



Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Basketball Association

Our Men's B competition has just finished and restarted. The final Series was closely contested by General's Army, Railway Hotel, and LeReve. LeReve were successful and promptly moved to C Grade where two of our 2006 Open Schoolboys teams have increased the pressure. The men's B competition has also been strengthened with 3 teams from the 2006 Open Schoolboys and the present competition has seen some tightly fought games.

Open Schoolgirls finished their short competition with the Sparks taking victory closely followed by the Koolers. We enjoyed the addition of all the Barker teams which had the referees all seeing "red" and look forward to the teams returning 4th term.

Uniforms: Just a reminder that we want all teams to look as professional as possible. Singlets should all the same colour and properly numbered. Shorts should all be the same colour. Referees have been asked to administer penalties. Teams are within their rights to ask for penalties to be added to the score sheet - these penalties are to be added the first half of the game or at the start of the second half to allow the offending team time to adjust. No penalty will be played the last 15 minutes of the game or at the conclusion. Shorts Penalty: 1 point, Singlet penalty is 5 points.

Zero Tolerance: The Association reaffirms and adopts all policies against Sport's Rage and the Zero Tolerance policies of the NSW Sports Commission and NSW Basketball. The biggest complaint so far this year has been "why do we not have two referees when we pay our court fees." Retention of referees is a major headache for sports administrators. If referees do not stay, then there is no experience. At the moment we are running referee courses every six to 8 weeks and have increased court fees by \$2 per game to increase payments to try to retain referees. Keep in mind that Hornsby Basketball is running 3 venues most nights of the week and needs 35 referees per night to properly look after the games. If any of those referees get sick, have assignments, etc., etc it is difficult to get replacements. So please be kind to your referees: One senior referee commented, "I have a busy demanding job at work and the last thing I need is to deal with angry players" I do ask everyone to help us protect our junior referees. Any criticism or instruction on how to referee should be directed to an adult referee, the court supervisor, or to me in the office.

Recognition of Players, Coaches, and Sportsmanship: if any team would like to send me comments for this newsletter, I would welcome your ideas on "some great plays", "displays of sportsmanship" and about players and coaches who should be acknowledged. Let's encourage each other to create an enjoyable climate where we all feel comfortable.

Vicki Dean