



**NETBALL
NORTHERN**



NETBALL NORTHERN ZONE ANNUAL REPORT

2017



We live this game.

Netball Northern Zone – Map



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A message from the Chair and CEO

At the end of the year it is important that we take the time to reflect on the impact that netball has within our communities, to check progress, celebrate achievements and thank all those that make the quality of netball a fun and enjoyable experience.

Change

As we reflect on 2017 it is fair to say that there has been a lot of change within Netball Northern Zone and the netball environment. Within the Zone there has been significant changes at the senior management levels. In July 2017 CEO, Julie Paterson resigned after five years of leading the Zone to take up the role of CEO for Tennis NZ. Julies contribution towards netball reaches beyond the Zone after starting her involvement with the sport on the South Island. Julie saw the integration of the Zone structures and more recently was a leader through the changes of the elite domestic level of the competition. We thank Julie for all of her vision, energy and insight into the growth and development of netball and wish her well on another court.

Along with this change the leadership team also saw the departure of Hamish Barton our Performance Manager earlier in the year leaving us for Canoeing NZ. Both these changes created the opportunity for the Zone's Community Netball Manager, Tia Winikerei to take on the responsibilities of the Performance objectives, although not before stepping in as Acting CEO for a short period of time. These changes have enabled new opportunities and we welcomed Anita Coy-Macken as the Zone's new Community Netball Manager in August and Nicole Spratt as our CEO in September.

Along with personnel changes we saw changes to the elite competition with the introduction of the ANZ Premiership, Super Club and the establishment of a second team within the BEKO league with the Zone taking on the lead role of for both the Northern Marvels and the Northern Comets.

Change is opportunity and "the art of life is a constant readjustment to our surroundings" – Kakuzo Okakura. For us we are looking forward and we thank all the staff and our partners for their support during this particularly busy year of change.

Financial performance

We delivered a financial profit of \$2,240 with the bulk of our revenue being spent on junior and coach development and the SKYCITY Mystics. Our major revenue lines comprise of Community Funders 33%, Franchise Sponsorship and Event income 29%, NNZ 20% (25% towards Community and 75% towards Franchise) and Player Fees (Membership) 13%. The major expenses are related to community netball programme delivery (playing, coaching and umpiring) with personnel expenditures and those expenses related to the franchise in event and team management.

Community

We are very grateful for the relationships we have with our Community Funding Partners and Regional Sports Trusts. Both groups appreciate the value in the netball system and the role that the Zone plays in linking the strategies from Netball New Zealand and the delivery of quality experiences to our members and schools. The Zone is a major contributor at the National level making up one third of players and coaches. There was an increase in the membership by 2% to reach just over 49000 players driven by the increase in junior and recreational netball, however there were declines in the secondary schools and senior age groups. In conjunction with our Netball Centres we successfully implemented the futureFERNS programme at 9 centres with all centres providing Years 1-3.

Early in 2017 Netball New Zealand launched the new Coaching Framework which provides a clear pathway for coaches to develop their knowledge and gain coaching awards. Our thanks go to all the coach coordinators, coach developers and coaches who have continued to work to strengthen the coaching talent in the Zone. A proud moment for the Zone was the acknowledgement of Tania Heap by Netball New Zealand being named as “Coach Developer of the Year”. Tania has been described as a ‘rock star’ and we are fortunate to have someone that brings great enthusiasm and excellence to our Zone.

In 2017, with the support of the Ministry of Youth Development, KiwiSport, Auckland Council, (Papakura Local Board, Otara-Papatoetoe Local Board and Mangere-Otahuhu Local Board) and Netball New Zealand we started a pilot programme – “Netball Leaders”. The pilot programme is aimed at working with young people, particularly in South Auckland, who are starting to exhibit leadership qualities and those young people who could benefit from growing their confidence and leadership skills. The Zone in conjunction with Netball New Zealand is exploring ways to expand and enhance the pilot programme into the coming years. Thank you to Zak Middleton and Sue Emerson for their work so far in developing the framework for this important contribution to our communities.

Initiatives with ACC and Netball New Zealand saw the introduction of Netball Smart programme. This is a terrific opportunity which will lead towards injury prevention and performance enhancement within our sport. Due to the size of our Zone both geographically and the number of participants we welcomed two Netball Smart Officers in Mel Kemp (previously working as a Netball Development officer in the South and Manurewa Netball Centre) and Suzie Belcher, who is a qualified physiotherapist to lead the Zone in the coming years with this programme.

An area that required more focus throughout the year was the development and support of umpire programmes. This will be a priority for 2018 and we are delighted to have Sharleen Morrell join the Zone in March 2018 to undertake the Umpire Development Officer role. Thanks to the NZUDP and Jan Skilton who have assisted us during the transition period over the last few months.

The Zone’s dedicated and committed community team continues to work tirelessly. They have an abundance of energy and passion and I would like to thank them all for the work that they do – Trina Henare, Jo Hona (since left), Tania Heap, Tracey Spence, Heather Rima (since left) Vicki Morgan, Mel Kemp, Irene Gubb, Zak Middleton and Suzie Belcher led by Anita Coy-Macken, previously Tia Winikerei.

