

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31.08.16**

We had a great start to the season with 59 teams from 18 Clubs playing in our night comp, junior and senior representative teams were selected, and we attended the Netball NSW November meeting and then met with Wests' Board to speak to our application for sponsorship. Early in the New Year, there was another plus when Courts 22-30 were re-surfaced. Our thanks go to Campbelltown City Council for their support in completing this work prior to the start of our winter season.

In February, we entered three teams in Netball NSW Metro League, but only two were accepted. To avoid disappointment for our players, Campbelltown met with Executive from Baulkham Hills, Hills District, St George and Hawkesbury to discuss other options. As a result, United Districts Netball was formed and we conducted a small inter-district competition for teams which had applied unsuccessfully for Metro League. Each week we travelled to a different venue. Campbelltown won a close grand final and a presentation was held at Auburn Tennis Club. My thanks to Anne Stewart, who joined me on the Committee.

The first Wests Sports Council meeting was held this month and shortly after it was time for team entries for our winter competition. We were extremely pleased with the increase in numbers and to welcome a new Club, Campbelltown Thunder. We were also very fortunate to be able to offer 1<sup>st</sup> Choice for Coaches, which was funded by a sponsorship from 1<sup>st</sup> Choice Rentals at Minto, and the continuation of the Wests Family Discount Scheme. Our umpires received the support of The Athlete's Foot and our representative section continued to receive funding from Expo Aluminium. MacDonalds provided encouragement tokens for our juniors.

This is always a busy month, with meetings for Club Registrars, Umpires and Coaches, as well as clinics for coaches and umpires and NSW C and B badge camps.

We requested Divisions 2, 4 and 6 for our three entries into Metro League. We received Divisions 3 and 5 and Team 3 was rejected. After our appeal against grading was denied, Team 1 played the grand final against Blue Mountains, which was the same grand final as 2015 and the third time Blue Mountains had won the premiership!

Many hours were spent entering all members on MyNetball prior to 31 March.

We also embarked on the project of updating our website to make it easier for use on mobile phones and tablets. Thanks to Michael Seery for the time he spent on this development.

Our opening day was well supported by Clubs with a colourful march past which impressed our guests and was won by Campbelltown North. This was the second year that junior representative players were also able to play with Club teams. It was the first year that we were able to re-grade teams of 15 years and under to provide a fairer competition.

Our Clubs also supported our Crazy Hair and Sock Day which raised \$1,000 for The Kids' Cancer Project.

Preparation for State Age was underway with meetings being held with Netball NSW and then with Campbelltown City Council. Online entries to our carnival were pouring in. Representatives from Camden Council and Camden Netball Association came to inspect our building to gain ideas for their new building at the Narellan Sports Hub.

Our Opens and 17 years travelled to Newcastle for the State Championships. The following weekend we went to Wests Sports Council presentation dinner to cheer on our Club winners and were delighted to learn that the major elite team award had been won by our Metro League Team 1.

We held our carnival on the Sunday, with 226 teams entered. Unfortunately, the weather was poor and 24 teams withdrew. After working on a few re-draws, we went ahead and played until the rain made it impossible. Very positive feedback was received from participating districts that were glad of the run. My thanks to the good people who helped on the day.

Championship Division of State Age was held at Campbelltown this year and was the usual success. We had the following week off as we needed the break! Thanks to all who helped with this event and congratulations to our coaching staff and players on the results achieved.

In July we held our Club Gala Day which was very well supported with 92 teams attending. We hope our Talented Tens enjoyed the event. The day started at 8.30 am and finished at the scheduled time of 2.06 pm. How good are we? Thanks to those who helped me run the day so efficiently.

In August we played our local competition finals series. It was great to see so many Clubs involved. We also attended the Netball NSW Presidents' Forum.

Our Canteen staff worked diligently throughout the year catering for our summer and winter competitions as well as State Age, our annual carnival and gala day. Thank you to our Canteen workers for a great effort.

Thanks, too, to Kathy Wong for accompanying me to Wests meetings and to all our volunteers who work so hard behind the scenes, at district and at Club level.

My personal thanks to my fellow Executive for the extra effort and time contributed over this busy year. It is great to work with people who all believe in an honest and open administration and who pull together for the good of Campbelltown Netball.

We are fortunate to have these people.

*Shirley Connolly*