



waikato softball newsletter

june 2008

Is your club looking for a tournament? Why not the Arafura Games?

Greetings, my name is Jacquie Hatt, Executive Officer of Softball Northern Territory, Australia and I would like to extend a special invitation to you, your team and your country to come and join us for some real fun in the sun at the Arafura Games to be held in Darwin, May 2009.

Fun and friendship, in a great destination celebrating the great game of softball!!!

Arafura Games is not designed for current world beaters or Olympic champions, instead it provides a high quality stepping stone for athletes as part of their journey to compete at the highest level and for emerging champions of the Asia-Pacific region.

Indications are that we are in for a truly international competition that will give you the chance to test your ability against teams from different parts of the softball world.

Since 1991, Arafura Games has been held every two years in the capital of Australia's Northern Territory, Darwin.

Arafura Games 2009 has an exciting line up of events across 27 sporting disciplines. For the first time Arafura Games will include the sports of Darts and Muaythai.

After the success of the inclusion of Oceania Paralympic Championships in Arafura Games 2007, Arafura Games 2009 will again host Paralympic Events in eight sports.

The Northern Territory looks forward to welcoming sporting neighbours from around the world to the forthcoming Arafura Games 2009.

Please register your expression of interest by going to the Arafura Games web site at www.arafuragames.com. Registering an expression of interest does not constitute your entry into the games, it simply means that we can continue to send you updates in regards to the competition.

Look forward to corresponding with you again.

Jacquie Hatt

what's been happening?

One of Waikato Softball's volunteers was "caught out" when they were nominated and selected as the winner of the Sport Waikato Whistler Award sponsored by SBS.

Cowley Harris was nominated for his contribution in umpiring not only Junior but Senior softball, and his contribution to softball in general.

You will always see Cowley up at the park setting up diamonds, ensuring the draw is ok, emptying the rubbish, helping with the sausage sizzles, mending any repairs around the park, answering any queries people may have, putting gear away, umpiring, and trying to watch his son play all on a Saturday morning.

Cowley and his family were invited to receive his prize at a presentation evening held at Sport Waikato, the prize pack contained, a bag, jacket, drink bottle and a whistle.

Well done Cowley and Thank you for your contribution to Softball.

Remember...

The Whistler Award is awarded each month and it would be great to see more of our Softball Umpires nominated for this recognition during our Softball season.

To nominate someone for this award, download a nomination form from the Sport Waikato Website www.sportwaikato.co.nz



U15 girls tournament team



This photo is of the Under 15 Girls Representative Team that travelled to Tauranga to play in the National North Island Tournament January 2008.

Well done Girls! aren't they a pretty bunch !!!

Thank you to Angela Johnston for supplying the photo.



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up and coming waikato talent

Name: Corey Wilson

Age: 14

Position: 2nd Base/Short Stop

Club: Fairfield Otorohanga United (FFOU)

School: Hamilton Boy's High School

2008 Representative Tournaments: Under 15, Under 17, Under 19, HBHS Secondary School Tournament.



Corey was selected as the Most Promising Junior Representative Player for Waikato in the 2005-06 Season when he was playing for the Waikato Under 13's and Under 17's. Corey showed great leadership while he was playing in the Under 13's and although he was one of the younger players to go to the Under 17 Tournament, his skill level showed why and how he was selected.

Corey has continued to grow within the game of softball and has this year been selected in the International Under 16 Tournament Team playing in the Friendship Games in Australia, July 08.

I decided to go along and ask Corey a few questions so I could share them all with you.

How long have you been playing for?

Since I was about 3 or 4, might have to ask my mum.

Who or what inspired you to play, and continues to provide a positive role model to you today?

Well it runs in the family, it's in the blood. Uncle Rob has had a lot of influence in my game and developing my character.

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prizegiving

Waikato Junior Softball Prizegiving 08 Summer League Competition Awards

Grade	Runners Up	Champions
Midgets (y 1-2)	Nawton Stars	TMM Karawhiua
Giants (y 3-4)	Uptempo Tigers	Uptempo Phoenix
Little League Minors (y 5-6)	Tauwhare Titans	Southnet
Little League Majors (y 5-6)	Uptempo Cougars	Melville Softball Club
Intermediate Minors (y 7-8)	Peachgrove Angels	Crawshaw Coyotes
Intermediate Majors (y 7-8) Bronco Te Kiri Trophy	Southwell Stealers	Peachgrove Giants
Girls Open Grade (y 11-13)	Hillcrest High School	Hamilton Girls' High School
Open Grade (y 9-13)	Melville Softball Club	Hamilton Boys' High School

Honours Awards

Best Dressed Team	Te Ara Rima Redbacks
Top Coach	Rachal Stewart 3 School Teams + Under 13 Girls' Waikato Team
Quarters Cup (service to Junior softball)	Cowley Harris (summer league prizegiving only)
Team Sportsmanship	Peachgrove Angels
School/Club Award	Southnet Sports Club

Representative Awards (summer league prizegiving only)

Rep Teams	U13 g & b; U15 b & g; U17 b; U19 b
National Selections	Tanisha Kelly (Under 15 Girls), DJ Bishop, Daniel Horgan, Izaac Martin, Jan Gray (U15 Boys' Manager)
Most promising player (Kamloops trophy)	Tahlia Te Kiri
Rep Team Award (Jack Neha Snr trophy)	Under 15 Boys'



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corey wilson

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What are your goals for yourself in softball?

This year to win gold at the Friendship Games. Long term goal is to be a Black Sox.

What are you expecting to get out of the Friendship Games Tournament that you have been selected for?