Performance

The newly formed BEKO League was introduced in 2016. The Zone established two competitive teams for the second year of competition, the Marvels supporting the SkyCity Mystics, and the Comets supporting the Northern Stars. The league provides a great pathway for our aspiring and developing players, umpires, coaches, team managers and bench officials and it is exciting to look towards our up and coming talent that represent the Zone.

Late in 2017 we established a new performance programme, the Northern Zone Elite Performance Pathway (NZEPP) which is a five-year plan designed to prepare great athletes, umpires and coaches who can succeed and win in a high-performance netball environment and create a pathway that keeps the best sporting talent in Netball. The programme is aimed at the long-term development of all participants of the game to strengthen our talent and ensure individuals reach their potential in an environment designed for learning the lifestyle and work ethic required to succeed in high performance netball environment.

We are only at the very start of this programme, however there are many people we would like to thank who have helped in starting this vital programme for our Zone. There are many groups to acknowledge and thank (coaches, umpires and team managers) which we will undertake to do in 2018 as the programme unfolds. However, getting it off the ground would not have been possible without the determined effort and support from the following people Helene Wilson, Ity Otumuli, Meghan Robinson, Graeme Robson, Kiri Wills, Dee Leggat, Raewyn Ronaldson, Gael Nagaiya, Vicki Hudson, James Miller, Guy Mothersole.

We would also like to extend our thank to the Papakura Netball Centre for providing us with the space from which to operate the South NZEPP hub during this first phase.

SKYCITY Mystics

Our SKYCITY Mystics ended the first season of ANZ Premiership in 3rd position which earned them a position at the first ever Super Club event held in Nelson where they finished runner up!!! We said goodbye to English import Sasha Corbin who returned home to the UK and Brooke Watt who is taking some time out from the league. So, with big things to come in 2018 we welcome Phoenix Karaka from the Central Pulse and Jamie Hume from the Southern Steel.

Some personal highlights from the team include playing records with Maria Tutaia, Anna Harrison and Bailey Mes reaching 150, 100 and 50 caps respectively played at the highest domestic level. Our 2017 co-captains, Maria and Anna have reached these milestones with the Mystics which is a recognition of their dedication towards our team's history and environment.

Our games are held at the venue of our long-term partner – The Trust Arena, however in 2017 we had the opportunity to play the game at the North Shore Event Centre. Thank you to our SKYCITY Mystics fans and supporters for all of their support on game day and staying connected with the team throughout the year. The players value the support and enjoy seeing and hearing you courtside.

During the year our very own Mystics defender, Michaela Sokolich-Beatson was named in the NZ U21 Development Squad that competed in the Netball World Youth Cup in Botswana. Michaela was not only a contributor to winning the title but named captain of the team. Congratulations Mic on this wonderful opportunity to lead a group of netball talent for New Zealand.

Our SKYCITY Mystics cannot take the court without the support of our sponsors. Our thanks go to our principal sponsor SKYCITY, and to Barfoot and Thompson, Bhana Family Farms, Stonewood Homes, and Hansells for their continued support. Thanks also to Air New Zealand, The Trust Arena, West City

Suzuki, The Hits, Benefitz, Delmaine, ATEED and the Auckland Council as well as our many player sponsors and match day sponsors who help us bring the game to our members and fans.

Acknowledgements

Our 17 Netball Centres continue to bring the “fun” to our communities across a range of age groups and competitions. We are all involved in the game of netball for the joy and contribution that it brings to our people and communities. We thank each of the Netball Centres, their volunteers, staff and boards / committees for their hard work, commitment and passion. We look forward to working with you all in 2018.

Recognition and thanks goes to our Board members who are dedicated and committed to the investment and future of netball within our Zone. With the amount of change in 2017 the board has carried some extra responsibilities and their energy and leadership has been greatly appreciated by all.

Thank you to Staff and Board of Netball New Zealand for their support with working through a challenging year.

On a personal note, thank you to all the staff & players at the Zone and in particular Tia, Chris, Helene, Anita, and Carin for making the transition from Australia to my new home easier – from meals, to bean bags to kitchen supplies, to cliff top walks - you have opened up the blue skies, and I look forward to all the great opportunities in the future.

On behalf of the staff and board of Netball Northern Zone, we would like to thank all involved in the number one woman’s sport in New Zealand for you continued support of Netball – We Live This Game.

From Nicole Spratt, CEO and Dianne McAteer, Chair

Northern Zone Board

Dianne McAteer Board Chair Appointed	Murray Lockwood Board Deputy Chair Appointed	Sue Brewster Board Member Appointed
Diana Puketapu Board Member Appointed	Lynette Gubb Board Member Elected	David Ronaldson Board Member Elected
Raewyn Henry Board Member Elected		

