



**NETBALL
NORTHERN**



Netball Northern Zone Annual Report 2018

More People Involved in Quality Netball Experiences



We live this game.

Netball Northern Zone Map



Contents

Netball Northern Zone Map	1
Chair & CEO Message	3
Netball Northern Zone Board	4
Netball Northern Zone Staff	4
Events.....	5
Pre season: Whangarei, Feb 2018	5
Funding Partners.....	6
Community Netball.....	7
Overview	7
Netball Centre Satisfaction	7
Netball Membership	8
Courtside.....	9
Healthy eating an easy choice at Papakura Netball Centre	9
Walking netball alive at Netball Waitakere	10
Netball Manurewa celebrates 100 years of volunteer service.....	10
Strong participation growth at Whangarei Netball Centre	11
A focus on Mangonui Netball Centre	11
Junior Netball.....	12
Netball Active in Schools	13
Game Development.....	14
NetballSmart.....	14
Centre Capability	15
Coach Development.....	15
Umpire Development	17
Netball Leaders	17
Commercial Partners	18
SKYCITY Mystics	19
Performance	20
Northern Zone Performance Programme (NZPP)	20
BEKO.....	21
Annual Accounts	24

Chair & CEO Message

At the end of the year when we are asked to reflect on the efforts and outcomes of the past 12 months, we find that there are many things to be celebrated and some that we wish that we had more time or resources to drive different outcomes.

The changes within our Community Team were completed in September. This has seen a strengthening in resources across all areas of the sport. Planning for growth and assisting in strengthening capability is vital to ensuring that great netball experiences are had for all involved. Whilst the membership numbers show a 5% decline, these is due in part to capacity of offer social and summer league programmes and a change in counting methodology for the Year 5 & 6 category. With 46,500 members in the Zone, netball remains a highly participated sport. This is due to the tremendous work undertaken by our Netball Centres in partnerships with schools and clubs. We would like to thank all the netball centre staff, teachers and volunteers including coaches, umpires and administrators, along with parents and families that make a difference within our communities.

The Zone's performance programme commenced early in 2018 and has seen the establishment of strong foundations that provides athletes with an opportunity to learn and grow in an environment that prepares them for high performance netball. We are very grateful to all that are involved in the delivery of this programme. Thank you for all that you do for improving the connections within our sport and ensuring that there are opportunities for our athletes to excel.

The 2018 ANZ Premiership netball season has been challenging on and off the court. Our SKYCITY Mystics had some small victories throughout the season. We had the opportunity to see new talent out on court and farewell some of our familiar faces. It was the last season for our captain Anna Harrison who announced her retirement. And post season, Maria Folau made the difficult decision to not return for her 10th season with the Northern Mystics, joining her husband and family in Australia. We are looking forward to challenging for the 2019 ANZ Premiership with a new team.

Finances

Our financial performance is one of the low lights for the year. Under tough commercial conditions the revenues across all categories that underpin the Franchise came under pressure and with many costs fixed for the year a loss of \$232k was delivered. A review of our programmes and resourcing has been undertaken and action plans are being implemented to return to a surplus position for 2019. We do however, continue to be in a competitive market and there are natural risks associated with our commercial strategy.

Acknowledgements

Lastly, we would like to acknowledge and thank our team at Netball Northern for their dedication to the sport. The team works with the best interest of netball in mind and enjoys being part of the community of netball. Thank you to our Board and all other volunteers in our community who help ensure that our sport provides quality experiences.

Nicole Spratt, CEO & Murray Lockwood, Chair

Netball Northern Zone Board

Murray Lockwood	Board Chair (since April 2018)	Appointed
Sue Brewster	Board Deputy Chair (since April 2018)	Appointed
Dianne Williams (nee McAteer)	Board Member (was chair until April 2018)	Appointed
Diana Puketapu	Board Member	Appointed
Lynette Gubb	Board Member	Elected
David Ronaldson	Board Member	Elected
Raewyn Henry	Board Member	Elected
Brad Walker	Board Member	Co-opt

Netball Northern Zone Staff

Nicole Spratt	Chief Executive Officer	
Chris Tennant	Operations Manager	
Carin Oelofse	Admin & Finance	
Community Netball Team		
Anita Coy-Macken	Community Netball Manager	
Chonaire Huriwai	Coach Lead – Auckland	Joined July 2018
Irene Gubb	Junior Development Officer – North	Maternity leave Dec–Feb
Melanie Kemp	Netball Smart Officer	
Rhonda Martin-Raharuhi	Far North Coach Development Officer (PT)	Joined Aug 2018
Sharleen Morrell	Umpire Development Officer (PT)	Joined March 2018
Sophie Tua	North Coach and Umpire Development (PT)	Joined July 2018
Suzie Belcher	Netball Smart Officer	
Tania Heap	Coach Lead	Left April 2018
Tracey Spence	Junior Development Officer– Auckland	
Trina Henare	Team Leader– North	
Vicki Morgan	Team Leader – Auckland	
Zak Middleton	Project Coordinator - Leadership	Left Oct 2018
Performance		
Tia Winikerei	Performance Manager	
Helene Wilson	Mystics Head Coach	
Meghan Robinson	Team Operations Manager	Role changed to FT in Aug

Events

Pre season: Whangarei, Feb 2018

With the support of the Whangarei Netball Centre, Educare and the Whangarei District Council the Zone were proud to hold a community day and two preseason games in Whangarei. The ability to connect our communities in the North saw over 680 people join in a variety of activities with a few celebrities testing out walking netball.

