



# Junior Representative Program 2015 Yearbook



# Representative Committee Report

The 2014/15 season was the most successful for Rockhampton Basketball in recent years. Rockhampton finished 9<sup>th</sup> in the Vince Hickey Award for the Champion Association at the State Championships. This is a great result with the association striving to maintain the balance between winning and developing all of our future players. We also had two teams in three age groups this year, U18B, U16B and U16G. This makes it the largest contingent of players that Rockhampton has sent away to State Championships in recent years.

Our teams were again led by a willing group of coaches. We thank them for their time and effort over the season. Our two rookie coaches Jason Mayer (U14G) and Trent Shillington (U12G) were also our best placed teams, finishing 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> in their respective Division 1 age groups at the State Championships.

In order to find more competition during the season some of the teams went searching abroad. The U12G, U16B and U18.2B went to Emerald in September. Competition over the two days was against Emerald, Blackwater, Gladstone and Rockhampton. Emerald became re-affiliated with Basketball Queensland this year so some teams will be travelling there for a CDC next season. Others teams took advantage of the weather and visited the Sunshine Coast in January. The U14G, U16.1G, U16.2G and U14B played against Noosa, Sunshine Coast and Ipswich over the weekend.

The representative committee is continually looking to improve the program and respond to needs of our members. 2015 saw a significant change to the accommodation model used by the U12 and U14 teams when they travel for competitions where the players remained the responsibility of their parents. In some age groups the parents arranged to stay at the same motel, allowing the players to bond and the parents to socialise. The intention is to continue with this model again in 2016.

Another first this year was the introduction of Stadium Scoring by Basketball Queensland at State Championships. Whilst we were only able to provide access to the system for a few weeks prior to Christmas for the U18's, most people found it to be user friendly. We even had some people take on scoring responsibility that had never done it before. Two small scoring sessions were also run including the 24 second shot clock prior to teams going away at Easter.

This was the second year that Basketball Queensland has selected a Central Queensland Emerging teams for U15 and U17. Many Rockhampton players were again successful in gaining selection. The Emerging teams travel to the USA in July 2015 for competitions. A full list of State achievements is available below.

We also took the opportunity to bring Leonard King (High Performance Director, BQ) and Scott Butler (State Performance Manager – North, BQ) to Rockhampton during the U12, U14 & U16 CDC in March. This provided an opportunity for Leonard and Scott to run clinics with our regional coaches at the one time. We will endeavour to bring similar high profile coaches next season to continue the development of our coaches.

The referee's weren't left out either with Matt Skinner (Referee Development Manager, BQ) setting up the CQ Referee Development Program. The first session was held in Gladstone prior to Easter and the second in Rockhampton in May. A third session is planned for Bundaberg later in the year. Several of our top referee's were selected to attend State Championships this year. A list of these can be found in the table below.

Finally, some thanks. This year saw several new faces on our junior representative committee. We would like to acknowledge their efforts and time they have contributed to organising CDC's, finances, equipment, forms, accommodation, buses etc. We also thank the previous committee members for their contribution over the past years.

To the parents for your effort in getting the players to training, competitions, doing the scorebench and supporting your child in their sporting interests.

A big thanks also to *The Capricornian* for their continued support of the Junior Representative program.

### Team Results and Officials

Team	Placing	Coach	A/Coach	Manager
U12 Boys	1 <sup>st</sup> Div 2 (13/31)	Peter Voltz	Ben Greany	Jodie Grayson
U12 Girls	5 <sup>th</sup> Div 1 (5/21)	Trent Shillington	Sarah Anderson	Jennifer Frazer
U14 Boys	9 <sup>th</sup> Div 2 (21/40)	Darren Richardson	Damien Hogan	Mick Schneider
U14 Girls	4 <sup>th</sup> Div 1 (4/33)	Jason Mayer	Louise Muggeridge	Kristin Horsley
U16/1 Boys	3 <sup>rd</sup> Div 2 (15/40)	Wayne Stevens	Steven walsh	Letella Prior
U16/2 Boys	12 <sup>th</sup> Div 3 (36/40)	Andy Meyers	Kyle Zulian	Julie Easton
U16/1 Girls	10 <sup>th</sup> Div 1 (10/30)	Gayle Lorroway	Adrienne Dyer	Denise Nasser
U16/2 Girls	10 <sup>th</sup> Div 2 (22/30)	Alex Brady	Chloe Morrow	Sue Collins
U18/1 Boys	9 <sup>th</sup> Div 1 (9/36)	Paul Christensen	Prop Abram	Ross Hinz
U18/2 Boys	2 <sup>nd</sup> Div 3 (26/36)	Gareth Munro	Barry Brady	Donna Zulian
U18 Girls	8 <sup>th</sup> Div 1 (8/24)	Chris Muggeridge	Naomi Cage	Naomi Clark