Northern Zone Staff

Nicole Spratt	Chief Executive	Joined September
Julie Paterson	Chief Executive	Until July
Operations & Office		
Chris Tennant	Operations Manager	
Carin Oelofse	Admin & Finance	
Sarah Brierly	Events & marketing co-ordinator	Left May
Community Netball		
Anita Coy-Macken	Community Netball Manager	Joined August
Jo Hona	Netball Development Officer – Far North (P/T)	Left October
Trina Henare	Netball Development Officer – North	
Tracey Spencer	Netball Development Officer – South	
Tania Heap	Coach Lead	
Vicki Morgan	Centre Development Officer	Joined April
Irene Gubb	Junior Development Officer	Joined April
Heather Rima	Umpire Development Officer (P/T)	Left November
Melanie Kemp	Netball Smart Officer (since Oct, previously Netball Development Officer Manurewa)	
Zak Middleton	Project Coordinator - Leadership	Joined August
Suzie Belcher	Netball Smart Officer	Joined November
Performance		
Tia Winikerei	Performance Manager (since Sept, previously Community Netball Manager and Acting CEO)	Since September
Hamish Barton	Performance Manager	Left June
Helene Wilson	Mystics Head Coach	
Meghan Robinson	Mystics Team Manager (P/T)	

Thank you to all our staff and board for their hard work in 2017

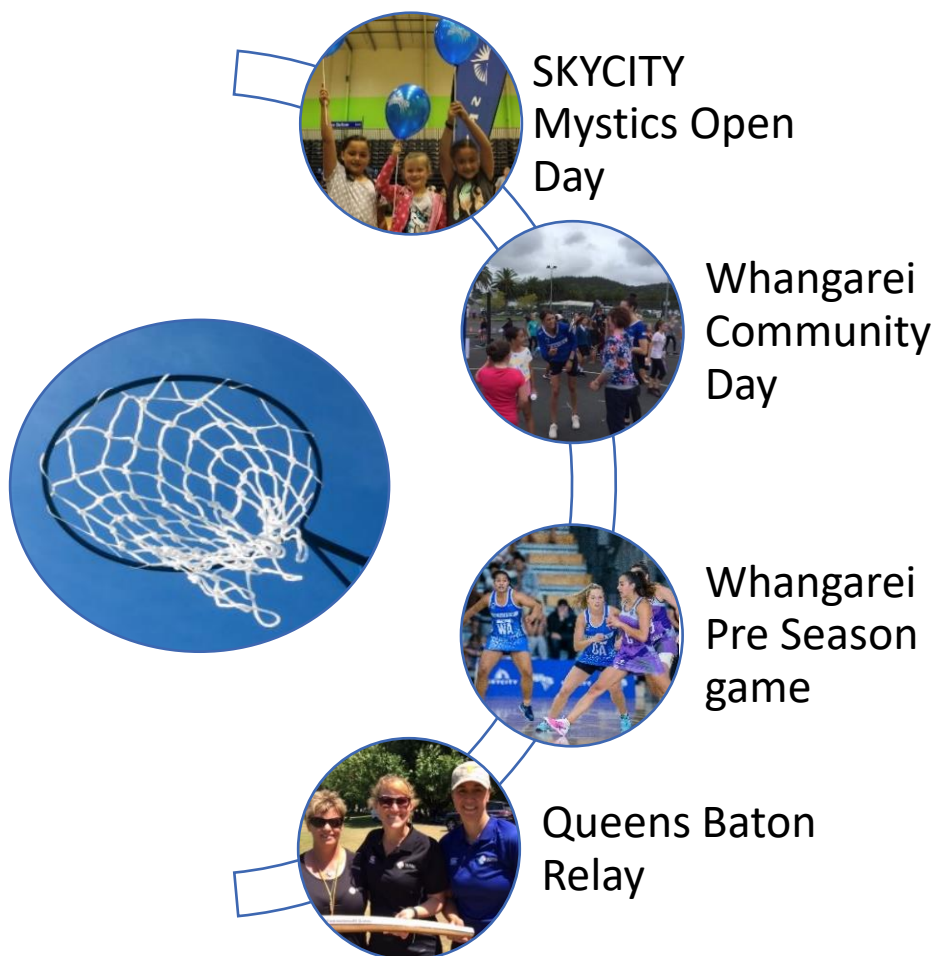
Events

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. The ability to connect our communities in the North saw over 600 people join in a variety of activities and enjoy the preseason games between the BEKO teams of the Marvels and the Comets and the ANZ Premiership teams of the SKYCITY Mystics and the Northern Stars. Thank you to all the volunteers who made this weekend possible.



Other events during the year included over 1000 people at the SKYCITY Mysitc open day held at the Trust Arena.

In December 2017, we finished off the year by contributing to a community activation event as part of the Commonwealth Games Baton Relay. This event was hosted by Aktive (Auckland Sport & Recreation) and included 6 Commonwealth Games sports, including netball and was attended by over 200 children.



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.

