

February 2010

BV Annual Awards Dinner

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Basketball Victoria is pleased to announce that nominations for the Basketball Victoria 2009 Annual Awards are now open.

Each year the awards recognise the valuable work of Victorian basketball associations, as well as individuals from within the Victorian basketball community. We would like to encourage all associations, large and small, to submit nominations for the awards as outlined in the nomination document.

This year's function will also include the presentation of three new awards:

- Volunteer of the Year - Disability Programs
- Basketball Athlete of the Year with an Intellectual Disability
- Wheelchair Basketball Athlete of the Year

The Annual Awards Function which will be held on Thursday 29th April 2010 at Merrimu Receptions, 1300 Dandenong Rd, Murrumbeena. The cost to attend the function is \$65 per person (3 course meal and drinks). Bookings can be made by contacting Mandy Culph on 03 9927 6666 or mandy.culph@basketballvictoria.com.au for a booking form. Then return the form with payment by Friday 16th April.

Please visit the Basketball Victoria website for Booking Forms and Nomination Forms at www.basketballvictoria.com.au

We look forward to receiving your nominations and seeing you at the dinner.

Stars of Basketball to Shine in Melbourne

The superstars of the National Basketball League and Women's National Basketball League will gather in Melbourne on Friday 19 March for the 2010 NBL/WNBL Awards Dinner to witness the announcement of the Most Valuable Players of both competitions.

In one of the true gala events on the sporting calendar, the elite of Australia's basketball family will attend as the annual awards for both the NBL and WNBL are presented in a combined ceremony at the prestigious Palladium Room C at Crown Casino in Melbourne.

The highlight of the event will be the presentation of the Most Valuable Player awards to those two athletes who have been the best of the best in the NBL and WNBL this season.

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The outstanding player of the 2009/10 season for the men's NBL will receive the Andrew Gaze Trophy as the Most Valuable Player. Past winners have included Leroy Loggins, Scott Fisher, Chris Anstey and of course the man the award was named after, seven-time recipient Andrew Gaze.

Some of the greatest names of the women's game have taken home the WNBL MVP trophy previously, including Robyn Maher, Rachael Sporn, Penny Taylor and Lauren Jackson. A number of past winners of the men's and women's awards will be in the audience to welcome the new recipients to basketball's most exclusive club.

Other men's awards that will be presented on the night include NBL Coach of the Year, NBL Rookie of the Year, NBL Best Defensive Player, NBL Most Improved Player, NBL Best Sixth Man and All-NBL First Team. The WNBL will also present their Coach of the Year, Rookie of the Year and Defensive Player of the Year.

The night will commence at 6:30pm and limited tickets are now available for \$150 (plus GST) per ticket or a table of 10 for \$1,500 (plus GST).

For your chance to order tickets for basketball's night of nights, call Geoff Tripp at Basketball Australia now on 02 9469 7214 or email geoff.tripp@basketball.net.au.

Association Development Grants

The latest round of Association Development Grant funding has now become available for associations.

Basketball Victoria has identified the need, through the continuing growth of basketball statewide, to offer affiliated associations the opportunity to apply for grants of up to \$1,000 to help develop basketball within their region.

Project aims and objectives:

Projects should be undertaken to build and develop the association whilst also providing opportunities to increase participation and volunteer and community involvement. Programs/Projects that are undertaken with funding should also aim to be sustainable within the Association beyond the initial funding.

By covering all aspects of basketball the Association Development Grant Scheme can be used for many different projects.

Application window

Applications for the Association Development Grant open on the 1st February 2010 and closes on the 31st March 2010. There are a limited number of grants available.

For Grant Guidelines and Applications Forms, please visit the Basketball Victoria website on:

<http://www.basketballvictoria.com.au/index.php?id=59>



U20 Victorian State Teams Announced

The 2010 Victorian Under 20 State Teams who will contest this month's Australian Championships in Gawler, South Australia, have been selected after a series of tough try-out sessions.

