

Hi from the front desk

Well done to our U20 Men and Women who attended the Australian U20 State Championships in February. Our U18 Men and Women leave next week to attend the Australian U18 State Championships. We wish our teams all the best and safe travels.

Online Registration System

Registration for the 2011 Development Cluster Camp 1 (U15 & U17) has opened. We are pleased to introduce our new Online Registration and Payment System for our members to enter events organised by Basketball New Zealand. It is set up in conjunction with SportingPulse to provide an easy-to-use, quick, and environmentally friendly solution to register to national preparation camps and tours. Online entry significantly reduces the amount of time, money, and paper involved in capturing participant contact details, while at the same time streamlining the payment process. To register athletes, please visit the BBNZ website at: <http://www.basketball.org.nz/national-teams/2011-cluster-camps/cluster-camp-1/>.

Hoops for Christchurch

Hurricanes Prop Neemia Tialata was delighted with the support his "Hoops for Christchurch" received in a unique fundraising extravaganza and showcase of mixed teams of Hurricanes, Phoenix and Saints players taking to the court in a basketball match at the Te Rauparaha Arena, Porirua. ANZ Netball Championship colleagues Pulse added their support including some sideline entertainment. Nick Mills, CEO of the Exodus Saints, and current BBNZ Board member, said, "The Exodus Saints and Canterbury have a long and proud history. The Saints will do whatever they can to help." The event was organized in a very short space of time yet ticket sales reached \$29,000 and other activities pushed the total upwards.

News Abroad

- Turkey won the right to host the 2014 Women's World Championships after beating Australia for the bid.
- 2012, Netherlands will host the FIBA U17 Women's and Lithuania the U17 Men's World Championships.
- The 2011 U19 Men's World Championship will be held from June 30 – July in Latvia. To view the event website please visit <http://latvia2011.fiba.com>.

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

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Association Reminders

- The Basketball New Zealand AGM is now on 29/05/11
- All associations should have:
 - synchronized their FIBA Organiser by now (this was due January 31, 2011)
 - filled out their association contact details form by now
 - paid their Basketball New Zealand affiliation fees (which were due March 1, 2011)
- Associations should be synchronising their FIBA Organiser monthly
- Updated versions of the FIBA rulebooks are now available online on our website at <http://www.basketball.org.nz/local-associations/resources/>



Recognition of Excellence

- Micaela Cocks signed to the Sandringham Sabres in the South East Australian Basketball League. Prior to this appointment Micaela was a 2008 Olympic Tall Fern, played for Oregon University Ducks in America and had brief stints playing in Poland and France.
- Tall Ferns Patrice McKenzie and Natalie Moore will also be playing in the South East Australian Basketball League for the Frankston Blues.



Left to right: Micaela Cocks, Patrice McKenzie, Natalie Moore

- Seven foot youngster Steven Adams (17) has been offered a scholarship at Pittsburgh University in 2012 after being highly scouted by American NBA scouts. Steven was named MVP at the 2010 NZ U19 National Basketball Championships after scoring 33 points and 23 rebounds in the final. This year Steven will be debuting for NBL team the Wellington Saints under the guidance of coach Pero Cameron.
- The New Zealand Breakers continue to stay at the top of the Australian NBL table winning 21/27 games. Shooting guard Kirk Penney leads the stats scoring an average of 20.6 points per game. Congratulations to point guard Paul Henare who will be retiring this season. Paul is the only original member of the NZ Breakers that started eight years ago.
- Gavin Zimmerman has been nominated to referee at the U20 Men, Division B, Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, 14th – 24th July 2011.
- 2011 Prime Minister's Scholarship recipients are: Thomas Abercrombie, Josh Bloxham, Pero Cameron, Jody Cameron (Gold), Casey Frank, Michael Homik (Gold), Darryl Jones, Lisa Pardon (Gold), Tony Rampton (Gold), Lindsay Tait, and Paora Winitana (Gold).

2011 Bartercard NBL Update

Nine teams will be participating in the New Zealand National Basketball League this year; Auckland Pirates, Waikato Pistons, Taranaki Mountainairs, Bay Hawks, Manawatu Jets, Wellington Saints, Nelson Giants, Otago Nuggets and Southland Sharks.

Unfortunately as a result of the damage during the Canterbury earthquakes, Christchurch Cougars have withdrawn from the 2011 season. Sam Rossiter-Stead, Chairman of the Bartercard NBL comments "This is a sad day for everyone connected with the sport, not only in the Canterbury area, but also throughout New Zealand,"

This will be the Auckland Pirate's first season in the New Zealand NBL. Run by Auckland Basketball Association the team will be based at ASB Stadium and be coached by former Auckland Stars Coach Kenny Stone. Auckland Stars General Manager John McGregor states "The guys can't wait to give Auckland basketball fans some incredible on court action this year."



Pictured above are Reihem Brown, former Junior Tall Black Brooke Ruscoe and former Tall Black/current NZ Breaker Dillon Boucher in their new Auckland Pirates uniform.

The League tips off Wednesday April 13 with some games being televised by Sky TV. For more information and to view the 2011 NBL draw please visit our website <http://www.basketball.org.nz/competitions/nbl/draw/>.