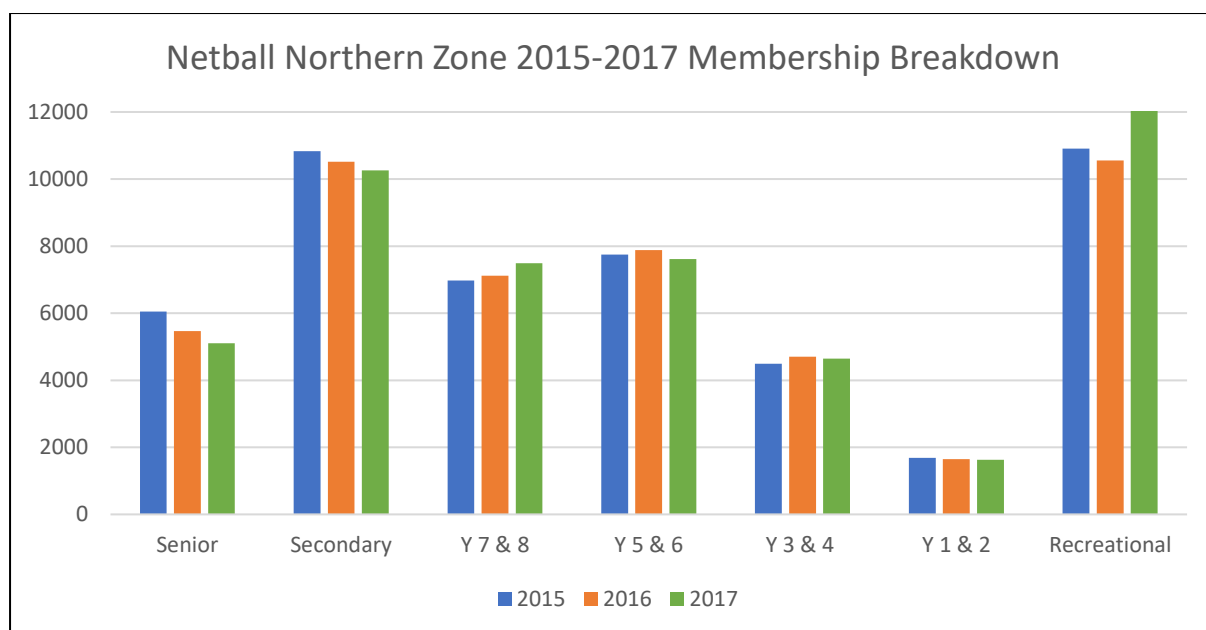


Community Netball

Membership

Overall, the 2017 netball membership in the Northern Zone **increased by 2%** compared to 2016 (from 47,866 up to 49,040). **Northern Zone represents 34%** of the playing membership across New Zealand which is equivalent to the resident population in our Zone.

The trends in Northern Zone are shown in the graph below, with growth in the junior and recreational space but significant declines in secondary school and senior age-groups. The Northern pattern matches the nation-wide trends which shows further work is required on both youth retention and recreational netball.



Membership trends for each netball centre is shown in the graph below.

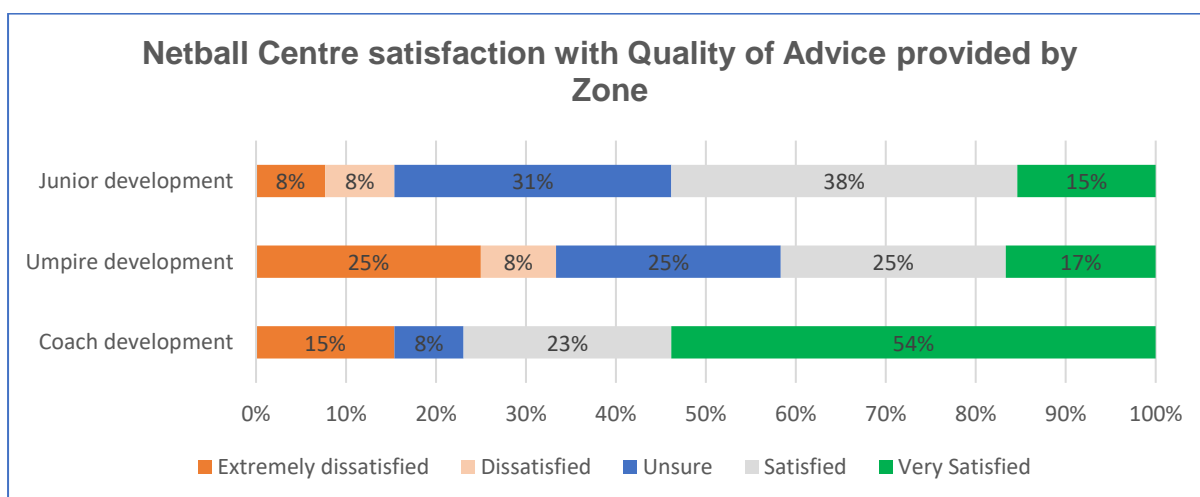


Netball Centres Satisfaction

In 2017, we asked Netball Centres on their satisfaction with the performance of the zone. Thirteen netball centres completed the survey, representing 76% completion rate. Coach development, umpire development and junior development are the most significant areas of advice and support received by netball centres.



Netball Centre satisfaction of the three main development areas is mixed, with coach development receiving the highest **overall satisfaction with 77%** of those responding as satisfied or more. More work is required to improve umpire development with communication and visibility being the most significant issues.



We received good feedback on the Zone’s communications indicating the Zone’s communication needs to be more regular, to the right people and better use of different channels to communicate information.

Courtside

Some magnificent highlights from our netball centres.