Other events during the year included:

- Over 1200 people attended the Mystics Open Day in February 2018
- 5 Mystics Home Games
- 6 Beko Home Games
- 2 Junior Festival Days
- 3 Zone Forums



Funding Partners

Netball Northern would like to acknowledge the wonderful funding support received from the following organisations. Without this support we would be unable to partner with our Netball Centres and their communities in assisting with **quality netball experiences** across our Zone.



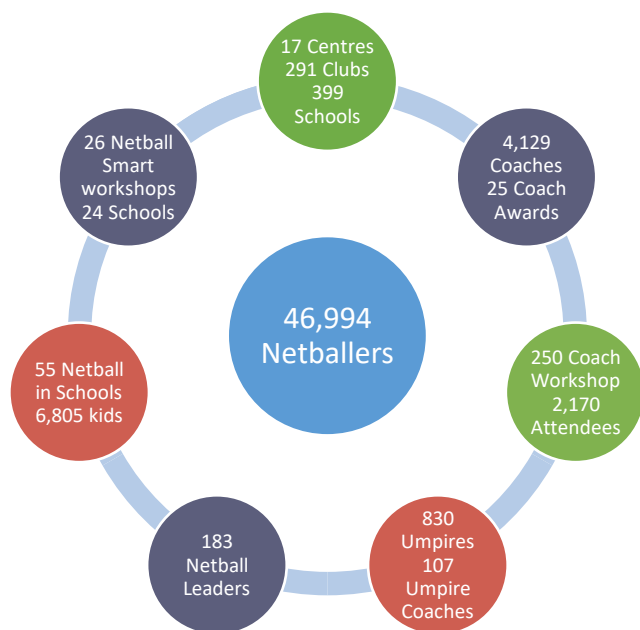
Community Netball

Overview

The Community Netball Team commenced 2018, implementing a new organisation structure with a geographical emphasis on Auckland and Northland with functional teams in capability, junior, coach and umpire development.

The following pages summarises the Community Team work in 2018. Highlights include:

- Three forums with netball centres
- Supporting organisational matters at ten netball centres
- Collaborating with netball centres on the Auckland Year 3 and 4 Netball Active in School project
- Reinvigorating the Zone Umpire Development Group and introducing umpire development planning
- Implementing NetballSmart
- Piloting the Netball Leaders programme
- Introducing the Year 7 & 8 PDP programme
- Continued delivery of junior and coach workshops

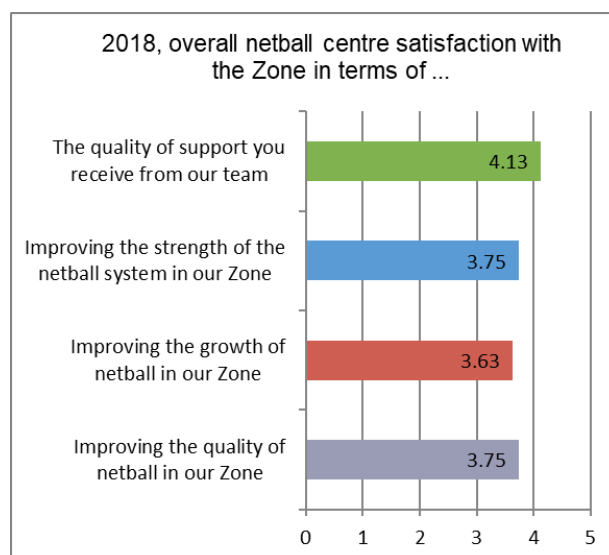


Netball Centre Satisfaction

In November 2018, we surveyed netball centres on their satisfaction with the performance of the Zone. Eight netball centres completed the survey, representing 47% completion. While the lower response rate is disappointing, the feedback has been useful in directing our 2019 work programme, which includes:

- increasing our support to netball centres around game development (youth and adults)
- improving satisfaction with organisational support and facility development
- more information about the Zone performance programme
- regular Zone newsletter on activities and upcoming calendar.

Overall, the netball centres who responded rated their satisfaction with the quality of support from the Zone at 4.13 out of 5. Areas to address are doing more work to address growth of netball and improving the strength of the netball system. Overall, netball centres ranked the relationship between Zone and centre at 72%.



