

2023

FERNTREE GULLY NETBALL CLUB



ANNUAL REPORT

Ferntree Gully Netball Club 2023

Executive Committee Members

President	Scott Ramsey
Vice President	Jenny Block
Secretary	Zoe Ruighaver / Melissa Murphy
Treasurer	Erin Tucker
Registration Secretary	Kara Fogel

General Committee Members

Child Safe Subcommittee Co-Ordinator	Rachelle Bartels
Coaches Convenor	Tania Leonard
Team Managers Convenor	Anne Collins
Uniforms Officer	Melissa Murphy
Asst Uniforms Officer	Kerry Moulds
Equipment Officer	Phil Thorneycroft
Asst Equipment Officer	Dan Jones
Grants & Sponsorship Co-Ordinator	Lauren Elsaman
Presentation Co-ordinator	Emma Robertson
Umpires Convenor	Hayley Mettes
General Committee	Eleanor Koster, Kerri Smithells, Kerry Moulds, Rhi Fogel, Kath Everetts, Kirsten Chamberlain

Life Members

Laurel and Rob McMaster	Reg and Connie Murton	Cherie Mastertoun
Michelle Keats	Ethel Arrowsmith	Gwen Brown
Melissa Rosie	Jaki Mitchell	Avril Jones
Wendy Bliss	Wendy Solohub	Rebecca O'Keeffe
Denise Russom	Janine Bannister	Marg Alexander
Ron and Robyn Coleman	Faye Westbury	Julie Coleman
Belinda Solohub	Sue Luxford	Shirley Ryan
Charlene Flintrop	Nadine Boukas	Nola Monger
Sue Barker	John and Val Hawkins	Trina Jacobson
Jodie Tilley	Karen Bennett	Jenny Block
Phil Thorneycroft		

President's Report

The 2023 Season was another successful year for FTG. A couple of highlights include:

- Opening of the new indoor courts
- Ministarz going from strength to strength
- Unprecedented 68 registered 13s players
- Positive Coaching Workshop with SALT (Sports and Life Training)
- Positive Parenting in Sports Workshop with SALT
- First Aid Course for our Coaches and Team Managers
- Umpiring workshop with Karen Bennett which was well attended
- We had a bunch of Gully umpires stand up and take the court to help with the umpire shortage we had throughout the year
- Jade Ruighaver be awarded the Knox City Council's Junior Club Person of the Year at the 2023 Sport & Leisure Awards
- First NAIDOC week round
- A great Winter season with 6 Grand Finalists and 3 Premiers (13 Misty Blue, 13 Marine Blue and Open 3 Slate Blue)
- An excellent Spring season with 5 Grand Finalists and 2 Premiers (13 Blue Opals and Open Blue Jewel)
- A fantastic presentation day in a new split format at Ringwood Bowls club where we catered for approximately 350 people, with:
 - Life Membership for Phil Thorneycroft
 - Senior Club Player of the Year for Jenny Block
 - Junior Club Player of the Year for Elizabeth Collins
 - Non-Playing Club Person Award for Scott Ramsey
 - Best Club Team Award for Dusty Blue (Mods)
 - 20 years playing service for Brooke Guy
- A new format for Grading by having a separate Premier Team Trials in November

A big thanks to all our coaches this year, especially our head coaches Jenny Block and Hayley Mettes and all our new coaches. Unfortunately, ready-made coaches don't grow on trees, and all new coaches must start somewhere. We appreciate the support and understanding from parents of our new coaches as they gain experience. Without the dedication of our coaches, it wouldn't be possible to put all our teams on the court.

Thanks also to all our:

- Team Managers (for organising scorers, team hampers, making sure players know where they're supposed to be each week, making sure parents know where they're supposed to be each week),
- Scorers - especially those navigating the new Netball Connect app on their phones, and the fun times we have chasing down the umpires to let them know when the quarters have finished, and
- Parents and spectators (getting players to games, putting out goal posts, putting out rubbish bins, general all-round support of our teams through all kinds of weather and conditions).

It's been another huge year for the committee and I thank each and every one of you for all the hard work you've put in this year to make the club run smoothly. We're very lucky to have such a fantastic group of committee members committed to making the club as best as it can be. We are always looking for more volunteers to assist whatever time they can give, big or small. If ever there was a great time to get involved in the running of the club - now would be it. We'd love to have you!

