

14<sup>th</sup> July 2008

## **NSW Recognised with Basketball Australia Junior Awards**

Several NSW Basketball members have been recognised for their various efforts and contributions to junior basketball. The awards were announced at a function held during the Under 18 Nationals in Ballarat.

Simon Cross has been recognised with the Junior Basketball Vocation and Education Award. Simon was selected in the NSW Under 18 Country team but due to an untimely injury was unable to play. That did not stop him attending Nationals, at his own expense, and supporting his team mates. He has shown a similar application to his studies, he has set himself a goal of becoming a Commercial Airline Pilot, but feels he should get a degree before he embarks on that path. He ideally would like to study Marketing or HR at a US college so that he can combine his studies with his continued basketball development. Simon is currently in Year 12 at Bishops Drutt College in Coffs Harbour where he is an elected College Leader. He has also been heavily involved in his local association (Coffs Harbour) where he currently sits on the Executive Committee, at 17 years of age, an assist coach of the Under 14 representative side on top of his own playing commitments.

Val Mann has been awarded the Female Administrator of the Year in acknowledgment of her service to Illawarra Basketball. In particular turning around the association financially and administratively after a couple of difficult years to the point team numbers are now increasing.

Norma Bacic has been awarded the Junior Basketball Statistician of the Year award for her years of service as a volunteer, in what will be her last year in the sport. Since 1990 Norma has volunteered at more National Junior Championships than any other statistician having worked at Under 16, Under 18 and Under 10 National Championships.

### **BASKETBALL NSW PRESS RELEASE**

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