Both teams have a proud history at the National Championships and these players will be looking to continue this tradition. The Men's Championships have been running in 1974, and over the past 36 years, Victoria's Men have taken the title 20 times. Our women's team also have an equally stunning record with 15 titles since the Women's Championships began in 1981.

From within both the men's and women's teams, there is only 1 player returning from the 2009 campaign. Alice Kunek of Eltham Basketball Association will be heading to Gawler full of determination, aiming to bring home another Gold medal to add to her collection.

The U20 Men have been training over four weekends, improving each session as they come together as a group. "We are aiming to defend aggressively on each possession" said coach Scott Christiansen "From this, our style of play will be very up tempo."

Coach of the Victorian U20 Women, Lori Chizik is also looking to play an up tempo style of basketball. "This year's team is very talented and I expect all players to make a significant contribution to our campaign" said Chizik.

Both teams have extremely committed players and staff. All eyes are firmly set on replicating the previous success of our state and bringing the National Championships back to Victoria yet again.

This year's teams consist of:

Victorian U20 Men

Josh Wilcher	Sandringham (Captain)
Stefan Uzelax	Melbourne
Shaun Bruce	Horsham
Jon Cooke	Nunawading
Mitch Creek	Horsham
Anthony Drmic	Dandenong/AIS
Ben Kelly	Melbourne
Andrew Steel	Nunawading
Chris Patton	Dandenong
Nick Gallagher	Nunawading

Emergencies:

Simon Grant	Knox
Matt Preston	Melbourne

Staff:

Scott Christiansen	Head Coach
Trevor Lee	Assistant Coach
Andrew Sherwell	Assistant Coach
Kim White	Manager
Lisa Briggs	Myotherapist/Sports Physiologist

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Victorian U20 Women*

Cortney Williamson	Ballarat
Nicole Zammit	Dandenong
Bec Cole	Nunawading/AIS
Alice Kunek	Eltham
Ashley Hirons	Sandringham
Maddy Garrick	Shepparton/AIS
Morgan Pink	Dandenong
Ashleigh Stonehouse	Melbourne
Lucy Dawson	Bulleen
Alex Sheedy	Moe/AIS

Emergencies:

Kate Ebzery	Kilsyth
Zara Pearson	Echuca
Simone Ruedin	Eltham
Ashley McBean	Eltham

Staff:

Lori Chizik	Head Coach
Heath Millar	Assistant Coach
Stewart Baird	Assistant Coach
Robyn Boyle	Manager
Tim Mottin	

*U20's Team Captain to be advised

NEW Healthy & Welcoming Environments Policy Handbook

Basketball Victoria is pleased to announce a new resource developed to assist associations with the creation of healthy and welcoming environments.

Associations will soon be receiving the Healthy & Welcoming Environments Policy Handbook and accompanying CD. This resource contains tips on the creation, development and modification of policies to be used within your association. It also contains template policies that can easily be altered to suit the needs of individual associations.

These templates have been designed for easy use and we encourage all associations to utilise this tool as much as possible. By working together to create healthy and welcoming environments, we develop a sport that is even more appealing to the community as a safe and healthy option for participation.

If you would like to know more please do not hesitate to contact Trevor Newcombe (03) 9927 6666 or email trevor.newcombe@basketballvictoria.com.au.

This document can also be found in the Resources section of the Basketball Victoria website. Visit www.basketballvictoria.com.au.



WNBL Finals Start with a Bang

The Bulleen Boomers will be hunting a place in the Grand Final on the weekend, as well as a chance to avenge their only loss of the season, when they take on the Sydney Uni Flames at Knox Stadium at 3.00pm this Saturday.

The First Semi Final match-up sees the league's two top finishing sides meet head-to-head.

Bulleen finished on top of the ladder at the end of the regular season with a record of 21-1, while Sydney Uni moved into second position in the final round, finishing one game clear of the Canberra Capitals with a record of 17-5.