Papakura Festival Day

Papakura Netball Centre was joined by Irene Van Dyk on the 25th September 2017 for the ANZ futureFERNs Summer Ferns programme festival day. The event was well attended, and Irene was an absolute delight. As usual there are lots of volunteers to help with the day with parents, Star Helpers, Coaches, Junior Coordinators, Northern Zone personnel and PNC Development Staff. The Year 1-4 participants made the most of the day and dressed up in the favourite fancy dress outfits.



Pukekohe hosted the Under 17 National Tournament

An exciting time was had in July 2017 when Pukekohe Netball Centre hosted the Under 17 National tournament. The calibre of netball played was a true indication of where grass roots netball stands in 2017. The excitement and buzz around the courts created a fun and homely atmosphere, something the members of Pukekohe Netball Centre were thrilled about.

The whole town became involved with several shops offering huge discounts on shoes and clothing and local growers providing vegetables for each team. The local Pak n Save donated 300 recyclable bags which were filled up with these vegetables and vouchers.

The vibe and comments coming from the teams was all positive. The volunteers who contributed their time and effort was amazing. Most arrived at 6.30am in the morning to help set up and were still there at end of each day. Two Executive Members took a week off work and catered for the whole event. A lot of amazing comments came from Netball NZ staff, umpires and invited guests.



Under 17 final - Wellington Black A (winners) vs Auckland 1

Waitakere – Walking Netball

Getting players into netball, no matter the age, is behind the newly introduced Walking Netball at Netball Waitakere. For 40 minutes every week, a group of women are exercising but there's no running or jumping, just walking. Walking Netball is played on a normal netball court, in four 10-minute quarters, 7-side positions, netball rules apply but one foot must be planted and players have 4 seconds to pass the ball.

With the youngest player in her 50s and the oldest in her 70s, this group of netballers have taken to Walking Netball. "It's about the girls that enjoy the game of netball getting together. The laughter, the participation, friendship," Zora Vitasovich, 69, said.

Many participants played netball in the younger days, so they understood the game and had the skills. Since starting, no-one had been injured from the game, which is a significant bonus for older players. For Netball Waitakere, the programme provides an opportunity to grow participation and increase wellbeing across a whole new age-group.



CALLUM MCGILLIVRAY/STUFF

Bay of Islands Positive Sideline Behaviour Campaign

Bay of Islands Netball Centre launched a campaign to curb bad behaviour by spectators at games. The initiative was launched on the opening day of the new winter netball season in 2017 with a reveal of six new signs at Lindvart Park in Kaikohe. The Safe Whanau Environments Positive Sideline Behaviour campaign is a joint project between Bay of Islands Netball, health provider Hokianga Health and supported by Far North District Council, Te Runanga A Iwi O Ngapuhi and Te Hau Ora o Ngapuhi.

The objective is to promote positive healthy lifestyles for players, officials, tamariki and whanau by enforcing a smoke free, alcohol free, drug free and violence free environment at all netball games. Messages on the signs include "Positive action promotes positive play", "Positive reinforcement promotes positive results" and "Inspiring play promotes others to aspire". The policy is being promoted to other sporting codes located at Lindvart Park, Kaikohe.



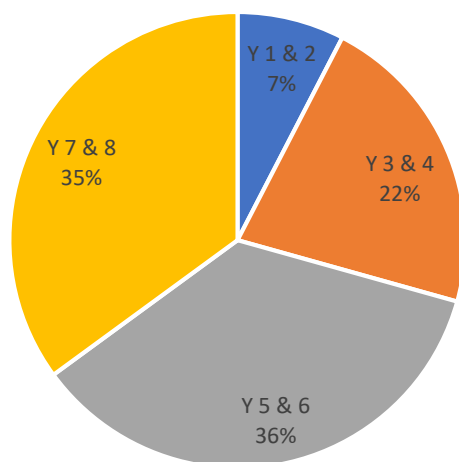
futureFERNs

In 2017 the ANZ futureFERNs programme was successfully implemented from Year 1 to 6 in 9 of the 17 netball centres in the Northern Zone. We anticipate this increasing to 11 centres in 2018, and by 2019 our aim is to increase to 14 centres.

In 2017 we welcomed Irene Gubb as a dedicated Junior Development Officer through generous support from Auckland Council Sport and Recreation Regional Grants. The role of the Junior Development is to support netball centres in the delivery of the futureFERNs programme.

Each netball centre has great people committed to the development of our junior players and deliver great programmes focused on basic skills sessions and modified games that are fast, fun, maximising participation, and promote more touches of the ball to enhance skill development. The combined efforts by netball centres has resulted continued growth in junior participation, although the rate of growth is reducing. The potential still exists for more participation growth in the younger age-groups.

2017 Junior Participation



Pukekohe Junior Coordinators take a FUN approach to futureFERNs



Rodney playing 6v6 game



Waiuku Netball Centre



Netball Waitakere at new satellite at Avondale College



Active Netball in Schools

We are very grateful to our funders for supporting our **Active Netball** in Schools programme. The Netball in School programme aims to expose junior netball opportunities to students who haven't had the chance to try netball and stimulate interest in participating in the full junior netball programme offered at netball centres or satellites.