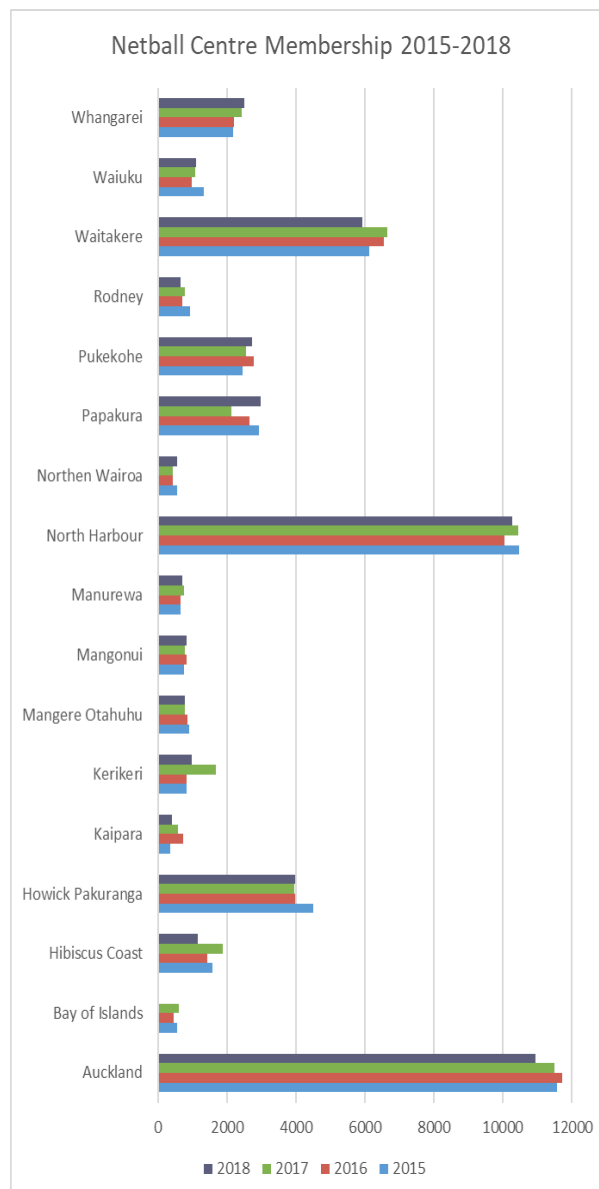
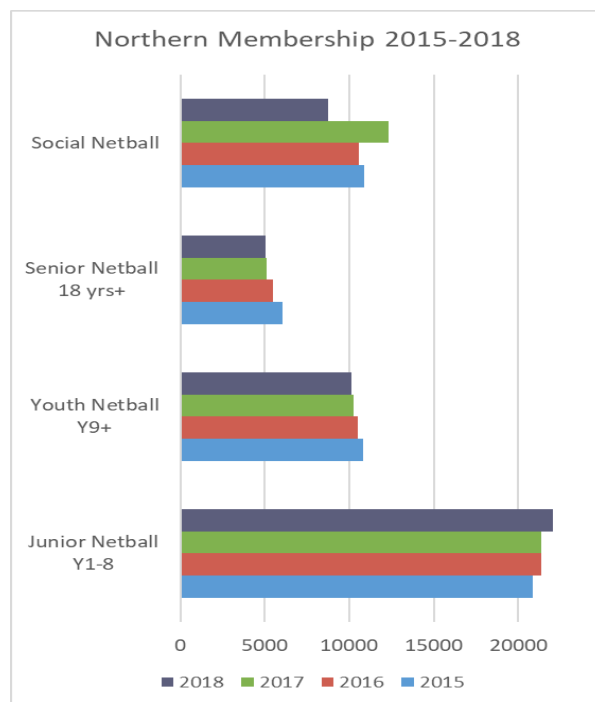
Netball Membership

Based on the membership numbers provided by netball centres, the overall 2018 netball membership in the Northern Zone **decreased by 5%** compared to 2017 (46,541 down from 49,040).

Reasons for the change:

- There was a 30% decrease in social membership. This is partly due to some volunteer netball centres not having the capacity to offer summer league programmes in 2018.
- There was a change in counting methodology for the Year 5 & 6 membership category from teams to individuals. This resulted in a small difference between 2017 and 2018.
- 2018 only includes 16 netball centres as one netball centre did not submit their 2018 membership numbers.
- Youth and Senior (18 years+) membership have very small declines from 2017 to 2018. This is a positive change from the sharp declines in previous years.

Membership trends for each netball centre is shown in the second graph. Some netball centres continue to show growth including **Whangarei, Waiuku, Pukekohe, Papakura, Northern Wairoa** and **Mangonui**. Organisational planning, good communications, a focus on the netball experience and volunteer management seems to be the common themes behind this centre growth.



Courtside

Some great stories from Netball Centres in Northern Zone.

Healthy eating an easy choice at Papakura Netball Centre



During the 2018 netball season, the Papakura Netball Centre trialled a new approach to the centre tuck shop and cafeteria.

The contracted cafeteria and tuckshop had been operating for over 15 years and had become well known for selling deep fried foods, ice cream, lollies, chips and, sugar sweetened beverages. While attempts had been made to provide healthy options there was very little uptake by players and visitors.

When the contract came to an end, and the tuck shop volunteers decided to retire after two decades, **Papakura Netball Centre General Manager Briar Martindale** saw an opportunity for change. **“I wanted us to walk the talk,”** she shares. **“We have our community’s best interest at heart and, in a small way, we can contribute towards the encouragement of healthy lifestyles. Healthy eating goes hand in hand with sport in general. By promoting what good nutrition looks like, how food fuels the body and, what fuel the body needs in order to perform at top level, we are helping our women and girls reach their potential.”**

Making drastic changes to something that has been in place for so long can attract opposition, so Briar needed to find the right approach.

A partnership was formed with **Healthy Families Manukau and the Cook Islands Development Agency New Zealand (CIDANZ)**. The organisation’s One Basket initiative is a family enterprise programme working with local entrepreneurs to start their own food businesses.

Both organisations wanted the change to be subtle. The collective slowly lessened the amount of sugar sweetened beverages on offer and, reduced the number of lollies available for purchase. Smoothies, sandwiches, salads and fruit salad were introduced to the menu, alongside home baking. These healthier options were promoted ‘ready-made’ at the front of the kitchen. The deep fried foods were still available, but were moved to a ‘made to order’ option.

Over the year, there was a visible change in the uptake of sandwiches, fruit salads and sushi, as opposed to hot chips. The centre saw a huge reduction in the stock of soft drinks and, in turn, an increased uptake of water and juice.

“It was really courageous of the centre to move into this innovative space,” says Lindsay Unuia, CIDANZ Operations Manager and the project’s lead. **“Not only has the partnership given us an opportunity to trial our programme and give families an opportunity to put their dreams into practice, but it has also created positive health outcomes for the community.”**

Both organisations want to see other centres adopt the approach and combine community enterprise with positive health outcomes for all.



Walking netball alive at Netball Waitakere

In 2017, Netball Waitakere introduced walking netball as a strategy to attract new participants to netball.



