

Wellington Representative Report. 2015 Season

A squad of 21 players was originally selected for the 2015 season. This was based on players who were interested in being part of the wider Wellington training squad from which teams would be selected for the 3 matches Wellington traditionally plays.

Two more players (Ann Hogg – Otaki and Marc Khull – Manawatu) were invited into the squad following strong performances in regional championships.

The squad had 3 training days and at the first training day a modest goal of regaining one of the trophies was set. However, after a win against Auckland in the Chanticleer Cup the goal was extended to win all 3 trophies back.

Chanticleer Trophy versus Auckland.

The Chanticleer match (held at Manawatu club) resulted in a 61 – 35 victory to Wellington. Three squad members were ineligible for selection as current New Zealand Open team members are not able to be included.

Southern Tri-Star:

The Southern Tri-Star match was placed in jeopardy when Canterbury failed to field a team. After discussions with Southern it was decided that Wellington would field 3 teams, the third team being a development team to give as many players in the training squad an opportunity to experience petanque at a regional representative level.

All three Wellington teams performed well and the final result was:

Wellington Black 33, Wellington Gold 33, Southern 21 and Wellington wasps (development team) 16.

Discussions with Canterbury and Southern are continuing with regard to the future of this competition.

Wellington – Hawkes Bay Challenge Cup formerly Haines Cup.

In this event Wellington matches the number of players Hawkes Bay can field. In 2015 HB was able to bring 10 players to Manawatu for the match. Wellington last held this trophy in 2010.

The result came down to the last game of triples which Wellington won and thus regained the Wellington – Hawkes Bay Challenge Cup for the first time in 5 years.

Overall, the representative season was a complete success with 21 of the 23 squad members playing for Wellington and gaining valuable experience at this level and all three matches won by Wellington.

Graeme Morris – Wellington Coach