Upcoming National Championships

Date	NC	City	Host Association	Entry, Roster & Fees Due
May 18-21	U21 NC	Counties Manukau	Counties Manukau Basketball Association	Wednesday, April 6
June 3-6	U17 NC	North Harbour	Harbour Basketball Association	Wednesday, April 27
June 3-6	U19 NC	Tauranga	Tauranga City Basketball Association	Wednesday, April 27

NC = National Championship

As part of the Emerging Junior Teams preparation for the FIBA Oceania Championships later this year; BBNZ requested the inclusion of these teams; Emerging Junior Tall Blacks and Emerging Junior Tall Ferns, into the 2011 BBNZ U21 National Championship Tournament to be held May 18-21 in Counties Manukau.

The BBNZ Board met on Monday, March 7th and discussed this request in detail. The BBNZ Board endorsed the recommendation. The recommendation will take effect at the 2011 BBNZ U21 National Championship Tournament.

The Emerging Junior Tall Blacks and the Emerging Junior Tall Ferns will be entered into the 2011 BBNZ U21 National Championship Tournament as part of their build-up for the 2011 FIBA Oceania Championships. The Emerging Junior Teams cannot finish in the top 4. This tournament has been relocated and will be hosted by Counties Manukau Basketball Association.

Transfers for over 18s

This year BBNZ will adopt the practice of NOT REQUIRING a transfer for anyone who will turn 18 this year. Anyone born in 1993 and before will not be required to request a transfer to play in BBNZ tournaments.

This does not over ride any other eligibility requirements:

- E1 Standard player eligibility rules for all BBNZ tournaments
- E2.1 Establishment of eligibility.
 - E2.1.3 Players over the age of 18 years will establish their eligibility to participate in a BBNZ tournament in each calendar year by virtue of their BBNZ registration.
- E2.2 Restrictions on eligibility.
 - E2.2.1 A player may represent only one Association or School at BBNZ tournaments.

This is not retrospective and commences for applications received from April 1, 2011.

U21 Exemptions Deadline

For those associations requesting the inclusion of U17 and/or U19 athletes, who are playing that age group already, in their U21 representative teams – please remember the cut off date is April 6.

The application form can be found on the BBNZ web link: http://www.basketball.org.nz/_r/uploads/2007/01/2011Application-for-exemption-to-play-U21-and-one-other-age-group.pdf

Please find below the rules and regulations regarding the application:

- E2.2 **Restrictions of Eligibility**
 - E2.2.2 A player may compete in only one of the U13, or U15, U17 or U19 or U21 age group tournaments, (both premierships and nationals championships), in any one year; but to avoid doubt, a player may compete in any one or more of the same age limit age-group tournaments in any one calendar year.
- E2.3 **Special Cases**
 - E2.3.1 The chief executive of BBNZ is authorized to consider written submission from an affiliated association requesting inclusion of U17 or U19 players into their U21 teams.



Associations/players MUST NOT assume that the exemption is complete, or assured, when they send the forms into BBNZ. Submission of the documentation does not complete the exemption process. The final decision to grant an exemption still remains with the BBNZ Chief Executive.

PLEASE NOTE the special case clause ONLY relates to U17/U19 athletes wanting an exemption to play in their age group tournaments AND the U21 National Championships.

Referee Nominations for Tournaments

The nomination and provision of referees is important for tournaments to run smoothly and for officiating to be at an appropriate level.

BBNZ is concerned with the practices of the past of not providing referees with teams to premierships. This severely impacts on the ability of BBNZ to provide an adequate number of officials at tournaments.

Some of the issues include:

- ♦ Nomination of referees who don't know they have been nominated, but are available
- ♦ Nomination of referees in name only – they have not been contacted and are not available
- ♦ No nomination
- ♦ Nomination of team members, including coaches, assistant coaches, managers and/or players
- ♦ Teams left to their own devices to find referees without association support
- ♦ Associations not aware of what referees are nominated
- ♦ Referees without any official referee grading/level
- ♦ Referees not of a suitable standard for the competition

We all accept that there are only a limited number of referees who have time to commit to tournaments, particularly those occurring on work/school days, please respect that fact.

When you fail to provide a referee, the Technical Commissioner is left with a gap in their roster and we could see a situation where only one referee is available for your game.

The reason we require the personal details of a referee is so the Technical Commissioner can deal with them directly and also support any needs they may have during the tournament. The tournament referee schedule features each individual referee as they are rostered – not by association or team.

Referees while carrying out their official duties are representing BBNZ as an unbiased official, and are required to sign a contract reinforcing that position. Should their impartiality be in question this must be immediately brought to the attention of the Technical Commissioner. **We are always looking for referees so if you are interested contact your local association.**

Clean Game Campaign

FIBA filmed a number of video clips at the 2010 World Championships as part of the fight against prohibited substances in basketball. The clips include high profile players talk about their views on a Clean Game and give advice on how to stay away from actions that could result in positive drug tests. 156 doping tests were carried out during the 2010 World Championships in Turkey, all of which returned negative results. Keep it this way, keep it healthy and fair for a Clean Game.

BBNZ is committed to educating its athletes, participants and officials about the positive effects of being drug-free in sport and in life – and is not prepared to tolerate the taking of prohibited drugs. For this reason, we are continuing to work with Drug Free Sport to enhance our education for all members of the basketball community and remind them that BBNZ will continue to back this up with a zero tolerance approach to infringements.

Check the BBNZ website <http://www.basketball.org.nz/national-teams/clean-game-campaign/> for links, resources and where to view the Clean Game videos.

We Are For Clean Basketball