A gold medal, and to meet a whole lot more people from other areas and countries who all have a passion for softball.

What do you do when you're not playing softball?

Homework and rugby

Have you achieved representative level in any other sporting code?

League and touch, but I don't play them any more. My main focus is softball.

What are your plans when you finish school?

Go to Uni and do accounting.

Corey is grateful for the support and constant encouragement that his mum and dad (Emily and Grant) provide to him, not only in his sporting career but in everyday life.

Without them all that Corey has achieved may not have been possible. So thanks mum and dad!



upcoming events

june

- 16: WSA Board Meeting 6pm Resthills Park
- 24: June WSUA Meet and Greet Rules Refresher Evening, Resthills Park 6.30

july

- Marlinz Softball Club AGM; venue and time to be confirmed.
- WSA Board Meeting; date to be confirmed
- WSUA Rules Refresher Evening; date to be confirmed

august

- Senior registrations sent out to Clubs
- WSA General Meeting; date to be confirmed
- WSUA Rules Refresher Evening; date to be confirmed.
- 30 SNZ AGM
- 31: Melville Softball Club AGM, 16 Jones Crescent 1pm

september

- 2x WSA Board Meetings, dates to be confirmed
- Southnet Sports Club, AGM date to be confirmed, 18 Rawlings Street.
- 14: One Day Scorer/Statican Class, Resthills Park 10am – 4pm
- 19: Senior Registrations and Affiliation fee due
Junior registrations sent out

october

- 4: Senior Softball commences
- 11: Week 2 Senior Softball
- 18: Week 3 Senior Softball
- 25/26: Proposed Senior Tournament
- Junior Registrations due
- WSA Board Meeting, date to be confirmed
- WSA General Meeting, date to be confirmed
- 2xWSUA Rules Refresher Evening, date to be confirmed

NZ Umpires Exam, date to be confirmed

november

- 1: Junior Softball Commences/Week 4 Senior Softball
- 4: Inter Intermediate Tournament, Resthills Park, All Day
- 8: Week 2 Junior Softball/Week 5 Senior Softball
- 15: Week 3 Junior Softball/Week 6 Senior Softball
- 22: Week 4 Junior Softball/Week 7 Senior Softball
- 29: Week 5 Junior Softball/Week 8 Senior Softball

december

- 1-3: National North Island Junior College Tournament, Resthills Park
 - 13: Finals Junior and Senior Softball
- This calendar will be updated regularly so please make sure you check the dates.**

Trust Waikato Funding Grants

Congratulations to Uptempo Softball Club Inc for their recent success in obtaining a Trust Waikato Grant for \$1000.00 and the Resthills Sports Centre Inc for \$2000.00.

Don't forget everyone, the Trust Waikato Funding Grants are distributed three times a year, so if you have missed out on the first round get your

application in by the 13th of June to be considered for funds allocated in early September.

If you need any assistance with your application please feel free to contact the Trust on 07 838 2660 or 0800 436 628 or check out their website www.trustwaikato.co.nz.

Are you watching the softball? Tune into Maori TV Sundays at 2pm to catch the action!



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have you ever thought about how you can get involved in sport?

The WSA needs more volunteers to help with the running of softball in the area.

If you feel you can help out in any way, please feel free to contact Gina Marcum email ginam@sportsforce.org.nz, mob 027 249 1046, ph 07 838 2657 and she will direct you in the right direction.

Maybe you would like to become an official, umpiring junior and senior games on Saturdays? Don't know the rules? Then come along to the WSUA Rules Refresher Evening and meet the local umpires, have a chat and see if this is your pathway in softball.

Or

Maybe you like to analyse things and could become a team scorer/statistician, a great way to learn the game and become familiar with the softball language. The WSA are always looking for more people to become involved in this side of the game and welcome anyone to come along to the Scorer/Statistician One Day Class on 16 September at Resthills Park, 10am-4pm.

Buy a brick

The Resthills Sports Centre Inc is raising funds to further develop the complex.

This is your chance to help them out and get your name on the wall for everyone to see.

Want to know more?

Make a donation for your brick \$50.00

Plaque that will have your name. \$25.00

Eg

'Jack and Faye Lawrence'

For more information about this fundraising venture please contact Jack Lawrence on 07 843 7177.

coaches & managers needed

Applications for Coach and Manager of the Waikato Representative Teams are needed now, to allow time to apply for any necessary funding.

Please forward your application of interest to Convenor of Rep Teams, Waikato Softball Association PO Box 6014, Glenview Hamilton by 27 June 2008.

The WSA are also in need of coaches for local colleges who are wanting to participate in the WSA Junior Competition this year.

This is an opportunity for all clubs to adopt a school and help develop our junior softball teams, and softball in the area.

If you are keen to take on this role or know someone who might be keen, then please contact **Gina Marcum** on 027 249 1046 or 07 838 2657 or ginam@sportsforce.org.nz.

Teams:

Under 13 Boys and Girls – Travel away four Sundays of the season to Auckland/North Harbour/Countries.

Under 15 Boys: Travel away to two Sunday Tournaments, Nationals to be held in Waikato: 15.01.09 – 18.01.09

Under 15 Girls: Travel away to two Sunday Tournaments, Nationals to be held in Taranaki: 15.01.09 – 18.01.09

Under 17 Boys: Travel away to two Sunday Tournaments, Nationals to be held in Manawatu: 22.01.09 – 25.01.09

Under 17 Girls: Travel away to two Sunday Tournaments, Nationals to be held in Canterbury 22.01.09 – 25.01.09

Under 19 Boys: Nationals to be held in Nelson 09.01.09 – 12.01.09

from the junior prizegiving...



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