

IN THIS ISSUE

- Primary School Squash Program's
- Girls on Court Participation Program
- Intermediate School Squash Zone Days
- Get Started Coaches Course
- Club School Holiday Programs
- Females in Squash
- JETS Update
- Junior Girls Squash Development Day



Above: Students from Wairau Intermediate show their appreciation on the recent Kiwi Sport Squash program

The recent Wairau Intermediate Kiwi Sport program saw over 250 students participate in a week of squash. At the end of the program 36 students were invited to attend a mini squash tournament at the North Shore Squash Club. Five students to date have gone on to join North Shore Club as squash members.

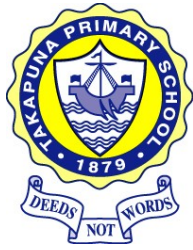


Above: Class A11 from Albany Primary School with program coaches Paul Cornish and Louis Yalland.

September saw the conclusion of our biggest Kiwi Sport Squash program to date. Albany Primary school with over 650 students was host to a 6 week squash program during term 3. Judging by the feedback received from the children the program was a huge success. Credit to the coaches; Paul Cornish, Louis Yalland and Manu Yam for their efforts in facilitating the program and ensuring its success.



Above: A group of Albany Primary students practice their ball handling skills on the recent Kiwi Sport Squash program



The following feedback was received from Takapuna Primary School in response to the running of a Kiwi Sport Squash program run at the school in term 2. Congratulations to Paul Cornish and Louis Yalland who facilitated the running of this program.

- Outstanding
- Very skilled facilitators
- Teachers involved and children active throughout
- Rotation well timed and good range of activities
- Children loved it and had fun
- Over 10 children have gone on to join clubs
- Wonderful opportunity to select talent group and have them play on real squash courts. Some of the children in this group would not have been ones normally chosen for more traditional sports talent groups
- Exposure to sport they have never played

Girls on Court Program Launched in Schools

August saw the launch of Squash Auckland's 'Girls on Court' squash program. The program is a response to the continuing decline of junior female squash players in the region. Currently junior girls make up only 7% of the squash playing membership in the Auckland district. Equally disturbing was the 23% decline in junior female members between 2008 and 2009. For the sport to flourish, this situation must be addressed urgently.

Urgent work is required to turn the situation around. It is not just Squash Auckland but all clubs

that need to get on board and support initiatives to facilitate growth in junior girls squash. Clubs need to take steps to better understand why girls participate (or in most cases don't participate in squash) and work hard to break down the barriers to entry.

They can start by offering different playing options to girls, in particular options that don't include competition but focus more on participation and socializing, getting active and meeting new friends.

Squash Auckland has taken the

first steps with the launch of our 'Girls on Court' program in August.

Schools in the Auckland region were offered the opportunity to have a group of their female students participate in a free, 6 week squash program run at their local squash club. In all 9 schools and 81 primary, intermediate and secondary schools girls accepted the offer to participate in a program.

This has been a great response. The next step now is to convert them to members.

Big Turn Out at Central Zone Intermediate Schools Squash Zone

September saw the running of the Central Zone Intermediate Schools Squash day. Hosted by the Royal Oak Racquets Club again this year, the event saw 6 schools and over 60 students participating.

Schools participating were Royal Oak, 2 Girls and 3 boys teams, Remuera, 2 boys teams, Auckland Normal, 3 girls and 3 boys teams, Kohia Tce, 2 girls and 1 boys team, Ponsonby, 1 girls and 1 boys team and Balmoral, 2 boys and 1 girls team, a total of 9 girls and 12 boys teams, around 80 students involved from six schools.

Results were Boys, 1st Remuera 1, 2nd Royal Oak 2, 3rd Remuera 2. Girls 1st Auckland Normal B, 2nd Ponsonby, 3rd Royal Oak A

Thank you to all who participated. Behavior, sportsmanship, umpiring, care of the facility and punctuality on court were excellent, making a full on day very enjoyable for all.

Thanks once again to Royal Oak Racquets Club for hosting the event

More Players Taking Up Coaching

Since the introduction of the new Squash NZ coaching syllabus this year, Squash Auckland has seen a significant uptake from players interested in getting involved in coaching. This year we have run 7 FREE Get Started coaching courses at various clubs around the district. To date 40 players have attended a Get Started coaching course, meaning 40 new coaches. This is in addition to the 34 new level 1 coaches qualified since 2007.

