

Willetton Netball Club 2015 Coaches Summaries

Team 1 - SA2

Player Coach: Jess McKinnon, Manager: Karen Langoulant

Katie, Charmaine, Tiana, Tegan, Lauren, Jade, Alex, Jessica, Natasha

This season has been both enjoyable and successful, mostly due to the 9 of us who have formed quite a close bond on and off the court. The season has had its ups and downs; with 3 players unfortunately sidelined with ankle injuries and sickness and muscle soreness a common issue almost weekly, as well as shooters performing at 90% or above, centre courters running rings around their opponents and defenders taking fantastic intercepts. The top 3 teams in the league were consistently competitive, which made the rounds more exciting as time went on. Teams were beating each other and at one stage, percentage was all we could talk about. In the end, we finished second on the ladder and deservingly made it to the grand final. I must credit this to the passion, enthusiasm and commitment that was shown from the girls all season.

Team 2 - SA5

Coach: Annie Walton, Manager: Alisha Anza

Najette, Alisha, Jaimi, Melissa, Emma, Nicole, Larissa, Deanna, Paloma

Just like the Dockers in 2015 we started strongly, slumped mid-way with multiple injuries and some drop in form, and the coach was forced to try different positions in an attempt to improve our ability to score. And we didn't shine in the wet weather!!

But worry not - a handy return to form at the right end of the season saw us win both the semi-final and the preliminary final - battling our way in to the GF (let's hope the Dockers can do the same!!). Whatever the result this Saturday I'm proud of this group: a bunch of talented players who often won games through sheer grit & determination & a refusal to give in.

Thank you to Alisha for managing throughout the year, and to De for ably filling the role as captain. Also to the scorers & timers roped in each week – many at late notice, and to fill in players. A big thankyou also to our 2 team physios – Mel & Jaimi for advice & strapping! And finally to the girls for sharing the season, the dramas & the ups & downs with me:

Alisha: the most skilful player on the team; strong right and left (hallmark left hand receives with a quick switch to right for a creative pass); fought her way back from injury early in season to gain confidence; strong finish to the season. 🙌🧠😊📋

Najette: very handy defensive player; strong pressure on the shot; inspired cutting off the cross court ball despite netball knees!!; consistently strong throughout this season. 😊🧠👊

Mel: quickest player on the team (perhaps the club!); agility & creativity are great strengths; her end of the season was marred by a knee injury which saw her miss most of the last round & 2 finals ☹️ 😊🏃👣

Jaimi: great ability to read the play; versatile; particularly strong defensive player – in the circle or on the edge; multiple intercepts & rebounds despite height disadvantage; tough – played on with an ankle injury I suspect she would have advised her patients' to rest! 👊👊🧠

Emma: reads the play well; tight one on one defence; loves cutting off the shooter to shooter passes & applies loads of pressure on the shot; many a tipped rebound out to wings on circle; competitive. 😊👊👊

Nic: ever reliable shooter; smart netballer & a very good decision maker; great contribution to building a team; always smiling & supportive of teammates (and all players at WNC!) 😊🧠👊

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Larissa: loads of speed & agility with many creative feeds into shooters; tough and competitive; guaranteed to pull in the 50:50 (even 30:70) ball 🏃🏃🏃

Deanna: our captain; her strengths include speed, tenacity, decision making and competitiveness; often conducting play; strong second half season 🏃🏃🏃

Paloma: speed & agility in spades; often tough when the game was hanging in the balance; creative; strong finish to the season 🏃🏃🏃

EMOJI KEY

	Encouraging of teammates		Resilience
	Speed		Agility
	Competitiveness		Skill
	Solid decision making		Good Manager (herding cats!)

Well done girls Annie 🍷

Team 3 - SA7

Coach: Charmaine Collopy, Manager: Laura Meachim

Rachel, Jasmin, Laura, Lauren, Laura, Jiorja, Danielle, Bonnie, Sian

This A7 team is a fantastic group of 9 amazing young ladies. I really enjoyed my first season coaching and I am extremely proud to have been their coach. Once getting to know each other and after a few games of getting use to playing together...we didn't look back. The girls all got along well and were always supportive of one another and more often than not, played liked a well-oiled machine! For a team that hadn't played together before, to get to the Prelim Final was a huge achievement and they should all be extremely happy with their 2015 season. So let's start at one end of the court and work our way down...

Rachel is an extremely talented circle defender and overall netballer. She has a great knowledge of the game and her ability to read the play is a pleasure to watch. Her eagerness to learn and constant desire to improve has been enjoyable to be a part of. Her versatility and ability to play with different team members in the circle made my job a lot easier. She loves her netball, and even being sick, at times, did not stop her getting on the court!

Laura M has continued to learn & improve over the course of the season. She always gives 100% (even when frustrated with the umpires!) and has become an exceptional all round defender (GK, GD, WD). She had one particularly hard game to deal with, during the season, and I believe this incident, along with her strength, determination and maturity, has made her an even better player.

Jiorja came to Willo this year, after having about 4years away from a netball court. Her defensive skills have increased over the season and with the difficulty of juggling 9 players, she took on the role of WD extremely well, of which I am very proud. When in the circle, she always listened and acted upon my constant "coaching" from the sideline!

Sian is a dependable centre court player, having come to Willo from playing in Langford. She has always given her all, and her ability to read the play has improved significantly, along with her overall skills. She has great endurance for 4 quarters (unless she's been out the night before!) and is always willing to listen and learn.

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Jasmine has had her first season in a Senior A grade. She has had no problem fitting in and has confidently contributed to the teams dynamics. I have had the pleasure of seeing her continually develop as a senior netballer during the season. Her movement throughout the centre court and combined teamwork with Sian and the shooters has continued to improve. A reliable and consistent C & WA who has always kept a level head.

Bonnie...The team voted her in as Captain, which on its own, says a lot about her character and personality. She is always positive and sometimes full of **too** much energy!! Her strength, skills and endurance have continually improved throughout the season. She loves to play WD but, as the season went on, she discovered that she can also successfully play a good WA. As Captain and probably my "right hand man", she has been a huge asset to the team and a great support to me. Always encouraging everyone and always the "calming one" in tense times of need!! She had an opportunity of a lifetime offered to her through her work and sadly she missed our finals campaign (which was a decision she did not take lightly). We really missed her on & off the court but, thanks to Facebook, the girls knew she was always there with them in spirit!