Finally - we would just like to acknowledge the service of 3 special members who went above and beyond:

- **Melissa Murphy** who took on an enormous role with the club this year under somewhat trying circumstances at times. Melissa not only took over the Uniforms role at the beginning of the season, she also put her hand up to coach numerous teams during the year and volunteered to fill the Secretary position at the end of the season when it became vacant.
- **Elly Koster** is leaving us and Melbourne's weather for the Sunshine Coast. Elly and her family have been instrumental in setting up, promoting and running our MOGS Ministars program in addition to coaching Mods, 11s and 18s teams throughout the year. We are truly grateful for Elly's selfless contributions and look forward to seeing her impact on the club for years to come.
- After 5 years (it's been so long we've possibly lost count!) **Zoe Ruighaver** is stepping down as Secretary of the club. It's incredible how much time and effort Zoe has put into the club over that period to keep everything running smoothly and ensuring everyone is catered for. Zoe has certainly had a massive impact on the club and we wouldn't be where we are without her valued contribution. Zoe - the club owes you a huge debt of gratitude and we hope to see you around the courts enjoying the fruits of your labour!

Here's looking forward to another successful season in 2024.

Scott Ramsey
President

Treasurers Report

01 November 2022 to 31 October 2023

2022-23 was another productive financial year for FTG Netball Club. As can be seen from the financial statement, there was a significant increase in most categories of both income and expenditure in comparison to the previous financial year. This can be attributed to the financial year being the first full year unaffected by covid, and by the increase in club membership and all associated income/expenses.

Whilst figures on the profit and loss statement are generally as expected, it should be noted:

Fee income was significantly increased from \$45,455 in 2021-22 to \$65,689 in 2022-23. This can be attributed to an increase in club membership, although must be noted that the 2021-22 was below normal due to the use of credits to pay fees following covid.

Court hire costs were significantly lower than expected. This is due to the construction at the centre, resulting in court hire charges being reduced for the majority of the year. With all indoor courts now available and a council-imposed increase to court hire this year, we expect this figure to at least double in the current financial year.

Competition fees and **umpiring fees** both increased significantly due to an increase in players, and therefore teams. We expect a further increase in these costs this year due to a further increase in player numbers.

Coaching expenses have increased with the employment of both Head coach and A grade coaching roles.

There was a slight reduction in income and expenses related to **Presentation Day** due to the change of venue, making the event more affordable for members.

Uniform sales and expenditure were both increased, indicating an increase in activity in this area with new members and members updating their uniform.

Activity/achievements:

The Xero accounting system continued to run smoothly last year, with the introduction of invoicing for both the Winter and Spring seasons. This made fee collection a more streamlined process with higher percentage of payments made by the start of each season. There are still a number of players (approx. 15%) requiring follow up for payment of fees well into the season.

Towards the end of the year a Square reader device was purchased, allowing on the spot credit card payments to be made. This was particularly useful on Grading day for the purchase of uniforms. It would be beneficial next year to use this to capture fee payments on grading day as well.

As advised at last AGM, the club was officially deregistered for GST.

In December 2023, the club opened an account with Bendigo Bank. This was done to provide the club with better financial support and access to the community grants provided by Bendigo Bank. Over the coming weeks we will begin to transfer money from the current accounts into the Bendigo Bank account. A term deposit will again be set up with Bendigo Bank. The Commonwealth Bank

account will remain open for a period of time to allow members to adjust to the change when making payments.

Future activity/projects:

With the increase in court hire costs and competition expenses, as well as increases to other general expenses, a review of fees will be completed during the course of this year to determine whether changes need to be made to fees for 2025.

Erin Tucker
Treasurer



Registration Secretary Report

2023 was another very successful year for the Ferntree Gully Netball Club. For Winter Season we had a total of 244 players and for Spring 222 players.

We have encouraged more players to start netball with our MOGS Ministars group again, even forming a mods team for the spring season. We are looking forward to another fun year ahead for some new little players.

We had constant registration enquiries all year long, I was able to accommodate most enquiries and get players filled into teams.

We had another year of using Netball Connect for our NVM registrations, which is working well, only a few having issues. Most of those due to choosing MDNA as their organisation rather than Ferntree Gully.

The live scoring on the Netball Connect app became the only way to score for the Spring Season. It seemed to work well and having scores live on the app was good for the community to keep up to date with many of our clubs' teams.

I would like to say thank you to the committee for once again supporting me in the role of Registration Secretary.

Kara Fogel
Registration Secretary

Uniform Officers Report

Last year we saw one of our biggest seasons with a record number of players and teams taking the court. Training tops are still being actively worn by the players and it's also great to see our coaches all wearing them on game day and at training.

2023 saw yet again numerous supply issues with Energetic. They often didn't send the right items or had me chasing them up on orders. Our TAT agreements were constantly not met, and some orders took up to three months to receive and that was after constant harassment by me trying to get answers.

The quality of our training tops has been abysmal. Many have not lasted the season, getting pulls and in some cases tears. Energetics when questioned could only say it must have been a bad batch. They did not offer to replace the damaged ones.

