

Nov/Dec 09



Wellington Hockey Association

Newsletter 10

## Didn't they do well

Wasn't it wonderful to see our men's Black Sticks team match the Black Sticks women's results, by beating Pakistan in the final of the Champions Challenge and therefore qualifying for Champions Trophy in

2010. There is a busy year ahead for the Black Sticks with Commonwealth Games, World Cup and Champions Trophy all occurring!

This was Blair Hilton's first tournament with the squad; not a bad result for first time out! Kyle Pontifex's excellent performance was rewarded with him being

named goal keeper of the tournament.

Perhaps a similarly pleasing aspect was to see hockey being shown on television including the 'Crowd Goes Wild' leading with hockey for the first time ever and footage on TV3 showing the team's return to New Zealand. We look forward to more coverage in 2010.



Wishing you a very happy festive season and what I hope is a wonderfully relaxing break after all your great efforts over the hockey season!

Mind you, these days the **hockey season doesn't** seem to end as the turf has been incredibly full with Twilight Hockey, Summer League and now the start of the Wellington Hockey Academy and Summer Development Programme. In between times there are a few players coming down to have a hit around and the NHS Trust are getting on with repairs and

maintenance. It is great to see the turfs so well **utilised in the 'off' season.**

Some of you will have noticed the Fraser Park turf has been ripped up in preparation for its new surface. All going well (i.e. good weather) the turf will be more than ready for the 2010 summer league.

Speaking of turf, Wellington Hockey is privileged to be working with the National Hockey Stadium Trust, Hockey New Zealand and Strategic Leisure NZ on a SPARC led '**National Facilities Strategy Project**'. The outcome should be a comprehensive strategic plan on how Wellington Hockey can develop and

utilise appropriate facilities to ensure we can continue to grow the game. Participants at a recent meeting with Dave Allan from Strategic Leisure, gave very positive feedback and felt their thinking had been challenged on ways forward. We will continue to keep you updated on this project in 2010.

Thanks so much for your contribution to hockey in 2009, we look forward to working with you next year!

Have the happiest of holidays,

Anne-Margaret

### Dates for your diary:

- [Summer League](#) entry forms due 15 January 2010
- Twilight Hockey starts 1 February (5 weeks) - [entry forms](#) on the website
- Wellington Hockey Association AGM - 31 March 2010
- Open Grade Competition Starts - Saturday 27 March 2010
- Primary and Secondary Competition starts - Week beginning Monday 26 April 2010



# Summer Development Programme



MVP for the Elite camp, Patrick O'Connor, being congratulated by Black Sticks Coach, Shane McLeod

The Summer Development Programme is underway with a proverbial 'hiss and roar'. The Wellington Hockey Academy have just completed their three week programme of hockey and gym training sessions and the feedback has been very positive. This group of players were selected through a

variety of routes, primarily those players identified at a New Zealand level (by the Black Sticks coaches) have been included in the Senior Academy and those identified by the Representative Coaches, who are under 18 are included in the Junior Academy. The Academy will continue in 2010 with a 6 week programme.

With the Summer Development Programme, players had the benefit of Wellington's Black Sticks players, Joel Baker, Niniwa Roberts and Suzie Muirhead coaching them in addition to the head coach, Sean Dancer.

Shane McLeod (Black Sticks Men's coach) also joined the coaching team on the Friday. Greg Feek (Wellington Rugby's forwards coach and ex All Black) came and took an excellent session on footwork, and the Development Camp had players from the Wellington Rugby team come along for a similar session. Jacques Rousseau (Sports Science at Massey University) has also contributed to both programmes and we thank Jamie Coombes, Sarah Munn, Tom Lancashire, Chris Thomas, Nic Porter and Sam Miskimmin for their wonderful contribution and Bev Robinson for her caramel slice!

The [Summer Programme](#) continues in January and all our young players should find something to suit their age and skill level.

## New sponsors

The following sponsors have generously contributed to supporting the Wellington Hockey Association Development Programme. Please support these businesses wherever you can.



Thorndon New World - Principal sponsor of the WHA Development Programme



gillies and mark real estate ltd MREINZ

Sponsor of the WHA Development Programme 'Future Sticks'



Sponsor of the WHA Development Programme 'Development Camps'



(Logo to come) Sponsor of the WHA Development programme 'Elite Clinics'



Sponsor of the WHA Development Programme 'Elite Camps'