Laura K has joined Willo this year after having also played in Langford. She has been a welcome addition to the attack end of the court. She may not be the tallest of shooters, but don't let that fool you, as she still managed to move around and shoot over 7ft defenders!! Laura has continued to improve and work well together with Lauren, in the circle. She very rarely missed a training session and was always eager to play on Saturdays, even dishing out some much needed "constructive advice" to an opposition player, who was clearly in need of some guidance! Ha-ha

"Lauren, Lauren, Lauren" ...this was her first attempt at her own 3, 2, 1 player votes for the end of season!! Needless to say her crazy moods and uncontrollable, daggy laughter always kept us entertained! An ever dependable Goal Shooter. Lauren is an exceptional player that has also improved over the season. She is confident and a pleasure to watch on court (99% of the time – 1% she's angry & frustrated; usually with herself!). She is always thinking and asking how best to play different defenders. Having only missed a few games, due to holiday and injury, she has been a major asset to the team.

Dani made the decision to join our team a few games into the season and has never looked back! She is a versatile and reliable player. Both her defensive, attacking and shooting skills, as well as her overall game play have continued to improve. I thank you Dani for being adaptable to the teams needs regarding your playing positions and I was always confident that I could rely on you at either end of the court. She gives her all and even when on the sideline is always vocal whilst cheering and encouraging the team on. Oh and she also bakes really delicious cakes and slice!

Well that's the A7 team in a nutshell...a very small nutshell...because I could go on!

Thank you girls for making my job as a coach a lot easier than what I was expecting it to be. I have great respect for you all as players as well as young ladies.

I hope you enjoyed your season and hope that you all return to Willo next year.

Mumma C

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Team 4 & 5 - SB1

Coach: Karen Potts

Managers: Trish Green and Kristy Ellis

Team 4: Katie, Brooke, Kara, Kaitlyn, Megan, Janelle, Ellie, Tamara, Louise

Team 5: Lauren, Emma, Sarah, Sarah, Sarah, Kristy, Kris, Kelly, Tarryn

Once again this year I coached the best teams at Willo!

These two teams were so even during our grading process that they were put into the same Division at FNA – SB1.

We knew from the start that it was going to be “game on” when we played each other. It was friendly rivalry for most of the time – however some of the time it was just plain “we want to win!”

Well it was pretty even, with both teams finishing with 10 wins and equal points on the ladder. Team 5 had the advantage of a slightly higher percentage so they finished 2nd with Team 4 finishing 3rd. Team 4 won 2 games against team 5 and Team 5 won 2 games against team 4!

The only team we couldn't beat was St Chris who we are up against in the Grand Final on Saturday. Team 4 won the Preliminary Final to get into the Grand Final, beating Team 5 last week.

They were up against it from the start with 4 of their regular players out for the Preliminary but they were very competitive and gracious in their loss. Big Thank You to Claudia McCulloch, Alysha Lange & Carly Sherar who stepped up to play in the Seniors and were all awesome!

It is so easy to be a coach when you have girls like this who want to play and want to win. Training with 2 teams is great because even if half of them don't turn up at least you've still got the numbers to train. Hence there was only 1 week we didn't train. Very interesting personalities within this group! Hehe

As this is being written before the Grand Final against St Chris (who killed it in every game & should not be in this grade!!) we are going to give it our best shot & give those girls something to get riled about on Saturday.

It is our turn to win!

I loved working with all these girls (even though, as usual, there is always something going on when it comes to training, but on the whole they were pretty good). They were all determined & hard working!

Once again thanks to Trish our Manager, who was the main babysitter for our little guy each week and who organised all the rosters etc. Also thanks to Kristy for putting her hand up to Manage while still playing, new to the club this year – thanks Kristy so much

Thanks also to Janelle for organising the umpires for both teams – great job and one appreciated by all the girls!

I hope to see you all back in 2016 (without St Chris in our grade!)

Girls, THANK YOU for your friendship and laughter and ALL your hard work when on the court.

Karen XX

Team 6 - SB2

Coach: Nadia Hana

Felicity, Alyssa, Katelyn, Nicole, Larissa, Nadia, Leah, Melissa, Tanya

Overall the team had a good season making it to the semi finals and unfortunately losing by 3 goals. Although we got off to a challenging start losing most of the first round we were able to turn things around and work as a team to bring ourselves into 4th position and into semi finals. It was great to have new club members (Felicity, Nadia, Larissa and Katelyn) join the team this season. Having fast paced, skilful centre court this season made a huge difference to driving the ball down the court and providing support to both defenders

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and shooters. Although we did not make the grand final, I have thoroughly enjoyed coaching the SB2 team and it was great to see them all put what we covered at training into practice at each and every game. Well done girls on a great season!

Team 7 - SB3

Coaches: Ellie Lucy and Nicole Fleming

Stephanie, Courtney, Nadia, Margaretha, Jessica, Claire, Brianna, Keely, Amelia

This year Ellie and I had the pleasure of coaching the SB3 team, Unfortunately Ellie was unable to be at most of the games due to her own game clashing but was still an amazing help when she was available. We started the season promising with 9 players but ended with only 6 as unfortunately we Lost Steph and Claire to injury and had a few other inconsistencies. We would like to thank the girls who played the whole season and put 100% in to every game even though we didn't have the most successful season, we did end on a high with a draw on the last game! However if we didn't count the 3rd quarters we would have won about 5 games! We would also like to thank everyone who filled in for the team this season your help was much appreciated. Girls you all contributed great things to this team from the flexibility and accuracy from Buzz and Claire (buzz those splits made the spectators sore) the agility and reflexes of Nadia and Keely in defence against much larger opponents the amazing zoning pressure from Yudith in WD (not to bad in WA either) and finally our ever ready ever smiling energizer bunnies in centre court Amelia and Courtney also a big thanks to the girls who played out of position without ever complaining. Also a big thanks to Steph and Claire who still came to the games to support us! You have all been a great group to coach and we hope you return next season!