Walking netball was run on the same night as the traditional 7-aside summer league and was billed as “turn up and play”. Teams were created out of individuals who showed up. The game was played on the indoor courts and the centre provided the umpires, bibs and balls.

Dec 2017	4 Teams
Feb 2018.	9 Teams
Apr 2018	10 Teams
Aug 2018	18 Teams



Critical Success Factors include:

Champions: Three ex-netballers formed a sub-committee to oversee the programme and manage promotions which included visiting businesses, rest homes, RSAs, supermarkets and libraries. The champions contacted their old netball buddies and attracted a number of participants back to the game.

Social media was a key avenue for engaging participants with key messages of fun, fitness and friends. Support was provided for individuals to find a team. The programme was profiled in the local newspaper which generated more interest.



Netball Manurewa celebrates 100 years of volunteer service



Andrew Rogers 11 years

Pat Maxwell 24+ years

Lee Manaia 24 years

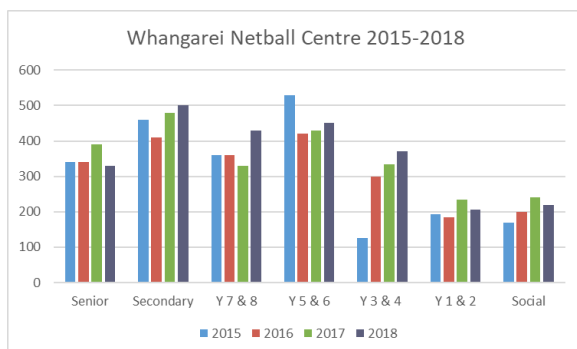
Lillian Cattell 45+ years (absolute legend)

Netball Manurewa started 2018 with the approval of a new Board Structure, new Strategic Plan and re-instatement as an Incorporated Society. The result of lots of hard work by the newly appointed Transition Board and staff.

In October 2018, Netball Manurewa celebrated four new Service Members who have collectively provided over a century of service to their community.

Along with celebrating their amazing Service Award Recipients, the centre also created a “Centre Club” for people wanting to play netball but could not find a club to belong to. The **Centre Administrator Renee Stone** with support from **Norton Reuben** and **Lee Manaia** set up four club teams allowing individual registrations and organising uniforms and gear. This is a significant step to address one of the barriers people face to netball participation and is reflective of the innovation that Netball Manurewa is adopting.

Strong participation growth at Whangarei Netball Centre



Whangarei Netball Centre has experienced substantial membership growth over the last four years. Overall, **membership has grown by 15% during this time.**

One area is the junior programme including Years 3 & 4 and Years 5 & 6. Part of this success is due to the amazing volunteers who implemented the futureFERNs programme. **Jean Hansen, Sue Robertson, Nadia Taituha and Judy MacDonald** worked tirelessly to deliver a comprehensive and fun programme. The junior growth is supported by Zone engagement with local schools in the Netball Active in School programme over the last two years.

Whangarei Netball Centre has also moved from Committee to Board structure and through the employment of staff has enabled greater focus on strategy and operations.

In making this change, the centre highlighted the need for clear communication with its members, clubs and schools about the board's responsibilities and how this differs from a committee. The new Board held a meet and greet session to listen to members about their needs.

The change in structure takes time and some members won't notice the change but others will. In the first instance there was still a lot of operational decisions coming to the board so having an Operational Manager to drive the operational components was very important. It is also important to have a Board who are strategically focused and take steps to develop the organisation's strategies.

The centre also focused on opportunities for players to grow and not just the higher performing athletes. They successfully implemented the new Mother Earth Player Development Programme for Years 7/8.

Whangarei Netball Centre also stress a good proportion of the credit for membership growth should go to the volunteers in clubs and schools who have made a big contribution to the growth of the game and the experiences of players, coaches and umpires.

A focus on Mangonui Netball Centre



Mangonui Netball Centre, based in Kaitaia, provides netball opportunities for over 800 netballers. At their AGM in November 2018, the Members voted unanimously to adopt a new Constitution which puts in place an Executive Committee to manage the centre's performance and two sub-committees to oversee netball delivery.

The Executive Committee have also developed new playing regulations and job descriptions to provide smooth operation of the organisation. The AGM also elected new and continuing Committee Members which provides a great combination of new blood and experience.

In 2018, the Mangonui Netball Centre **membership grew by 5% across both junior and senior members**, which is a testament to the significant volunteer efforts at the centre.

Junior Netball

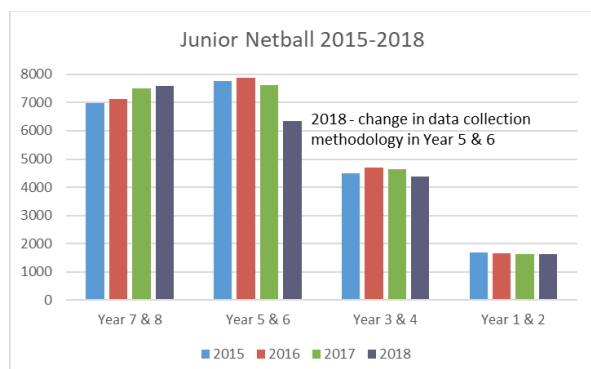
Mother Earth FutureFERNS is a nationally developed junior netball programme based on research and evidence. **The philosophy is “young participants having fun, learning skills and developing a lifelong love of the game”.**

Children are not mini-adults and Mother Earth FutureFERNS uses modified netball games which recognises the developing physical, cognitive and social abilities of children. Modifying elements of the game while retaining the essence of netball, means the game grows with the players.

