Wellington Hockey Association

Newsletter 5

May 2009

Good luck!

Alex Schroder, Alex Shaw, Steve Jenness, Blair Hilton, Blair Tarrant and Peter Miskimmin (Coach) head away to the Junior World Cup on Monday 1 June. We wish them all great success and look forward to seeing the results come through as the tournament progresses. New Zealand is in a pool with India, Netherlands, Poland and Singapore, playing Poland in their first match on 7 June. The FIH provides details of the draw under 'Events and Results' at http://www.fihockey.org/

Sportsperson of the year

The Wellington Association nominated 4 individuals for Wellington sportsperson awards this year. Joel Baker for Sportsman, Tae Samuel for Emerging Sportsperson, Selwyn Waititi for Volunteer and Rex Manning for a lifetime achievement in sport. It was clearly a competitive year for the awards with record levels of nominations received and as a result it was very difficult to reach the final 3 or 4 shortlisted recipients. In the emerging category alone there were 43 nominations received. We are proud of the successes and contributions of those individuals we put forward and our sincere thanks go to those clubs who submitted nominations.

Hockey New Zealand update

The most recent HNZ **CEO newsletter** is now available on the HNZ website at www.hockeynz.co.nz/aboutus/ceonewsletter/. You will see in there a number of the Capital Men's Under 21 players have been identified as having had an outstanding tournament.

While on the HNZ website you can access two **free interactive online Coaching Modules** ('Quick Start' and 'Safety Net') which have been developed by Hockey New Zealand. Each module takes about 30 minutes to complete. The two modules, which were developed by SPARC, are targeted at first time coaches. Both modules can be accessed from the HNZ homepage http://www.hockeynz.co.nz/

Two key hockey events are being held in New Zealand this year:

- Oceania World Cup Qualifying Tournament: 24-30 August 2009
- BDO World Cup Qualifying Tournament: 7-15 November 2009

HNZ are seeking volunteers for both these tournaments - contact Clare at support@hockeynz.co.nz if you would like to know more (at a minimum you will get free entry to the tournaments).

Development Manager

We have very recently advertised for a new role within Wellington Hockey Association - Development Manager. The successful person will work closely with the CoachForce Officer (Nin Roberts) and the High Performance Advisory Council in developing a programme of support for our elite players. In addition they will develop training camps (3 – 5 days) along similar lines to the KELT Academy and the Midlands Hockey programme.

Australia v Wellington

Wellington fielded a combined Masters Men's team to play against the touring Australian Men's 60+ touring team on Saturday 23 May. The game was played in true Aussie / NZ competitive spirit with the adverse weather contributing to a tough match. Wellington were the victors winning 2 – 1 with the goal scorers Brent Miskimmin and Rob Clay for Wellington. The Australian team were on their way north to compete in the Leonie Agnew Memorial Senior Masters Tri Series being held over Queen's Birthday weekend. Our thanks go to Rob Clay for all the organising he did with this match.

Quiz Night 18 June

The umpires are holding a quiz night and would love your support. The proceeds will go toward the umpire development programme which is being initiated this season (for example to purchase video equipment and game analysis software).

Date: Thursday 18th June, 7pm

Place: The tugboat on oriental parade.

Cost: Tickets $20 per person or $100 for table/team of 6. Ticket has nibbles included for the table. Cash bar at premises.

Tickets can be purchased at the Wellington Hockey Office or let them know you wish to enter a team and they can add you to the list.

Men's NHL Coach appointed

We are delighted to have Mark Rutter joining the NHL campaign for 2009. Go to http://wellingtonhockey.sitesuite.ws/page/nhl_men.html for more information about Mark Rutter and the Men's NHL trials. Meanwhile we are working hard on the NHL Women's Coaching appointment and hope to make an announcement about this in the next couple of weeks.

What do we do?

With new personnel on board and another job being advertised, you may be wondering what each of us actually do in the WHA office? The following isn't by any means a complete list of activity however will give you a feel for each person's role:

Paddy Frankenberg is the Office Manager and takes responsibility for ensuring the Senior and Secondary competitions run as smoothly as possible, doing all the related draws. This includes completing the draws for grading rounds, promotion/relegation games and competition rounds for the season. On top of this Paddy re-schedules deferred and cancelled games and schedules the various quad tournaments played in Wellington in addition managing any tournament appointed to Wellington (e.g. we have Senior Nationals and Federation Cup here this year). Paddy manages all the turf bookings for the 4 Wellington turfs and liaises with Kapiti and Wairarapa re home and away games. Paddy is secretary to the Board and the main contact point for communications with Hockey New Zealand.

Sandra Proctor is the Finance Officer, although a change of title is probably required as Sandra has taken on a lot more responsibility over the last 6+ months. Sandra works 30 hours a week doing all the invoicing and payments for competition registrations, Representative teams, office accounts, holiday programmes, summer league competitions and so on. In addition Sandra has taken over managing the Primary and Mini competitions managing the registrations process, getting draws completed and available online and responding to the resulting enquiries.

Niniwa Roberts is the CoachForce Officer undertaking a large number of activities within this role including appointing and working with all the Representative team coaches, utilising funding from the Wellington City Council to develop a Talent Development programme, offering Holiday programmes, coaching the regions coaches, running national coaching courses, attending and contributing to Regional Coaching Clinics and coordinating a team of coaches who go out and coach in schools. NB more holiday programmes for July are in the planning stages. Keep an eye on the website for details (which will also be sent to club and school contacts).

Anne-Margaret Campbell, as Chief Executive, appoints and works with the Advisory Councils agreeing and planning activities for the year. Working with the Board to agree the Strategic Plan, Anne-Margaret has drafted and is overseeing the implementation of an operational plan. Anne-Margaret writes the newsletters and manages the finances, setting the annual budget and keeping track of expenditure as the season progresses. Anne-Margaret is responsible for income generation with large funding grants being the early focus. Anne-Margaret will be part of a Funding Strategy Group which is in its very early stages of development and which will drive the activity around sponsorship and fund raising (volunteers for this group, particularly those with good business connections / fundraising knowledge, are very welcome). A recent focus has been to make submissions to local councils regarding their Long Term Council Community Plans (see below).

LTCCP

Three Councils in the Wellington area are revising their Long Term Council Community Plan. As a result, Anne-Margaret has orally presented a submission to each Council around the following issues:

- **Hutt City Council** – supporting the NHS Trust submission seeking $150,000 contribution to the replacement costs of the Fraser Park Turf (due for replacement at the end of this season). We contended this is an important and well utilised facility which is at the end of its life and that hockey players are already burdened with high costs to play hockey compared with other main stream sports therefore the council should be giving some financial support.
- **Upper Hutt City Council** – supporting the Upper Hutt Hockey Club submission seeking the council to build a turf in Upper Hutt with support from local schools. We noted Wellington hockey was at capacity with teams practicing and playing late into the night 7 days a week. Emphasising that new turfs lead to increased participation (e.g. Kapiti has gone from 5 – 7 senior teams in 2009).
- **Wellington City Council** – noted we are at capacity in Wellington and need a new turf; in addition commenting on the quality of the NHS1 turf which is due for replacement, to ensure it is budgeted for within the current 3 year spending period rather than the next. We also commented on the lack of equality with other sports in regard to cost – a good example being the costing model for the new Soccer turfs being planned by the Council over the next 10 years, with seasonal senior players to pay $45 per hour for the new soccer turfs whereas hockey players are currently paying $112 per hour. We said the council need to include in their turf development plans, building a turf which hockey players can use and to look at the new turfs being developed internationally which can host both soccer and hockey.

NHS Trust notices

Just a gentle reminder it is a Council by-law that dogs cannot be brought into the hockey grounds. Also to let you know the NHS 1 and 2 turfs have just been groomed this week (essentially using a ride-on vacuum cleaner). This cleans the surface but should also hopefully improve the playing surface by bringing up the pile.

Dates for your diary

Monday, 10 August – Team coaches and convenors are invited to attend the Primary Competition Review meeting.

Monday, 17 August - Team coaches and convenors are invited to attend the Secondary Competition Review meeting.

These meetings will give attendees an opportunity to feedback on the season so far and suggest potential changes to the competition for 2010. Players and parents from these teams may like to speak with their team's convenor/coach to ensure their ideas feed into the meetings.

NB we will look to do the same with the Open Grade competitions a little later in the year.

Socialising...

WHA is keen to put some social events in place this year. Members of the Open Grades Advisory Council will be asking their club colleagues for ideas on the type of event they would like to see happen – however we would like feedback from all of you about this. Please email Anne-Margaret with your ideas – e.g. end of year dinner / dance; casino night; town venue v NHS Pavilion; quiz nights etc. In other words - what kind of social event will get you to take part?
annemargaret@wellingtonhockey.org.nz

Masters Competition 2009

The Masters Advisory Council is keen to introduce a competition for masters players to run for 5 to 6 weeks over spring. The focus will be on the social side of the sport, run one night a week at the NHS (most likely) 11-a-side and definitely don't have to be club teams. Ideally this will encourage players who are not interested in participating in a full winter competition an opportunity to get involved with hockey. If you are interested in being part of the competition or assist in running the competition, please get in touch with any of the members of the council. Anne-Margaret can be contacted on 04 389 3337 or annemargaret@wellingtonhockey.org.nz

And finally... thank you!

Thank you very much to the individuals who have been so good in handing in lost property items recently (i-pods, watches, bags etc). These actions confirm to us how great the people are who are involved in our sport.