Team 8 - SB4

Coach: Najette Alaraibi, Manager: Tracey Carrington

Jessica, Julia, Stacy, Selena, Rachael, Tracey, Pippa, Peta

Well ladies what can I say? I can't ever see me playing a season at Willetton and NOT coaching you guys. You're an amazing group of women that have played as a team from day dot. You have looked out for each other and pumped each other up every step of the way. Honestly it was amazing to see a team unite and trust each other so quickly. You have all improved so much it's unbelievable... guess I must have been doing something right! See you ALL next season... go practice some good D hahaha.

Team 9 - SB5

Coach: Paul Canny

Emma, Alyssa, Stephanie, Renae, Megan, Anna, Kristie, Lauren, Kristy

The SB 5 team was Emma, Megan, Renae, Kristie R, Steph, Lauren, Alyssa, Kristy B and Anna. We had 7 players from last year's team and a new player in Kristie R join as well as Lauren re-joining the team from 2013.

After the first 5 games we had 3 wins and 2 losses and sat 3rd. The losses were close games so I knew that the 2 losses could be reversed as the season went on. From there this wonderful team went on to win the next 10 games and the last 5 of the games by 3,1,2,1,1 goals, to prove that they all knew how to win the close ones. The last game of the regular season saw the team down by 10 goals in the 3rd qtr. but their never say die attitude, and belief to win from any situation, saw the winning goal scored on the final whistle.

It was a very even, and competitive division, where I felt that 5 of the 6 teams could make the GF.

After 15 rounds though, the Willo SB5 team finished on top of the ladder by 4 points!

As I write this we are headed to the Grand Final after victory in the first week of the finals.

The ladies have impressed me with their team play, and consistent backing of each other during games. That is what has won them the close games.

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It's been an absolute pleasure coaching this great team of Ladies in the 2015 season. They deserve to go all the way and have the Premiership Medallions in their possession on Saturday night, the 19th September!
Paul.

Team 10 - SB6

The "Ladies" team.

Karen, Megan, Liz, Sally, Rachel, Merilyn, Annette, Lisa, Nellie

The Awesome Women of Willetton SB6 have again proved that age is no barrier when it comes to whipping other clubs butts.

A team of coaches, we've put theory into practise, finishing the home and away season in second place.

This year we welcomed a couple of young whipper snappers, so the average age of the team has decreased significantly, but all have contributed to a winning combination - taking it all the way to the 2015 Grand Final, despite having to play in the rain AGAIN in the preliminary final.

Cries of "Two hands and you'd have that!", "Ballside!" and "Nice intercept Nellie" have helped any spectators find our game each week.

Despite injuries, travel and family commitments, we managed to have at least 7 most weeks, but really appreciate the help of Cheryl, Kaitlyn, Gillian, Steph and Jess who have filled in over the season.

An awesome season from an awesome group of awesome women!

Team 11 - SC1

Coach (part time) - Karen Bovell, Manager/All rounder - Steph Davis

Alyce Ingersole, Taryn Dalmazzo (new), Stephanie Davis, Jessica Garvey (new), Simone Hunter, Michelle Reid, Blair Seubert & Deborah Gee

What can I say about this team, words do escape me at times... they are a fabulous bunch of gals - the originals having matured over the years - engagements/building houses and new relationships/job satisfaction. This season, I really can't take credit for being coach as unfortunately we had more clashed time slots with my own grade, but the games I do see - they play with real team spirit and this bonding is what got them through to the GF.

Alyce/Jess - great duo with awesome displays of shooting

Blair - when on court, you can definitely rely on this one to feed well

Chelle - a real asset

Taryn - love the depth this player provides

Steph/Simone - another great duo who always combine well to get the best possible outcome

Deb - unfortunately being a FIFO could only manage 4 games but enough to qualify her to play the GF

Liz - moved overseas after June but we all loved her being on the team

Thanks to Kaitlyn & Cheryl Parcell and Margaret Hackwill for being available to fill in when needed. Also thanks to Merilyn James able to help with some of the umpiring. Also the biggest thanks must go to Steph for doing a lot more running around this year - goodonya Steph - you are appreciated.

Well done gals - it's so nice to be associated with this team!

Karen x

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Team 12 - SC4

Coach: Mel Brady

Monica, Karly, Eloise, Danielle, Bianca, Laura, Cheryl, Phillipa

This season the team in SC4 had many players who hadn't played together before but within the first three games they had learnt to work together and support each other on court brilliantly. The enthusiasm and vocal support started right down the back, with Monica yelling words of encouragement and picking off the impossible and Laura making the shooters pay for any slight mistake, with her great defensive pressure. Through the midcourt, Eloise tipped many a ball and caused many a deflection and with Karley's fast feet and agility the ball was quickly moved into the attacking third. The transition was then seamless as Cheryl, Pip and Karley worked the ball into the circle with speed and fluidity. Our two main shooters were consistent and accurate through the season. Danielle used her lightening pace to try and always provide an option and with Bianca holding strong, providing a tall target in the goal circle the job got done. That's not to say we didn't have our challenges through the season but the strength and character of this group showed as they banded together and steamed ahead into the Grand Final. Well done ladies on all the hard work and effort you have put in through the season. It is a season you can truly be proud of...I know I am.

Team 13 - 19 & Under, Division 2

Coach: Najette Alaraibi

Breanna, Rhiannon, Meg, Alysha, Claudia, Dana, Alyx, Claudia

I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to coach these girls. They are all such fantastic netballers and were nothing but a pleasure to coach. They trusted me completely and were attentive and disciplined throughout the season. It was lovely to have their families on the sidelines week after week. I know that definitely made a difference to how the girls played.

Girls – you have made me so so proud. I can't wait to be on the court with you all next year when you come up to seniors!

Team 14 - 19 & Under, Division 3

Coach: Matt Yarnold, Manager: Paul Canny

Tamika, Hannah, Jasmine, Emma, Neha, Sarah, Carly, Samantha

The year in Review Under 19 Div3

Under 19 Div 3 has had what could best be described as a roller coaster of a season. When the roller coaster was in full swing it was the most amazing ride to be on. There however were other times it seemed like the roller coaster had broken down at the top of the loop de loop and we were stuck upside down and had all passed out .