The players get to pass, catch, shoot from their first session, while learning to work as a team, understand different positions and challenge themselves. Key benefits are:

- More touches on the ball = more opportunities to develop
- Less players = more opportunities to make decisions
- Modified equipment and courts = more opportunities to experience success
- More involvement in the game = more confidence, more fun and greater chance of lifelong participation

In 2018, 14 netball centres and three satellites have fully implemented the Mother Earth FutureFERNS. The remaining three netball centres implemented some of the programme.



2018 was the first year where junior membership in Northern Zone did not grow, but this is mostly due to the change in Year 5 & 6 counting methodology.

Far North Primary Tournaments

Netball Northern Zone supports the development of junior netball in the Northland community by coordinating the Far North Primary Tournaments. These tournaments are attended by schools/kura far and wide, aimed at getting all tamariki boys and girls participating in sport through netball. So much support and positivity from the students, management and officials was amazing to see and experience. In total, there were

- 20 schools
- 94 teams
- Over 700 students (boys and girls)
- Over 150 support people (coaches, officials, parents, whanau)



Junior Coaching Workshops

Quality coaching is an essential element in creating positive experiences for young people. Coaches have a major influence on the development of young people by supporting their development of physical skills, netball tactics, positive behaviours and attitudes.

Many adults get into coaching because of their children. The Foundation Coach Framework is designed to provide progressive learning to support coaches as they transition through the levels. Resources and week by week sessions are provided to support delivery of quality experiences.

In total the Zone supported delivery of 147 workshops at all 17 netball centres and schools and engaged 1,325 coaches.

Netball Active in Schools

We are very grateful to our funders for supporting our Netball Active in Schools programme. The programme is designed to take netball to the children and expose junior netball opportunities to primary school children and stimulate interest in participating in the full junior netball programme offered at netball centres or satellites.

The programme involves:

- Four skills sessions
- Workshop for teachers and coaches
- Festival Day for clusters of schools

The desired outcomes are:

- Increase the number of school-children participating in organised sport and strengthening links with centres
- Increase the availability and accessibility of sport opportunities
- Support children to develop skills to enable them to participate effectively
- Improve capacity and capability of deliverers, coaches and teachers
- Improve sport accessibility, including local competitions and facility access.



Funding from Sport Northland Kiwisport enabled Netball Northern to work with 15 schools and expose netball opportunities to 1,175 students. In addition the programme also delivered 52 secondary school coach workshops to 332 participants as a means to build future coaches and volunteers.



In 2016, a collective was developed with Auckland based netball centres to deliver a three-year funding contract from Active Auckland Sport and Recreation and the Regional Kiwisport Fund for a Year 3/4 Netball Active in Schools programme across Auckland.

In 2018, four **netball centres** were involved including **Auckland, Waitakere, Howick Pakuranga and Papakura**. In total, 640 sessions were delivered to 3,654 children.



Leveraging off the Regional Kiwisport delivery, Netball Northern also delivered a NAIS programme for Year 5&6 in seven schools in Howick Pakuranga reaching 1,394 children.

Generous funding from Howick Local Board supported the delivery of the Zone Festival Day at **Howick Pakuranga Netball Centre** on 24 July 2018. We had stunning weather and it was attended by 13 schools and 276 children.

A key success from the Netball Active in School programme in Howick Pakuranga is a new satellite under development, based on a partnership between **Baverstock Oaks Primary School and Howick Pakuranga Netball Centre**.



Leveraging off the Regional Kiwisport delivery and with generous funding from Hibiscus and Bays Local Board, Netball Northern also delivered the NAIS programme for Year 5&6 in four schools in Hibiscus Coast area. A Festival Day is planned prior to the 2019 season to attract participants for the upcoming winter season.

Game Development

Year 7 & 8 Player Development Programme



Year 7 & 8 Membership is approximately 23,500 but only 4% of this age group is selected annually for representative teams.

The purpose of the Year 7 & 8 programme is to widen and improve the talent base through development opportunities and to create an environment for players that enhances their capability by covering a wide range of technical and tactical development for players across all positions.

In 2018, Netball Northern worked with several netball centres to deliver the Player Development Programme (PDP) to players and coaches. The feedback has been universally positive.

Ultimately the PDP is intended to replace Year 7 & 8 rep teams and so far seven netball centres in Northern Zone have committed.

Community Team UNISS 2018



The Community Team attended UNISS 2018 either in a work capacity or volunteering their time to Netball!

NetballSmart



2018 was the first year of the major investment by ACC into NetballSmart. The two Netball Smart Development Officers have been very active in the community spreading the key messages around injury prevention and performance enhancement.

There was great attendance at the intermediate school workshops with 24 schools involved. The team also delivered 26 Neuromuscular Workshops.

Events are a key way of spreading the NetballSmart messages. AIMS and UNISS were a success in terms of how many teams were engaging some parts of the NetballSmart warm-up. The team were invited to several Maori based tournaments and presented the Netball Smart resources in Te Reo. A highlight was the warm welcome from the Northland community who were eager to learn.

UmpireSmart has been positively received by umpires who are keen to learn more and wish to improve on their fitness and performance.



Centre Capability

2018 has been a busy year supporting netball centres in growing their capability and capacity as strong netball organisations. The capability work is vast and includes:

- Reviewing constitution and regulations
- Financial management and budgeting
- Supporting funding applications
- End of year procedures, preparing for audit
- Organisational structures
- Human Resource procedures
- Strategic planning and Think Tanks
- Operational planning and delivery
- IT and Software Support
- Managing and supporting complaint processes
- Procedures and policies for competitions, representatives and events
- Facility management and asset planning.

Through the year, the Community Team attended many Open Days, AGMs, SGMs, meetings, Christmas Lunches and Prizegivings, however the highlight is always being able to help our netball centres.

