

HOCKEY WAIRARAPA



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Major Supporters of the New Turf

Trust House

Eastern & Central Community Trust

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Masterton District Council

Carterton District Council

Calendar

Nov / Dec
Twilight hockey

Jan
Training Camps

Feb/Mar
Indoor

May
New Turf ready

Newsletter 18th November 2008

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Pavilion Update

Wairarapa Hockey is currently finalising plans for the new Pavilion and will be looking for support from local businesses and tradesmen to ensure it can be built within the Associations budget. It is a huge task and it is vital that everyone gets behind the project and joins the Supporters Club.

The Association is also in the process of selling advertising hoarding space around both turfs. Given the large number of players & supporters this opportunity allows you a great chance to not only support the new pavilion but also advertise your business. For more details please contact Matthew Spicer on 06 3788641 or 0274 955920.

National Honours

Former Chanel College and Wairarapa representative Elizabeth Perry has just been named in the Blacksticks Women's trial to be held in January of next year. It would be great to see Liz playing for the Blacksticks and it has been a long time since a product of the Wairarapa has played for New Zealand at Hockey.

Local players Ana-May Playle and Jesse Workman were named in the New Zealand Women's and Men's teams respectively for this years Oceania Cup to be held in Fiji this year. Workman also played for the same team earlier in the year against the New Zealand Indians and the Junior Blacksticks in curtain raisers for the Blacksticks in their bid to win the international qualifying tournament in Auckland in February.

Season Highlights

Once again Wairarapa Hockey has shown its ability to punch well above its weight nationally. Highlights include St Matthews & Wairarapa College's 1st XI's finishing in the top 12 at the 2008 Federation Cup and the Wairarapa College Boys 1st XI finishing 11th in the Rankin Cup. These tournaments are for the best school teams in all NZ so to have three of our local schools making this grade is an amazing achievement.

Other outstanding results included the U11 Girls winning their major tournament and the U18 Boys winning the 2008 National Under 18 Boys Championship Tournament.



Wairarapa U18 Boys



Update on the new turf from the Wairarapa Sports Artificial Surface Trust

Work on the turf has begun with the Chairman of Trust House Brian Bourke turning over the first piece of turf yesterday. The complex will be known as the **Trust House Hockey Wairarapa Complex**.

Trust House continue to be wonderful supporters of Hockey Wairarapa so we ask you all to support them and their businesses whenever possible. A good starting point would be a visit to their Liquorland shop (cnr Chapel & Russell St, Masterton). They have very friendly & knowledgeable staff who will look after you. So please remember that supporting them is helping us and other community projects.

Our supporters are vital to the ongoing success of Wairarapa Hockey so please support all those who support hockey where possible.

Coaching Update

Catherine Smith, the Wairarapa Under 11 girls coach, has just been accepted to and will be attending the Level 2 Hockey coaching course in Christchurch at the end of the month.

Twilight Update

Once again there has been a huge response to Twilight Hockey with over 47 teams entered in the various competitions. Twilight Hockey caters for everyone from Primary School to Adults and affords many of those Winter sideline Mums & Dads an opportunity to show their skills (or not – much to their children's delight).



Action from the Men's final, New Zealand Development's Cain Fleming passes the ball through the feet of 'player of the tournament' David Guest.

Local players make the big time

The Wairarapa region was well represented in this year's National Hockey League or NHL with nine past or present players involved. The former Wairarapa players involved were; Jamie Schaefer and Holly Gaskin for Wellington. Elizabeth Perry for Canterbury, Sophie Wickens for Midlands, Pip Dalziell for Auckland and Wendy Hull and Andy Ewington for Central Districts. The two players that made the NHL this year that are still living in the Wairarapa were Jesse Workman and Dane Lett who both

played for the mighty Central Mavericks. It was an extraordinary achievement for Lett taking into account he was only 17 when he was picked and one of only 18 players at the tournament that was still attending school. Lett was thrilled to "gain valuable experience playing at the top level" and was stoked at having played against the top players in the world at such a young age.

The NHL is New Zealand Hockey's premiere tournament; eight men's and women's teams compete for the top spot in New Zealand Hockey. Most teams 'import' players from other countries to improve their chances and this year some of the best players in the world were there including Australia's David Guest, Brent Livermore and Matthew Wells and Germany's Eike Ducwitz. Midlands comprised of players from Waikato, Thames Valley, Tauranga and Rotorua (and two very good Australian's) won the men's competition and North Harbour won the Women's. Well done to these players for representing Wairarapa on the big stage, and with high performance programmes in place let's hope we can produce even more NHL level players and even Blacksticks.

Upcoming Events

Hockey Wairarapa are going to be running a summer camp in January, the attendees will receive high quality coaching from top quality coaches including up and coming, former and potentially current Blacksticks. The date of the camp is expected to be confirmed very soon and applications will be sent out to clubs and families as well as being available from the turf at Clareville. Watch this space and return the application forms ASAP because spaces are limited.

There is also going to be a **player pathways** programme up and running before Christmas. The programme will be for players that have been identified as having potential to play NHL or international level Hockey. It will involve Fitness (including training diaries), tactical and technical improvement, and participants will be looking at nutrition and goal setting also. Ex New Zealand Softball Coach Mike Walsh will be helping the group and will provide the coaches with expert direction to ensure the players have the best shot at reaching their potential.

Players will be sent their invitation within the next couple of weeks, so make sure you check the mail for a letter!

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