We have had 2 coaches this year as I broke my leg playing football weeks out from the start of the season. I would like to thank Paul Canny for taking over the role and setting the girls up for success this season.

So we started the season off with 2 big wins and Paul left the coaching role with 100% winning record with the girls sitting comfortably equal top of the ladder. Then I took over and we had our 2 biggest losses of the year by 23 and 28. Needless to say I am sure the Ladies wished I hadn't come back with all my weird ideas on how netball should be played. I still remember the look on their faces when I described my first team rule, NO LOBS. I kept voicing to the girls it doesn't matter if we win or lose playing the new systems and that we had 15 rounds to get everything right and know how to beat each opponent. All we had to do was win enough games to play finals and then the real season begins.

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I can proudly say that we as a team have improved out of sight since the early rounds (possibly due to all the parties being moved from a Friday night to the Saturday night). We are strong because everyone plays their role within the team structure and we don't rely on one or two people to star and win us the game.

We finished fourth on the ladder having beaten or drawn with 4 of the 5 teams. As I write this we are two days from playing in a qualifying final against a team we lost to by 23 the first time we played them but beat by 8 the last time we played them. We are ready to win on the weekend, so hopefully by the time you are reading this we will have played in a grand final.

Our Highlight of the year was definitely the Elimination Final win v's Atwell. There was a history between the two teams with the previous games being very physical and often spiteful. It turned out that we played Atwell twice in a row having been drawn to play them in the last round of the season, a game we lost by 3 goals. We went into the Elimination Final having never beaten Atwell, but at the same time full of belief in the way we play being good enough to beat them.

We started well and took a 2 goal lead into the first break with strong performances all around. The second quarter was quite possibly the worst of the season with the ring at our end seemingly covered in glad wrap and the girls hands covered in oil, but somehow we managed to come in at the half all square. The girls fired up during the half time break and came out ready to win. A strong quarter by all, with special mention to Jazz who seemed to be in a UFC fight rather than a netball game! We came in at three quarter time 2 goals up. The final quarter started and the ball found Sam (GS) near the border of the D. Sam looked around for a pass and then decided to put up a bomb from what seemed to be a neighbouring postcode. It hung in the air for what seemed to be an eternity..... And then nothing but net and the biggest smiles I have seen on my teams face all year. From there we took the lead out to a final margin of 5 with everyone playing amazing and inspired netball. The final whistle blew and high fives and hugs were had all round. The girls had beaten a team for the first time this season in the biggest game of the year so far.

It has been an interesting season and one that is hopefully far from over. Thanks to my ladies for embracing my style of coaching and for always being an interesting bunch of individuals.

Matt Yarnold

Team 15 - 17 & Under, Division 2

Coach: Jasmin Edwards

Bronte, Amberley, Millie, Amy, Kate, Alic, Rohan, Ellie

Thank you so much to all the girls and parents for a wonderful season!!

We had a strong team this year with only losing our final game to Rossmoyne who hopefully we can prove ourselves against them in the grand final!

Our defences Mille and Amberley worked endlessly and gelded together so well. Their determination to get the ball resulted in numerous turnovers. Millie you are such a fantastic defence with a great hold and distance not even the umpires could believe! Amberley your strong passes and perseverance are astounding! You have such a great eye for the ball and read the play so well, we just need to control all that power in those passes! In the goal circle Rohan and Amy another fabulous combination that read each other's play so well. Rohan you're an amazingly accurate shooter just remember to keep your confidence up because you are fabulous! Amy you play every game with such consistence and positivity, you never drop your head and play such a clean strong game! Our mid court we could not have done it without you! Bronte you are such a kind and strong WD putting stacks of pressure on the opposing teams attack. We were lucky to have you as a back up GK whenever we needed you. Ellie you are such a strong WA you lead and feed so well into the circle. Although you may not believe it you always did so well in shooting when we needed you! Katie you're an

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incredibly fit Centre you always seem to appear out of nowhere to pull in stray balls with your elastic arms. Alice you have improved so much over the season your ability to play wherever I throw you every week so consistently. You always listen so well and worked so hard to get the ball if only you were the slightest bit taller your possessions would increase.

Thank you Nicole for umpiring us every week and to all the girls who sat on the sides and played for us this season! Thank you Tanya Evans our fabulous manager who looked after us this season! Thank you to all the parents who watched and support the girls every week!

Girls thank you so much for such an amazing season I hope you get to stay together as a team next year. You were a pleasure to coach and always made training a good laugh. Your attitude to the game is amazing and has been noticed by so many people. You made my job as a coach not only easy but also so enjoyable. You all have such passion for the sport and deserve to win this grand final!

Jasmin Edwards

Team 16 - 17 & Under, Division 3

Coaches: Rachel Hackwill and Stacy Bingham

Paige, Brianna, Emma, Gillian, Tia, Jessica, Anneliese, Kaitlyn, Ellie

Thank you to Tia, Katie, Paige, Jess, Emma, Anny, Bri, Ellie and Jiggs for being such a pleasure to coach this season.

Even though we didn't get the results we wanted, your sportsmanship and comradery made our job as coaches easy and very gratifying.

Our biggest issue during the season was trying to get everyone at a training session. With 9 of you attending 5 different schools we did struggle with this as you all had conflicting commitments at times as well as the usual winter lurgy's slowing some of you down. Looking back we don't think we ever had all 9 at training!

Despite that, you demonstrated moments of sheer brilliance in games. Unfortunately there were also moments of "a rush of blood" that sometimes undid your previous good work. But you showed your true potential in beating both of the Grand Finalists in this division. Remember that and use it as motivation for next season.

Thank you to our fill in players, Erika and Margaret, for stepping up to help your sisters and their team mates out when needed and to Bonnie who is an awesome umpire!

Well done again girls and we wish you all the very best for your netball in 2016.

Rachel and Stacy.