## Referee's at State Championships

U18	Adam Morrow
U16 Boys	Adam Morrow Matt Neason
U14 Boys	Kyle Zulian
U14 Girls	Ryan Johnson Will Meyers Shannan Muggeridge
U12	Isabella Hannay  Paten Honeyman Hayden Morrow

## 2015 State Representative Players

Congratulations to the following athletes who were selected to the 2015 State and Emerging teams.

	<b>Girls</b>	<b>Boys</b>
<b>U18 North State</b>	Briana Bailey Sarai Power	Damon Christensen
Reserves	Anna Dyer	Leon Christensen Nicolas Magnussen Bailey Meyers
<b>U17 North Emerging</b>	Anna Dyer Shannan Muggeridge	Leon Christensen Nicolas Magnussen Bailey Meyers
Reserves	Kaitlyn Hill Kiah Guinea	
<b>U16 North State</b>		Frazer Roberts
Reserves	Jessica Lorroway Katelyn Lynch	
<b>U15 Central Emerging</b>	Charmian Cronin-Stacey Leteisha Hare Jessica Lorroway Katelyn Lynch Natika Magnussen Talayah O'Meara	Flynn Phelan Israel Power Mylique Prior Tyreek Tatow
Reserves	Ellie Nasser	Jacob Mehrton
<b>Future Development Program</b>	Aliah Bernabei Akaysha Muggeridge	

# 2015 Junior Representative

## Award Winners

### Under 12 Girls

Most Outstanding - Maddison Mayer  
Most Improved - Taylor Cavanagh

### Under 12 Boys

Most Outstanding - Lleyton Muggeridge  
Most Improved - Jack Grayson

### Under 14 Girls

Most Consistent - Tianna Mayer  
Most Improved - Emily Horsley

### Under 14 Boys

Most Consistent - Chandler Halliday  
Most Improved - Will Searles

### Under 16 Girls (1)

Most Consistent - Jessica Lorroway  
Most Improved- Elizabeth Hills

### Under 16 Girls (2)

Most Consistent - Madeline Telford  
Most Improved- Alicia Smyth

### Under 16 Boys (1)

Most Outstanding - Frazer Roberts  
Most Improved- Joel Hick

### Under 16 Boys (2)

Most Consistent - Jacob Mehrton  
Most Improved- Jaidyn Burnell

### Under 18 Girls

Most Outstanding - Brianna Bailey  
Most Consistent - Anna Dyer

### Under 18 Boys (1)

Most Outstanding - Damon Christensen  
Most Improved- William Bauman

### Under 18 Boys (2)

Most Outstanding - Kyle Zulian  
Most Consistent - Warwick Cronin-Stacey

## Rockhampton U12 Girls 2015 Representative Team Report



We had a very successful Representative season culminating with finishing 5<sup>th</sup> in the State at our State Championships in Townsville. Over the course of the season the team has improved significantly not only individually but also in the way they played as a team. Every player on the team contributed which allowed us to be such a success as a group.

