

HOCKEY WAIRARAPA



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Local umpire named whistler of the year

Young Hockey umpire

Susannah Van Woerkom has been named 'whistler of the year' at the annual awards. It is great reward for Susannah who represented the Wairarapa region superbly this year. She umpired very well at the national under 16 girl's tournament and at Federation Cup, as well as umpiring very well here in the Wairarapa throughout 2008 season in various grades.

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Coaching update

Lance Hare has been given the Central Districts under-21 Women's coaching role for 2009. Hare will have Blacksticks trialists and Junior Blacksticks available to him and with a strong team; he will have a great chance of reaching the top four at the national tournament.

Catherine Smith, coach of the Wairarapa under 11 Girls team for 2008 has received her Hockey New Zealand level 2 coaching certificate and has impressed in the process. Dennis Slade, Massey Lecturer and Presenter at the course was very impressed with Catherine's attitude and aptitude at the course and believes she has a bright future in coaching – well done Catherine!!

Player Pathways programme.

The pathways group has been going along smoothly; the players have been filling in their training diaries and have been training hard over the summer break. The last session was with Blacksticks striker Niniwa Roberts and she focused on goal scoring and elimination skills. Roberts was very impressed with the skill level and attitudes of the group and encouraged the players to trial for the Capital under 21 teams this year.

Today Former New Zealand Softball coach Mike Walsh is taking a session on athlete development and future sessions will focus on speed and fine-tuning the skills needed to reach the top. Spectators are welcome to attend these top quality sessions; it was exciting to see coaches at the last session observing and taking notes.

Hockey Wairarapa Primary 6's Tournament

Hockey Wairarapa ran an enjoyable and closely contested tournament for junior representative players on the 20th of December 2008. All junior rep. players from 2008 were invited to play in the tournament and those that accepted were put into mixed teams that competed for the title of Primary 6's Champion.

In the end Archibald's Attackers beat Shaw's Revenge in the final and took the spoils. Bradley Annear was given the 'most promising boy' award and Michael 'O'Connor received the award for the girls. The tournament was so successful it will hopefully turn into an annual event.



Bradley Annear in action during the Primary 6's Tournament



New Turf and Pavilion update

Work on the new turf started again on the 12th of January and they have been flat out ever since. It is looking like it will all be ready in time for the 2009 season – what a great start to the Hockey year! The new turf is going to be a water turf and is being laid by the same company that put down the immaculate surfaces that were used at the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

The new pavilion that will compliment the new turf is still a work in progress. Committee member Mike Van Woerkom among others has been working hard getting funding applications in help get the pavilion up as soon as possible. He has also been in contact with tradesman in hope they will devote some of their valuable time towards the project and has had some positive replies. *Continued on page 2*

Blacksticks

The Blacksticks men's team are playing two tests in Wellington against India on Saturday the 21st and Sunday the 22nd of February. It is a great chance for Wairarapa Hockey enthusiasts to catch top class Hockey. There will also be some Wairarapa players in the curtain raisers.

Rule Changes for 2009

Two rule changes were approved at the last FIH meeting. From May 2009 you will be able to take sideline hits to yourself, which will allow for a more free flowing, faster game.

The second rule change is that you can no longer play the ball directly into the circle from a free hit inside the twenty-five yard area. This rule has been introduced for safety reasons and will stop players like Hayden Shaw banging the ball into the circle looking for a foot and a penalty corner.

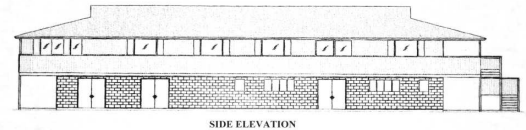


An image showing where the new Turf and Pavilion will go in relation to the existing Turf.

Turf and pavilion update continued

To compliment the tradesman's help and the grants, the Wairarapa Hockey community still need to rally around and assist also by joining the Supporters Club.

Below is a sketch of what the new pavilion is going to look like, it will include a lounge, bar, kitchen, viewing balconies, an office and good sized changing rooms. For more information on the pavilion and to download a Supporter's Club pack go to hockeywairarapa.org.nz or ring the Hockey Wairarapa Office.



Scorching Summer Clinic

There are only 6 days until the Scorching Summer Clinic pushes off.

The Blacksticks Men's Team has been given the chance to participate in a Four Nations Tournament in India along with Germany & Holland later this month; this means that unfortunately Nick Wilson will not be able to coach at the clinic. The more experienced Blacksticks women's players Niniwa Roberts and Caryn Paewai have replaced him. Caryn Paewai will be there on the first two days of the clinic and Niniwa will take her place on the last day.

Coaches are welcome to attend the clinic and watch the coaches to get ideas for the upcoming season and learn from the best.

The clinic is on 27, 28, and 29 of January. The Novice group and the intermediate players that have been contacted start at 9am, the remaining Intermediate group players are at 11.30am and the advanced group pushes off at 2.30pm and finishes at 5.30pm.

Players need to bring; drink bottles, Hockey gear (Sticks, Shin pads, mouth guard, and turf shoes), wet weather gear, sun screen, and one dark top and one light top. If there are any questions regarding the clinic please contact Jesse Workman.

On the Way

- **School visits**

Contact Jesse Workman (0274258784 or chicano1310@hotmail.com) if you would like to be part of the Hockey Wairarapa school visits programme for 2009. Numerous schools have already been booked.

- **Indoor Hockey**

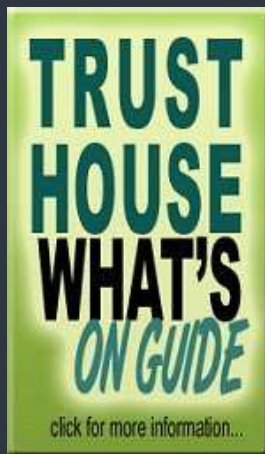
The registration forms have been sent out for Indoor Hockey 09; please get them back to Hockey Wairarapa ASAP to ensure the draw is completed quickly. It looks as though there may be resurgence in Indoor Hockey throughout New Zealand this year, with the possibility of a National or North Island Tournament being held. Wairarapa will be looking to select teams from this year's competition.

- **Level 1 and Small Sticks coaching courses**

A Hockey NZ level 1 coaching course will be run in Wairarapa this year in February, information about the course is on the website on the 'RDO'S Corner' section. 2008 Rep coaches and coaches that attended last years 'Small Sticks' courses will receive a small discount on this course.

- **Coaching Forums**

There will be monthly coaching forums starting in February 2009. The forums will be open to any Hockey Coach and will be a good way to get all coaches thinking about 'modern Hockey', expose coaches to new styles, formations, information and techniques, and allow coaches to network and bounce ideas off one another. See the RDO's corner on the website for the flyer.



For further information about Hockey Wairarapa contact:

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For full draws, results and Hockey Wairarapa information visit www.hockeywairarapa.org.nz