



Year 7&8 Netball Tournament Team

I'm free! Pass! Shoot it! Just a few of the phrases yelled as our huge contingent of Year 7/8 students took part in Netball South's annual 'Netty Festival' this year. With such huge interest from students, we entered a whopping 5 teams this year.

The purpose of this day was to give students a chance to play and enjoy netball in a carnival like environment. Our students embraced this, as they performed tasks to win tokens, dressed up in various attire and got involved in learning new positions (and for some a new sport). After 4 games there were some tired bodies in the mix, but it was wonderful to see everyone supporting their team-mates and giving their best effort on court.

Special thanks to Mr Wilkinson for popping on his bus driving hat for the day and getting everyone there and back safely. The students had extra excitement when we were pulled over for compulsory breath testing in Winton on the way back! Thank you also to Mrs Elder, for her sideline support. Maisie, Georgia, Jess, Kirsten, Gemma, Rumer, Ava, Grace and Charlotte - you were wonderful coaches and umpires for the day. Bring on 2024!



By Mrs Leach



Netball 1st Grade

This year, with a few new players the Netball A team was in 1st grade. We had a bit of a rocky start to the season but after a few games we started to gel and work well as a team. We finished 4th in our first round robin, but unfortunately lost one of our players, Jess early on in the season to a collarbone injury. After many ups and downs throughout the season we had a win over Fiordland that placed us 3rd in the second round robin, meaning we had a good place in the semi finals (as well as gaining a newly recovered Jess). It was in the semis that we played one of our best games, beating Winton B which we hadn't been able to do all season. This led us to the finals, which we unfortunately lost against Limehills, leaving us in second place. Although it wasn't the outcome we had hoped for, it was still a great season and I am extremely proud of the effort the girls put in to finish where we did.

When prize giving came around our girls were presented with their awards: Rumer received Most Valuable Player, College Netballer of the year, and was nominated for Shooter of the year. Ava was our Most Improved Player and Juhane was voted Defender of the year.

Lastly, we would like to say thank you to our amazing coach Miss Stark, who helped us perform at our best. To our manager Nick Duthie, who helped us with anything off court and also to Annie Armitage for helping out with the team in many ways.

As well as our Saturday competition, we also attended the South Island Secondary School tournament in Invercargill this year. The team played so well throughout the whole tournament. We were placed in C Grade and played 2 games a day from Monday through to Thursday and out of our 8 games we won 5. This meant that we were successful enough to for the second time this year make it to the finals, where we came up against Twizel Area School. We had previously lost to this team earlier in the day, so as you could imagine we came out firing for the afternoon match. It was neck and neck the whole game, but eventually Twizel tipped us by a few points and were crowned C Grade champions. It is safe to say that it was one of the best games the team had ever played. Although there was fierce competition and it was a hard game, all the girls came off the court with a smile on their faces and there were many laughs and happy tears, as another great year of netball came to an end.

By Charlotte Stalker



Netball 3rd Grade

We had a pretty good season this year, with a few good wins and losses. Coming out 4th overall, we did pretty well. At the start of the season when the teams were announced, a few of us were a bit unsure about the team we got put into and were wary about playing. But after our first couple of games, we seemed to have clicked and it was all working. I personally found it really cool the way we all got along and played really well with people we wouldn't normally have anything to do with. We have learnt so much about each other and have improved our skills a lot.

Thanks to Tony and Cara for coaching us through the whole season. Also for helping us keep our fitness up in training, so we were ready to play each Saturday (especially with all the lengths we had to run when we talked too much...). We couldn't have done it without you!



By Grace Dolton



Netball 4th Grade

Throughout the season we were very impressed with our girls' efforts. It wasn't one of the easiest seasons as we only won one game in the grading weekend at the start of the season, but they all pulled through and kept their heads held high. One of the awards they got in the Central Netball prizegiving was the Central Umpires Fair Play Award for fair play throughout the season. This is an amazing award for the girls to have achieved and we were so proud to say that we were coaching them. Throughout the season, we got to know most of our girls pretty well and we loved learning more about each and everyone of them. Unfortunately, we will be losing a few of the team next year, but we look forward to seeing what new players we will have the privilege of coaching in the next netball season.



By Rumer Carter



Netball 5th Grade

What a great season of netball! We saw some wins and some losses but most importantly, an awesome group of girls keen to improve and put their all into games. It's great to see passionate young players enjoying practice and games. The season started with some losses but quickly the team showcased their skills as players improved as a team and as individuals. As new coaches this season, we were happy to be a part of such a cool team who went into every practice and game with heaps of energy and enthusiasm. We look forward to next season.