In Townsville we played some difficult opposition teams such as Ipswich, Gold Coast, Cairns, Townsville, Spartans and Logan. Our first game of the competition was against Ipswich, who were the eventual Silver Medallists; we went down by 7 points in this game. We played the Gold Coast in our second game, who ended up being the Gold Medallists, we lost by 30 points, but the girls never gave up and continue fighting right to the very end. Our third game against Townsville was our first win of the competition; this was fantastic for the girls as it highlighted how well we played as a team. During the crossover games we played both Cairns and the Spartans. We went down to Cairns by 7 points but we were leading for most of the game. Our second win of the carnival came when we played the Southern District Spartans; we eventually won this game by 18 points. This put us in the position to be playing for 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> against Logan. This was fantastic game which showed the girls 'never give up attitude' as the lead changed regularly throughout the quarters. In the end due to the defensive pressure of the team and some big offensive moments we won by 9 points.

I am extremely proud of each of the ten girls who were part of this team. The improvement I noticed in each and every one of them over the course of this season was remarkable to see and they should be very proud of their efforts.

Finally I would like to recognise all the people who have helped me this season, because the success we had is largely due to your assistance. Firstly, my wonderful manager Jenny Fraser, your help and organisation made my job much easier and I am very grateful for this. Secondly, thank you to Sarah Anderson, my assistant coach, your dedication to the improvement of the team was fantastic and we could not have achieved what we did without this and I'm sure the girls will agree with me on that too. Also I would like to say a very big thank you to all the parents of the girls. We wouldn't have been able to achieve the result we did without your support and dedication in getting the girls to training sessions, games and carnivals. Last but certainly not least I would like to congratulate the girls, Maddy, Tiarna, Taylor, Eryn, Briella, Ella, Kaylah, Sophie, Paige and Chloe. I have enjoyed coaching you this season and I wish you all the best in your continuing Rep years.

**Trent Shillingotn**  
Head Coach



## Rockhampton U12 Boys 2015 Representative Team Report



The 2015 U12 Boys Rep season was once again an enjoyable time for all involved with the team.

The goal of the team was to play in Division 1 at the State Championships. This didn't eventuate due to inconsistent games throughout the Central District Carnivals (CDCs). For the coaches and parents it was a bit like Forrest Gump's box of chocolates, we never knew what we would get for each game we played.

We lost and won games against both Gladstone and Bundaberg but in the end Gladstone won one more game than us. This meant we were relegated to Division 2, which in the end turned out to be a good thing.

One of the reason for the inconsistencies during the CDCs was the coaches noticed the Fast Break we initially taught the boys was not working effectively. This would have eventually limited the boy's capability to score at the State Championships. It was decided after the Bundaberg CDC to make a change to the Fast Break, so it had not become a habit for the team during the Rockhampton CDC. This is one reason why we didn't perform as well against Gladstone as we might have. But during our game against Bundaberg the team showed what they were capable of when they played as a team and won by 30 points.

At the State Championships the team continued to play the team game they had played against Bundaberg. They became one of the most consistent performing teams the coach had taken to any State Championship. There was just one game (Cairns) that the team didn't perform to the level they expected of themselves. Apart from that, the quality of teamwork the boys played with was of a very high standard. There were comments from other coaches and parents who were impressed with how well the boys worked together.

This teamwork resulted in an average of almost 80 points per game and holding the opposition to an average of less than 40 points per game. It also enabled the team to go through Division 2 undefeated and eventually win a Gold medal. This was a well-deserved result from a team who had worked hard at training plus listened to and executed what the coaches asked them to do during the State Championships.

From a coaches perspective the Division 2 Grand Final was one of the best games to be involved with because it showed how far the boys had improved during the season. Prior to the game the coaches showed the boys a slight change to the fast break and half-court offence to enable them to beat the Redlands defence. The players all ran the offence extremely well. We also set specific goals for our defence and again they did this very well.

The team was also warned that if we were winning, at some stage, Redlands would change their defence and we would need to change our offence accordingly. Redlands did eventually change their defence and without the coaches saying anything the boys made the required change to their offense. For an U12 boys' team this was quite impressive to watch.

The team would like to thank all the parents for their ongoing help and support, all season. Thanks to Matt Neason for all his extra coaching and assistant throughout the season. Also a special thanks to the U12 girls for training with the U12 boys and for the great cheerleading during the boys games.

