



# Friends of Friday Night

e-Newsletter - June 2010

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## Summer Season – Grand Final Winners

The 2009-10 Summer season concluded on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May with an amazing night of games - 5 finals packed with load of excitement, enthusiasm and a showcase of the skills of our players. With hundreds of visitors on the night, both the Hawthorn Secondary College and the Methodist Ladies College were bursting with support for the finals players.

Pictured below are the Summer Victorian Champions "**Doncaster**" and their coach Bruce Tomkins. Capping off a great evening of basketball, this final game demonstrated an exceptionally high standard of play from both teams (the SO Vales came runner-up with a final score of 37 to 32).



### Other grade results were:

Women's Championship – **SO Stars** 37 defeated SO Storm 32

Division 2 – **Raptors** 41 defeated Roar 15

Division 3 – **Hoovers** 10 defeated Renegades 8

Division 4 – **SO Wizards** 24 defeated Redbacks 17

The 2010 Winter season commenced on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June with 39 teams competing.

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## 2<sup>nd</sup> Venue – 1 year on.....

One of our goals is to grow our competition and give more players the opportunity to enjoy basketball. We could not achieve this at Hawthorn alone. So we expanded our competition to a second venue – Methodist Ladies College - at the start of Winter Season in 2009. We chose Division 2 to play at this venue and after two seasons, we have achieved spectacular results. With an overall increase of 3 new teams this season, we are starting to see the growth we'd hoped for.

The staff and management at Methodist Ladies College (MLC) in Barkers Road, Kew have been exceptionally supportive of our program. The teams have enjoyed nice warm courts in Winter, but also a bit too warm in Summer with a heated pool next door. Some generous donations saw us have a great celebration night for our 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary with free entry on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June for all, free chocolates and also two door prizes (all registered players names went into the draw) – with the lucky winners Nick Denner (Razors) and Charbel Kairouz (Grasskillers/Hoovers) taking home some electrical appliances.

David & Marlene McFarlane (and family) and Maurice Brodie, two of our Power Assist Directors, are managing this venue each week, supported by our regular volunteers and the Power House Basketball Club members. Congratulations to everyone on getting this competition up and running.

## AUSSIE Pearls Skills night – a huge hit

On April 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Australian Pearls hosted a skills night for our Friday night players. Held at MLC stadium (a great chance to check out our second venue), we had 30 players turn up for some specialised and individual coaching with Australian Head Coach, Larry Davidson. It was a fantastic night with players from all grades having a fun night, but also improving their individual skills – all for \$5.

## Vic Metro – Clean Sweep at 2010 Ivor Burge Championships

In February, the Vic Metro teams travelled to Gawler, SA to compete in the 2010 Australian Championships. With many of our Friday night players involved in this years Vic Metro program, we congratulate them all on this successful competition with both Men's and Women's teams winning Gold medals in the final games. The state teams continue to training across the year at Nunawading stadium, so if you want some extra training and a chance to improve your skills and go to that next level, you can get details at the front desk.

## Christmas – only 5+ months away – new date 26<sup>th</sup> November 2010

Our fabulous Presentation Night and Christmas celebration will be held on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November at the Hawthorn Town Hall.

This is an amazing night of fine food, music and dancing, and of course medals and trophies for all players. Please pop the date in your diary now – so that you don't miss out. We'll have more information on this closer to the end of the year. Put the date in your diary now !!

## Zero Tolerance – no Smoking, no Swearing

In alignment with Basketball Victoria's policies, and the direction of the two school at which we play, we enforce a no smoking policy – that is no smoking on the school grounds at all. Wishing also to ensure a safe and enjoyable environment for all, swearing is also not tolerated. Anyone swearing on or off the court, will receive appropriate penalties. Please think carefully about the words that you use to express yourself.

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## In the News – Pete nominated for Award!!

On the ball for a full court (Herald Sun, Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June, 2010)



*Pride of Australia nominee Peter Duncan at basketball for the intellectually disabled.*

### **Victoria's intellectually disabled basketball community is shooting for a big goal-its own stadium.**

Volunteer Peter Duncan, who has spent more than 10 years helping in the sport, says new facilities are essential. The 39 teams, made up of men and women aged from 12 to 65, train at Hawthorn Secondary College and Methodist Ladies College in Kew. "It's extremely important for us to have our own space because at the moment we're hiring courts with the threat of losing our stadiums," Mr Duncan said. "On any given week someone could come and offer more money for the court time and there'd be nothing we can do."

Mr Duncan, 40, has been nominated for a Pride of Australia medal for his tireless work within the sport. The East Malvern handyman spends more than 300 hours every year, refereeing, organising and fundraising for the group. He's also on the board of Power Assist, a not-for-profit organisation pushing for a separate stadium for intellectually disabled basketballers.

"People with intellectual disabilities often don't have the capacity to lobby the government for help, so I think it's a good thing that I can do," Mr Duncan said. "For the teams, it's a valuable leisure activity and it's something they look forward to all week. It provides them with a social group and they feel valued and feel like they're loved by other people."

Mr Duncan said he was humbled to be nominated for an award and encouraged everyone to give volunteering a go. "I think humans like helping other humans and there's lots of opportunities to help out there," he said. "I encourage people to find out what sections of their community need help and jump into it."

Pride of Australia medals are awarded in 11 categories: bravery, courage, heroism, community spirit, child of courage, young leader, care and compassion, inspiration, environment, fair go, and serving Australia. Nominations close at 5pm on Tuesday, July 6, and can be made online at the website [www.prideofaustralia.com.au](http://www.prideofaustralia.com.au).

The Herald Sun and Sunday Herald Sun will also publish nomination forms regularly. Forms must be posted to Herald Sun Pride of Australia Medal 2010, PO Box 14623, Melbourne, Victoria, 8001.

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## FUND RAISING – Donations

**If you have any funds you'd like to donate to a charity prior to the end of the financial year, consider Power Assist.** We are a registered charity with Deductible Gift Recipient status from the Australian Tax Office and can provide you with a suitable receipt. Have a chat to the folk at the front door of your Friday night Venue or email [powerassist@optushome.com.au](mailto:powerassist@optushome.com.au)

Many thanks to those of you who have already made a donation in the last few weeks – it is fantastic help to ensuring our costs remain at a minimum for our players and families.

## WINTER SEASON UNDERWAY

Our Winter Season has commenced with some fantastic games, and even though the nights are cold, every one seems to be enjoying the games so far.

Thanks to all of you who have paid your annual \$5 player registration fee – we only have a few people remaining to pay.

Coaches are reminded to coach their teams in the fine spirit of good sportsmanship and ensure all players have fun and a fair game. In appropriate behaviour including swearing will not be tolerated, and our tribunal take breaches of such behaviour very seriously. This applies to players, coaches and spectators. Please ensure you do your bit to make our Friday nights absolutely the best place to be for everyone!!

MLC Teams – Note – due to school functions no games on 9th July and 6<sup>th</sup> August.

Winter Season continues through until October when finals will be held:

Semi Finals – 15<sup>th</sup> October

Preliminary Finals – 22<sup>nd</sup> October

Grand Finals – 29<sup>th</sup> October

The 2010-2011 Summer season will commence on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> November.

And remember, the Christmas Party is on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November.



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