

NORTHERN SUBURBS NETBALL

STEFFERSON TOURNAMENT

PALMERSTON NORTH 13 June 2010

Rep Co-coordinator's Report

Travel

Both year 7 and year 8 teams travelled up to Palmerston North in private cars. A number of girls carpooled and travelled together, which helped to build a sense of shared excitement.

Food

Responsibility for bringing food for dinner was shared between families, with half of the families bringing food for the Palmerston North tournament, and half assigned to bring food for the Taupo tournament later in the year. Those families who were not supplying food for dinner provided baking and goodies for the next day. Breakfast consisted of cereals, juice and toast. The girls made their own lunches the night before consisting of salad, chicken and ham rolls and biscuits. Lollies were also provided through the day to keep energy levels up.

Accommodation

We stayed in the Aubyn Court Motor Lodge, in Fergusson Street. It was 5 – 10 minutes drive from the tournament venue. The units were well appointed, with large kitchen and lounge areas making meals relatively easy and providing good space for after-dinner team building activities. The proprietors were very accommodating, allowing us to use the motel kitchen, and their own personal oven, to reheat meals in the evening.

Each team was accommodated in 2 x two bedroom units, configured with two single beds in one room, a Queen bed in the second, and a roll-away bed and single in the lounge. The motel was very reasonably priced, with accommodation for both teams, 2 umpires and 2 coaches costing approximately \$1100.

Activities

Once we arrived in Palmerston North, the girls were expected to focus on their teams, and to participate in team activities. They ate dinner and breakfast together with team management and the coaches. After dinner they participated in team building activities organised by their coaches. These were a particular highlight.

Stefferson Tournament

The tournament venue was a large complex comprising some 15 courts. During the course of the day, we were able to watch games being played at Under 15, Under 17 and Under 19 levels, which was exciting and inspiring for the girls. There was a real buzz about the event that made a big impression on everyone. The tournament itself was run well and kept well to time.

Results

Northern Suburbs enjoyed tremendous success at this tournament, with both teams winning their grades!!! Results for the day's games were as follows:

Year 7 team – overall tournament placing: 1st

Pool games

- ❖ vs Hastings W 8 – 7
- ❖ vs Manawatu Development W 12 - 4

Semi-final

- ❖ vs Whanganui W 15 - 13

Final

- ❖ vs Manawatu W 15 - 10

Year 8 team – overall tournament placing: 1st

Pool games

- ❖ vs Taihape – W 35 – 5
- ❖ vs Motu Kairangi Development – W 20 -6
- ❖ vs Wanganui – W 20 – 12

Semi-final

- ❖ vs Hastings W 24 – 10

Final

- ❖ vs Motu Kairangi W 20 – 12

Overall comments:

Starting the season with an away tournament was very beneficial for the girls as many of the year 7 girls didn't know each other, and the year 8 girls enjoyed the opportunity to re-connect with old friends. Both teams benefited from the sense of belonging within the team that this gave them.

The amount of parental involvement and support for both teams was also a real feature of this tournament. It was great to see families getting so involved with their kids' sport, and to have siblings and cousins cheering vigorously on the sidelines!

We also received very positive feedback from the Motel about the girls' behaviour and manners. They were tremendous ambassadors for Northern Suburbs both on and off the Court.

Managers' reports for both teams are appended to this report.

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Year 7 Managers' Report

The Gilchrist family very kindly lent us their van travel to Palmerston North. 7 of the girls and HP travelled in the van and the remaining 3 girls travelled with HL.

We arrived in Palmerston North around 5pm which was a bit late. Food took longer to heat than anticipated which put our plans behind schedule a bit. Need to remember for next year that there is only limited oven space.

The girls were all very excited and we were delighted at how well they have bonded off the court. They took themselves off and entertained themselves until dinner time.

Sleeping arrangements were decided by HP, with attacks in one room with HL and defence in the other with HL.

The Saturday programme went as follows

5pm Arrival
6.40pm Dinner with team, coaches & team umpire
7.15 pm Dishes- Managers & Lil Anderson did these due to running late, while the girls had a session with the team umpire
7.1 Coach and managers chat followed by team building with Coach
8.1 Bedtime
9pm Lights out, no talking.