The close of the 2023 season saw many players outgrowing the training top they were initially supplied with. The committee decided to charge \$10 for a replacement brand new training top for current players. If they wanted to swap theirs for another 2nd hand one, there would be no charge. New players still receive a training top for free upon registration.

We have had many more female players take up the option to wear the shorts and tee options. It appears to be a trend mainly in the 11's with a few in the other age groups wearing them.

Just when things started to work, and I was getting my orders on time and correct we had a change in account managers. This has not been ideal. The new account manager is hard to get in contact with, doesn't respond to emails, sends incorrect items, or bills me incorrectly.

Due to the numerous problems we have had over the past few years with Energetics, the committee decided to investigate alternative uniform suppliers.

We continue to receive the MOG sponsorship that went towards buying new training tops to top up current supplies for new players.

Melissa Murphy
Uniform Officer

Sponsorship and Grants Report

This year we have had a change of sponsors for our weekly awards with awards from Montania restaurant being handed out this season (previous years we have had Belgravia and Grill'd).

We ran the positive parenting workshop in May which was funded from a grant received in 2022 and we received some very positive feedback about the content.

We were successful in our application for the Knox Council Minor Grant in which we requested funding for First Aid Training and Specialist Coaching Courses- 3-part series. The first aid training was held in August and was very informative. The specialist coaching courses ran in July with another in the coming weeks.

We were not successful in our application the Active Kids Grant in which we requested \$2,273 for 30 Custom Ignite Netball Size 5, 30 HART Ultra Netball Size 4 and 10 HART Coaching Board Folders but are hoping to reply in 2024.

The club is looking at developing some sponsorship packages aimed at local businesses that will provide varying levels of advertising depending on the package purchased. Packages will range in price from \$500 to \$2,500. Watch this space to find out who will be jumping on board!

Lauren Elsaman
Sponsorship and Grant Development Co-ordinator

Umpire Convenor's Report

The previous season has been challenging to fill umpiring positions, particularly in later time slots, which resulted in games being cancelled or only 1 umpire supervising the game. Since moving to a centralised system, whereby Mountain District Netball Association source, train and allocate umpires to games. Tracking Ferntree Gully umpires and their ability has become more difficult. However, with the appointment of Alyssa Guadino as MDNA umpire coordinator. Ferntree Gully will receive a list of all FTG umpires, their accreditations and details, to better track and encourage past and emerging umpires, after grading concludes.

In the 2023 season, we ran a 4-week introduction to umpiring course during 13's training led by Karen Bennett, and A badged umpire Taylah Bennett. With plans to again run an introduction to umpiring session(s) with all 15's players, to encourage them to begin their umpiring journey. MDNA's first umpiring seminar will commence in May 2024.

Prior to the commencement of the 2024 season, past player and A badge umpire Amy Gifford presented the new rules to the 13's, 15's and 18's+. Amy's presentation was well received and gave insight into the available strategies of the new rules.

Kind regards,
Hayley Mettes:



Coaches Convenor Report

The 2024 winter season started very successfully with all teams obtaining coaches quite easily thanks to the FTG netball community. We have 30 teams this season:

- 1 Mini stars team with a coach & 2 assistant coaches
- 3 modified teams - 1 team has an assistant coach
- 5 under 11s teams - 4 teams with assistant coaches
- 8 under 13s teams - 4 teams with assistant coaches
- 5 under 15s teams - 1 team with an assistant coach
- 2 under 18s teams
- 3 open teams
- 2 A grade team
- 1 A reserve team

Having teams with assistant coaches is a great opportunity for our junior co-coaches to gain experience alongside a more knowledgeable and confident coach. It's also a good chance for our younger players to have relationships with older players encouraging club spirit and keeping our players involved in netball. There has been a decrease in assistant coaches this year due to time clashes.

All new coaches were encouraged to join the Coaches corner Facebook group. This has been an excellent tool in sharing the weekly training plans from Hayley, Jenny and Melissa.

Looking forward to full year of netball and utilising the new complex and 4 indoor courts.

Tania Leonard
Coaches Convenor

2023 Coaches

Ferntree Gully Netball Club would like to thank all coaches that gave their time and expertise to get our teams on the court in 2023.