Some feedback from Netball Centres:

“Our conversations before and after were very open and you were very reassuring that it wasn’t supposed to be a stressful process – I didn’t feel intimidated or like you were being judgemental at all and observations can sometimes feel like that.”

“Thank you, we didn’t realise the Zone was here to help and assist us like this, it is amazing.”

“The Zone is my go-to whenever I need help”.

Coach Development

In 2018, Northern Zone said farewell to **Tania Heap** who had been the Zone Coach Lead for several years. A rock-star Coach Developer, she left very big shoes to fill.



In the second half of 2018, the Zone welcomed three Coach Development Officers for Auckland, North and Far North. Together the Coach Team provide support for coach development, focused not only on delivering of coach modules but also coach development planning and connecting and engaging with coaches.

Over the course of 2018 the following Coach Development opportunities were delivered. The Zone is particularly pleased with the number of Coaches attaining their CCA1.

	Modules	Attendees	Awards
Foundation	147	1325	
CCA 1	71	616	22
CCA 2	32	229	3
Informal	9	177	

Samoan Coaching Experience

The North Team Leader, **Trina Henare**, was **seconded by Netball NZ into the Pacific Sports Programme** aimed at getting more children in Pacific countries playing sports and making them healthier. **NetSetGo** coaching workshops were offered to local teachers to teach them about the game of netball and how to coach.

It was a truly rewarding and humbling experience. The first couple of days we worked with the potential NetSetGo coach developers: Ruta, Daryll and Tate. Working with them to a level where they could co-deliver the workshops. We also spent some time with Rosie (Netball Samoa CEO) to obtain an understanding of the netball landscape in Samoa.



Day three, four and five I worked with Tate and the primary school teachers, taking them through the NetSetGo Healthy Lifestyles workshop. This covered Player Centre Coaching, Learns Model, healthy lifestyle messages, NetballSmart warm up and recovery, Teaching Games for Understanding, Planning and fundamental skills.

In the evenings I ran training sessions with some of the clubs and academies taking them through the NetballSmart warm up as previously they were not warming up or cooling down. There was also the opportunity to umpire a Men's and Women's Final. We also had the opportunity to help at their Saturday netball league, umpiring, coach observations, NetballSmart discussions and umpire coaching.

Touchpoints:

100 kids * 15 Teachers * 3 Club Coaches * 12 University Students * 3 Coach Developers

What I noticed about the people, they were very resilient and grateful for any advice and support. They are great at using their environment whatever it looks like including grass courts, half the court and carparks for training.

It was a humbling, rewarding and growing experience. I came with a clear vision re-invigorated for the development of netball in our Northland communities.

Umpire Development

Quality umpiring is a vital component of netball participation. Following a decline of accredited umpires in 2017, the Zone started 2018 by engaging with netball centres to understand the factors to improve the quantity and quality of umpiring. Two outtakes were better planning and more technical support. The Zone developed a Centre Umpire Development Plan template and re-invigorated the Zone Umpire Development Group to provide dedicated umpire support for each netball centre. By the end of 2018, our **accredited umpires increased to 830 umpires, 42% increase compared to 2017.**

2018 Results	#
Unaccredited umpires	903
Centre Award Umpire	462
Zone Award Umpires	169
NZ Award Umpires	40
Umpire Coaches	112
New Umpire Coaches	30
Zone Umpire Development Group ZUDG	12
NZ Umpire Development Group NZUDG	5

Northern Zone has had great success with Umpire exams in 2018

May Zone Theory Exam – 25/26 passes – 96% (11 candidates with 72% pass rate in 2017)

August Zone Theory Exam – 24/28 passes – 86%. (40 candidates with 77% pass rate in 2017)

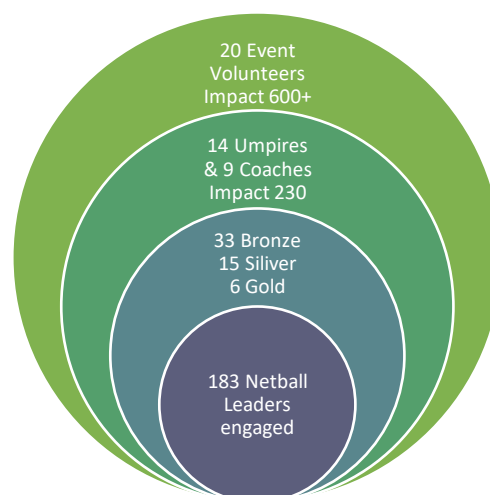
June NZ Theory Exam – 12 / 15 passes – 80% (12 candidates with 50% pass rate in 2017)

Sept NZ Theory Exam – 23 / 24 passes – 96% (17 candidates with 82% pass rate in 2017)

Netball Leaders

Netball Leaders is a new pilot programme using netball as a vehicle to enhance wellbeing and grow leadership qualities of youth. It focuses on building the capability and confidence of young people as leaders in their communities. The young leaders are supported to practice their developing leadership skills through giving back in coaching, umpiring or netball events.

In 2018, the programme was developed and piloted in six schools and centres. **183 young people were engaged resulting in 54 Netball Leaders, who positively impacted over 800 other people through tournaments, festival days, programmes, coaching and umpiring.**



Highlights from Netball Manurewa

The group of 12 young people attended the Netball Leader workshop in July 2018 and were introduced to three leadership pathways: netball delivery, umpiring and coaching. These pathways offer opportunities for our young people to explore, learn and grow as young leaders in our community as well developing life lessons to set them up for a brighter future.

It was awesome to see our young leaders excited to step up to the next level towards the Silver Award where they “assisted in hosting a netball tournament at the centre”. A key highlight from this experience was breaking the barriers between age and status with the Young Leaders more confident to offer their ideas.

