



Junior Netball Update – April 2014



What a whirlwind of a month we've had, highlighted by the exciting number of Netball Centres now endorsed to deliver the new Junior Netball Programme. Development staff have been extremely busy delivering training to a large number of enthusiastic Junior Co-ordinators, Star Helpers and Coaches.

Thousands of young netball payers are now eager to get started, so thanks for your support!

ENDORSED JUNIOR NETBALL PROVIDERS

There has been an amazing response to the introduction of the new Junior Netball programme with close to 70 Netball Centres seeking to be endorsed providers. In the South Island it appears all but two Netball Centres will roll out the new programme this year.

The feedback we have received so far has been overwhelmingly positive with the children's enthusiasm rubbing off on the adults. This new programme was developed for the players to ensure they gain success, improve their skills and have fun.

JUNIOR NETBALL CLIP

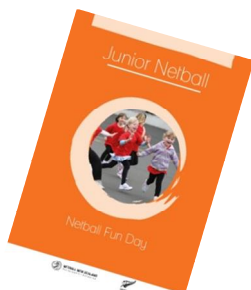
The Junior Netball video clip has been viewed nearly 2000 times, clearly defining why the changes were being made. It's extremely useful for everyone involved in Junior Netball and we encourage you to share the clip with your Netball community as much as possible.

www.mynetball.co.nz/juniornetball

NETBALL FUN DAY

For all those endorsed Netball Centres, shortly you will receive a Netball Fun Day resource. Included in this resource is information on why run a Fun Day, the who, when, where plus example timelines and programmes.

Fun Days can be ideal to show case your sport, providing current players with skill development and fun or attracting interested others to your sport. Netball Centres may be looking for new ways to attract, engage and retain their young players and delivering a Fun Day is a great tool to achieve this. Give it a go!



ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS

With Easter and the holidays approaching fast, Netball Centres and parents might be interested to know that there are quizzes, word finds and mazes available via Netball New Zealand's website.

Follow this link <http://www.mynetball.co.nz/fanzone/kids.html>

Highlights from the Zones

NORTHERN ZONE

Seven Netball Centres have delivered a number of workshops with 81 Star Helpers, 25 Junior Co-ordinators and 36 Year 3 & 4 Coaches trained to date.

Auckland Netball Centre's taster sessions for Year 1 & 2 and Year 3 players attracted over 130 players who wanted to try out the new games – they all wanted to stay even when the sun went down! They are expecting 350 children to sign up this season in these age groups.

Pukekohe Netball Centre, who piloted the Year 1 & 2 programme last year, has had an early start to their season with 18 Year 3 teams already playing this season.

WAIKATO BAY OF PLENTY ZONE

This Zone wasn't involved in the pilots last year, but there has been tremendous buy in with 20 Netball Centres opting to deliver the Junior Netball programme this season. They have been impressed with the number of people wanting to help and the enthusiasm for the programme. Over 150 children turned up to a Fun Day in Te Puke and Kawerau are offering Netball for Year 1 & 2 for the first time with 50 children already signed up. Very exciting!

CENTRAL ZONE

Hawkes Bay's delivery of the NNZ Junior Netball programme featured on SKY Sport and they are preparing for the Year 3 & 4's in Term 2. New Centres offering Year 1 & 2's the new programme in Term 2 are Stratford, Kapiti, Wanganui and Hutt Valley.

MAINLAND ZONE

Netball Centres wishing to be involved in Junior Netball are substantial in Mainland Zone with both helpers and players wanting to get on board. West Coast has 50 Year 1 & 2 players who will experience Netball for the first time; Rolleston a venue in the Selwyn Centre have 100 players signed up and South Canterbury are expecting 100 Year 1 & 2's.

SOUTH ZONE

Nine of the ten Centres in this Zone have sought endorsement to date. Junior Co-ordinator training has started with 20 people trained in the past week preparing for the start of the programmes in Term 2.



Junior Netball Update – March 2014



Netball New Zealand's new Junior Netball Programme is already capturing the hearts and minds of the Netball community with parents and players alike applauding the changes.

One of the newly trained Junior Netball Junior Co-ordinator's Lisa Tuara, was initially sceptical about the programme with reservations over the new modified game for the children. However an information session and practical run through at the Mangonui Netball Centre organised by the Junior Development Officer at Netball Northern Anne Nicholson, proved a hit with everyone involved.

A game and skill session was organised with the young team, with positive outcomes.

"Seeing and hearing the feedback from the kids completely transformed my opinion," Tuara said.

"When I played Netball, I loved the way it was played," she said.

"But I learned from my child that it's important to think from their point of view and she enjoys the successes that the new format gives her and her friends".

"Seeing my own daughter loving it and all the other kids loving it was great – they were really cute."

Tuara had read about Netball New Zealand's Junior Netball Review and her daughter had intimated she wasn't keen to play Netball because she couldn't get her goals in. Disenchanted, her intent was to play soccer instead.

The Mangonui Netball Centre now have 70 Year 1 & 2 players and 80-90 Year 3 & 4 players involved in the programme. Fourteen Year 3 & 4 coaches attended their coach development workshop and nine 'Star Helpers' have been trained to date, with expectation there'll be at least another 15 for the next workshop.

Tuara was impressed with the positive attitude of the Star Helpers and Junior Coaches thanks to their enthusiasm, commitment and the training received. She said it was encouraging to see so many people attend the Junior Netball Workshops.

"They were a lot more prepared, and not freaking out about coaching," she said.



Oturu Misfits team

What has left a lasting impression for Tuara has been the laughter and enjoyment.

"On game day, so many parents and children seemed to be enjoying themselves and supporting each other."

"During my daughter's game and since competition points weren't being kept, I found that the parents applauded good play from both teams," she said.

"When a shot was successful, everyone celebrated. In fact, the enjoyment is infectious!"

There have been challenges with the older children taking a while to adjust to the modified game after previously playing the more traditional 7-a-side Netball.

Rolling subs are also proving to be interesting, in that the concept works well, but the players are keen to come off so they can enjoy something to eat.

"Maybe that's because they're working so hard," Tuara admitted.

For the Mangonui Netball Centre, they are committed to delivering a quality Junior Netball programme this year and in the future.

Tuara is aware there will be teething issues to overcome, but the sheer enjoyment of the players and seeing parents applaud both sides and hearing the laughter is enough to keep her looking for positives.

CONTACT OR QUESTIONS

If you are looking for information on the new Junior Netball programme check out www.mynetball.co.nz/juniornetball

Or if you have further questions or comments, please contact your Zone Community Netball Manager.