Team 17 – 17 & Under, Division 7

Coach: Rachael Brice

Kavita, Leanne, Persis, Sukhjot, Hanna, Hayley, India, Isabella, Sheryl

I am incredibly lucky to have had the opportunity to coach these awesome girls this year. Over the season they have improved drastically, both as a team and as individuals. They play so well as a team and are extremely supportive of each other. Even when they were faced with unfair external situations on multiple occasions, they continued to play a good quality, fair, brand of netball and refused to give up because it was "too hard". Even though everyone was determined to and committed to improving/learning new skills at training, it was sometimes almost impossible to get the girls to do actual drills with a real netball as there seemed to be an invisible ball that appeared and needed to be passed around instead. Needless to say I popped and deflated that ball on multiple occasions, much to the girls' dismay. Not only did the girls rise to the challenges faced on court, but also off court, which included tears over boy bands that I had no idea how to handle. As a team, this group is fantastic, and as individuals they are just as awesome to be around.

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Persis – Peris is my quiet achiever. She's focused at training and when she was given a task on court she never disappointed. I can't remember her ever losing her cool and she always kept the team positive. Even when she was sick and couldn't play, she was on the sidelines to support her teammates. She even checked the team's allergies so she could bake cookies after the final game of the season.

Hannah – Hannah always made coaching seem easy. She always did what I asked and was one of the easier girls to get to pay attention. She regularly showed up at training insisting we do fitness, much to the other girls' disgust. It seemed ridiculous to the rest of us because she was easily the fittest person on the team. She always played an important role in controlling the pace of the game and her ability to lift to another level when it was needed never ceased to surprise me.

Bella – Bella was the most improved player over the course of the year. She had no issues being swung from centre court to goals and always gave 100% wherever she played. When I first met Bella I thought she was a sweet, innocent girl. As it turns out that's not always the case as I discovered in the first final when she nearly imploded with rage. She always did the things I asked of her and never let the team down, despite what she might have thought sometimes.

Suk – Suk was our star recruit. Sheryl set the expectations high by telling us all how amazing she was and Suk didn't disappoint. She reads the play as well as anyone I've seen and has a reach that would drive a shooter crazy. If you were sitting on the sidelines with her you'd better have brought ear plugs because boy can she yell! Super supportive of her teammates she always kept fighting until the final whistle.

Sheryl – was our other star defender. She reads the play as well as Suk can and takes some ridiculous intercepts. Sheryl was the dreamer of the team and you'd often find her staring into space during training. She's an incredibly committed player and wants nothing more than to see her team do well. Also, you should see her face on court – it's the most intense focused facial expression I've ever seen.

Leanne – when I first met Leanne I thought she was going to be very quiet and shy. As it turns out I was mistaken. She would throw in a cheeky comment when she saw the chance and sometimes I still surprised me that she was the chatty one! She's a confident shooter who can score from just about anywhere and in the worst weather conditions. She's always talking on court to keep her teammates pumped up.

Hayley – I've never seen a player get a touch on a ball when they're defending and look disappointed with themselves. Most people would be ecstatic but I think Hayley always expected more of herself. She is an awesome defender who would make defensive coaches so happy with her positioning and body on body style of play. Even though we had to teach her to use a poker face, Hayley consistently nullified the opposition attackers and played a vital role in our defence.

India – I don't think there was ever a game or training where Indie wasn't being the entertainment for everyone else. Some of her antics whilst being very amusing were also terrifying, like when she's give me a thumbs up BEFORE she shot a goal. How she didn't get pulled for held ball I'll never know. When she was pumped up you knew the rest of the team would lift as well and she did everything I asked of her, even when she was exhausted or sick. She's a gutsy player, and a fantastic person to be around.

Thank you to all of these girls for making this my favourite season. You are all fantastic people and I'm very proud to have been your coach this year xx

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Team 18 – 17 & Under, Division 9

Coach - Karen Bovell, Manager - Lisa de Mamiel

Kate De La Cruz, Olivia de Mamiel, Louise Harun, Apoorva Katak, Supriya Mundakochi, Charlotte Muzuva, Charmayne Muzuva and Deneka Oswald.

Congrat's to my 17's - I don't know how we did it, but we finished 4th on the ladder and although we lost the semi final, you deserved to be there.

During the season, we had a few ups and downs especially on the wet and muddy grass courts where I am sure a few of the girls didn't know they could do the splits! They surprised not only their parents and myself but themselves with the outcome of some of the scores. They were a team of mixed skill levels, varied perceptions of commitment to both the game and training but overall really really nice girls (a credit to their parents). We got some really good games of netball in and I know that everyone did their own personal best to contribute. Great team spirit shone through leading up to the finals.

Thanks to Margaret Hackwill, Tess Milligan, Shani Dans, Maryse Green and Erika Ng for helping us out during the season and also our main umpire Megan Smallwood.

Thank you to the parents and siblings who came each week to support their girls and a special mention of appreciation to Lisa de Mamiel who took care of the non coaching side of things - helped me out immensely. Lastly thanks to the girls themselves, I'm sure you all agree it was an interesting season but I know you're all looking forward to a bright new season next year - well done!

Karen x

Team 19 - JA4

Coach: Merylyn, Manager: Anne Green

Isabella, Claire, Shani, Tayleah, Maryse, Margaret, Breeanna, Erika, Abbey

This season of netball was a very different one for the JA4 team. We started off on a high by winning 3 games in the first round of 5 games however although we didn't win any more games individually all players improved and consolidated their skills.

Our 3 shooters became more consistent at scoring with Shani constantly on the move unless doing the splits on wet courts, Bree could surprise the opposition with her quick moves and excellent timing and Claire always kept on working the circle every game and became tougher as the season went on.

Margaret and Abbey shared the centre bib and although they each have their own style each were effective. Abbey was fast and tough and had a never-ending supply of energy. Margaret was calming and steadied the play.

Tayleah was THE wing attack and entertainment at training when she wasn't sidelined with a damaged foot. The last 3 games of the season were when she shone and outplayed the opposition.

Maryse rightly owned the W. D. bib and was very reluctant to hand it to a team member however her skills as a G. D. improved greatly as the season went on.

Our two most consistent and reliable circle defence players were Erika who has now mastered side defence and Izzy who we missed greatly when she was not on the court, worked hard every week and made the opposition work for any goals scored.

Thanks Rhiannon for your most consistent and reliable umpiring, and Annie for filling in for me at training, games and umpiring.

Special thanks for all the parents and family who turned up every week to support and encouraged our team and the opposition.

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Anne thank you for being the team manager, you were most efficient and I appreciate your effort throughout the season.