By Gemma Bulleid



Rugby U14, U16, 2nd XV NSC-CSC

Our students continued to chase their rugby dreams at NSC this year. Our association with local clubs is strong and every person that wants to play gets to play. The Under 14 Boys team had a cracker of a season winning 10 out of 11 games including the final to win their grade. Our boys Under 16 and 2nd XV players both played in the Under 16 grade with the second XV also being good enough to take out the title. Thank you to Doc Findlay and Matt Muir for your support of the 2nd XV and Under 16 teams. Our 1st XV boys had mixed results this year and missed the top four by a whisker. They ran out easy winners of the plate competition. Our Girls 1st XV team played in the final but came second to SGHS. Year on year this team is getting stronger and it is only a matter of time before a shot at the title is within grasp. Six of our students were selected to play in the CSC Under 15 Boys tournament team. The boys had a great time and managed to win all their games including the B grade final.

It was great to see an increasing number of our students throughout all grades get selected for representative honours and also see plenty of them giving back by either coaching or managing teams and refereeing.

Nga mihi nui to our parents, extended whanau members and supporters for your efforts in getting our rugby players to their trainings and games, and for those that stepped up to manage and coach. We appreciate you in enabling us to play some footy.

By Pete Wilkinson



Rugby A Grade

This year we played for the NSC Year 7 and 8 A-Grade rugby team. At the beginning of the season we had three grading games in Mossburn against Riverton and Star to see which group within A grade we would be. After that, our Saturday competition games were against Central Pirates, St Peters, Pirate Old Boys, Star, DLS, Marist, Riverton, Menzies and Woodlands.

Our coaches for the season were Brendan Duthie, Deon White and Bevan Roy. They worked really hard to improve our skills and Occasionally we were lucky enough to have the expertise of Grace Duthie.

As a team, we kicked off the season not particularly strong as we didn't know each other very well. However, as the season progressed, we grew as a team through practices, game time and getting to know one another better at school.

Some of the most memorable moments were when we had quite a significant win against Marist (3 digits to 1 digit) 126 - 5 and especially in in the shower at Invercargill on our final game against Star, even though we lost 17 - 19, it was fun sliding in the mud, after a very close game. Or after prize giving playing rugby in the pitch black.

At our prize giving in Mossburn, Cole White got Player Of the Year/Most Valuable Player (MVP) and Meia Williams received The Most Improved Player Award.

By Max McLean & Sandy Munro



Paddles Up

Our team this year consisted of seniors, Cody Lowe, Josh Lowe, McKenzie Findlay and juniors Blake Bulleid, Chase Vande Sandt and myself Sam Ussher – all coached by the expertise of Mr Dixon and Mr Kington in the Lumsden Community Pool and also down at the Oreti River. After packing up on Friday afternoon the 3rd of March we headed with excitement to Mavora Lakes which included a compulsory stop at Bracken Hall for an ice cream. After arriving at Mavora we set up our tents and got our gear sorted for the next morning.

Saturday with music blaring to get us in the mood we headed for the river to practise for the down river race. The downriver dash involves paddling flat out down the river and through rapids for the fastest time. Blake won the downriver dash for the juniors and Chase got second while Cody was 3rd for the seniors, so we had a pretty good start on the Saturday, all this was due to the support of our parents, Mr Lee, Miss Culberson and Miss Stark as we succeeded in completing the downriver dash. There were two James Hargest teams, one Menzies and two NSC teams, the least amount of teams they have seen in years, so we were quietly confident we would be in for a chance.

After lunch and warming up we headed back down to the river where the adults set up the slalom course. This is where we have to do an obstacle course of going through a series of hanging gates, limbo, hitting a rail, honking a horn, doing a t-rescue or eskimo roll and fairy gliding through the rapids as a team. Waking up to fresh snow on the hills, we took a bit of convincing to get in the water but once we were in, we had our game faces on for slalom. Each team lined up with the seniors going first, with wins to both NSC seniors and NSC juniors. Next up was individual slalom, which was optional, with Cody Lowe gaining first place and Josh Lowe taking out second. A huge thanks to Mr Dixon, Mr Kington and Damon Lowe for suffering in the water while we practised and raced. Blake, Chase and myself also really appreciated the help from the senior boys as we were learning the ropes of Paddles Up. I look forward to joining the team again next year.