**Peter Voltz**  
Head Coach

## Rockhampton U14 Girls 2015 Representative Team Report



The 2015 Under 14 Girls Rockhampton Representative season was a very enjoyable season. It started slowly on the training court with numbers low due to other sports and injuries. Once the first CDC came around we were training well and it continued on the court with a dominate performance against some weak opposition . The introduction of the Representative teams being allowed to play in the higher age Club Competition was the best thing , allowing our side to get tough games against bigger and stronger girls. We developed quickly with good team play each week getting better and stronger. The next two CDCs we dominated only getting tough games from our Club Competition . We would also like to thank the Under 16 Div1 & Div2 girls and Under 14 boys for the hard fought , valuable practice games r leading up to classics. State Classics started slow losing our first game. We then won our next three games building confidence . Losing our last game to the eventual Gold medalist we finished 2nd in our pool. We played 2 tough final games losing both but never giving up and just losing both. Finishing 4th overall was pleasing and the girls should be proud of their efforts. I would like to thank the Players & Parents for their support & commitment throughout the year.

A special thanks goes to our assistant coach Louise Muggeridge, her thoughts, knowledge & comments unbelievable . To Kristan Horsley our manager what a great job. It was run so smoothly . Thanks lady's .

Jason Mayer.  
Head Coach



## Rockhampton U14 Boys 2015 Representative Team Report

At the completion of the CDC's the U14 boys finished second on the ladder behind Bundaberg with an overall 6 and 4 record. The 4 losses were to Bundaberg who are a very talented Division 1 side. It was the result's against Bundaberg which pleased me the most, with 2 of the losses being by only 11 and 14 points. This has been an unbelievable improvement from 2 years prior where the same team defeated the Rocky boys by a mere 80 points! I am extremely proud of this degree of improvement and I hope when we meet again the boys can notch up an elusive win.

As a result of the second place finish in the CDC, the boys competed in the Division 2 competition of the state championships in Brisbane. They performed creditably throughout the championships coming away with a 4 and 3 record placing them 9<sup>th</sup> in Division 2 out of 28 teams. Our result against Mackay, who were the eventual gold medal winners of division 2, was the game where we played some of our best basketball of the week and our losing margin of 11 points was the closest any team came throughout the championships.



I wish to congratulate the boys on their commitment to the season as I observed significant progression in the boys both individually as well as a team. In all of the games and no matter the situation, they played hard till the final siren and never gave up. I would also like to thank the support of the parents enabling them to participate at this level as it is a long commitment.

I would like to acknowledge the efforts of our assistant coach "Hoges", who was always there and took a load off my shoulders! Thanks Hoges, it was much appreciated.

Finally I would like to sincerely thank our team manager Mick Schneider. He literally had all of the logistics taken care of for every game. His tireless efforts are extremely appreciated by myself, Hoges, the team and parents.

In conclusion, I have thoroughly enjoyed the boys company and I really hope that we have contributed to the progression of their junior basketball careers.

Darren Richardson  
Head Coach

## Rockhampton U16 (1) Girls 2015 Representative Team Report

Our season began with a squad of 18. After a couple of personnel changes, for the first time numbers were maintained and Rocky U16G fielded both Div.1 & Div.2 teams at the State Championships. Special thanks to our Div.2 members for their efforts. Alex Brady (Coach), Chloe Morrow (Assistant Coach), Sue Collins (Manager), our 7 Rocky players, Tori (Emerald) & Laken (Gladstone), for ensuring our Div.2 team remained full and competitive. Alex & Chloe are a fantastic coaching team. Their players performed admirably under their leadership, and all squad members benefited greatly from your participation.

**Season Disappointments:** Unfortunately for us, the lack of competition in our CDC age group, and the fact that Rocky was not allowed to compete in the QNJBC competition as in previous years, really limited our competitive game experience. But ... we managed to train through and along with help from fellow Rocky Rep players, Coaches and Referees, we organised as many extra games as possible. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

**Season Highlight:-** U16G Div.1 was allowed to compete in ... the Rocky CDC U18G competition (3 wins from 4 games); the QNJBC U18G Div.2 competition (2 wins from 3 games); & the Rocky Div.1 Women's Summer Blitz season.