I hope that you will all return next season as 17s/u and enjoy your netball.

Merilyn

Team 20 - JA8

Coaches: Lee and Jeff Musumeci

Izzie, Megan, Emily, Jenny, Sarah, Abigail, Shanae, Tess

Jeff and I returned to Willetton for our second season of co-coaching, with Thom (12 yr old son) reinstated as the Manager's Manager, #1 statistician, ball and drinks carrier and general gopher.

The JA8 team was a mixture of girls with experience, those returning to netball after a long break and those who hadn't played before, and so we started from scratch.

Our season was full of injuries which started when Izzie developed stress fractures after a handful of games and spent the rest of the season on crutches and in a moon boot. She was soon followed by Emily who was sidelined for many weeks with a significant ankle injury, closely followed by Abigail who also went out with an ankle injury. Mixed with the usual bouts of illness, we relied heavily on the generosity of Laura (Coach of JB8) and then Christine (Coach of JD5) to lend us players. Over the course of the season, nine players filled in for our team - a special thank you to (JB8) Hasindi, Azonia, Chloe, Christie, Hayley and (JD5) Lailli, Sophie, Emma and Lara. Emma played in our semi final win and Lara was in the unique position of playing in two Grand Finals in one day.

Despite injuries being a reality of our season, the team coped remarkably well and played with consistency each week, winning all bar one game of the regular season. Each player showed improvements from the start of the season as they aimed to work on specific elements of their game.

Tess- a reliable GK who mastered the use of her outside arm to block and intercept passes, hustled and bustled her player away from goals. Tess frequently had her team mates in fits of laughter with her dry sense of humour, without trying to be funny. She added rebounding to her game and settled in to her position with dependability. Tess showed terrific commitment to her netball making every training session despite living a long way north of the river. She was eager to learn and aimed to put in to practice everything that she was taught. A great season, Tess!

Jenny- moved from WD where she spent most of her time last year, to WA this year and became a reliable centre pass receiver. Jenny positioned herself according to the game plan, showed leadership to explain the plan to fill-in players and made excellent position around the circle. Jen worked hard on moderating her passes and making good decisions. Love your enthusiasm and teamwork, Jen.

Abigail- Our "Jack of all Trades", Abigail played in most positions throughout the season, plugging holes when injuries and illness unbalanced the team. She showed versatility and took on the challenge with determination, before settling in to WD for the second half of the season. She worked hard to find form after returning from injury and focused on trying to shut down C passes.

I hope you play again next year Abigail.

Sarah- a speedy C player with strong, pinpoint passing and a highly competitive spirit - Sarah was an influential player every game and strived to give 100% effort each quarter of each game. Her intuitive reading of the play saw her in the right place at the right time, allowing her to create turnovers and plenty of feeding to the goalies. Excellent season, Sarah!

Emily- naturally athletic, tall and talented, Emily started in GD and after injury, returned to GA where she was a dominant force. Despite complaining throughout training and trying to convince me that running (and

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school) isn't necessary, Emily showed her talents every week where she dominated rebounds and improved her shooting percentage each game. Being new to netball, Emily is learning the game as she plays and has a very bright netball future if she continues playing. I hope to see you back next season, Emily.

Shenae- despite giving away height, Shenae played taller than she is and stamped her name on GD. After losing Emily from the position, Shenae took on the challenge and from the first game she made it her own. She shut down each GA, added rebounding to her game and worked her opponent hard from the end court throw in. She is reliable and shows talent. Excellent contribution to our team, Shenae.

Megan- Queen of the "sassy" leg! played a fantastic season as she moved more freely in the circle, used the mid court players to improve her positioning and competed for rebounds. She improved her shooting accuracy throughout the season and offered a variety of short and long leads which added unpredictability for her opponents. She ran from coaching a team, to playing with us, to umpiring the next game- outstanding commitment to netball and to Willetton.

Izzie- despite starting off the season very strongly and polling votes in many of her games, Izzie's season was cut short due to stress fractures in her leg. Despite not being able to play, Izzie supported the team at each game by cheering from the sidelines. The disappointment of missing out on playing in a Grand Final was difficult but Izzie was resilient and we know that she'll be back better than ever next year. We missed you Izzie!

Making it to the Grand Final is an achievement no matter the result and Jeff and I are proud of the way the girls played each game, demonstrated sportsmanship towards the opposition and their team mates and respected the umpires.

A special thank you to the parents of the players who supported their girls at every match, supplied lollies and fruit, scored, timed and drove them to and from training.

A final thank you to Jeff who excels at strategy and match-ups as a Coach and is super organised as a manager, well supported by Thom and his thorough stats.

A very successful season for JA8.

Lee Musumeci

Team 21 - JB8

Coaches: Laura Meachim and Nathan Bentley, Manager: Samantha Mark

Christie, Hayley, Chloe, Alorah, Holly, Azonia, Hasindi, Nethma, Rojan

Firstly, all I can say is WE DID IT! We made a Grand final. I didn't think I would ever be saying that 2 months ago, but here we are and we are so proud of each and every one of these girls.

For the first 8 weeks, we were at the bottom of the ladder, having fun and learning each week. But these girls proved to us, their parents and the club that Willetton's JB8's are not to be underestimated. Pulling through with some smashing wins, these girls started to really develop and grow throughout the season.

I would like to take an opportunity to firstly, thank the girls;

Hayley, you never failed to impress us with your out of nowhere intercepts and ability to settle the game. You played smart and strategic, while growing throughout the season.

Chloe, I'm so glad you finally realised that you were tall and used that to your advantage. Your athleticism shone through and your outside arm was not to be messed with. I do hope you choose to continue pursuing Netball- Hockey isn't as fun, right?

Holly, wow what a little pocket rocket! We really saw some amazing improvements throughout the season, particularly with your ability to make space and chase leads. Thank you for always being willing to put the team first and for always putting in your best effort.

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Azonia, I have never met someone with so much enthusiasm. You always had a smile on your face, even when we were down. You truly shone in the finals and we could definitely see you putting in to play everything you learnt throughout the season. You should be very proud of yourself.

Hasindi, your brick wall defence was never something to be messed with! Throughout the season you continued to grow as a defender and a Netballer, while always doing so with a smile on your face.