One of the most pleasing results of the new syllabus has been the increase in females wanting to take up coaching. Over 45% of the 40 coaches who have attended the Get Started course this year were female. This contrasts with only 23% who attended a level 1 coaching course since 2007.

There is little doubt that the modular nature of the new coaching syllabus has made it more attractive for both men and women wanting to undertake a coaching course. The time taken to complete a course has been significantly reduced from 2 days to 3 hours. In addition the cost has come down from \$100 - \$200 to \$30. The combination of these two factors now makes it more appealing for men and women who are time poor and haven't necessarily got the resources to commit to two full days to attend a coaching course.

More coaching modules are due out later in October. The next program out will be the Small Nix program. This module will focus on providing the skills needed to coach squash players aged 5 – 8 years.

Henderson Ladies Club Night Helps Grow Club's Female membership

Henderson Squash are now starting to see the benefits of running females only club night. Since the beginning of the year the club (thanks to Manager Shella Chou-Lee) has been running a women's only squash club night once a month. While the numbers are small the women clearly appreciate the opportunity to play squash together. Since its inception 6 of the women's night attendees have joined the club as members.

Term 3 JETS Round-Up

September saw the finals of the Term 3 JETS competition completed. This term was the largest competition on record with teams from all 4 regions competing as well as a separate girls division involving clubs from the North Shore and the central city. The final standings were:

Central Zone Boys

Position	Teams
1	Eden Epsom - Schwarz
2	Eden Epsom - Stevens
3	Remuera
4	Herne Bay
5	Royal Oak
6	Eden Epsom - O'Brien

Girls: Round Robin Final Standings

Position	Teams	Points
1	Herne Bay	39
2	Belmont Park 1	36
3	North Shore	31
4	Browns Bay	27
5	Devonport	27
6	Belmont Park 2	27
7	Eden Epsom	21

The Northern Zone was split into groups of 7 teams each. At the end of round robin play the top two teams from each division competed in a playoff to determine the overall winner. Belmont Blazers who finished runners up in group B were crowned the overall Northern Boys JETS winners for term 3, winning a hard fought playoff final 8 – 6 against their counterparts and winners of Group B, the Belmont Bandicoots.

The final standings after the playoffs were:

- 1st Belmont Blazers
- 2nd Belmont Bandicoots
- 3rd Belmont Bombers
- 4th North Shore Demons

In the Western zone competition Kumeu were too strong winning the round robin comfortably in the end against teams from Titirangi and Henderson.

This term a Graduates League for F grade juniors was also run in conjunction with the JETS competition. Six players competed in a Northern Zone competition while four players competed in a southern competition. Unfortunately due to a number of results not being received, the final standings for the Northern Zone are not available.

In the Southern Zone the final standings for the Graduates league were:

- Scott Van Lieshout (FR) 18pts
- Kees Van Lieshout (FR) 13pts
- Mitchell Farmer (HW) 9pts
- Luke Luijten (PK) 8pts

Entries are now open for clubs wanting to participate in JETS in term 4.

Get Started Coaches Course

Papakura Squash & Tennis Club

Day: Sunday

Date: October 17th

Time: 10am – 1pm

Cost: **FREE**

This is an ideal beginner's course for those wanting to get involved in squash coaching.

To Register Contact: Steve Hodges

Email: development@squashauckland.org.nz

Squash Auckland Coach Development Day

Where: Royal Oak Racquets Club

When: Sunday Oct 10th, 10am – 3pm

Cost: **FREE**

Squash Auckland is pleased to announce the running of its second Squash Coach Development Day. This event is open to coaches of all levels. To register contact Steve Hodges: development@squashauckland.org.nz

Or DDI: 623 7856

Mob: 021 484 713

The Pathway: Junior Girls Development Camps



In Sept Squash Auckland ran its first Junior Girls Squash Development day for J and F grade players aged 9 – 14 years. The purpose was to provide an opportunity for young female players to receive some additional coaching and for Squash Auckland to provide another step in its player development pathway for young female players. Thanks to coaches Mark Waldin, Roberto Yam, Paul Cornish, and Rachel McLeod for their assistance in running the program.

Belmont Park Holiday Squash Program



The Belmont Park Racquets Club school holiday squash program's popularity continues to grow. This term nearly 30 juniors attended the program. Due to the program's increased popularity and to accommodate the younger kids, club coach Manu Yam decided to install one of Squash Auckland's micro courts in the club. The court was set up on the mezzanine floor and proved to be a hit – not just with the younger players – but with all attendees who were keen to play on the court.

