OPEN GIRLS

Wednesday morning was cool and crisp when the 12 girls making up the opens team took to the field for their first round game against Southern Sydney. The girls worked together from the outset and won the game convincingly five tries to zero. Try scorers included Brittney Avery, Brooke McCarthy and Jakaya Hart.

In their second game, against SCC, the girls worked especially well in defence, keeping the opposition scoreless. Try scorers included Lauren Condon (2), Laura Coleman (2) and Rhiannon Chivers.

Their third round game against Broken Bay was close, again keeping the opposition scoreless, with Jakaya Hart scoring the only try. As the day went on fatigue was an issue, the final round game against Parramatta was tough, the girls went down four tries to zero.

After a strong effort in the pool games, the girls were rewarded with a spot in the semi finals, coming up against CGSSSA. It was a tough fought game and amongst some strong defence and an injury, the girls were defeated 4-1.

A big congratulations to Laura Coleman who was selected in the NSW CCC team.

It has been a pleasure coaching/managing this team and all girls represented the diocese with great sportsmanship and friendship.

Cassie Allen
Coach

OPEN BOYS

The open boys came together as a team on and off the field from the start of the trip and played some exceptional touch. In round one, the boys came up against Canberra/Goulburn. We were first to get points on the board with a try from captain Nick Burns and while our attack warmed up with the day the boys defence was on fire from the start.

The boys had a few challenging games against Armidale, Parramatta and MCC. Playing some of their best touch against Parra and MCC, they were unlucky going down by one try in each game. The defence of Joel Antilla was try saving and was backed up by Harry Sargent's relentless talk and attacking defence. Nick Burns and Jake McNamara led our play in attack creating many of the days tries, Nick smoking it through the middle from the ruck and Jake's 40m cut out pass were highlights. Ty Foster warmed up with a great try in game 4 and some solid defence. Jack Stutfield and Nick Goodfellow drove us forward in attack when we needed it most and showed solid defence all day. Brady Woolridge and Ned Crimmins looked like specialist wingers with exceptional positioning and backing up for trys getting one each. Will Law had a great break away run in the second game and was unlucky not to score.

The boys got another win when it all came together against CBSA. Congratulations boys you played well, were a pleasure to coach and showed fine sportsmanship in tough situations. You should all be proud of how you played, I certainly am.

Hannah O’Brien
Coach
**JUNIOR BOYS**

On a very cold Wednesday morning twelve under 16 boys representatives from the Diocese of Lismore took to the field at Penrith touch football fields in Sydney. From being selected in early May until now it had been a nervous wait for the boys. With 5 round games ahead the boys started the day off with high hopes against Armidale Diocese. They started with a solid performance winning 6 – 0. Two touch downs to Harry Fitzhugh, one to Nathaniel Hart, Kalemb Hart, Sam McIntyre and Callum Jones secured the win. Game two was a much tighter score line and the boys came away with another win against MCC, 2-1. Touch downs to Josh Quinn and an impressive catch and dive from Jacob Henderson were obvious highlights.

Game three was against Wollongong and another fine display of skill and determination. Touch downs to Harry Fitzhugh and two to Josh Quinn saw a 3 – 0 victory. Game four saw a determined South Sydney team come out firing. A great display of backing up saw Liam Coelho score 3 touch downs and another to Josh Quinn saw the boys win 4 – 3 in a tight game. The last round game was against CBSA. After a long day with little rest the boys went down in a disrupted game 2 – 1. Sam McIntyre scoring our only touchdown. After going through the round games in a good position the boys were very unlucky not to progress through to semis, missing out on a touchdown count back situation. It was a pleasure to coach a gifted bunch of athletes willing to learn. Coach’s award went to Sam McIntyre for his tireless efforts all day. Look forward to 2014.

Josh McCormack  
Coach

**JUNIOR GIRLS**

The junior girls once again demonstrated great team spirit and sportsmanship at the NSWCCC Touch Championships. I was extremely proud of their efforts, especially considering the nucleus of our team from the past three years had moved up into the Open division.

Sinead McNamara, Alannah Hemsley and Tahlia Hunter led the way in the middle defeating SCC 3-1 in our first game. Our second game was against CGSSSSA, a much stronger outfit in attack putting our defence to the test. While we lost 3-0, India Brown and Tahlia Hunter defended tirelessly. We came up against Wollongong in round three, winning 1-0.

Game four against Southern Sydney was by far our best display, with the girls comfortably winning 6-1. Our wingers, Chloe Saddler, Olivia Fien and Taylor Lo Monaco are to be recognised for their superb support play, their ability to hit holes and score tries. This game saw our debutant, Avalon Green (12 years of age) deliver her neat step and break the line several times. Alex Avery and Jess Towle combined effortlessly driving the ball forward setting up for Sinead and Alannah to scoop and take on the defence. Jess Slater and Maddy Rudd stepped up in this game, with a rushing defence that forced the opposition to make errors giving Lismore great field position to capitalise and score tries.

Our last game against Wagga Wagga was a must win to make the Semi- Final. Unfortunately the girls lost 4-3, however deserve to hold their heads high in what was a very determined effort to win. It was an absolute pleasure to coach a great group of girls who showed athleticism, a will to win and above all team spirit and pride for their Diocese. Congratulations to Sinead McNamara who was named Coach’s Player and was selected in the NSWCCC Touch Football team.

Erin Gallagher  
Coach