It was made clear by the managers & coach that the girls who didn't settle did not take the court. Not a peep was heard from any of the girls.

Sunday dawned wet and cold. The girls rose at 6.30am and had breakfast, did the dishes and prepared their lunches. HL left early to attend the managers meeting at 8.30 and the rest of the team arrived at the courts just before 9am. We had a bye in the first round so watched the year 8 team play their fist game.

It rained on and off all day and was a bit cold, but thankfully no wind, we were lucky that the rain held off for most of our games. It was hard trying to keep the girls dry all day and some better wet weather jackets would have been a bonus. We had great parental support for all our games. The girls played out of their skins and won all their games. They were a bit nervous before the final, as were the coach & managers. They played their best game of the day and beat Manawatu to take out the overall title! We were all

delighted! We got through the day without any injuries- not even a blister.

Prizegiving was great as the year 8 team won their final as well. What a proud moment for Northern Suburbs Netball. Boy can these 2 teams Cheer!

The Aubyn Court Motor Lodge was great. The staff were friendly and were more than happy to accommodate our wishes, the units were spotless. They commented that our girls were the best behaved sports team they had had in a long time. Definitely recommend for next year.

Our trip to Palmerston North was incident free. The year 7 girls were a delight to take away- they were polite, friendly, helpful, funny and supportive of each other. They are a credit to their parents as well as to NSN.

Helen Limacher (HL) & Helen Potiki (HP)

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Year 8 Manager's Report

Y8 Girls travelled up in private cars with most of them carpooling. They travelled in mufti, as Whaea said "you eat on the way up and spill something like chocolate on your tracksuit, then that's what you're wearing at the tournament", so the players agreed mufti was the better option.

Stayed at the Aubyn Court Motor Lodge like last year, which is a real handy place – especially with the Mall and Countdown right across the road.

For sleeping arrangements, players were split into Attack and Defence with an adult chaperone in each room. Our umpire stayed with the y7s umpire in their own room, and many of our whanau stayed at the same venue or nearby.

Everyone had a shared kai – Attacks bringing something for dinner and Defence bringing along baking for the next day's lunches. Management and Whanau supplied the rest, to cover the drinks for dinner, salads, rolls, breakfast etc – working out to be about \$10 - \$13 per player. There was an abundance of food, giving a clear an idea of what to supply for our next away tournament. After the girls had dinner, prepared lunches and cleaned up, they went off with coach for team bonding and then returned for pudding. Then it was off to bed.

Sunday started off with wake up call at 6am – 6.15am. All dressed, fed, cleaned up and packed – we joined the y7s for "Karakia", blessing us all for an awesome tournament, safe playing, and safe travels afterwards. Then after thanking the Motel for having us – we all departed for Vautier Park.

Our pool games were all played on Court 4. First up was Taihape. Girls played strong and, then we had Motu Kairangi Development. This team was coached by our last year's y7 coach, so the girls wanted to do well.

During the 2nd quarter Tessa sprained her ankle, but with no 'injury time, she bravely managed to hold on for the next minute or so until the half time hooter blew.

At the end of the game we lost Aliyah with chronic headache and stomach ache, resulting in a trip to the hospital and confirming 'exercise induced migraine'.

The girls continued on with the next game which was against Wanganui and the final pool game. Worried for their comrade, all calls from that moment on became..."**Aliyah on three...one two three - ALIYAH**"

Successfully winning the pool, we then faced Hastings in the semi-finals. The girls made it through this game – even with some ‘questioning’ calls from the opposition umpire, to secure their spot in the final.

Final was a repeat of last year as y7s – us and MK (Motu Kairangi). The girls felt a little nervous but determined. Although all players were very tired, the girls managed to continue on and take it out, much to the relief and appreciation of all the supporters. The only thing to top it off was hearing that the y7s had also won against Manawatu. Once the cheers were done, the y8s ran over to congratulate the y7s. The only thing to top their winning was to hear that Aliyah was fine and returning to the courts to celebrate the prize giving with the team.

Stats have been accounted for and players will be advised of them
Cheers

Y8 Mgmt (Rikki Pilitati).