The clash will be the third meeting between the sides for the season, with each team having stolen a win from their opponents, away from their home floor thus far.

In Round 3 Bulleen went to Sydney and walked away with an 80-71 victory, as a near triple-double from Bulleen guard Jenna O'Hea, nullified 22 points and ten rebounds from the Flames Suzy Batkovic-Brown.

The second game between the two was held at the Veneto Club back in Round 7. On that occasion the Sydney Uni Flames withstood the loss of veteran Natalie Porter to a broken wrist to record a 79-65 victory.

Young centre Liz Cambage led all scorers for Bulleen on the day with 19 points, to go along with 11 rebounds. But with Batkovic-Brown nailed to the bench with foul trouble, it was Flames physically imposing forward Eva Afeaki who led the way with 20 points for the victors.

The winner of this game moves on to a Grand Final in two weeks time, while the loser faces the unenviable task of a potential Preliminary Final game next weekend against a fired up Lauren Jackson and her Canberra Capitals, who were pipped at the post for a second chance placing of their own.

The Flames will be desperate to win and give their superstar centre Suzy Batkovic-Brown another week off, giving her every chance to make a miracle return to their line up, after suffering a serious knee injury in the lead up to the finals.

One player who will return for the Flames this week is Eva Afeaki. She was instrumental in helping her side orchestrate Bulleen's only loss of the season, with her efforts in the contest earning her WNBL Player of the Week for Round 7.

In fact the two sides boast the winners of WNBL Player of the Week in 9 of the 17 regular season rounds, clearly a great indication of the current form of the players from the league's two best teams.

Eva Afeaki (Rnd 7), Suzy Batkovic-Brown (Rnd 8 and 9) and Deanna Smith (Rnd 11 and 13) have taken home the award for the Flames, while Elyse Penaluna (Rnd 1), Liz Cambage (Rnd 10 and 13) and Jenna O'Hea (Rnd 15) have all been bestowed the honour for their outstanding performances for the Boomers.

Game Details:

Tip Off: 3.00pm

Date: Saturday 20 February

Venue: Knox Basketball Stadium, Park Crescent, Boronia

Mel Ref: 64 K10

**Article courtesy of Ryan Mobilia for Bulleen Boomers Media*



Sporting Uniform Grants Program

Recently the Minister for Sport and Recreation, Hon James Merlino MP, opened the second round of funding for the 'Our Club, Our Future' Sporting Uniform Grants Program.

The Victorian Government recognizes the financial difficulties that many clubs face in providing uniforms as well as the huge contribution of local sporting clubs to shaping a positive identity for our towns and communities.

Copies of the funding guidelines and application form are available from the Department of Planning and Community Development (DPCD) website: www.grants.dpcd.vic.gov.au.

Alternatively, hard copies can be obtained by contacting the DPCD Grants Information Line on 1300 366 356. Organisations are encouraged to apply online at www.grants.dpcd.vic.gov.au

If you have any questions in regard to the program, please contact Mr Justin Bromley, Sport and Recreation Victoria via email Justin.Bromley@sport.vic.gov.au or telephone (03) 9208 3432.



'PayMySport' Service

It's the time of year when your thoughts turn to taking payments for registrations for the winter season, and PayMySport is now here to make it easier for everyone.

PayMySport works with your existing TBN database to simplify the process of receiving payments for registrations and merchandise online.

Already, we have seen associations accepting payments for all sorts of things:

- domestic club registrations
- association fees
- camps and clinics
- representative players fees
- even for merchandise!

PayMySport is simple to setup - your association doesn't need to set up a bank merchant facility. Instead, all you need to do is apply online for a free PayPal Business Account, complete and return the PayMySport User Agreement and then you'll be ready to accept online payments. Transaction fees of 3.9% apply, provided as a simple, all in one fee. There are no monthly account keeping fees or annual renewal fees.