The four-session programme focuses on ball skills, movement, shooting and game day. This is followed by a Festival Day to provide students with a game-day experience. The programme also provides professional development for teachers and parents to support quality experiences.



In Northland, funding from Sport Northland Kiwisport enabled Netball Northern to work with 12 schools and expose netball opportunities to 1,782 students, along with providing professional development for over 100 coaches.

The impact of the programme has been significant as it resulted in five new schools providing 12 new teams in a Whangarei Netball Centre competition. We extended the professional development to work with student coaches and we were also able to support schools with boys-only teams to play in festival days. A wonderful highlight was working with the Northern Wairoa Netball Centre Leadership Group to deliver a successful Year 4-8 netball festival day.



In 2016, Netball Northern worked with Auckland, Waitakere, North Harbour, Howick/Pakuranga and Pukekohe netball centres to develop a collaborative project to provide Netball in School programme. In 2017, we secured a three-year funding contract from Active Auckland Sport and Recreation, and Regional Kiwisport funding to support the collaborative Year 3/4 programme to work with 35 schools across the Auckland Region.

The impact of the programme in year one was the ability to expose netball to over 4,340 children. Key highlights include the 170 girls and boys and Year 7&8 leadership students who attended the Kaipara Netball Centre Festival Day and 320 students who attended the Festival Day at Manurewa Netball Centre.



Coach Development

Coaching Modules

2017 was another great year for coach development in Northern Zone and it is thanks to the outstanding work of the coach coordinators, coach developers and coaches. In February 2017 Netball New Zealand launched the new Coaching Framework which provides a clear pathway for coaches to develop their knowledge and gain coaching awards.

Over the course of 2017, we had:

	Modules Delivered	Attendees	Awards
Foundation Coach Award	89	1654	
Community Coach Award 1	97	704	15
Community Coach Award 2	17	335	2

Almost everyone who attended modules had a great experience with 99% satisfied or better, and 78% extremely satisfied.

In total, **there are 4,226 coaches in the Northern Zone** which a significant contribution to providing quality netball experiences.

Kathryn Berkett Workshop

In September 2017 we had Kathryn Berkett, a certified Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics practitioner, present a workshop on:

- Understanding how stress affects our ability to perform
- Unpacking what this means in practice
- Developing practical stress-inducing examples
- Recognising you as a coach – self-care

Coaches on the NNZ Performance Qualification Award Programme and Coach Developers attended the workshop. It was an interesting, insightful and valuable session for all involved.

The workshops showed how neuroscience can shed an incredible new light on how to assist athletes to remain more focused under stress; how to get through that block; how to resist that melt-down when things may not go to plan. Coaches personally benefited from attending the workshop. Increased self-awareness makes them more able to recognise strengths and needs in others.

Coaching moment

Waiuku Premier Gold Team coached by Rachel Brown Cole attended the 'Developing Physical Capacity' Module led by Kirsten Hellier from NNZ. Their knowledge and engagement throughout the module was outstanding. It is heartening to have a capable group of young ladies leading the development of Netball in their community. Keep up the good work Waiuku.

Netball Leaders

Netball Leaders is an evolving leadership programme which aims to "Develop young leaders through netball". The programme utilises netball as a vehicle to enhance the health and wellbeing and provide opportunities for youth to explore concepts of leadership and develop their capability and confidence as young leaders within their community. The programme targets young people living in the Counties Manukau area. The programme focuses on Maori and Pacific People but it is not exclusive. While netball is the vehicle, it is not just for netball participants. The programme is aimed at working with young people who are starting to exhibit leadership qualities and those young people who could benefit from growing their confidence and leadership skills.

The programme commences with participants completing four core leadership workshops. On completion participants are awarded the Bronze Leadership Award. Lead Collective have been engaged with Sue Emerson (Unitec and Sport NZ Growing Coaches) to develop the content of the leadership workshops. The four workshops are interactive and involve a significant amount of activities to explore and practice leadership.

Programme participants then choose one of three leadership pathways - either coaching, umpiring or giving back. These pathways provide opportunities to develop and practice their leadership skills and gain a Silver/Gold Leadership Award. Participants will be supported to create or assist in a community impact project, using their learnings from the programme through coaching, managing or umpiring for a school team, creating school netball opportunities for inactive students, or volunteering in community netball or other events.

Pathways have also been developed for gaining qualifications as coaches and umpires using the Netball New Zealand's Coach Development Framework and Umpire Development Framework.



The pilot leadership workshop was launched on 13 October 2017 at Toia in Otahuhu. This workshop showcased the leadership workshop for the first time. A total of 25 students from eight different schools participated. Feedback from the participants and facilitators was extremely positive and we had 444 views on the Netball Northern Facebook page and 1321 likes.



Netball Facilities

Auckland Regional Netball Facilities Plan

In 2010, Netball Northern, Netball New Zealand and Auckland Council developed the Auckland Regional Netball Facility Plan to identify the future netball facility needs for the Auckland Region. In 2015 the plan was updated to provide a refreshed view on demand and supply.

