

# HORNSBY SPIDERS REPRESENTATIVE NEWSLETTER 20<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2007

A big thank you and congratulations to those teams who participated in Pre-season competitions across Sydney on the weekend. From what I have heard everyone had a great weekend and got in some valuable match practice. Some reports of the weekend from team coaches can be found at the end of this newsletter.

Good luck this weekend to:

- 12 Men Black (2)
- 12 Women Black (2)
- 18 Men Green (1)
- 18 Men Black (2)
- 18 Women Black (2)

who are heading up the freeway for their pre-season in Gosford.

If you don't have a uniform as yet, please contact the stadium and ensure this is organised quickly.

## CLEARANCES

Any player who is representing Hornsby who last played for another Association must get a clearance from that Association. I have attached the Clearance Form which I ask you to complete and take to your old association. I then suggest you hand this form to Vicki Dean at the Brickpit who will ensure it is lodged with Basketball NSW. We would like to have all clearances completed by the end of February, so please begin this process now!

## SEASON DATES

<b>23/24/25 FEBRUARY</b>	COASTAL CLASSIC 18 Men 2 12 Men 2 12 Women 2 SEASIDE CHALLENGE 18 Men 1 18 Women 2
<b>3 / 4 MARCH</b>	PRE-SEASON QUALIFYING GAMES (If required)
<b>11 MARCH</b>	ROUND 1 OF SYDNEY JUNIORS

If am sorry I don't have further information at this stage, but I can only pass on what I have received from Basketball NSW as it comes.

## **TEAM REPORTS FROM THE WEEKEND**

### **12 Men Green (1)**

Saturday morning school sport decimated the U12Men's team, and sent them to a lop-sided loss to the Hills Hornets in game one. Cameron Healy and Blake Jervis combined for 20 points in the loss. Joined later by the "Private School Boys", the team then played the Gosford City Rebels, who had beaten our Spiders by 40 points in November. The boys played a fantastic game winning in a close one, with Kai Healy hitting two free throws in the last minute to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat. On Sunday, the boys had an impressive 35-point morning win over Maitland, securing 2<sup>nd</sup> spot in Bracket 1. In the Sunday afternoon game, the young Spiders faced an experienced Sydney Comets team - the 2<sup>nd</sup> seed from Bracket 2. In a 4<sup>th</sup> quarter rally, the boys defended superbly for a stunning come-from-behind victory. Sukhman Binder was on fire and led the scoring all weekend, with Kai close behind – the two combining to average nearly 40 points per game for the tournament. Everyone contributed with solid defense, good teamwork and great attitudes. An impressive early start to the season. Go Spiders!!

### **14 Men Green (1)**

The Under 14 Men Division 1 played four games over the course of 17th and 18th February. We won three of those games quite comfortably and lost the fourth to Sutherland 1 by 3 points. This was after trailing by as much as 15 points early in the second half. The guys showed a great commitment and work ethic throughout all games but particularly in this narrow loss. All players should be proud of their efforts on both ends of the floor and also for their conduct on court. I would like to also thank the parents and families of our players for their support over these two days.

### **14 Men Black (2)**

The boys are still finding combination but showing great promise. The boys won both games on Saturday against Ryde and Sutherland comfortably. On Sunday they had two close losses to Bankstown by 3 and Springwood by 10.

### **14 Women**

The weekend was an introduction to representative basketball for most of our girls and unfortunately our coach Andrew Steer was unavailable to "steer us through" but they worked very hard even though we did not win a game. They all had a great time and are looking forward to the regular season ahead..

### **16 Men Black (2)**

We started off slowly trying to find some chemistry offensively which was lacking in our first couple of games, but things really seem to come together on Sunday when we defeated Macarthur. We started playing good pressure defence and converted easy points. We had great team work and everyone

enjoyed our first win together. With just a few adjustments offensively and we should be ready for the season.

### **16 Men White (3)**

They boys had a terrific weekend. Firstly only 7 team members were available to play. They won both their games against Parramatta and Glebe on Saturday (both are 14 Mens 2 teams). On Sunday they won their first game against Springwood convincingly, drew with Ryde and narrowly lost the last game to Sutherland by 4. Both Ryde and Sutherland were again 14 Mens 2 teams. In the last game against Sutherland the boys only had 6 players; it was a great effort on their part.

### **16 Women**

The Central Coast Classic proved to be an extremely promising start for our Under 16 Women. Despite an impressive performance against both Norths and the Central Coast on the first day, the girls went down by a small margin on both encounters. Sunday morning however, saw a convincing win against a tough Penrith side, which led to a game against Newcastle in the final round. Unfortunately the girls lost to Newcastle in a game that was not one of their best. It was the first time the girls have played together as a team, the weekend announced them as a force to be reckoned with in this years Division One 16 women Competition. We are now filled with confidence in the potential of this team for 2007 knowing we have to make a big step up from Division 3 to Division 1.

### **18 Women Green (1)**

The 18 Women enjoyed Central Coast Classic over the weekend with four hard pre season games. We played Gosford first, in what was a very physical game from both teams, with tight defence and finishing in broken play we managed to win in the end by 15. Game two was a much cleaner performance, we got off to a great start and were ahead 11 - 0 in the first three minutes - Hornsby was always in control and won the game. Sunday was a lot tougher; our first game was against long term rivals Hills which always guarantees to be a tough and close game. After a great first half and leading by 10 at half time, we could not keep going and our match fitness let us down eventually losing the game by about 10. In the cross over we play Coffs Harbour who are a fast, athletic team with excellent shooters. We contained them well and after a close first half, dominated the second half and won by 20.

We had a great weekend, a learning start to the season and can't wait for Sydney Juniors to begin!

### **18 Women Black (2)**

The first day was basically "finding out about ourselves games" with no pressure to win. We lost to both Sutherland Div1 and Div2 teams but we learnt the skills we need to improve. After losing to Sutherland 2, we were thinking that we will be smashed by their Div 1 team, but only lost by about 14 pts. As for their Div 2 team, we were leading by about 4 pts by halftime but inexperience caught up and we lost by 7 pts. The big revelation was the defensive intensity of rookie Elizabeth Carr.

The second day started with everybody well rested to face the Div 2 team again. This time we were ready and were down in the first half by only 8pts. In

the second half we pick up on our half court pressure zone and Sutherland were scoreless in the first 10mins. With about 1 min left and down by 4pts, our new addition Tara Kilminster went to work and stole the ball and scored. with about 15 secs left, Regine's quick hands deflected a pass and it went to Tara for the tying basket. It was a draw. The second game against Parramatta was very physical but 2 of our players Hillary Gumley and Lina Caccamo stepped up and with our defensive intensity we easily beat them by more ten pts.