By Sam Ussher



Peak To Peak

Two year 7&8 teams participated in this epic multisport event on the 2nd of September. Five members each completed one of the sections that started with a snow ski down the Remarkables ski field, followed by a mountain bike to Frankton Beach, a paddle all the way to Queenstown main beach, a run to Arthurs Point and finally the gut busting ride up the Coronet Peak access road to finish at the Coronet Peak base building. Team No Limits came 3rd in the primary school section and team No Fear got NSC bragging rights by finishing coming 2nd in 3 hours and 34 minutes, only 6 minutes and 56 seconds ahead of team No Limits.

We cannot thank our parents enough for helping out at this event. Not only did they have to transport the students to the event and to each leg, one adult also had to accompany the primary school team members on every leg. Our ten athletes were exceptionally lucky to have ten willing adults help out on the day. The challenge for 2024 is for some secondary school students to return to the event and show our younger athletes what they are capable of.



By Pete Wilkinson



Get 2 Go

Two year 7&8 teams participated in this epic multisport event on the 2nd of September. Five members each completed one of the sections that started with a snow ski down the Remarkables ski field, followed by a mountain bike to Frankton Beach, a paddle all the way to Queenstown main beach, a run to Arthurs Point and finally the gut busting ride up the Coronet Peak access road to finish at the Coronet Peak base building. Team No Limits came 3rd in the primary school section and team No Fear got NSC bragging rights by finishing coming 2nd in 3 hours and 34 minutes, only 6 minutes and 56 seconds ahead of team No Limits.

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By Pete Wilkinson



Volleyball

“DON'T BE SCARED OF THE BALL” is one very overused phrase from our coach Ms Culberson, that can be heard from multiple courts in the stadium. In Term 1, it was the start of the school volleyball season, where we had two teams entered. In the last 3 years of playing volleyball at school, we have been glad to see the passion and interest for volleyball grow.

It was always exciting just a few hours before our games on Wednesday nights, when all you could hear was squeaky shoes and flying volleyballs hitting every surface of the gym. Although most of our players have experience, we unfortunately lost most of our games. Although, when we did win the odd game, it would be known to the entire stadium, as there would be screaming and jumping from every person on the team.

There were times when we doubted our skills. Despite this, Ms Culberson would always be yelling at us from the sidelines to keep our spirits up and focus on enjoying the game, whether it was a win or a loss. Which helped... the majority of the time. Most of what we achieved from learning correct positions, switches, game strategies and skills are all thanks to our one and only coach, Ms Culberson. Without her, the interest in volleyball wouldn't have been as high as it was the last few years. We thank Ms Culberson for coaching us and everyone who offered to drive the vans to take us to our games every fortnight.



By Samantha Villamayor



Grass Kart

On the 28 of October, the culmination of 7 months' work occurred when the Grass Kart Team competed in the annual Southland Schools competition. There were 16 schools at the event ranging from Fiordland to Gore and all the way down to James Hargest College in Invercargill. The day was bright and slightly watery, but still better than the 6 cm of snow that we had the day before. The team travelled down to Central Southland College and set up the kart to be judged. Once this had occurred the team went over to the school hall, where each of the teams shared a presentation with the other teams about how their build went and the problems that they faced.

Once the presentations were completed, we went back to the kart to check to see if there were any repairs required before we started to race. We did well this year, with no repairs required. So straight out to the racing. The racing is broken up into four parts.

The Go To Wow, where you start in a box and drive up as fast as you can till a cone, round that and then drive back to finish in a box. The Slalom, where you start in a box and weave your way through a set of cones, turn around and repeat on the way back. Again, you need to finish in the box.

For all of these events the best time counts and if you hit a cone or miss the box there are large time penalties.

The Drag Race. This is as advertised, two karts racing each in a knock out race. Fastest to complete 80m. We won this event. The afternoon was spent in relays, where the teams raced each other with four drivers doing two laps each. The fastest eight karts went through to the semi-finals and then the top four karts raced in the final. We progressed through the heats and were placed third in the relay.

After all these races occurred, it was time for the prize giving. This is always a nervous time, with lots of expectations about the results.

In the end we did very well. We won all four sections, Performance, Appearance, Construction and Record Keeping, which gave us the overall trophy as well. The only trophy we didn't collect was the Relay trophy (in which we got third). A big well done needs to go out the seven team members, with 280 hours of work going into creating "mator" and achieving a tremendous result.

By Mr Dixon