

19th July 2006

WABL MAKE A STAND AGAINST GENDER VIOLENCE

On the 29 July will see the WABL players, referees, scoretable and statisticians wear purple armbands, which aims to see sport play a leadership role in tackling sexual assault and violence against women in our communities.

In sport, armbands are a symbol of grief and respect. Purple is the colour for women's rights. By wearing the purple armbands, the players, referees, scoretable and statisticians will:

- Make a statement of respect for women;
- Acknowledge the grief caused by sexual assault;
- Stand against all forms of violence against women.

Purple Armband Games draws on current research in how best to prevent sexual assault and violence against women. Rather than targeting offenders, the initiative instead calls on the silent majority of men and women to speak out against abusive attitudes and behaviours towards women.

"It's all about encouraging peer leadership and building people's confidence in speaking out," according to Ricky Onman, President, Purple Armband Games. "We're keen to see this initiative grow as hopefully, more and more teams get behind the prevention message," he said.

The purple armbands have also been worn by the Brisbane Broncos, Manly Sea Eagles, South Sydney Rabbitohs, St George Illawarra Dragons, Sydney Roosters, New Zealand Warriors, AIS Darters, QLD Firebirds, all teams in the Hyundai A-League and over 500 grassroots teams spanning Rugby League, Australian Football, Rugby Union, Soccer Football, Netball, Basketball, Baseball and Hockey.

***Sexual assault and violence against women:
The more we stand up to it, the sooner we get rid of it***

Below is the Round 16 WABL Draw where players, referees, scoretable and statisticians will be wearing the purple armbands:

Date	Day	Rd	Venue	Time	Gde	Home Team	v	Away Team
29-Jul	Sat	16	Auburn Basketball Centre	4pm	WOMEN	Parramatta Wildcats	v	Central Coast
29-Jul	Sat	16	Auburn Basketball Centre	6pm	MEN	Parramatta Wildcats	v	Central Coast
29-Jul	Sat	16	Belconnen Basketball Centre	3pm	WOMEN	Canberra Nationals	v	Newcastle Hunters
29-Jul	Sat	16	Belconnen Basketball Centre	5pm	MEN	Canberra Nationals	v	Newcastle Hunters
29-Jul	Sat	16	Bankstown Basketball Stadium	3pm	WOMEN	Bankstown Bruins	v	Sutherland Sharks
29-Jul	Sat	16	Bankstown Basketball Stadium	5pm	MEN	Bankstown Bruins	v	Sutherland Sharks
29-Jul	Sat	16	Beaton Park	4pm	WOMEN	Illawarra Hawks	v	Maitland Mustangs
29-Jul	Sat	16	Beaton Park	6pm	MEN	Illawarra Hawks	v	Maitland Mustangs
29-Jul	Sat	16	North Sydney Sports Centre	8pm	MEN	Norths Soul Sports Bears	v	Hornsby Spiders

BASKETBALL NSW PRESS RELEASE

Contact Person;

Michael Edwards

Marketing & Communications Manager

Basketball New South Wales

Email: michael_edwards@nswbasketball.net.au

Postal: PO Box 198, Sydney Markets, NSW 2129

Contact Details:

Ph: (02) 9746 2969 Fax: (02) 9746 1457