In January, 13 girls attended the NQ State Trials in Townsville. 8 were selected in the State Performance Program. After the State Championships, 7 of these players were then selected to represent Qld, 2 as Reserves for North Qld State & Central Emerging, 4 as Central Emerging, and 1 as Emerging Reserve. Congratulations to you all.

Also in January, Suncoast Clippers Maroochydore Association assisted Rocky by organising a mini competition for our U12, U14, U16G Div.1 & Div.2, & U14B teams. U16G1 competed against 2 BQJBC Premier League teams - Ipswich & Sunshine Coast RIP that week-end. Even though we had 3 losses, we improved every game and showed we would be competitive. These games were the only Div.1 competition we had all season til State Championships.

### Rockhampton U16G Div.1 Team - State Championships 7-11 April in Mackay

**To our Division 1 players** ... I am very proud of you. You stayed committed and pushed through no matter what. Your growth and improvement is a wonderful achievement. As a result, you proved to be very competitive at States.

7 very tough games were played. Although there were some tough losses in the rounds, we also had some very close finishes. On numerous occasions, opposition coaches commented just how much their team enjoyed playing our team. They appreciated your sportsmanship, courage, team effort, fighting spirit, and never-give-in attitude. Our build up led to your wonderful Semi-Final win against SD Titans (66-57), and another close 2 point loss to Brisbane in the Playoffs, achieving our 10<sup>th</sup> place finish in Division 1.



Well Done!! Good luck with your future participation.

Thank you also to Adrienne Dyer (Assistant Coach), and Denise Nasser (Manager) for their support throughout.

Gayle Lorraway  
Head Coach

## Rockhampton U16 Girls (2) 2015 Representative Team

Day one of the state championships began in great form with the girls gaining a win in their first game against Toowoomba. We then faced a challenging game against Mackay and despite our best efforts Mackay came away victorious. Day two rolled out in a similar fashion with a win against Sunshine Coast in the morning followed by a loss to the Gold Coast.

We then went on to win our next four games convincingly, setting us up to play off for ninth and tenth in Division Two. The girls had improved in great strides each game however our final game against Ipswich was sure to be a tough one. It was obvious that fatigue played a factor in our loss in this game but true to form at no point did the girls stop playing, something that Chloe and I are most proud of as it was a message we had emphasised throughout the tournament.

Effort on effort, never stop playing and BOX OUT are phrases I'm sure the girls will recall as they were repeated countless times during the week. Although our boxing out still needs plenty of attention, they did show improvement and they really took on board these messages. Their coachability throughout the tournament was commendable. We also emphasised the girls reading the game and showing maturity in their decision making on the court. It's pleasing to report that as the tournament progressed the girls really began to show their 'basketball smarts' (most of the time) whether it be by recognising what type of defence the opponent was in and which offence to run or decision making when the shot clock was on the countdown.

The under 16 girls improved tremendously throughout this rep season especially during the state championships. Chloe and I have set the challenge to the girls to continue on this path of improvement by always working hard at every opportunity they have, whether it be a club game or a training session. By pushing each other they will all benefit and be better prepared for their next rep season.

A special thanks must go to the parents of this group. It was wonderful to see so many of you at the tournament. Cheering loudly, which was always positive and encouraging even to our opponants. And how could we forget thaeawesome mexican waves you all had happening!

On a final note, a big thank you to Sue (Manager) and Chloe (Assistant Coach/Bella's bestie). The girls and I would not have made it through the tournament without you! You were both invaluable. I would also like to thank Gayle for your tireless efforts. You really do go above and beyond for the teams you're involved with and I took great comfort in your support and guidance.





## Rockhampton U16 (1) Boys 2015 Representative Team Report



The Rockhampton U/16 Boys Team travelled to the Gold Coast for the 2015 State Championships. The Team was competing with 28 other Teams in Division 2/3 and finished with 7 wins, 2 losses and coming away with a win in the Bronze Medal game.