## The 2009 Season

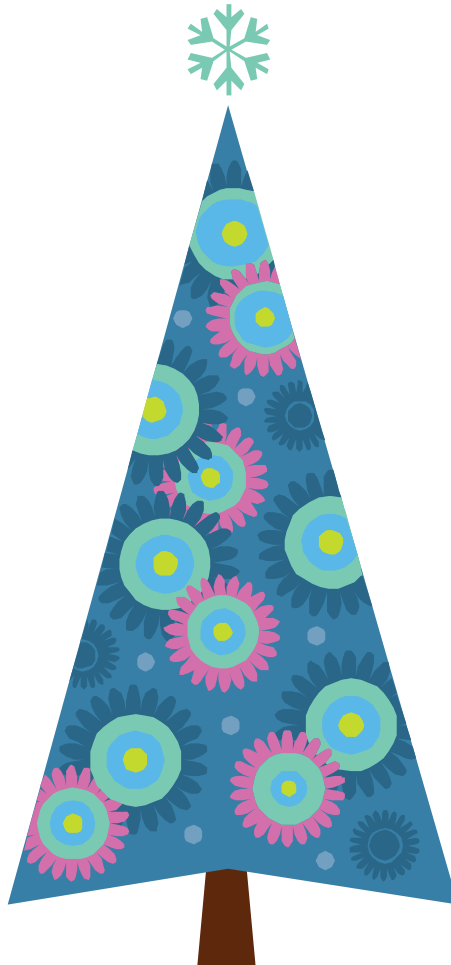
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There has been some wonderful work going on within the Wellington Hockey community over the last year, therefore it is timely to reflect on the **positives for 2009**.

The Representative Programme had some great outcomes, firstly with having such a committed coaching team in place for all our teams from the start of the year. Some excellent results came from the **senior men's programme** with the **Under 21 and Wellington A** teams both winning National Tournament and the **Men's NHL** team having a heart breaking loss in extra time in the final. The **Under 16 Boys A** team were named team of the year at the Youth Representative Prize giving following their 3rd placing at National Tournament however it is our **Under 11's** as an age group that are possibly the most successful for Wellington this year following some excellent results across the board!

With the advent of the **Umpires Advisory Council** this year there has been tremendous progress in developing the young talent in our umpiring ranks. The successes have already been noted in previous newsletters, however thanks must go in particular to **Amanda Goad** for all the work she did in developing the mentoring programme. Amanda along with **Devendra Patel** (who also did a lot of great work with Amanda on the mentoring programme) ran seven *Introduction to Umpiring* sessions bringing new umpires to our ranks and improving knowledge of the rules for our players.

The **High Performance Advisory Council** had a tremendous year through the appointment of Sean Dancer to the role of Development Manager. The wonderful Development Programme is one result from this appointment (see previous page).



The **Representative Coaches Club** was a wonderfully successful initiative by Niniwa Roberts and those coaching Primary and Secondary school teams in 2010 will be delighted to learn this programme will be rolled out to this community of coaches next year. We will send out the **WHA Calendar** in early 2010 for all your information.

A new competition was introduced in 2009 - the **Masters Advisory Council** ran a very successful 6 week long, 11-a-side competition in spring, with **13 team's entered**. **Feedback was** incredibly positive and we will definitely repeat this in 2010.

We had a busy year on the tournament front with Paddy doing a fantastic job coordinating **Federation Cup and Senior Nationals** as well as a Test Series between New Zealand and India.

We have had some tremendous support from a number of funders and sponsors this year (see previous page and earlier newsletters), with significant contributions from **NZCT and Pelorus Trust** enabling us to bring some wonderful activities to the hockey community.

Finally, the **WHA Volunteers 'Thank You' BBQ** held at the end of the year only proved to us how lucky we are in Wellington to have **such wonderful and skilled people contributing their time** to support hockey in Wellington.

**Thank you all!**

## Congratulations Samantha!

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Our sincere congratulations go to **Samantha Hunt** who was awarded the "Official of the Year" at the 2009 College Sport Wellington Awards. This tops a wonderful year off for Samantha!

**Iain McPeake** and **Taelar Samuel** were both awarded the Male and Female Hockey Player of the year and we must note the success **Jess McFadyen** had in being named All Rounder of the Year.

Finally, **Hutt International Boys 1st XI** were awarded Team of the Year.

Well done to you all on a great year of achievement.

## Board Nominations

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We are delighted to confirm we have received four nominations from Clubs (for two places) to the WHA Board:

- Treena Fitness (Easter Hutt)
- Robert (Bob) McIntyre (Hutt)
- Sarah Neaves (Northern)
- Derek Wilshere (Victoria)

Clubs will vote on these nominees in the New Year (details to be emailed shortly).



## Supporting great hockey

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Association

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Wellington Hockey Association is proud to receive support from the following funders:



## Notices

## Happy Christmas from the team at WHA!

Summer League and Twilight Hockey start again February 2010 ([entry forms](#) are on the website)

The HNZ Chief Executive Update is now available on the [HNZ website](#)

NB the Under 16 Representative age group is reverting back to Under 15's for 2010

The [National Tournament venues](#) for 2010 have been agreed (Wellington to Host NHL!).



Sean



Nin



Anne-Margaret



Sandra



Paddy