Coach	Winter 2023 Teams	Spring 2023 Teams
Emmy Block	Blue Bells (Mods)	
Jenny Block	Blue Gums (Mods) Marine Blue (13U)	Blue Gums (Mods)
Maddie Block	Periwinkle Blue (11U)	Periwinkle Blue (11U)
Louisa Brueckner	Misty Blue (13U)	Royal Blue (13U)
Miah Cameron		Powder Blue (11U)
Marney Chapman	Wedgewood Blue (13U)	Wedgewood Blue (13U)
Sarah Christensen	Blue Gums (Mods)	Blue Jays (11U)
Elizabeth Collins	Teal Blue (13U)	Teal Blue (13U)
Amelia Cunningham		Misty Blue (13U)
Prue Cunningham		Pacific Blue (13U)
Fiona Evans	Sea Blue (18U)	Sea Blue (18U) Turquoise Blue (Open 4)
Kath Ferrier	Blue Diamonds (18U)	
Alovi Gomes	French Blue (13U)	Pacific Blue (13U)
Clare Heaney		Periwinkle Blue (11U)
Lara James	Royal Blue (13U)	
Sophie Johnson	Blue Gums (Mods)	Blue Jays (11U)
Bethany Koster	MOGS Ministarz	MOGS Ministarz
Elly Koster	MOGS Ministarz	MOGS Ministarz Blue Berries (Mods) Blue Quartz (18U)
Summer Koppers		Blue Berries (Mods)
Ruby Leonard	Powder Blue (11U)	
Tania Leonard	Periwinkle Blue (11U) Crystal Blue (15U) Blue Jewel (Open 1)	Blue Jays (11U) Crystal Blue (15U) Blue Jewel (Open 2)
Hannah Makin	Dusty Blue (Mods)	Dusty Blue (11U)
Alice MacKenzie		Marine Blue (13U)
Emma Maple		Blue Gums (Mods)
Katie McPherson		Blue Bells (Mods)
Winnie McPherson		Blue Bells (Mods)
Hayley Mettes	Blue Gems (A Res)	Blue Gems (A Res)
Jaki Mitchell	MOGS Ministarz	
Alyssa Moxham		Blue Diamonds (18U) Blue Sapphires (A Grade)
Melissa Murphy	Blue Bells (Mods) Blue Topaz (11U) Aquamarine Blue (13U)	Blue Topaz (11U) Misty Blue (13U)
Saorla Lucas	MOGS Ministarz	
Sophie Read	Kingfisher Blue (11U)	Kingfisher Blue (11U)
Robby Reid	Midnight Blue (15U) Coral Blue (18U)	Midnight Blue (15U) Sea Blue (18U)
Emma Robertson	Powder Blue (11U)	Powder Blue (11U)
Jade Ruighaver	Blue Opals (13U)	Aquamarine Blue (13U)
Lynette Saltum	Slate Blue (Open 2)	Slate Blue (Open 3)
Faith Thorneycroft		Blue Opals (13U)
Phil Thorneycroft	French Blue (13U) Blue Quartz (18U)	Blue Opals (13U)
Hannah Tucker		Kingfisher Blue (11U)
Lorelei Waite	Dusty Blue (Mods)	Dusty Blue (11U)
Naomi Yates	Blue Sapphires (A Grade)	

2023 Season Awards

Congratulations to the following 2023 Award winners.

Club Awards

Junior Player Club Award	Elizabeth Collins
Senior Player Club Award	Jenny Block
Non-Playing Club Person Award	Scott Ramsey

Best and Fairest, Runner Up Best & Fairest and Coaches Awards

Team	Best & Fairest	Runner/s Up	Coaches Award
13/1 Blue Opals	Olivia Leonard	Hannah Tucker	Marlo Smith
13/1 Wedgewood Blue	Addison Chapman	Madeleine Collins	Jade Jones
13/2 Marine Blue	Charlotte Everetts	Hayden Brady	Millie Orr
13/2 Aquamarine Blue	Alicia Ferrier	Eleanor Antemes	Charlotte Hogan
13/3 Misty Blue	Adlyn Tan	Ashley Kiss	Isabella Koster
13/3 Royal Blue	Sharn Mackenzie	Mia Pereira	Ayla Cassidy
13/4 French Blue	Isla Cunningham	Bella Oates	Ashley Thomas
13/4 Teal Blue	Dakota Edmond	Kisali Vaz Gunawardena	Maddison Andriotakis
15/1 Crystal Blue	Sophie Johnson	Miah Cameron	Lacey Quirk
15/2 Midnight Blue	Mikayla Anchen	Jade Hayman	Amelia Cunningham
18/1 Blue Diamonds	Holly Macallan	Krishna Chand	Alovi Gomes
18/1 Sea Blue	Jaimee Keppert	Chloe Hofer	Evie Oswald
18/2 Coral Blue	Ella Reid	Allegra Castro	Ashlea Russell
18/3 Blue Quartz	Lily Evans	Zoe Christensen	Bethany Koster
A Grade Blue Sapphires	Jorja Wragg	Annabel Zammit	Chelsea Martin
A Reserve Blue Gems	Jenny Block	Elizabeth Collins	Ellie Dimitriadis
Open 1 Blue Jewel	Kara Fogel	Kylie Devlin	Mylee James
Open 3 Slate Blue	Sarah Godino	Laura Campbell	Megan Gittus

Sponsors

Ferntree Gully Netball Club would like to thank our sponsors for their support in 2023:

