

Hi from the Front Desk

In what was a busy month for our National Teams, the **Tall Ferns** and **Tall Blacks** return from Australia after playing in a tough series both going down to the Opals and Boomers by 3-0.

We had some very good news with our Boys 3 on 3 Youth team who won the first ever **FIBA 3x3 Youth World Championships** which were held in Rimini, Italy edging out Bulgaria in the final 19-18.

Congratulations to all the boys and girls who have been selected for the **2012 Koru Development Tour** who travel to play in the Australian Country Junior Basketball Cup held in Albury, Australia on the 11-22 of January 2012. To check out the teams click on the link below.

<http://www.basketball.org.nz/national-teams/2012-koru-development-tour/>

The **NZ U17 Teams** competed in the 2011 U17 Oceania Championship in Canberra (22-24 September). Unfortunately both Men's and Women's Teams lost all 3 games against Australia and therefore missed their chance to qualify for the 2012 U17 World Champs. Please follow the link for results and photos at <http://www.basketball.org.nz/national-teams/nz-under-17/>

U18/U20 Fiba Camp was held on the 10-12 of September in three locations: Cambridge, Wanganui, and Christchurch. As well as a development camp for these age groups, camp was also the first stage of the selection process for the 2012 U18, U19 (JTB, JTF), and U20 National Teams. The list of athletes who have been invited to attend the National Selection Camp in October can be viewed at <http://www.basketball.org.nz/national-teams/2011-selection-camp-cambridge/>

Wishing you all the best,
 The team at Basketball New Zealand

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BBNZ Board Announced

The terms of office of the members of the **Transition Board** will come to an end and the new **Appointed Board Members** and **Elected Board Members** will assume office as the new **BBNZ Board** on Saturday 8th October 2011.

The postal vote to elect people from the shortlist of candidates to the new BBNZ Board as Elected Board Members is now complete. A total of 123 votes were cast out of a total of 145 possible votes, a response of nearly 85%.

The following four people have been elected by the BBNZ Voting Members as Elected Board Members:

1. **Robyn Clements**
2. **John Gallaher**
3. **Burton Shipley**
4. **Chris Simpson**

The Elected Board Members will join the recently announced Appointed Board Members of Appointed Members **Karen Poutasi (Chair), Andrew Harrison, Greg Williamson, Chris Patterson.**

A Board orientation day will be held on Saturday 29th October 2011.

Basketball New Zealand would like to acknowledge the outstanding contribution and leadership of the Transition Board over the last few months in this time of significant change in the game.



Tall Blacks Series v Boomers



It was going to be a tough ask for the **Tall Blacks** as they would have to play a three game series against the Boomers in Australia, with the winner of the series clinching the Oceania spot in next year's London Olympics.

The Boomers were a very strong outfit, which included **Pat Mills** who led his side to a 3-0 clean sweep of the Tall Blacks.

New Zealand would be competitive for the majority of the games, but would lapses in one quarter in all three games, which the Boomers would take full advantage of.

In game one which was held in Melbourne, **Kirk Penney** led his side from the front with a game high thirty points, showing his true class, while **Mika Vukona** added eighteen.

But a 21-4 run in the early stages of the final period by Australia sealed game one 91-78.

Game two would be in Brisbane and it was Australia who came off the blocks quickly taking a nine point lead at the end of the opening quarter.

But the Tall Blacks would not give up easily as they clawed their way back into the contest taking a one point lead heading into the final quarter.

Boomers depth showed though as they let loose in the final period winning it by eighteen points. Penney the only Tall Black to reach double figures with seventeen, but had to score from the free throw line, where he converted thirteen from fifteen.

With the series to Australia, New Zealand was playing for pride in the final game which was played in Sydney.



New Zealand did start the game off well leading by one at the end of the first quarter, and were only trailing by four at the end of the break.

But the offense dropped in the second half managing only 27 points to Australia's 47. Australian centre **Aleks Maric** was too strong on the inside with a twenty seven points.

Again Penney carried the offensive load for the Tall Blacks with twenty seven points, averaging a nearly twenty five points per game in the series.

The hopes of making the **2012 London Olympics** are still alive though for the Tall Blacks, but they will have to play a repechage tournament on July 2-8, venue to be announced.

New Zealand will be joined by **Angola** and **Nigeria** out of Africa, the **Dominican Republic**, **Puerto Rico** and **Venezuela** from the Americas, **Greece**, **Russia**, **Macedonia** and **Lithuania** from Europe and **Jordan** and **Korea** from Asia at the Olympic qualifying tournament with the top three to go to the London Olympics.

