



LION FOUNDATION NETBALL CHAMPS



MATCH DAY REPORT 2011

MATCH: PIC Insurance Brokers Counties Manukau v

VENUE: Palmerston North **TIME:** 1:00pm **WON BY:** Western

FINAL SCORE: 65-29

¼ time score 7-16 ½ time score 16-29 (9-13) ¾ time score 24-44 (8-15)

Comments:

GS Dannielle Staffany, GA Ashleigh Timoko, WA Samantha Rowe, C Jean Waaka, WD Kirsten Hurley, GD Italia Tipelu, GK Megan Adler. Bench: Ruth Hei Hei, Merylyn Nordin, Caitlin Riedstra, Toni Rinckes, Marcia Bennett (injured)

After leaving party central to head south the NCM team was focused on a very different match this week, as they were about to face the team relegated from first division last year Western.

Counties started strong by breaking Western's centre pass and scoring from their own but it was a short-lived phase as Western took advantage of some loose passes in the midcourt and pulled ahead to a 4 goal margin before a CM injury break was called. Western's momentum didn't stop and Ngaira for Western was on fire not missing a shot and scoring 12 from 12 with Bellringer at GA supporting her finding the hoop 8 times out of 12. Down our end Steffany and Timoko found the going tough. It was pretty physical in the circle with lots of whistle but despite having 10 penalty shots at goal between them they sunk only 3 of these and were shooting at 50% each finding the goal 7 times from 14 attempts. In Western's circle our defenders, Adler and Tipelu took advantage of the few missed attempts to rebound 3 of the 4 opportunities given but again failure to use this ball and get it through the mid resulted in lost opportunities. The first quarter had a margin of 9 to Western 7-16.

Coach Hauraki left the shooters as they had started but made 5 other positional changes moving Adler out to GD and bringing on Rinckes at GK, Hurley moved into C and Tipelu into WD. Rowe went to the bench as Waaka moved to WA. Western made the same number of changes including bringing on a new WA and moving Cassidy in GA to support Ngaia in their circle. Despite the first quarter onslaught Counties were determined to rally and started strong again scoring the first two goals and then staying goal for goal in the first 7 minutes, however poor decision making when ball was in hand gave away the all important possession to Western who capitalised and scored 7 goals in a row. Less whistle this quarter as the defenders found their distance at each end and Steffany made the most of the ball she was given scoring 6 from 6. Timoko scored 3 from 5. However Counties couldn't to stop the onslaught of Western who again had a 100% by their GS 9 from 9 and Cassidy sunk 4 from 7. They got the ball into the circle 5 more times than Counties did and increased the margin by another 4 to pull ahead to a half time score of 29-16.

Hei Hei came off the bench into WA, Nordin into GA and Waaka and Timoko went to the bench. Western made 4 positional changes bringing Bellringer back into the circle at GS and resting the perfect shooting Ngaia. Less handling errors by Counties in this quarter. Adler had some great vision down the court with some nice straight line passes but another lapse of concentration saw this given away with a footwork error in the circle. Hurley showed good patience with her feeding as she waited for her shooters to get some space before releasing the ball safely to them. Western didn't need any more possession than they got with their centre passes as Bellringer came on and carried on where Ngaia had left off scoring 14 times from 17 attempts. We only managed to get the ball into our shooters 11 times so again were left chasing with the lead increasing by another 7 to a gap of 20. 44-24 going into the last 15 minutes.

Timoko came back into the circle this time at GS as Steffany went to the bench. Western completely shut us down in this last 15 minutes and we threw away ball when we had it in our attacking third and were left watching as they scored 10 goals to our 3. We ended the game with a final score of 65-29

Lots of hard lessons learnt today, not least of which is that possession is everything. We flew back to the city of sails looking ahead to next weekend's game against North.

Written by Wendy Bremner – Team Manager

THANKS TO OUR PLAYERS SPONSORS

Rylock Auckland, Astill Hawke Accountants, Flexco (NZ) Ltd, Espies, Jag Security, Enzed Hose Ltd, Pukekohe Service Print, Pukekohe Travel, Melinda Nordin Optometrist, Brooke Dunn Coatings, Canadian Pacific and Chipmunks Manukau