Players (and parents!) can then pay their association or club fees online, automatically updating their registration status and removing the hassle of receiving and banking cheques and cash. Providing an online payment facility also provides convenience for your members, getting more people to pay you on time.

SportingPulse will introduce a set-up fee for PayMySport from March 1, to cover the time and manual work it takes to set up each club and association, and provide them with initial support. Sign up before 1 March to save the \$200 setup fee.

Interested? Head to www.paymysport.com for further information.





Leanne Del Toso on 'In the Paint'

'In The Paint' is a weekly segment on 1116AM SEN Sports Radio in Melbourne and also streams live on the web at www.sen.com.au

Last night (Sunday 14th February) on 'In The Paint' you may have heard Leanne del Toso talking with SEN's Mark Franklin, about the upcoming Osaka Cup in Japan. Leanne is one of six Victorian's representing Australia as member of the Women's Wheelchair Basketball team in Osaka.

The Osaka Cup is a friendly tournament which this year will be fought out between Australian, Japan, USA and Canada. This is a vital tournament for all teams as they prepare for the World Championships later this year in Birmingham, England.

The Gliders flew out to Osaka on Monday the 15th and will return next Monday (22nd). They are aiming to win back-to-back Cup Titles.

Basketball Victoria would like to wish all athletes and coaching staff the best for the upcoming tournament.

Australian Gliders team for Osaka Cup:

Name / State / Age / Classification

Cobi Crispin / VIC / 21 / 4.0

Bridie Kean / VIC / 22 / 4.0

Amanda Carter / VIC / 45 / 1.0

Tina McKenzie (c) / NSW / 35 / 3.0

Liesl Tesch / NSW / 40 / 4.0

Clare Burzynski / WA / 23 / 1.0

Kylie Gaudi / NSW / 25 / 2.0

Sarah Stewart / NSW / 33 / 3.0

Shelley Chaplin / VIC / 25 / 3.5

Katie Hill / NSW / 25 / 3.0

Kathleen O'Kelly-Kennedy / VIC / 23 / 4.0

Leanne Del Toso / VIC / 29 / 4.0

Head Coach: John Triscari

Assistant Coaches: Ben Osborne & Matt Dunstan

Manager: Marian Stewart

Physiotherapist: Miranda Wallis

**Bold players listed are the Victorian players*

VJBL Courts Going Orange



As part of the VJBL Aussie Oranges 2010 sponsorship, VJBL Associations have tendered for the opportunity to receive a cash bonus of \$1000 for spreading the Aussie Oranges flavour.

We were delighted with the number of associations who threw their support behind this program. "We received 16 bids and we had the tough job of selecting just 5." Competition Manager Rebekah Lacy said.

The 5 associations will receive a centre court decal which will be displayed throughout the 2010 season.....The 5 venues are:

Ballarat

Broadmeadows

Dandenong

Diamond Valley

Warrandyte

Look out for the decals next time you visit these venues.



The VJBL is looking forward to an action packed 2010, be on the look out for other promotions that will run throughout the year featuring everyone's favorite fruit - Oranges!

Upcoming Events

U18 and U20 Country Championships	February 20 - 21
Big V Tournament	March 6 - 8
Ballarat Senior Tournament	March 6 - 8
U16 Country Championships	March 20 - 21
BV Award Nominations close	March 26
U12 Country Championships	March 27 - 29
Norwood Easter Tournament	April 4 - 5
U14 Country Championships	April 9 - 11
Whittlesea Junior Classic	April 9 - 11
BV Awards Dinner	April 29

FEBRUARY						
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28						

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25	26	27	28	29	30	

For Further Information:

Editors:

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Please send your contributions to Ashley Stewart by the 20th of each month for consideration. We would like Insight to be an integral part of communication between Basketball Victoria and its partners. We would appreciate and value your feedback.

Please note: If your Association contact information or VBRA - Branch Contact Information is out of date, please contact Ashley Stewart on (03) 9927 6666 or email ashley.stewart@basketballvictoria.com.au.