Tall Ferns Series v Opals



The **Tall Ferns** would have their work cut out for them, against the **Australian Opals** who are ranked third in the world.

Opals would sweep the Tall Ferns as well, but it was a good learning curve for the team as they showed glimpses of good play.

In game one the Opals got out to an early twelve point in the opening period, extending it to as many as seventeen heading into the break.

But New Zealand fought back into the contest cutting the Opals lead to single digits in the final period. But the huge upset was not to be as the Opals led by **Suzy Batkovic** (21 points) won game one 77-64.

Micaela Cocks and **Jillian Harmon** were the pick of the Tall Ferns each with fifteen points

Batkovic would also prove a handful in game two, top scoring with nineteen as the Opals would claim their Olympic berth with a 92-73 win.

Again the Tall Ferns would cut the Opals large lead to ten in the final period, behind Cocks and **Natalie Taylor** who both finished with 17 points each.

In the third and final game of the series, the Tall Ferns put together their strongest opening quarter of the series, taking a three point lead at the end of the period.

But the Opals would respond with a 27-9 second quarter, taking a fifteen point lead into the break.

After the break the Opals really found their rhythm winning the game 82-57. **Abby Bishop** was the main culprit with a game high twenty six points.



Cocks was again arguably the best of the Tall Ferns with seventeen, while Harmon added twelve.

Like the Tall Blacks the Tall Ferns will now have to play in the recharge tournament if they wish to make the 2012 London Olympics.

Scoreboard

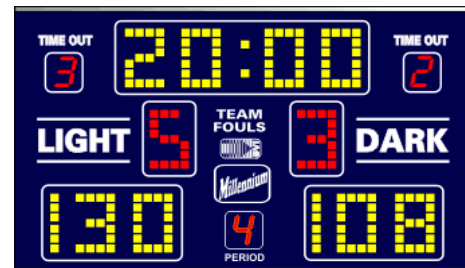
Tired Or Just Needs Replacing ???

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Notices

BBNZ Scorebench Guide

An updated version of the BBNZ Scorebench Guide is now available online and can be downloaded using the link http://www.basketball.org.nz/_r/uploads/2007/08/BBNZ-Scorebench-Guide.pdf.

The guide has been updated to cater for the FIBA rules including the 14 second shot clock.

Upcoming BBNZ Tournaments

October 17-21

Under 13 National Championships

Where: Napier

Host Association: Basketball Hawkes Bay

Under 15 National Championships

Where: Nelson

Host: Nelson Basketball Association

October 21-24

Opens and Wheelchair National Championships

Where: Wellington

Host: Wellington Basketball Association

2012 BBNZ Tournament Hosting Application

Applications are now open to all BBNZ Associations for the 2012 BBNZ Tournament Hosting. Please ensure that all the information has been read and understood including the Tournament Hosting Agreement obligations.

Applications must be with the BBNZ office by **Wednesday, 12th October 2011**. If you have any queries or would like to receive a Tournament Hosting Pack, please contact BBNZ Tournament on 04 4985967 or tournaments@basketball.org.nz.

News Around the Country and Abroad

Tall Black's point guard **Mark Dickel** has been recently appointed as **Director of Player Development** for Basketball Otago for two year's which also means he will be playing for the **OceanaGold Nuggets** in next seasons NZNBL.

Last season the 34 year old played for the **Southland Sharks** under his brother **Richard Dickel**, but will return to the team he began his NBL career back in 1993 as a 17 year old school boy.

Defending ANBL champions the **New Zealand Breakers** will begin their 2011-12 season on October 7th when they play a tough double header in Australia against the **Gold Coast Blaze** and then the **Wollongong Hawks** on October 9th.

Breakers will be without their swingman **Leon Henry** who sustained a stress fracture on his shin which could put him out to as many as six weeks.

Despite a series sweep to the **Australian Boomers**, the **Tall Blacks** have stayed at 18th in the World Rankings.

The Tall Blacks, who dropped to 18th after a 12th placing at last year's world championship in Turkey, remained sandwiched between **Slovenia** and **Croatia** when FIBA released their latest rankings following the five men's zone championships.

Asia Pacific Team Camp 2011

The **2011 Asia Pacific Camp** presented by **Nike** and the **NBA** was held in Melbourne last week (25-30 September).

