

9th May 2008

NSW COACHES LEARN FROM TWO OF THE BEST

More than 100 coaches from Sydney and the Hunter Valley took the opportunity to learn from two of Australian basketball's most experienced development coaches at clinics conducted this week.

Basketball Australia National Intensive Training Centre Program Head Coach Patrick Hunt joined Australian Institute of Sport Men's Head Coach Martin Clarke in presenting two coaching clinics at Knox Grammar and Newcastle Basketball Stadium on Monday and Tuesday.

The clinics focused on developing skills related to the on-ball screen, which is one of the most significant trends in the international game an area that is becoming more prevalent in NSW basketball.

In an indication of the enthusiasm of the volunteer coaching network in NSW, 52 coaches attend the Sydney clinic at Knox Grammar, with a further 54 coaches from Newcastle, Maitland and the Central Coast on hand for the Newcastle clinic.

Patrick Hunt is well know to NSW coaches in his role as NITCP head coach and is a regular visitor to our state to conduct similar coaching clinics and work with elite players and coaches.

Martin Clarke is head coach of the Australian Emus and is regarded internationally as one of the world's best teachers of the game to youth players, having played a key role in developing former NBA number one draft pick Andrew Bogut and more recently rising star Patrick Mills.

With the increased prevalence of the on-ball screen, these two experienced international coaches took members of the NSW NITCP squad through a series of drills and breakdowns and provided coaches with the nuances of this important skill area.

Basketball New South Wales Manager of Player & Coach Development Robbie Cadee said the clinics were a success and praised the coaches who attended for giving up their time to develop their craft.

"It is always great to have experienced coaches such as Marty and Patrick in our state and it was pleasing that we had over 100 coaches take full advantage of the clinics," Cadee said.

"Everyone involved in basketball is busy and already gives up hours each week, so to have this many coaches come out and show they want to improve their knowledge and coaching is a real positive.

"BNSW is committed to providing ongoing opportunities for our coaches and the response to these clinics is an indication of the enthusiasm of our coaching network," he added.

Basketball New South Wales would like to acknowledge the staff at Knox Grammar and Newcastle Basketball Association for their support with the clinics and also thank Basketball Australia and the Australian Institute of Sport their ongoing support of coach development in NSW.

The next BNSW coach development clinic is being held at Bathurst Indoor Sports Stadium on Saturday, May 10, with NSW NITCP Head Coach Peter Lonergan presenting a clinic on developing man to man defence.

For more information on coaching clinics offered by BNSW, please e-mail coaches@nswbasketball.net.au

BASKETBALL NSW PRESS RELEASE

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