

2020 Representative Programme Report

The 2021 Representative Programme was affected by Covid-19, particularly the Chanticleer match which was scheduled to be played in Auckland.

Players affiliated to WPA were invited to put their names forward for the representative selection programme and 20 players responded.

Team selectors were Shirley M^{ac}Donald, Kevin M^cFadgen and myself.

Chanticleer:

As stated earlier, the Chanticleer match was disrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic. The Wellington squad training was also delayed due to lock-down.

Even after the lock-down was lifted there was a lot of uncertainty within the squad about committing to travel to Auckland when there was always the threat of further outbreaks and more lock-downs. As a result, after discussions within the senior players in the squad it was decided that the Wellington team would not travel to Auckland and by mutual agreement with Auckland Petanque the Chanticleer for 2020 was cancelled. This proved to be the correct decision as Auckland went into lock-down at the time the Chanticleer was scheduled to be played.

Going forward, the Wellington squad is preparing to select a team to travel to Auckland at the end of August and at the time of the 2021 AGM will have had 2 training/selection days. 20 players have put their names forward for selection for the programme this year.

The Auckland coach Grant Hackett and myself have discussed the need to modify the rules of the competition to bring it more in line with the original purpose i.e., that it should be a “development” tournament. Under the current rules each region contests the tournament with an open team of 6 players and a senior team of 6 players. The open team cannot have any players who have played in the New Zealand Open team in the last 12 months but the senior team can have current New Zealand senior players.

After consultation with 3 “senior/experienced” players in our squad I have put forward Grant Hackett the following modification to the Chanticleer rules for their consideration.

The competition will be for a team of 12 players from each region i.e., no split of 6 open and 6 seniors.

There is no restriction on the number of players in the team that must be men or women i.e., there is no minimum number of women required in the team and no minimum number of men.

All players must be current members of a club affiliated to the region they are to represent.

There will be no requirement with regard to NZ representation in the last 12 or 24 months but each team of 12 could have up to 6 ex or current NZ players (i.e., who have ever played for NZ even if it was 10 or more years ago and will include in the open or senior category) however, the combinations must be made so that in doubles there can only be one NZ player

per combination and in triples there can be no more than 2 NZ players in any combination. This would mean associations could not "stack" any teams and to my mind it enhances the intent of the competition i.e., development. We would then have experience/ability spread through both teams and no team would be unfairly strengthened.

I am awaiting a response from Auckland.

Tri-Star:

The 2020 Tri-Star tournament was hosted by the Ashburton Petanque Club on the weekend of 28th/29th November.

The following people travelled to Ashburton as the Wellington "team";

Clare Bradburn
Yvonne Futcher
Michelle Maxwell
Kevin McFadgen
Tony Simpson
Alan Taylor
Debbie Butler (Reserve)
Coach - Graeme Morris
Manager - Barbara Nicolls
Supporter - Sheryl McFadgen

Canterbury Black fielded a very strong team all of whom have played for New Zealand at some level. At the time of the tournament Jared was the number one ranked player in New Zealand and Stephane was ranked number six.

Canterbury Black

Christine Taylor	Sutima Pajit
Richard Browne	Bruno Falco
Stephane Montel	Jared Handford

Wellington competed well particularly on day 2 when we almost caught the Canterbury Red team.

Canterbury Red

Karen Bendsdorp	Alain Carpentier
Les Clearwater	James Nicholson-Plank
Nicolas Xavier	Paul Tamagushiku

Southern also fielded a very strong team.

Southern

Catherine Lyall
Kathleen Wallace
Phillip Lyall
Erik Ross
Nick Jegousse
Steve Fitzgerald

RESULTS:-

Canterbury Black	56.5	points
Southern	40.5	points
Canterbury Red	25.5	points
Wellington	21.5	points

This tournament continues to provide an excellent standard of play, is very popular with the competing teams.

Haines Cup - Hawkes Bay Match

This match has not been played since 2018 when Wellington won the trophy.

There appears to be a lack of enthusiasm from Hawkes Bay to organise a team to play this match. I can't see a change in this situation in the near future.

Graeme Morris

Wellington Regional Coach