



Senior Boys' Basketball

This year I played and coached the Senior Boys Basketball team that competed in the Eastern Southland Basketball Association's Senior Boys League. Last year, we ended our season with a loss to Menzies College in the finals. This was a big motivator for us coming into this season. We started the year red hot, winning our first three games in a row against Menzies, Gore High, and Blue Mountain College. This was followed by a slump as we then reversed these results losing three in a row due to players being away and sick. Having three wins and losses each coming into the last round of games, there was still hope for us to make the finals. We went on with two wins and one loss in our next three matches to solidify our position in the finals against Menzies College.

We began with a slow start, going down by double digits in the first quarter. However, we were able to rally ourselves back into the game and cut the lead back down to 5 points in the third quarter. Going into the final quarter, we were in a good position as we had momentum and their star player was in foul trouble. In spite of the effort by the entire team, we ended up losing the finals to Menzies by 5 points. Despite the loss, the team cannot be upset with the way we played this year. We played as a team and every single player had their moments during the year and contributed to winning each week. One highlight of the season for me was when we played Gore High School in Week 6 of the season and every single player on the team scored that day.

A special thank you is extended to Jack McGlade from Fiordland College who joined our team for the second year in a row, and to Josh Heenan who joined the squad half way through the season and came up trumps in the finals. We would also like to thank Paul Heslip for being the manager of our team this year and driving the van each week as well as Mrs Rodgers for driving when Paul wasn't available and for taking pictures throughout the year. We are extremely grateful for both of you.

By Adam Bayer



Senior Girls' Basketball

This season was definitely a chaotic approach to girls basketball. We were lucky enough to have a huge team of 11 players including three first time basketballers although they were fast learners and turned into amazing assets for our team, our team was also treated to new uniforms so we could play stylishly and our fabulous coach Ms Culberson never failed to support us through a game so long as she had her chocolate milk afterwards.

There were four teams in our division, Blue Mountain, Menzies, Gore High and us so we had a lot of fun playing the teams over and over. For such a big team our organisation skills were slightly lacking and we played two games of the season with only five players (this means there were no available subs for the entire game), whether or not this was because we ended up without a school van to transport us or being busy mourning the loss of our favourite most amazing coach ever, we don't know for sure. By the end of the season we were all very familiar with the girls on the other teams and ended up having great social games. We can all admit we were not top of the line competition and we lost all of our games yet that didn't stop us leaving the court with smiles and laughter from playing what could only be described as fun games.

Girls' basketball had a mostly great season and although we will lose half our team since they were Year 13 and our brilliant, amazing, wonderful, awesome coach who we all miss so much. The rest of us have already begun recruiting for next year's season!

By Samantha Kington



Basketball Year 9/10 Tournament

Basketball at NSC has blossomed to new heights in the last few years. With so many willing to give it a try, we were able to create two year 9/10 teams for the season and have a mixture of these two teams go to tournament.

Our regular season held a lot of ups and downs. A mixture of great performances and games that we ultimately fell short of winning. Our first team only lost two games throughout the season. Sadly, this was not enough to book our tickets to the finals. We ended up being placed 3rd in our division, which was not what we were looking for. We had to quickly look forward to tournament week and train to give our best at this new level of competition. There was also fundraising. This trip was not cheap, it took a lot of effort from our team, our managers and from Adam our coach, to have the opportunity to compete. Eventually after selling chocolate, fairy bread, chopping firewood and serving dinner, we had enough money to send us away and so, we were off.

After a brisk 6am start and a relatively short 3.5 hour drive - ok maybe that one was a bit long - we were finally able to relax and plan for our first game. At least, that's what we would have liked. Nope, we were scheduled to play bright and early at 9:00am, leaving us limited time to prepare and get ready for our first game. Despite our late arrival, we played expertly during the first half. We were leading after the first quarter and despite our lead shortening a bit, still led through half time. It was after this, however, that it all fell apart. Our short warm up meant we quickly became tired and exhausted - we simply couldn't keep up. Due to this, we eventually lost our first game by some 10 - 20 points.