Nethma, you would never be able to tell that you had never played a game before this season! You have absolutely excelled in defence and I really look forward to seeing how far you go with the sport! Thank you for always putting in 100% even when I put you in positions you weren't sure of.

Christie, the loudest of the team! You definitely made training 10 times more fun this year. I don't think there was one training where you weren't on the floor laughing at some stage. However, you played brilliantly and were always flexible with positions. You definitely found your spot in Goal Attack but continue to be an all rounder.

Alorah, you never failed in making at least one Lord of the Rings reference at training. You definitely grew throughout the season (Not height wise :P) as a shooter, gaining more confidence with every successful shot.

Rojan, thank you for always being willing to learn and for trying so hard to fix any mistakes. You have an outstanding attitude and I definitely think you will not only go far with Netball, but all of your future endeavours. Although you may be quite short, you never complained about tall defenders and always got the job done!

I do have some other people to thank, I would like to extend a thank you to all the parents. Thank you for rocking up for scratch matches when we had byes, thank you for always supporting myself and Nathan as well as the girls. I can't remember having such a supportive, welcoming and easy bunch of parents.

I would like to thank my sister Jess for helping out at training and games when she could.

I would also like to thank Nathan, what a season! We both thought these girls were just here for fun, but we were certainly proved wrong!

Last but not least, I would like to thank Sam our amazing manager. You went above and beyond your managing duties, always offering advice and support during some stressful games. Thank you for helping out at training and helping me with coaching the shooters, because as a defender, I didn't have a clue.

What a great season girls!!! I hope to see you all next season- Be Willo, Be Proud.

Laura & Nathan

Team 22 - JD5

Coach –Christine Calabrese, Assistant – Amberley Evans, Manager Shenette Terrill

Gigi, Emma, Sophie, Ebonique, Lara, Chloe, Ella, Kate, Laili

It's been another great year of coaching for me, with a fantastic group of girls, parents and families. All of these girls have such a great attitude towards netball, they love coming to training (maybe not running around the oval) and can't wait to play on a Saturday. The girls have played some great netball this season, only dropping 3 games and finishing second on the ladder. They won their semi-final by 6 goals to make it straight into the grand final and hopefully we are celebrating a win this morning. Either way I am super proud of how much the girls have improved and worked together as a team this year and as anyone who has watched them knows, they are going to do great things in their netball future at Willetton.

The girls –

Chloe, I mean Ella, I mean Chloe – (I will get your names right one day!) What an improvement you have made this year. Have loved watching you grow every week into a strong and very consistent player. Great season Chloe.

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Ella – A great season, you are such a versatile player, with very strong defensive skills, always happy and a pleasure to coach. Well done Chloe, I mean Ella!

Ebonique – (sneaky) – one of my everywhere girls, I love knowing that I can hand you any bib on a Saturday and you play that position with such strength and ease. So athletic and agile, a pleasure for any coach to have, good job sneaky.

Emma – Always entertaining us with school gossip and some fantastic excuses why you can't run at training – also a very talented netballer. You have had an amazing season, so strong and skilful as a shooter, it's been lovely to watch. Great work Em.

Gigi – You started the season as a volleyball spiker and have finished as an amazing defender. You are so fantastic to watch, with a wonderful positive attitude and high level of athleticism. Great season Gigi.

Kate – The quiet one. Such a pleasure to coach and watch you improve every week. You have a lovely friendly demeanour and wonderful attitude. You always make great space and decisions on court. Well done Kitty Kat.

Laili (Capt) – I have loved watching your face when I hand the centre bib to another player, evil daggers at their best! Seriously you are an amazing player, voted captain by your team mates for a reason. You read the play so well and take so many intercepts. You are a wonderful team player and a pleasure to coach. Great season Laili.

Lara – you have given us some very entertaining moments this season, my favourite was when you handed me a tooth in the middle of a game, then ran off to keep playing. You have a lot of skill and athleticism (like your mother) and have been a joy to watch, not just in defence, but anywhere I put you on court. Well done Lara

Sophie – You always put in 100% effort at training and at games with a fantastic netball attitude. Can also put you anywhere on court, where you play that position with skill and strength. Great season Soph.

Big thankyou's must go to our assistant coach, Amberley. It's been great having a "young" netball brain to help out. You are a wonderful asset to Willetton Netball Club with a definite future in coaching. To our ever efficient manager, Shenette. Thank you for making my job as a coach easier, much appreciated. To our umpire Annalise – thanks for helping us out this year, and lastly to all the parents and family members for all of your help and support this year, it really has been a wonderful year and I hope to see you all back again next year – when I might be able to get the twins' names right!

Team 23 - JD6

Coach: Meagan Smallwood, Manager: Louise Clarke

Amelia, Tiffany, Tiffany, Megan, Amaris, Jessica, Ananya, Elzanne, Hevani

This year was my first year coaching, and I was fortunate enough to have the amazing team of enthusiastic girls for this fantastic opportunity. Although the girls didn't have any game wins this year, the effort and enthusiasm these girls put in at every training session and every game put in was outstanding. We've had some crazy games, with little sisters filling in and playing in positions they weren't used to, but they always came out smiling and had a whole heap of fun along the way. Individual developments this year we're fantastic. We had first time players and some more experienced players this year but all of them grew in skills so much this year. To start off with our stellar shooting combination of Elzanne and Megan, these girls worked so well together in the 'D' this year it was great to see. Our fantastic WA and C's Amelia and Amaris. I can't believe how well they played this year, so fast and a great jump; they wrecked havoc in the mid court. Our other Centre Tiffany Allen who made it a whole different ball game when she stepped out to play, going out fast and hard at every loose ball she could find. Our 2 newest players Jess and Hevani, for these 2 girls it was

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an amazing season, both of them taking on board every tip and trick I taught them at training, they developed as defenders, as players and team mates so much this season. And our other two defenders, Tiffany Cartwright and Ananya, Ananya brought amazing height and a long reach to the game, it was almost impossible to get anything past her, and Tiffany; such a talented and reliable player, I really saw her blossom this year. I could not have asked for a better team of girls this year. Even with the injuries we had this year we still came and still played our best, which was all, I could ask for.

