***Junior Polocrosse news***

June 2019

Hi all

It has been a very busy few months since we last saw each other at the Junior Classic. I thought it might be a good idea to fill you all in on what has happened and what is still going to happen in Junior Polocrosse this year.

Junior Classic

Thank you to all those players who supported the Junior Classic which was held at the Bethal Polocrosse club over the 11th and 12th May. We had great support and 76 players entered this year.

A special thank you the Van Der Merwe and De Jager families who pulled out all stops to make sure we had a great venue and an awesome junior classic. Thank you to our main sponsor – TWK, without our sponsors polocrosse tournaments like this would not happen. Thank you to Bennetts for their donation of two polocrosse sticks for the most improved player awards. Thank you to all our coaches, Gordon Shaw, Ashleigh Shaw, Andrew Heynes, Caroline Minnaar, Sarah & Charles Van Wyk, Trent Cooper, Nick De Jong, Brad Hunter, Elri De Jager, Emma and Vicky Hall. All our teams were drawn from a hat and announced on Friday night. We had many close games and the standard of play certainly improved over the weekend. We also had 6 juniors from Zambia playing in the junior classic, thank you to all those horse owners who hired them horses for the weekend.

The A Div was won by the blue team, which was coached by Gordon Shaw, Well done to Jens Bunge, Trent Cocker, Keighley Van Wyk, Zack Hooper, Jake Shaw, Bianca Du Toit, Daniel Mawson and Sven Bunge

The B Div was won by the white team which was coached by Brad Hunter, well done to Atti Van De Nest, Carah Koekemoer, Erin Walisco, Electra Groenewald, Olivia King, Liam Classen, Luke Davis and Jonathin Thornhill

And the C Div was won by the Black team which was coached by myself, well played Melissa Olivier, Louis Nel and Theunis Van De Linde.

The following individual prizes were handed out

A Div

Best female Player – Lauren Heynes

Best Male Player- Jens Bunge

B DIV

Best Female Player – India Kragolson-Cryer

Best Male Player – T R Visser

C Div

Best Female Player – Mia Van Aardt

Best Male Player- Louis Nel (Zambia)

The Bennett polocrosse sticks were awared to -

The Most improved female player – Shana Beukes

The Most Improved Male Player – Hans Visser

2019 Tours.

As you are all aware we have a very busy line up for 2019, with an U14 tour to Zambia , an U16 Tour to the UK and an incoming Barbarian U19 Tour.

Congratulations to our U14 Team which has been selected to play against Zambia over the 9th, 10th and 11th August at the Leopards Hill Polocrosse Club in Lusaka

***The South African U14 Team :***

Hylton Choice – Captain

Amy Cocker - Vice Captain

Chloe Hatch

Lauren Heynes

Olivia King,

Fiona Lin

Megan Vorster

Ruben Vorster

Reserve – Brad Kent

Coach – Beth Maclarty

Manager – Melanie King

Congratulations to our U16 South African Team which has been selected to play against the UK U16 team at the Arden Polocrosse Club in Warwickshire over the 30th July to the 1st August 2019

**The South African U16 Team:**

Girls:

*Bianca Du Toit,*

*Nikita Gilks*

*Carah Koekemoer*

*Sydney Viljoen*

*Reserve Shanna Beukes*

*Boys:*

*Sven Bunge*

*Andrew Lynn*

*Jake Shaw*

*Jamin Schuch*

*Reserve – Angus Dick*

*Coach – Caroline Minnaar*

*Manager – Vanessa Gilks*

***PASA will be hosting an unofficial U19 Barbarian Tour in Mooi River***

This tour will be played in Mooi River over the same weekend as the Timm Memorial Tournament - 19th to the 21st July 2019.

The following U19 ladies were selected to play for South African Presidents side:

Keighley Van Wyk

Hannah Hatch,

Sam Gilson

Megan Hatch

Tayla Von Benecke

Paige Pretorius

Lauren Heynes

Amy Cocker

Reserve – Clio Strydom

Coach – Leigh Higgs

Assistant Coach – Jannie Steenkamp

Manager – Angela Schoeman

The following U19 Men were selected to play for South African Presidents side:

Chad Von Benecke

Joshua Le Roux

Keenan Classen

Jens Bunge

Robbie Anderson

Trent Cocker

Jason Fletcher

Rikus Cilliers

Reserve – Aidan Lynn

Coach – Graham Maclarty

Manager - tbc

The Barbarian Team is made up of players from all over the world,

The Barbarian Ladies Team:

Gemma Stuart – Aus

Julia Stuart - Aus,

Teagan Bristow - UK,

Grace Tye - Nz,

Lara Van De Heide - Zambia,

Inda Kragolsen- Cryer - SA,

Caitlin Cornelius - NZ

Coach – Jacquie Minnaar

Assistant coach – Retief Steenkamp

Manager – tbc

The Barbarian U19 Men

Dane Myers - Aus,

Campbell Rose - Aus,

Tawa Holyoake - NZ,

Josh Simms-Folwer -NZ,

Andrew Mawson - Zambia,

Andrew Hall - Zambia,

Fin Bristow – UK

Coach – Travis Timm

Manager – tbc

I would like to wish these players all the best of luck for their tours, please remember that you are representing your country and you need to play with pride and good sportsmanship.

Thank you to all our coaches and managers. As you can see we still need manager for our U19 teams, if you are able to assist us with horse co-ordinating or managing, please contact me.

I look forward to seeing all you juniors at SA Champs this year, **please remember SA Champs is the only qualifying tournament for any 2020 tours.**

Yours in polocrosse

Karen Cocker

PASA junior President