The rest of the tournament was a great learning curve for us but we managed to win our last game, which was a close cliffhanger! We enjoyed seeing many of the sites of Dunedin and sampling some of its food. It was a great experience for all of us.

Our players would like to thank Adam Bayer for his excellent coaching and encouragement to our teams. He was amazing! Plus a big thanks to our managers Mr McLeay and Mis Retallick for all of their time and effort this year. Thank you also to Mrs Gullick for her amazing work away at the tournament and all of her extra work during the season.

By Ms Kathryn Retallick



Basketball Blue Team





Basketball Black Team





Basketball Intermediate Boys

This year I played for the NSC intermediate basketball team. Every Friday after school during term 2. We went down to Gore to play two 20-minute halves. We won two out of 15 games. We won the first game 18-17 against Menzies. The second game was an out of league game against Te Anau at the Mossburn Sport Complex, and we won that game 32-30. Every time we finished a game we would get pizza and some snacks from the shops. We lost our last game to Longford Intermediate 34-29 but it was the best game we played all season and we were in top form. The van rides there were fun, but the ride home was always the best. Overall the season was really fun and I am considering playing again next year.

Big thanks to Charlie and Sawyer for coaching us, and to Amanda for managing us this season.



By Joshua Broughton



Climbing Club

There is always a first for everyone, but this year we had an amazing opportunity to go rock climbing. We were all a bit sceptical at first, but Mrs Rodgers managed to persuade 14 students to go climbing at the YMCA every Tuesday night. The first session of climbing, everyone was excited and thrilled to try something new (and have Dominos for tea of course). Although we did not show it, some of us were nervous. We all had to learn how to belay (act of managing the rope for a climber) each other safely up the wall, this made us put all our trust in the person belaying.

Peter, our instructor, was in charge of keeping us safe but also teaching us new techniques of how to get better. After a few sessions we all got the hang of climbing and belaying and started to complete the walls with no difficulty at all. There were also some other obstacles like a rope ladder and a giant rope attached to the roof. Something we all enjoyed was sock wars. First, you would climb up the wall then let go and you would just float there. The aim of the game was to rip off the socks of the other person, it was a strange, but enjoyable experience. Another thing we did was bouldering, it is like a climbing wall but more difficult. We had 3 teams sign up for it and we really started to fully train for this, like only using certain colour holds or seeing how long it took us to get up the wall.

Finally, the day we'd been training for. Each round was 20 minutes and you had to alternate people so everybody got a turn. Because we climbed here already, on the day of the competition we noticed which holds were taken away and which ones were added on. We all had different climbing abilities and some of our opponents were professionals, but that didn't stop NSC from trying our best and enjoying it. In the end we got a few freebies and finished with smiles on our faces. We continued this till the end of term 3 and there was another competition where some of us did incredibly well. I'm glad this was something offered at school, because we all gained a fun and thrilling new hobby. Also, a big thanks to Mrs R for her help and encouraging us to join this amazing opportunity. I can't wait for it to start up again next year.

By Frenzie Mendoza



Cricket Year 7/8

This year in the year 7 and 8 cricket team we won all of our games we played with some close calls and some big wins. As a team we started our season pretty good by beating Longford, the hardest team, so that gave us the confidence to keep playing as well as we did and keep the team flowing.

Our coach was Quade and we did some fielding practice and then moved on to batting and bowling. I think that our good playing came from the practice that we did to get us up to that standard. As the season went on we really improved on things like catching the high balls and our fielding too. The batting also improved because we got more boundaries and runs.

The sport was also very socialising and I got to know people that I wouldn't know otherwise. The games went on for a while but it was fun afterwards going home knowing that you played a good game with a pottle of chips in your hand. After a game of cricket it was nice having chips in your tummy especially after playing in windy and cold weather.

The games were usually played at Hamilton Park on the north side of Gore, but we also played in Riversdale a couple of times. There are two seasons in a year and the second season has just started. We hope to continue our winning streak.