Meagan Smallwood

Team 24 - JE6

Coach: Fiona Smallwood, Manager: Liz Fogarty

Leah, Kaitlyn, Ashleigh, Mariam, Molly, Nina, Isabella, Milana, Ella

To cut to the chase I would firstly like to say I am immensely proud and happy at the season this little team of gems had this year and I am full of praise and encouragement for them.

The season got off to a start with many of the girls being familiar with one another from previous seasons, and also being familiar with Liz as their coach last season. However, there were some new faces to the team, myself included, and even a first time netballer! With that combination, I felt relatively comfortable with setting our seasons' goal to be about having some fun, enjoying the game, gaining confidence to have a go and making this a really enjoyable and pressure free pass time - I think we all have enough of that outside of our sporting commitments!

Shortly in to the season I started to see natural skills develop and defensive, attacking or athletic abilities became obvious as to where players were going to be most comfortable and feel most confident in for the season. There was rotation early days, but towards mid season, we had a regular 'set of positions' established for our girls which really meant that they were able to 'grow' within their team, which gave a great sense of achievement and contribution to the success of our games.

I would like to credit each and every one of the girls on the team for the end result of our season. Without their passion, their desire to succeed and to listen, they would not have had the season they did. They finished fifth on the ladder, just one game win shy of the top four, which absolutely is a fantastic effort however in my eyes, they were winners - regardless of where they finished, they were successful in my opinion and, I believe in their own eyes too. Notching up 7 Wins, 6 losses and 2 draws was the official end of year result. The traits that saw them reach this result were determination, respect for each other and myself, and the ability to convert what they were taught at training on to the court. Throughout the year, the girls grew both physically and as a team so within the season there were ebbs and flows where we saw progression, regression and then even greater progression. This was really exciting to watch.

I thoroughly enjoyed my season as a coach - it was an absolute pleasure. The parents have been a wonderful support and have just been a delight to have around each Saturday morning. We were very lucky to have a regular, reliable and good umpire in Meagan and last and by no means least I would like to pay credit and thanks to Liz Fogarty for being a huge part of making this team successful. Without her communication, organisation and defensive tips, the season would not have been such a success.

Well done little ladies! I enjoyed every minute of coaching you. I think you deserve to pat yourselves on the back for being such a delight to coach and for a result that you were (rightly) proud of at the end of the year. You came a long way this year. Well done!

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Team 25 - JF3

**Coach: Nellie Valentine, Assistants: Kaitlyn and Tia, Manager: Caitlin Finneran
Sienna, Shayla, Alysha, Ciara, Mackenzie, Subbna, Caitlin, Victoria, Zahara**

It was another great year coaching my JF3 girls. We had Ciara, Sienna, Victoria, Alysha, Shayla and Zahara returning but also welcomed Mackenzie and Caitlin.

We also had the lovely Kaitlyn and Tia wanting to try their hand at coaching a junior team as well, so I was very happy being able to step back and watch them develop as coaches.

Up and down season but the wins were hard fought and the losses were close. They all played in the positions given and relished the idea of being able to extend their knowledge beyond their "liked" positions.

So proud and can't wait to see you all next year for bigger and better wins to come!

Coaches message from Kaitlyn and Tia:

This season has been wonderful meeting all the girls and Nellie as well. It was such a pleasure to have coached these girls, even though they were a bit chatty at times but we got there in the end. We are both amazed at how much every single one of you girls have improved since the start of season, it makes us both really proud to see the difference, and you girls should all be proud of yourselves too. It was amazing to see every single one of you girls out there every week trying your hardest, regardless of what the other team was doing. We would like to congratulate you on your efforts throughout the whole season and hopefully we will see you again next year!

Team 26 - JG6

**Coach: Jacinta Gabbedy, Manager: Rachel Hackwill
Amy Passauer, Lillian Sharp, Charlotte Tokeley, Isabel Long, Anika Liu, Stephanie Hackwill, Nicolene Snyman, Ella Anton, Brianna Abbott**

This JG6 team was a new team in so many ways – the game of netball itself was new to the majority of the girls; most of them were playing a team sport for the very first time; weekly training was an entirely new concept to them; playing sport in the pouring rain was definitely different for them, and getting up early to have their daughter to the game on a Saturday morning, was also a new experience for most of the parents! But for such a new and inexperienced team, they all took to the game immediately, and threw themselves into it with a huge amount of energy and enthusiasm.

Brianna was the only girl who had played last year and set a fine example for the rest of the team from the start. She found space and made extremely good leads and was so often open for passes down the court.

Lillian took to the game so easily. Being the tallest player on the team, she always used her height to her advantage at both ends of the court and proved to be both an excellent and reliable shooter and defender for our team.

Amy seems to take after her Mum and prefers to play in defensive positions. She anticipates the ball extremely well and every week got some amazing tips and intercepts of the ball.

Even though she was the shortest player on the team, Anika made up for this with her speed and agility around the court. She developed a good understanding of the game and always knew where she had to be on court.

The improvement in Isabel's game towards the end of the season was very obvious. Her confidence and understanding of the game improved so much and was wonderful to see. She always listened to me and tried very hard to put into practice in the game what she had learnt at training.

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Ella's season was unfortunately cut short when she broke her arm at the beginning of Round 3. She had developed an obvious passion and enthusiasm for the game and was developing her skills around the court, especially in shooting. We look forward to having her back fit and well next season.

Charlotte adapted to the game of netball very easily. She has natural athleticism which she used to make good leads down the court. She has very strong hands and managed to catch some wonderful long passes into the circle and then finish off by shooting some amazing goals.

Nicolene a versatile player, who can play equally well in positions at both ends of the court. She has great ball skills and was particularly good at throwing long passes down the court and straight into the circle.

Having spent her entire life watching both her older sisters and her mother playing netball, Steph had no other choice but to also join the game when she became old enough. She is a passionate and determined player who has developed a good understanding of the game and always gave a 100% effort on court.

These JG6 girls tried so hard each week and put a lot of effort and energy into every game. I would like to congratulate them on an excellent season and hope that it is the first season of many at Willetton Netball Club. I would also like to extend a huge thank you to the parents for all their support of the girls and of me and especially to our team manager Rachel, who made my role as coach so much easier.