping outside your comfort zone to be vulnerable while accepting the challenge to listen, learn and grow. In 2021 everyone challenged each other, but one player grew in her own self-awareness and was prepared to work for, and with all members of her team, including the staff. Her determination to play to her strengths, but grow in areas she has previously struggled, was highlighted in the quality of her play and ability to sustain a solid 60min performance across the ANZ Premiership. Realising the potential in yourself that others often see before you do, is one of the most challenging learning journeys any person can take. The willingness to open up to possibilities with grit and determination when challenged makes the choice of our 2021 Manawaroa winner simple.

## MANA

Fa'amu Ioane

*For the person who has consistently displayed the team values during the season. Being relied on by the team in challenging moments, displaying the attitude required to succeed, being dedicated to improving our team's netball performance and always being confident to be their true authentic self.*



Living Mystics MANA values is something our team always aspire to and the recipient of this award believed in them wholeheartedly and was always open to continuous improvement throughout the season. Committed to improving her communication with staff and coaches throughout the year, she used her weekly PIP focus for the skillset she wanted to execute. This dedication was reflected in her growing performances as a leader on court each week. Her attitude was always positive, if not a little cheeky which is often needed in a high-pressured environment. Coaches felt she deserved an award on its own for managing the emotional outbursts from her senior teammates, and still consistently connecting the units on court by sharing her game knowledge. In those moments of truth on court where the team were challenged, and needed a tip or intercept or someone to charge up the middle on attack to avoid held ball. This player could be relied upon 100% of the time. A quiet achiever, the never tiring engine room of the team and all-round positive team member.

## BARFOOT & THOMPSON MVP

Grace Nweke and Peta Toeava

*For the player/s who have consistently performed for the team at a level that contributes significantly to the team's success.*



In 2021 there were records set during ANZ Premiership that were world class. Surpassing Jhanelle Fowler-Reid's previous record for the most goals scored in a season, 850 across 16 games to be exact, at an average of 53 goals per game, we knew as a team we were happy to continue supporting the growth of our GS. And support there was with pinpoint accuracy in feeding. Also, a 2021 ANZ Premiership record; the number of feeds at an accuracy never seen at Mystics before. 647 feeds at 91% accuracy which is an average of 40 per game for our WA. So, there were only 13 feeds on average per game that weren't between these two players. Some may call it greedy – we like to think of it as unstoppable. So how can you separate the thread that glues the Mystics attack end together? You simply can't and for this reason for the first time at our club we have joint MVP winners for 2021.

## MARVELS

We would like to pay a special tribute to Ripeka Pirie (Northern Marvels Head Coach 2017-2021), and Claire Magness (Northern Marvels Team Manager 2017-2021), who are leaving their zone roles this year.

Ripeka and Claire have been pivotal to the development and success of the Northern Marvels, and the Northern Zone Elite Performance programme, over the past four years. Prior to taking up these roles they had both given freely of their time to support the zone athlete development pathways.

Thank you both for your servant hearts, and the extensive commitment and time you have dedicated to the zone and our people, and congratulations on winning the 2021 National Netball League Championship title –

**He waka eke noa**



## MARVELS AWARDS

### SAVIOUR TUI - PLAYERS CHOICE AND MOST VALUABLE PLAYER

Saviour Tui is thoroughly deserving of the Most Valuable Player award for the Marvels 2021 team.

Saviour's outstanding athleticism and pinpoint accuracy in the shooting circle saw her awarded MVP of three competition matches and the grand final. A pivotal member of the team who lifted everyone's confidence when she was on court.

To also be named the Players Choice is a reflection of just how much a team player Saviour is, so very talented and yet so very humble about this, always encouraging, always willing to do her job and always very happy to play the game she loved.

We will miss that mega stellar smile and Saviour takes with her all the love and best wishes of the Marvels team to the next stage of her netball journey.



### CARYS STYTHER - BEST EMERGING PLAYER

Carys began her journey with the Marvels team this year as a young athlete with the potential to stamp her mark in Northern netball. Training hard to acquire the conditioning and skillset needed to compete in the NNL competition, Carys worked herself into team selection, bench substitution and finally starting line-up. She was a pleasure to have in the Marvels and was one of our bubbly and quirky personalities but she was also extremely competitive out on court setting high standards of performance and work rate for herself. We are all so excited to watch Carys continue her netball journey in the Northern Zone and New Zealand.



With thanks to our funding partners



### Zone Community Netball Team Contact

Karyne Ross

Community Netball Manager [karyne.ross@netballnorthern.co.nz](mailto:karyne.ross@netballnorthern.co.nz)

Vicki Morgan

Centre Relationship Manager [vicki.morgan@netballnorthern.co.nz](mailto:vicki.morgan@netballnorthern.co.nz)