Having beaten Burdekin Wildcats, Logan Storm and Sunshine Coast Rip 2 in the pool round the only loss came to Southern Districts Titans by 5 points. This meant we competed in Division 2 for the rest of the Championships.

Finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> in our Pool had us playing cross over games against Gold Coast Breakers and South West Metro Pirates Gold. Pirates was an extremely tough game but the boys showed they could finish off a game strongly.

The Quarter Final was against Toowoomba Mountaineers who were a big team but we held a good lead throughout most of the game. The Semi Final was against our CDC rivals Gladstone. Our first quarter was not the best so after trailing by double digits it stayed even for the next 3 quarters. Gladstone went on to win the Gold Medal.

A playoff for Bronze was our reward for a good carnival and by chance it was against our only other loss of the tournament in the pool round, Southern Districts Titans. We saved our worst half of basketball for the Final and were down 14 going into the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. The coaching staff concentrated on having a new ring to shoot at and the players saved their best half of basketball for the Final, finishing with a double digit win.

We had outstanding team play throughout the carnival with every player contributing to the success of the Classics. Everyone scored and everyone played defense. Having Frazer Roberts in the middle meant we grabbed most rebounds and his defensive play against positions 1 to 5 was one of the reasons he was our MVP. Ryan Johnson defended everyone we told him to without question. We relied on him being able to shut down his player and he never disappointed. Jaxson Zulian was the back up point guard that pushed his way into the starting 5 by increasing his control over the tempo of the game along with his overall offensive impact. 2 first years started with Israel Power, a point guard who could create for both the Team and himself. More credit should be given to his defense as it was relied on heavily during the Classics. The other was Flynn Phelan who came from the end of the bench to starting due to his high energy and ability to guard much larger opponents. The sacrifices he made for the team should not be forgotten. Josh Ellsworth ended up being the Team high scorer with 20.4 points per game. He had big games during the Finals that kept the score ticking over and his team in the contest. James Matheson was our offense off the bench. Having made some big scores in the Classics and hit 3 big 3's in the Final, but it was his defense during that game that made it hard to take him off. Joel Hick was our most improved player during the Rep Season. He had the most consistent inside outside shooting and guarded much bigger players, earning himself more and more minutes. Mylique Prior was originally selected for his offensive ability. During the Classics he became our defensive stopper and had a big impact on shutting down Southern Districts 3 point shooter during the Bronze Medal game. Then we had Tyreek Tatow. Unfortunately he was nursing an injury but still managed to hit 3's and get a couple of rebounds.

Special note to Frazer Roberts for making the Northern State Squad and to Israel Power, Flynn Phelan, Mylique Prior and Tyreek Tatow for making the Northern Emerging State Squad. Best of luck at the next level.

And lastly a bit thanks has to go to Letella and Jack Prior. Without them we would not have had such a successful carnival. Cheers.

Wayne Stevens  
Head Coach

## Rockhampton U16 (2) Boys 2015 Representative Team Report



A great representative year for this group of kids!!! With the Division 1 team being finalised it meant that there were a large group of very keen and skilled kids who wouldn't going to get a State Classics experience without a second team. Importantly, this group was far from a second team!!! They played and enjoyed the sport of basketball like true professionals.

The journey started with initial training which remained a joint process with Wayne driving all of the Under 16 age group to bigger and better things, as well as challenging them all with skill improvements and creating a better understanding of the game of basketball. This delivered an critical platform for me to mould these individuals into a team.

Next were the CDC's... A wonderful opportunity to play the full range of skill sets and benchmark our performance to guide what our training goals needed to be as we worked towards the Classics. Some great team and individual performances were achieved, while not delivering too many wins, it generated the start of the team bond that we all enjoyed throughout the remainder of the representative session. The CDC's also cemented the limits and boundaries around how we worked together when off the court and with Julie Easton as Manager nothing was every going to go wrong. Julie ensured that we were always more than adequately looked after. Only one real incident when we found we were one man (child...) down after an incorrect head count but as it was made quite clear this error was definitely my fault!! (and it was!!) Said child was found safe and sound, roaming the streets looking for food scraps...