Commercial Partners

Netball Northern and in particular the **SKYCITY Mystics** would like to acknowledge and thank the wonderful support from our commercial partners. Our partnerships are incredibly important in bringing the game to our fans and supports of netball.

SKYCITY MYSTICS SPONSORS

PRINCIPAL SPONSOR



MAJOR SPONSORS



ASSOCIATED SPONSORS



SUPPORTING SPONSORS





SKYCITY Mystics

2018 presented an opportunity to continue building our team with core players returning from 2017. **SKYCITY Mystics**, Head Coach **Helene Wilson** was excited by the opportunity to grow some young talent with Grace Kukutai, Mererangi Paul, Tori Kolose and Tamara Leoni joining the squad from the Northern Zone performance programme. Anna Harrison captained the side and led an exciting style of play that promoted ball speed and skill. Some of this flair awarded both Michaela Sokolich-Beatson and Elisapeta Toeava their debut for the Silver Ferns. Joining the coaching team was ex-internationals Sonya Hardcastle and Linda Vagana who provided specialist expertise in the area of ball handling and creating turnover ball defensively.

Our year can be summed up with some amazing comeback wins; a seven day turnaround to beat the unbeaten Central Pulse in a thrilling one goal victory, beating eventual champions Southern Steel in style and securing the inaugural Barfoot and Thompson Challenge with a convincing away win against our neighbours, the Northern Stars. 2018 had some small victories which set the platform for 2019. Our longest winning streak and beating every team in the competition are positive signs for future endeavours.

Overall Placing: 4th

Player	Position	Coach
Tera-Maria Amani	GA GS	Coach Helene Wilson Assistant Coaches Linda Vagana & Sonya Hardcastle Manager Meghan Robinson Strength & Conditioning Guy Mothersole Physio Itabera Otumuli
Jamie Hume	GA GS WA	
Anna Harrison [C]	GK GD WD	
Bailey Mes	GA GS	
Samon Nathan	C WD	
Phoenix Karaka	GK GD	
Storm Purvis	GD GK	
Michaela Sokolich-Beatson	GD WD	
Elisapeta Toeava	WA C	
Maria Folau	GA GS	

Results					
SKYCITY Mystics	L	47	v	55	Southern Steel
SKYCITY Mystics	L	39	v	42	Mainland Tactix
SKYCITY Mystics	W	60	v	54	Northern Stars
SKYCITY Mystics	L	52	v	56	Southern Steel
SKYCITY Mystics	W	53	v	49	Mainland Tactix
SKYCITY Mystics	L	38	v	60	Central Pulse
SKYCITY Mystics	W	52	v	51	Central Pulse
SKYCITY Mystics	W	62	v	57	Southern Steel
SKYCITY Mystics	L	52	v	67	WBOP Magic
SKYCITY Mystics	L	50	v	40	Mainland Tactix
SKYCITY Mystics	L	55	v	58	Northern Stars
SKYCITY Mystics	W	53	v	46	WBOP Magic
SKYCITY Mystics	W	70	v	52	Northern Stars
SKYCITY Mystics	W	62	v	44	WBOP Magic
SKYCITY Mystics	L	48	v	55	Central Pulse

Performance

Northern Zone Performance Programme (NZPP)

We established the Northern Zone Performance Programme (NZPP), the Zones performance pathway to elite netball. The NZPP is designed to bring pre-elite and high-performance individuals under one connected umbrella. The focus is on individual development within a team environment, and includes athletes, coaches, managers and umpires.

16 coaches, six managers, 15 umpires and 63 athletes joined in Year 1. With a strong focus on education about the principles of training for a high-performance environment, we worked to create understanding about the daily practice of high-performance individuals; and encouraged a willingness to learn, sharing of ideas and trying new things.

A major highlight was building connections. We have since seen these connections making a difference to people's experiences of performance netball, whether they are working in the Zone or for centre campaigns.

The types of activity offered through NZPP are:

- High-Performance coach, manager and umpire development through theoretical and peer learning; as well as hands-on delivery, and ANZ Premiership connection.
- Pre-elite athletes training alongside ANZ Premiership and Silver Fern athletes.
- Coaching by high performance experts.
- Competition against other Zones.

NZPP applications increased by 37% in Year 2 and we retained 83% of the Year 1 coaches, managers and athletes, and 72% of umpires.

We would like to thank the 2018 pioneers. SKYCITY Mystics: **Helene Wilson, Meghan Robinson, Ity Otumuli** and **Guy Mothersole**. Your leadership, expertise and connection has provided us with a strong foundation. **Kiri Wills, Dee Leggat** and **Papakura Netball Centre**. Your support for the South hub has meant we could build this. NZPP coaches and managers. You are the engine behind the machine. We hope you are getting as much from the experience as we do. **Raewyn Ronaldson**, thank you for your contribution to the umpire's programme, you managed this until **Sharleen Morrell** came on board and then you supported her along with **Jan Skilton, Debbie Shoebridge, Meghan Lockwood** and **Elaine Curtis** to establish the Umpires Programme.

Thank you.



Training



Exchange with WBOP

BEKO

Northern Marvels

The **Northern Marvels** was led by Head Coach, **Ripeka Pirie**. The athletes worked hard throughout the season, learning the trade of a pre-elite netball environment. Whilst there was no change in their placing on the 2018 competition ladder, there were many highlights and learnings.