Netball is a growing sport in Auckland and it is critical sufficient quality facilities are provided in a network across the Auckland Region. These facilities must be sustainable and accessible to the region's population of current and potential netball players. The facility plan focuses on the current and future demand, recognising changes in participation, population diversity and growth.

The implementation of the plan is overseen by a Regional Netball Facilities Working Group, chaired by Aktive with council, centre and zone representatives. The group gives Netball Northern Zone greater ability to influence where council funding is best applied to meet the needs for netball facilities. Funding sourced through the Auckland Council's Sport Infrastructure Development programme will be targeted to increasing capacity across Auckland.

The first project was an upgrade of Windmill Courts in Mt Eden, a satellite of Auckland Netball Centre. The upgrade includes resurfacing, improved lighting, fencing and lighting. The outcome is a smart new facility providing an additional 45 court hours per day.



Mangonui Netball Centre & Te Hiku Sports Hub

Mangonui Netball Centre courts will be getting an upgrade as part of the Te Hiku Sports Hub plan for the Far North. The Te Hiku Sports Hub is the biggest community sports project for the Far North. The project has enjoyed huge community support and is backed by the Northland regional council, Sport Northland and sports codes. Phase one of construction started in July 2017 with funding for phase two still to be raised by the community.

Northern Wairoa Netball Centre & Sportsville Dargaville

Northern Wairoa Netball Centre have been working the Kaipara District Council over the last seven years to have new netball courts constructed. They currently are based at Dargaville High School. Construction has now started on 6 new netball courts and a multi-code Sports complex as part of the Sportsville Dargaville project. Estimated completion is July 2019 (weather permitting).

Bay of Islands Netball Centre – Kaikohe & Districts Sportsville

Bay of Islands netball Centre had their courts resurfaced late in 2016. They are now working with other sports codes, the Kaikohe and & Districts Sportsville committee and Sport Northland to look at options for a multi-use sports complex similar to Te Hiku in the Far North.

Netball Smart

NetballSmart is a recognised programme, based on research that promotes injury prevention and performance enhancement, concepts which are well supported by the community. Ongoing exposure to the NetballSmart content and messaging is key to the long-term success of providing welfare for our athletes.

To maximise the programme's success, NNZ in partnership with ACC has developed a structure better resourced and equipped to have a significant impact on netballer's injuries, largely through increasing the spread of knowledge associated with injury prevention in netball to the greater community.

Two Development Officers sit within the Northern Zone - Melanie Kemp and Suzanne Belcher - whom will implement the NetballSmart programme throughout the zone, aiming to effect change in the Netball community.

Injury Statistics:

- Netball has the highest participation at Secondary School level across all sports in New Zealand.
- In 2016, 48% of all netball injuries occurred at the Intermediate and Secondary School age.
- Knee injuries are the most serious.
- Ankle injuries are the most common and recurrent.

NetballSmart Strategy

1. Decrease serious injuries in Netball players
2. Improve Player Welfare
3. Increase awareness/engagement of the NetballSmart philosophy
4. Develop Physically Capable Competent Movers



Commercial Partner

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 SPONSORS



MAJOR SPONSORS



ASSOCIATE SPONSORS



SUPPORTING SPONSORS



SKYCITY Mystics

2017 presented an opportunity for a new look **SKYCITY Mystics** team in the first year of the ANZ Premiership. At the helm was Northern Zone Head Coach Helene Wilson. Maria Tutaia and Anna Harrison co-captained the side that boasted a depth of home grown talent. The experience of Maria & Bailey Mes shooting; and Anna & Storm Purvis defending opened the way for our young and exciting talent to flourish. Elisapeta Toeava & Samon Nathan impressed with their feeding ability and strength in the mid-court and Michaela Sokolich-Beatson took up the challenge of leading the defensive team pressure through court.



Player	Position	Coach
Tera-Maria Amani	GA, GS	Helene Wilson
Sasha Corbin [ENG]	WA, C	
Anna Harrison [C]	GK, GD, WD	Performance Specialist Jenny-May Clarkson
Bailey Mes	GA, GA	
Samon Nathan	C, WD	
Mereangi Paul	WA, C	Manager Meghan Robinson
Storm Purvis	GD, GK	
Michaela Sokolich-Beatson	GD, WD	Strength & Conditioning Emily Nolan
Elisapeta Toeava	WA, C	
Maria Tutaia [C]	GA, GS	
Brooke Watt	WD, GD	Physio Itabera Otumuli

Results						
SKYCITY Mystics	L	55	v	56	W	Central Pulse
SKYCITY Mystics	L	67	v	74	W	Southern Steel
SKYCITY Mystics	W	58	v	44	L	Northern Stars
SKYCITY Mystics	W	67	v	62	L	WBOP Magic
SKYCITY Mystics	L	43	v	47	W	Central Pulse
SKYCITY Mystics	L	46	v	66	W	Southern Steel
SKYCITY Mystics	W	71	v	47	L	Mainland Tactix
SKYCITY Mystics	W	59	v	55	L	WBOP Magic
SKYCITY Mystics	L	53	v	59	W	Northern Stars
SKYCITY Mystics	W	63	v	51	L	Mainland Tactix
SKYCITY Mystics	W	64	v	53	L	Central Pulse
SKYCITY Mystics	L	67	v	68	W	Southern Steel
SKYCITY Mystics	W	60	v	54	L	Northern Stars
SKYCITY Mystics	W	59	v	58	L	WBOP Magic
SKYCITY Mystics	L	46	v	57	W	Mainland Tactix

Overall Placing: 3rd

Performance

Northern Zone Performance Programme (NZEPP)

In August 2017 we introduced the concept of an elite netball programme to growth the number and quality of personnel (athletes, coaches, umpires, managers and performance support staff), for pre-elite and elite netball. We launched our vision in October and established the foundations in November. The programme is in its infancy and will be developed over the next five years through a wider Performance Strategy for the Zone. This is an opportunity for all personnel within our Zone to reach their potential and continue to be involved in the sport.