By Lachlan Gill



Clay Target Shooting

This year we had 9 students go to the Nationals in Hamilton. The weeks leading up to the shooting we were practising two times a week to make sure that we were prepared. The day had come that we were all flying out, with a couple of stressful moments thinking that we weren't going to be able to fly out due to the weather – but thankfully we made it out.

On Friday, we had some free time and we all went for a bike ride - which not everyone was too happy about! But once we had finished, everyone said they enjoyed it – even those that got separated and a bit lost. We even got to go and check out the Velodrome, which was very impressive to look at. Then, it was out to the Gun Club to set up the tent and get our eye in for the weekend. We had entered an open 5-person team, ladies 3-person team and an individual. This was competed over 3 days with the first day (Saturday) being the North Islands DTL, the Sunday National DTL and the Monday being Skeet for both North Island and Nationals as well as some regional competitions. This was the most consistent the team has been since we started attending nationals, with someone getting a place each day.

A massive thank you goes out to all the parents, who not only organise everything for their children but also help and contribute to the whole team. Thanks to all of our coaches, parents and Mr Kington for making it possible for us to get up there and have a fun trip with many jokes and memories. This is not an easy or cheap sport, and the support that the parents provide is amazing. The parents made the competition a stress-free experience for us kids to focus on what we came to achieve.

By Makenzie Appleyard-Drake,
Maddison Price & Marnie Clark



Hockey Senior A&B Teams

Nyah and myself were asked to write a blurb on behalf of the B hockey team. It was a slower start to the hockey season, due to the new turf not being down at the start date. Most of us were there for the fun of it, however we all learned a lot of skills and Mr Jackson made sure we were fit for our games every Monday. We learned how to become a team and work together, even though we didn't always have a full team.

A few of us had to step up and play for the A team, along with the A's helping us make up our team, due to lower numbers for players. We would like to thank the year 7 and 8's that made up our numbers and played for us, it was much appreciated. A huge thanks to Hayley for coaching us at the turf, it was also much appreciated. Hayley's knowledge and enthusiasm helped us get ramped up and ready for our games.

We all enjoyed the games and enjoyed watching the A team and how fast they were. Even though many of us were new to hockey, we definitely know a lot more than we did before, the camaraderie of being in a team and getting to know our team members better was also a big highlight. Unfortunately, we didn't make the podium of winners. However, to us we were winners for turning up every Monday evening - rain, hail, snow and shine. Thank you so much to the Clark family for providing a van to get our team down to Invercargill as well, if it wasn't for you guys, we would have needed parents to provide cars, or wouldn't have got there at all.

By Marnie Clark & Nyah Roy

Hockey A Tournament Team



Hockey Year 7&8 11 A-side





Hockey Year 7&8 6 Aside

Northern Southland College was able to form a team in the Sunday 6 aside competition under the Eastern Southland Hockey Association. We practiced weekly on Tuesday on the NSC turf, rather than practicing in Gore. I was fortunate enough to be able to coach this amazing team this year, with Janette Collins and Nic Roy to help me, as it was my first year. We had Gabby and Evie join us again from Garston. The kids showed great development and dedication throughout the season, with everyone having a go at goalie and sharing the title of captain every week. There were a total of 14 teams in the competition from both the Eastern and Invercargill Associations. The Gold Team had great spirit, win, lose or draw. The sportsmanship shown was something to be proud of and individually all their skills improved immensely. Overall, the team showed how far they had come in the last game, in a tough battle against an older team. The team showed commitment in the competition, while still remembering to have fun (especially with our dress-up challenge).

To the team itself: you all truly worked as a team, and it showed as you won your last game, coming 5th overall in the competition. A big thank you to Jan McFadzien for being the manager of this amazing team, and organising kitting up the goalie week in and week out. And an honourable mention to the parents for being great cheerleaders every week. All the best to the students for their future representative teams and seasons.



By Makenzie Appleyard-Drake