40 of the most talented young athletes (16 year olds) from **New Zealand, Australia, Korea, and China** were coached by a group of Basketball legends; four-time NBA champion **Horace Grant** (1991-93 Chicago Bulls 2001 L.A. Lakers), Australian legend and a few-time title winner **Luc Longley** (1996-98 Chicago Bulls), five-time championship winner **Ron Harper** (1996-98 Chicago Bulls 1999-2001 L.A. Lakers), Basketball Hall of Famer and assistant coach **Alex English** (Toronto Raptors), and assistant coaches **Jay Triano** (Toronto Raptors) and **Melvin Hunt** (Denver Nuggets).

This was an exceptional opportunity for our athletes to learn from their NBA idols.

FIBA Organizer and Sporting Pulse Training

4 October 2011
Basketball New Zealand

At the 2010 Basketball New Zealand AGM we outlined the 7 key pillars of our strategic plan, 'Making the Change'- One of these 'changes' is an improved implementation of a National Database. These have been spread over the course of three years and are outlined below:

2011 - One of the priorities and key actions is to implement a national database

2012 – From the 1st January, uploading to the national database is mandatory for all BBNZ members

2013 – One of our goals by 2013 is to have a robust database of registered players, with a 10% growth in registered players annually.

As a member of BBNZ, you play a vital role achieving these targets. Also, feedback from our membership strongly indicated that need for more training on FIBA Organiser and Sporting Pulse. As promised at the AGM, BBNZ is pleased to advise its membership that we will be conducting training sessions throughout the country in six locations; three in the North Island and three in the South Island.

All Associations are required to attend at least one of the scheduled sessions. The session should preferably be attended by the person in your association who will be using the software. The software is **free** and should be used to maintain your Associations membership database and competition organization. There are also other functions which can be integrated with this software free of charge; a Sporting Pulse website and FIBA Livestats.

The training sessions will be conducted by **Judy Smith** from FIBA Oceania, Australia along with **Maree Taylor** and **Peter Kadar** from Basketball New Zealand.

Each session will start around 9am to approximately 5pm (duration dependant on the number of participants) with morning tea and lunch provided as well as a printed FIBA Organiser and Sporting Pulse manual.



Each participant is asked to bring:

1. **Laptop** with your **FIBA Organiser** database installed. To install FIBA Organiser go to the web link <http://corp.sportingpulse.com/index.php?id=82>
2. **Wireless** option on your laptop to access the internet for Sporting Pulse.
3. **Notepad** and **pen**.

To attend a training session, please complete all sections of the registration form (please see attached in the email following this email) and return to Basketball New Zealand by **Wednesday, 19th October** for catering purposes.

The training sessions will be held in (venues to be confirmed):

1. **Nelson** - Friday, 11th November
2. **Dunedin** - Saturday, 12th November
3. **Auckland** - Sunday, 13th November
4. **Christchurch** - Monday, 14th November
5. **Palmerston North** - Tuesday, 15th November
6. **Rotorua** - Wednesday, 16th November

Click the following link for the application form

<http://www.basketball.org.nz/officials/courses/>

NZ Boys 3x3 World Champions!



Congratulations to our **New Zealand boys** team which won the **3 on 3 Youth World Championships** in Rimini, Italy.

The boy's team edged out **Bulgaria** in the final 19-18.

Coached by **Anthony Corban**, the team was made up of four players **Isaac Fotu, Reuben Te Rangi, James Ashby** and **Tai Webster** who would be competing with thirty six teams, in a three day tournament.

After progressing through the round robin with three wins and one loss, the team entered the knock out rounds, where they first played the **Czech Republic** winning 21-13 to make the quarter finals.

They would face **Serbia** in a tough 20-16 victory, which would put them up against hosts **Italy** in the semi.

New Zealand's boys overcame a slow start to edge out Italy 18-17, which would be the host's first loss of the tournament, after winning their first ten, which included the **United States**.

The Kiwis would face Bulgaria in the final, which would be a very tough encounter.

New Zealand had the upper hand for much of the first half and early part of the second, going up 12-8 at one point.



(Coach Anthony Corban holding the trophy)

However, Bulgaria fought back, thanks to the clutch shooting of **Tencho Tenchev**, who earlier in the day won the Boys Shootout.

Tenchev connected from beyond the arc time and time again as the Bulgarians tied the game at 14 all.

There was little to separate both sides as the game went into the closing minutes and they were deadlocked at 18-18.

With seven seconds to go, New Zealand went to Fotu and he did not disappoint, driving down the right side of the basket and scoring inside for the final score of the game.

Physicality and mental toughness were the key components to the boy's success as they would be the first ever victors of this newly formed tournament.

For information on the games click the link below
http://www.sportingpulse.com/nfnn/comp_info.cgi?client=11-8636-0-188743-0&pool=1001&action=ROUND&round=-1