

Laurie Lowery Generation Cup 2019

The Laurie Lowery Generation Cup

The Laurie Lowery Generation Cup was held on Sunday October 27 at Brooks High School and Rocherlea Football Oval. Netball games began at 10am, followed by softball at 11am and football at 1pm. The previous day's storm, which included some hail, raised concerns about the weather but it turned out to be good.

Netball

The day kicked off with the netball at Brooks High School. The game was played in great spirit with all 20 participants having a red hot go. Trescia Grice and her girls did the umpiring and made sure all was even and fair and that the young fellas didn't take advantage of the old co's too much!

Captains Wytarna McDonald (Under 30's) and Shantel Grice (Over 30's) marshalled the troops throughout the game and had a real dip themselves. In what turned out to be the theme of the day in all sports it was a close game through three quarters.

In the last quarter the Over 30's were inspired by some great play from Bruce Hearne who was attending his first Generation Cup. Leslie Beeton chipped in with a bit of magic and some great passes including a slick no-look pass that got the Over 30's across the line with a score of 5 to 3. It was about as close a game as you could get and the teams played with great enthusiasm, spirit and team work. The uneven match ups made for a bit of fun as well.

Netball Scores:

Overs – 5
Unders – 3

Best Players:

Overs – Bruce Hearn
Unders – Zade Riley



Above: Netball stars

Softball

The netball was followed up by the softball at Rocherlea football oval. There were 28 participants: old and young, males and females, fit and very unfit.

There were some spectacular catches in the outfield and great hits that were called foul. Most of the run outs on first base were hotly contested. In fact the umpire, Fiona Hughes, copped it throughout the match and threatened to call off the game, but with support from officials, Heather and Lisa, the game went on.

Jarrold Hughes showcased some amazing pitching, winning best player for the oldies and putting pressure on the youngens. There was some outstanding play by Tyane Thomas who won best player for the youngens, making the oldies work hard. Both teams played well with strong commitment. Supporters were equally committed encouraging the old coes who kept up well with the young ones. There was some deadly catching by Bianca Templar, amazing hits by Sherrin Egger and a lot of banter from Cathy Brown and Trudy Maluga. The most amazing sight of the day was seeing all runners manage to make it to home base.

Softball Scores:

Overs - 3
Unders – 3

Best Players:

Overs – Jarrold Hughes
Unders – Tayne Thomas

Football

The football started with all the 45 participants gathering together in the change room to listen to Jay McDonald talk about the spirit of the day and Uncle Laurie Lowery's contribution to the Cup. The umpires addressed the players and the jumpers were handed out.

The Welcome was done by Krystal Lynch and Daisy Allen. Uncle Lucas Maynard tossed the coin for the two Captains, Rylee Stone (Under 30's) and Sam Bannister (Over 30's). The toss was won by the Under's who proceeded to kick with the wind.

The event, and the footy game, bring family and friends together on a day that promotes good health and well-being. Importantly, we get to see our youth interacting with Elders in a positive environment, and we can ponder their future journey.

By Jay McDonald

The Laurie Lowery Generation Cup 2019 showcased a football game that ended in the most thrilling of finishes. A goal kicked by Lesley Beeton in the dying moments of the game saw the old fellas (Over 30's) finally break the drought 8.3 (51) to 7.2 (44) defeating the young ones (Under 30's).

The two footy teams were made up of players diverse in their age, skill, enthusiasm and weight. I've never seen such a variety of bodies in a sporting game, such was the enthusiasm and desire for community members wanting to participate in the time-honored annual community event. In recent times, two young AFL-listed lads played in the game. No doubt, we will soon see a few more heading that way.



Above: Iani preparing to smack the ball



Above: Sunni Thompson, Gordon Davies and David Sainty

Football is a physical game. Yet, the game that featured fathers and sons, fathers and daughters, blokes too old to be playing and kids too young to be playing, were out there having a wow of a time competing against each other. And it was competitive.

Fortunately, there is this sense of players participating in the spirit of what the Generation Cup is about: community getting together. This retains the enjoyment and safety for those playing. While the older and more experienced players allowed for the young ones, it's a pity the young athletic players don't slow down for the ol co's who are trying to get that easy kick!!

By Graeme Gardner

Kids Events

Throughout the day the children had their faces painted, got tattoos spray painted on and were involved in running races and a tug-o-war.



Football scores:

Overs – 51
Unders – 44

Best players:

Overs – Terry Maynard
Unders – Melissa Smith-
Maynard

Second bottom: Jason Thomas and sons.
Bottom: Les Beeton and Kahn Riley



Sports Hall of Fame

Neville Burgess

Neville Burgess of Launceston, born 1951, is a high achieving sportsman as well as a great contributor to Aboriginal community sports.

Neville was a junior basketballer in Launceston winning the best and fairest award three years in a row before he joined the navy and left the State. He was part of a representative team that played New Zealand and scored a huge 52 points during a representative game.

He was the assistant coach for the Launceston Tornados basketball team and was nominated for the Northern Sportsman of the year for basketball. He coached several other basketball teams as well.

In the Aboriginal community, Neville is best remembered for his fantastic work coaching the Aboriginal Women's Basketball team, the Maydenas. This was in the early days of the organised Aboriginal movement in Lutruwita/Tasmania.

Neville and the Maydenas team members remember the excitement of having an Aboriginal team in the competition. They remember so many community members turning up to watch the team each Sunday. When they won a game, it was just like winning a grand final – so much excitement!



Maydenas Basketball Team

It is thanks to people like Neville Burgess that the Aboriginal community maintains its solidarity today and has such wonderful memories of group sport events over so many years.