The training intensity continued again with the assistance of Wayne and of course my great assistant coach Kyle Zullian. Kyle stepped up when the opportunity presented itself and his input and growth as a coach was invaluable to the teams progression toward the Classics.

At the Classics the team was treated to a truly memorable range of life and sporting experiences!! The intensity of each game... The learnings of what it takes to win at that level... The levels of personal consistency and commitment... are all now pathways for improvements for all of the team members and coaching staff alike. Again, our win loss record wasn't what we had hoped but I can confirm that there was not a single player how didn't provide the team and themselves with multiple memorable moments on and off the court!!

Again, special thanks to Kyle and Julie!!! Nothing short of legendary efforts and the highest praise is well deserved!! Also, to Wayne for his assistance along the way.

And finally, to the boys who through their individual efforts as the session progressed have become young men!!! Thank you for your hard work and respect and I hope you carry your basketball memories forward with you to create the necessary challenges to improve and enjoy this great sport more and more in the future.

Cheers,

Andy Meyers



## Rockhampton U18 Girls 2015 Representative Team Report



The 2014/2015 season for the Rockhampton U18 girls turned out to be a successful season.

The first tournament of the year for the U18 girls was the Bundaberg CDC and the girls did not disappoint. They started the season strong with an easy win over Bundaberg. This set the trend for the rest of the Central District Carnivals as the U18 Girls continued to totally dominate and finished undefeated and qualified for Division 1 at State Championships. This was a huge achievement as this group of young athletes had never competed in Division 1 before.

The U18 Girls also competed in the QNJBC and had mixed results. Whilst competing at the QNJBC the U18 girls showed their class and come away with wins against Mackay but were defeated in very close games against Cairns and Townsville.

The 2015 Queensland trials were a huge success with six of the Rockhampton U18 Girls making the QLD squad. This was a great achievement and rewarded all of the girls for their hard work and dedication.

State Championships 2015 were a great success with the girls finishing 8<sup>th</sup> in the State and were very unlucky not to be playing off for 1 - 4 as they were narrowly defeated by 2 points to Mackay. The U18 girls competed against the best teams in Queensland and can hold their heads up high as they never gave up and played to the end in every single game.

QLD teams were announced and four Rockhampton athletes were selected for the QLD State and Northern Emerging Team being Brianna Bailey, Sarai Power, Shannan Muggeridge and Anna Dyer.

Congratulations to all of the girls for their dedication and commitment throughout 2014-2015 Representative Season. Special thanks to Naomi Cage and Naomi Clarke for their support and dedication to the team.

Chris Muggeridge

## Rockhampton U18 (1) Boys 2015 Representative Team Report



This was most of the boy's final year in Junior Basketball. This team has changed over the years but has been very successful throughout. In u12's they came 3<sup>rd</sup> in Division 1, in U14's 5<sup>th</sup> in Division 1 and U16's 5<sup>th</sup> in Division 1. Not bad for a few friends from small old Rockhampton. We were hoping for a final send off and continue the trend of the previous years, but that was not to be. Over the years we have lost 2 State players in Gedion Machando and Sheldon Whitworth, this has made it harder for this team to compete but also allowed others to progress.

Consistence was our biggest killer this year, when we played we competed with almost every team in the state, but we didn't play for 40 minutes. When the team switched on it was pretty to watch. We welcomed 2 new players in Bill Bauman and Sam Lawson to the mix this year and they were quickly embraced within the team.

We dominated the CDC and had mixed results in the Top of The North. Our State Championship results didn't really reflect the team and how close we were in each game, we ended up coming 9<sup>th</sup>. A team that we lost to by 7 points came 3<sup>rd</sup>, so it was a tough and unforgiving competition. There was an upside though, we beat Mackay convincingly in the last game, so we did save the best til last.

A fair few games we lost by 20 to 30 points but we were within a couple of points in the third quarters in most games. Injuries hurt us, as Damon hurt his ankle 5 weeks out from the comp and also got concussed in the beginning of our 3<sup>rd</sup> game. Malachi got a bad cork in the first game.

