



# Wellington Hockey Association Newsletter 3

March 2009

## NZ Team News

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Our congratulations and best wishes go to Kyle Pontifex and Joel Baker who were named in the Blacksticks Men's team to travel in April to the Azlan Shah Cup, Malaysia where they will play Egypt, Malaysia, Pakistan and India.

Further great news is that Tae Samuel and Frances Shaw have been named in the Women's NZ Junior World Cup team to travel to Boston in August. As with the men's Junior team, these players are being asked to contribute the great majority of costs for the trip, therefore any support you can provide will be gratefully received. Nicole Van Oosterom and Casey Haumaha have been named as non-travelling reserves which is also a great achievement.

## Masters 2009

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Congratulations go to the Wellington Men's 45+ master's team for their 3<sup>rd</sup> placing at the National Tournament held at Hamilton recently. In addition Wellington has had a number of players named in the New Zealand squads:

Men's 40+	Richard Calkin and Stephen Millar (non-travelling reserves Roy Noble and Arthur Mahon)
Men's 45+	Julian O'Sullivan and Keith Binnie
Men's 50+	Rob Clay (Tony Smiler non-travelling reserve)
Women's 35+	Vicki Collins (non-travelling reserves Karen Shearer and Di Walker)
Women's 40+	Gail Donaldson (non-travelling reserves Janet Marsh and Treena Fitness)
Women's 45+	Wendy Smith, Jill Mercer, Jan Loader and Jeanette Dodson
Women's 50+	Di Jordan and Nicky Sherriff

## National Hockey Stadium Trust

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We thought it may be useful to clarify the relationship between the NHS Trust and the WHA for those unfamiliar with this background. The NHS Trust was formed and approached the council to initiate the building of the NH Stadium. The Wellington City Council paid for the bulk of costs for the installation of the turf and the NHS Trust subsequently took over the management of the facility. They pay a lease to the council each year for these turfs and the pavilion building, with the council responsible for paying for the cost of replacing the surfaces and upkeep of the pavilion building and grounds. For example the pavilion roof is currently being prepared for a re-paint. The NHS Trust continues to contribute to the development of the NHS facility e.g. steps have been installed in the embankment this summer. The turfs at Elsdon and Fraser (including the small turf and pavilion) were paid for by the NHS (with Council contributions for Elsdon) and the NHS has responsibility for paying for the re-surfacing costs of these two grounds. The NHS also paid for the administration building at the National Hockey Stadium to be built and are therefore responsible for the upkeep.

WHA lease the office and a storage shed from the Trust. While the WHA manages the turf bookings, all revenue from turf bookings go directly to the NHS Trust to build a fund for replacing the Elsdon and Fraser turfs and paying any lease costs to the Wellington City Council (as well as further developments at the NHS). The cafeteria and bar at the NHS are run by the NHS Trust with profit from these ventures going into the NHS accounts to support the costs of the facilities.

Therefore Wellington Hockey Association income for managing the competitions and supporting coaching, umpires, all Rep Teams and improving participation comes from team affiliation fees, grants, sponsorship and other funding. We will be working to build our alternative sources of income over the next years and will continue to work with the NHS Trust in developing Wellington Hockey's playing numbers and profile within the region and across New Zealand.

## Rules nights

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Just a reminder – two Rules Nights are planned to help players, coaches and umpires come to grips with the new experimental rules which will be played from the start of this season. 24 March, 6.30pm and 6 April also at 6.30pm – both meetings in the NHS Pavilion.

## Coaches wanted

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Please contact Nin Roberts (04 389 3337) if you are able to assist with one-off coaching sessions at schools in the Wellington Region. NB this is a paid role.

## Advisory Councils

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There has been a lot of progress with the new Advisory Councils. Following a very good number of nominations being received, Anne-Margaret has invited the following individuals to form the Advisory Councils:

**Youth** – Paul Tessier, Dayle Jackson, Nigel Pollock, Kerry Scannell and Jonn Nicholson

**Umpires** – Devendra Patel, Amanda Goad, Iain Hawke, Warren Deveraux, Danella Rennie, Cherie Hunt, Kiri Rakuraku and Stephen Dyhrberg

**Masters** – Phil Teague, Louise Sanson, Jan Loader and Jonathan McKay

**High Performance/Coaching** – Brent Miskimmin, Peter Miskimmin, Paul Ackerley, Di Jordan and Rob McLroy

**Open Grade** – Erin Muxlow, Daniel McCarthy, Mohan Parbhu, Sarah Neaves and Dave Jennings (with one other invited)

**Facilities** – we have received two nominations for this group. Therefore Anne-Margaret will begin to build on this number over the season. At present, with no facilities to manage, there is less urgency for this group.

Very positive and constructive meetings have already been held for Masters, Youth and Umpires. Further information about these councils will go on the website soon, particularly noting the roles and responsibilities for each of the members. NB if you would like to contribute to any of the programmes of activity which will result from these councils, please do get in touch with any of the members or Anne-Margaret. The more people we have involved in Wellington Hockey, the better it will be for all.

## Kapiti Home and Away – Secondary competition

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One result of the Umpires and Youth Advisory Council meetings was to agree that games with Kapiti College and Paraparaumu College will be held on a home and away basis (as has been agreed for Primary and Open Grade). Kapiti will need to provide the umpires for these games (as Wairarapa currently does). Clearly the traffic is an issue in heading north; particularly on a Friday night, therefore games will be scheduled as follows:

- Southern Wellington-based teams to play after 7pm
- Northern Wellington-based teams to play after 6pm
- Ideally no games will be played prior to 5pm
- Ideally no games the eve of a long weekend to be played at Kapiti

WHA will also work with the clubs and teams in Kapiti to build their umpiring capacity over the next year or more. NB the Kapiti turf is now ready for play with the Grand Opening this weekend!

## Breakages

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5 windows and a drainage pipe have been broken in the WHA offices over the last few weeks. No one has managed to come forward to admit to doing this; however evidence suggests the breakages are as a result of bad skills from our hockey players. Therefore for those of you who cannot actually hit a ball into the goal, please use your initiative and hit toward the goals at the end of the ground instead. In addition Nin has got some great holiday programmes coming up to help you improve your technique. 😊

Also as a courtesy, when you shift goals or the summer league pipes when practicing, please return them to their original position. There are not enough ground staff on site to easily get them back into place for the next users and games.

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***Good luck to all of you for the 2009 season – we look forward to seeing you in action!***