The highlights came near the end of the competition, when the team consistently executed what they had been training. This produced an outstanding win against the Northern Comets in the second to last round. This win was an indication of the training and learning that occurred during some difficult weeks earlier in the competition, when the

team had come close to defeating most of the teams, losing only by small margins. Earlier frustration came through the inability of the team to sustain solid performances for a full game. In the final rounds though the work throughout the season finally came together. Physical conditioning had improved, and previously injured athletes returned to court. This meant the team could execute their game plan at the level required, and for 60 minutes. This is a testament to the early efforts of the NZPP and the **Northern Marvels** management group throughout the campaign.

Overall placing 5th



Marvels Squad		Mystics Players	Coach
Christie Anderson	Shekynah Clarke	Tera-Maria Amani	Ripeka Pirie
Tayla Foster	Meretini Fuimaono	Jamie Hume	Assistant Coaches
Ashleigh Garner	Marie Hansen		Michelle Parsons
Antonia Hei Hei	Sally Hemeheema		Manager
Tori Kolose (Mystics TP)	Daisy Hurley		Daniel Short
Grace Kukutai (Mystics TP)	Ema Lees		Physio
Tamara Leoni (Mystics TP)	Nadia Loveday		Ariane Carroll
Alex Macleod-Smith (Mystics TP)	Mererangi Paul		Strength & Conditioner
			Harriet Steele

Results					
Northern Marvels	D	49	V	49	Northern Comets
Northern Marvels	W	50	V	49	South
Northern Marvels	L	51	V	53	Mainland
Northern Marvels	L	54	V	61	Central
Central	W	52	V	41	Northern Marvels
South	W	58	V	51	Northern Marvels
Northern Marvels	L	52	V	55	WBOP
Mainland	W	60	V	59	Northern Marvels
Northern Marvels	W	70	V	51	Northern Comets
WBOP	W	72	V	49	Northern Marvels

Northern Comets

The **Northern Comets** were led by Head Coach, **Vicki Morgan**. Four players from 2017 were re-selected in 2018, with two gaining training partner contracts for the Northern Stars. Learning from 2017 saw a strong emphasis placed on team culture and this held the team in good stead throughout the 2018 campaign.



Highlights for the season included a home game against a star-studded team – Mainland. The game was fast-paced and intense, and the

Northern Comets won 54-49. The final game against 2017 & 2018 champions, Central got off to a shaky start and **Northern Comets** dropped the first quarter. The **Northern Comets** then applied pressure to every ball, and won the second and third quarters. In the final quarter the **Northern Comets** fought hard and although they bucketed lots of ball, they eventually lost the match by five goals. Still, it was a great performance to finish the season. **Northern Comets** moved up two spots from 2017, overall placing **4th**.



Comets Squad		Stars Players		Coach	
Eseta Autagavaia	Kathryn Penrose	Kate Burley		Vicki Morgan	
Chanelle Campbell	Ivana Rowland	Olivia Coughlan		Assistant Coach	
Chonaire Huriwai	Tessa Scholten	Christina Oscar		Katherine Henry	
Kirsten Hurley	Jazmin Tufuga			Manager	
Emma Iversen	Lahaina-Lee Upu-Toparea			Bobby-Jo Buchannan	
Olivia Macaulay	Filda Vui			Physio	
Oceane Maihi				Talia Rout	
Paxton Maligi				Strength & Conditioning	
Asher Mason				Angad Marwah	
Results					
Northern Marvels	D	49	V	49	Northern Comets
Northern Comets	W	54	V	49	Mainland
Northern Comets	L	46	V	70	WBOP
South	L	48	V	52	Northern Comets
Northern Comets	W	51	V	45	South
Mainland	W	56	V	37	Northern Comets
Central	L	61	V	36	Northern Comets
WBOP	W	66	V	50	Northern Comets
Northern Marvels	W	70	V	51	Northern Comets
Northern Comets	L	48	V	53	Central

Both BEKO teams frequently trained against their aligned franchise. This presents a fantastic learning opportunity for both athletes and management.

At the end of these campaigns the BEKO selection policy was reviewed and we made changes to how this is administered. The most significant change was the introduction of a demarcation identifying the Northern Comets athlete catchment area from the Northern Marvels. The drivers of this change include: being able to establish a platform from which to build strong team cores, year upon year; and improve performance readiness of individuals, by reducing barriers associated with travel and time.

National Age-Group Representative Tournaments

The Zone performed well at both Under 19 and Under 17 age-group national representative championships. Auckland won U19s and were runner-up in U17. Howick and North Harbour came third at U17s and U19s, respectively.

The 2018 results are located on Netball New Zealand's web page.

Zone Premier Club Competition

The Zone's netball centres have worked together to establish a new Top Club Competition for 2019. This will gather the best two club teams from Northland, and the North, West, East and South regions of the Zone. The competition will be played in September.



Northland Cluster Emerging & Performance Programme 2018

Offering opportunities for the Northland Communities at:

Mid North South West - Whangarei, Northern Wairoa and Rodney Netball Centres. Sessions were held Monday and Wednesday Fortnightly at Whangarei Netball Centre.

Far North - Mangonui and Kerikeri netball centres. Weekly Tuesdays alternating between centres.

50 Athletes, 17 Coaches, 4 Managers and 3 Umpires.



The coaches, umpires, managers and athletes completed coaching workshops together. At the Mid North South West program all the participants got to apply the learnings from the theory sessions on Mondays into the practical sessions on Wednesdays.

For the Far North the philosophy was action learning. They had an hour theory sessions and one hour of applying the theory into practical.

Key highlights from the programme:

- Collaboration from everyone involved (netball centres, coaches, athletes, managers) creating a "community of learners"
- We were able to get first time coaches onto the NNZ Coaching framework and those already on there we were able to get a few more working towards completing their CCA 1 and CCA 2
- We got the programme started and running with good attendance

Annual Accounts

Page left blank intentionally