This limited their influence and most importantly their game time within all the games. The bench got to play more than they have in previous years due to this fact and was a great experience for them to play at this level of competition.

I have coached this team for 8 years and couldn't be prouder of this group from where they have come from in bottom age u12's when our first Rocky/Mackay challenge we were beaten by every team with the smallest margin being 30 pts, to turn around and then to be one of the best teams in this age group.

I will miss this group of players and the time that we have spent together on our trips and look forward to spending time with them as they become young adults. Men, I wish you well for all your future endeavours, it has been a pleasure.

I would like to thank Prop for his help, Prop was Head coach for 2 years in U14 and the first year in U16's, and then we swapped. This has been a great partnership and I have enjoyed it immensely.

I would like to thank Ross and Nicole Hinz for all their help it has been a pleasure working with them for these years.

I would like to thank the parents for bringing their kids to each and every training session and having faith in Prop and Myself to do the best by your children.

Lastly I would like to thank my wife, Rachael. She has been a rock throughout this process, she has been a great sound board, advocate and mediator all in one. Thanks.

I am unsure what next year will bring me in regards to coaching but I will always remember this group of young men and treasure it forever.

Thanks

Paul CHRISTENSEN.

## Rockhampton U18 Boys 2015 Representative Team Report

I would like to thank this seasons players for making this season possible. I would like to make special mention of Vince Balolong (Biloela) and Blake O'Donoghue (Proserpine) who joined our team from out of town and Rhett Austin later in the season to allow us to have the numbers to attend the 2015 State Championships. The parent group I had this year were a pleasure to work with and I thank them for being a part of my vision for our team and always being there to help in any way that was needed. I would like to thank my Manager Donna Zulian. Donna was not only my manager but also helped with coaching of the team in lieu of an assistant coach. Finally I would like to give my thanks to Barry Brady who took over the reins of the team for the State Championships "Classics" after I had to withdraw due to illness. Without Barry the boys would not have been able to attend and prove their potential that most of us knew they had.

Our first competition of the season was the inaugural Emerald PCYC basketball carnival in September 2014. Due to low numbers we had Jacob Mehrton from U16s play up and Jared Blanchard from the previous seasons U18s join the team. Some rust was shown being the first comp of the season but the boys quickly shook this off to go undefeated in the tournament after some close games with the Gladstone & Emerald 1 teams. To win the inaugural competition was a fantastic accomplishment for the team and a sign of things to come.

Bundaberg CDC was a tough competition for us that showed we still had some work on playing as a group and getting through our sets. It was also the first competition that Blake and Vince were able to join the team. We had some close losses to Bundaberg and some big wins against Gladstone.

Rockhampton CDC was a typical hot November tournament and without the help of Donna Zulian as manager and our parent support group we would have struggled with maintaining our high performance this weekend. We continued our dominance of the Gladstone U18 team and had some tough games against the Bundaberg U18 team and the Rockhampton U16 teams to continue to help us build for the state champs. Injuries haunted us this weekend with injuries to key players Vince and Liam.

Gladstone CDC also in November closed out our CDC tournament with some tough losses and close wins in a rollercoaster of a weekend. Some soul searching as a group led by Captain Kyle Zulian on the Saturday showed to me that as a group we had come a long way in just a few months and that the state championship teams we were to face were needing to play some good basketball to be able to beat us.

Top of the North in Mackay gave us an indication as to where we were in relation to the northern teams and the signs were very good. Although losing all games on the weekend, we as a team were able to pinpoint what had gone wrong and what we needed to fix to be able to beat these teams.

The state championships started with some early losses in the week but the boys then kicked in to gear and went on to win some important games including a 1 point win against Townsville in the semis to help them secure a place in the Gold Medal game for Division 3. The team lost the Gold Medal game to a good Toowoomba team to come home with a Silver Medal. A special mention for Rhett Austin and the enthusiasm he showed off the bench for us in all games that with his defensive play helped to turn a number of games.

The growth of these young men over the season was a pleasure to be part of as always and I'm thankful for having the opportunity to coach an amazing group of young men and to be able to help send out our top age boys with a medal from the state championships.

