

## **NZTD Under 19 Umpire Squad**

### **Report from the NZSS Trials camp 16 -18 April**

#### **Squad members**

Bridget Bresnehan – North

Christina Matthews – North

Olivia Caldwell – Counties Manukau

Vicki-lee Walker – Waikato

Sarah Robson – Western

Hayley Whiting – Canterbury ( now Otago)

Joyce Andrew – Otago

Eva Brown – Southland (now Canterbury)

Unfortunately Bridget had to withdraw on the Friday prior to camp due to ill health but the remaining 7 umpires all arrived in Auckland on the 16<sup>th</sup>, fit and healthy with only a couple of minor injuries which Jenny Ferguson, camp physiotherapist, had been made aware of.

The benefit of their off season fitness training programmes soon became apparent when they all stepped up to do their fitness testing on Saturday afternoon. Most improved their Yoyo levels with only a couple who had had the flu during the past fortnight performing slightly under par.

The camp programme went straight into trial games from that point on. This gave the umpires the opportunity to umpire a 2 x 10 minute game in each session. This worked really well and the girls that weren't on the games were able to have the opportunity to work with Bronwyn Meek on the Saturday afternoon. Her focus was on Goal Line Position and her input was very valuable.

That evening we reflected on some of the Curtain Raiser games that the girls have done with each of them discussing both good and not so good points of

their performance. This was a great session and made them realize how helpful it is to have their performance videoed.

Owning ones own performance, which was the key to the weekend was discussed, with self analysis being the key to understanding why some decisions have been made. The group was also fortunate to have a session with Kylie Wilson, the NNZ Psychiatrist who also did some work around this topic.

Sunday evening saw the girls having a session with Megan Crockett who covered their options for maintaining their fitness standards for the rest of the season through to tournaments. Being able to discuss their personal situations in a small group was found to be very beneficial.

It was great to have the assistance of NZUP member Debbie Shoebridge to help me with the coaching on each game. We found the girls to be very positive and responsive to our coaching and all worked on trying to improve with each game that they did. The performance of all 7 umpires showed much improvement over the 3 days.

Our decision to select the umpires to do the Possibles v Probables game was not an easy one but those selected were – Joyce, Vicki-lee and Hayley.

Depending on availability, I would strongly recommend to Regions that if any of these umpires are not selected to go to NZAG or NZSS, that they would do an excellent job for their Regions at the Under 17 Tournament. This is a great tournament for these young umpires especially those who are newly qualified NZ Award holders or those that are going for their NZ Award.

I would like to thank the Regions for their continued support of these young umpires it is great to see that their potential is being recognized by you all. I will be sending an individual report on each umpire to their respective Region.

Kind Regards

Jan Skilton

NZTD Under19 Umpire Coach