BEKO Netball League

2017 was the inaugural season for two Northern Zone BEKO teams, the **Northern Marvels** and the **Northern Comets**. The introduction of a second franchise in our Zone accelerated the need for a second pre-elite team to support a deeper pool of talent development. It was an opportunity which saw more athletes, coaches, umpires, managers and performance support personnel get a taste of the pre-elite environment. It was not without its challenges and the experience presented valuable insight and understanding as to how the Northern Zone can develop the pre-elite arm of netball for High Performance in the future.

The success of the 2016 Northern Zone BEKO team saw the Management Team of Helene, Meghan and Ity appointed to lead the SKYCITY Mystics franchise. Furthermore, seven athletes gained ANZ Premiership contracts and two opted to concentrate on their university study. This meant both Northern Zone BEKO teams were very new to the environment and the idea of a longitudinal training program.

Northern Marvels

The **Northern Marvels** was led by Head Coach Paula Smith. They trained alongside the **SKYCITY Mystics** at least once a week and had a chance to play competition matches during pre-season with the franchise. This enabled our developing talent to train and play alongside our professional team, as well as streamline coaching principles and athletes transitioning between both teams. Those new to the environment had to learn quickly and demonstrated improvement with each game, particularly during round two of the competition. A highlight of the season was the pre-season game against the **Northern Comets** in Whangarei, which the Northern **Marvels** won. **Northern Marvels** placed 5th overall and Tayla Foster was awarded Most Valuable Player.

Marvels Squad	Mystics Players	Coach
Lahaina-Lee Upu-Toparea	Tera-Maria Amani	Paula Smith
Fidla Vui	Mererangi Paul	
Celine McGahan	Brooke Watt	Assistant Coaches Ripeka Pirie Katherine Henry
Christie Anderson	Development Players	
Asher Mason	Jurnee Moore,	Manager Daniel Short
Paxton Maligi	Kristina Tipene	
Renee Sandle	Kiani Stephenson	
Tayla Foster		
Tauhi Lopeti		
Tessa Scholten		
Jess Bourke		
Elle Temu		

Results						
Northern Marvels	W	52	v	46	L	South
Northern Marvels	L	49	v	50	W	Northern Comets
Northern Marvels	L	40	v	42	W	WBOP
Northern Marvels	L	50	v	65	W	Central
Northern Marvels	L	57	v	58	W	Mainland
WBOP	L	47	v	49	W	Northern Marvels
Northern Comets	D	53	v	53	D	Northern Marvels
Mainland	L	54	v	56	W	Northern Marvels
Central	W	56	v	45	L	Northern Marvels
South	W	56	v	53	L	Northern Marvels

Northern Comets

The **Northern Comets** were formed in early February from the talent pool the Northern Zone had invested in training alongside the **SKYCITY Mystics** during the pre-season. This was their first year and the team was led by Head Coach Vicki Morgan. The team was extremely young and inexperienced; however, they were beginning their journey to the elite level. The team performed well in creating turnovers and converting these turnovers into points. Highlights for season were Theresa Ngata playing for the **SKYCITY Mystics** and Christina Oscar debuting for the Northern Stars. Christina has been contracted to the Northern Stars and Tori Kolose to the **SKYCITY Mystics** for the 2018 season. **Northern Comets** placed 6th overall.

Comets Squad	Star Players	Coach
Ivana Rowland	Emma Iverson	Vicki Morgan
Kendra Falefitu		
Marie Hansen		Assistant Coach
Ashleigh Garner	Development Players	Michelle Parsons
Christina Oscar (Northern Stars Training Partner)	Sonya Ngau	Manager
Tori Kolose	Jade Flyger	Tamara Pereira
Eseta Tupu		
Claudine Wallace		
Kate Burley (Northern Stars Training Partner)		
Theresa Ngata		
Liz Ene		
Oceane Maihi		

Results						
Northern Comets	L	55	v	66	W	Central
Mainland	W	65	v	48	L	Northern Comets
Northern Marvels	L	49	v	50	W	Northern Comets
Northern Comets	L	44	v	59	W	South
Northern Comets	L	43	v	45	W	WBOP
Central	W	52	v	35	L	Northern Comets
Northern Comets	D	53	v	53	D	Northern Marvels
WBOP	W	52	v	37	L	Northern Comets
South	W	67	v	53	L	Northern Comets
Northern Comets	L	47	v	64	W	Mainland

Financial Performance

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