



23rd June, 2009

NEW SOUTH WALES REPRESENTATIVE KARAITIANA NAMED IN GEMS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM

Basketball New South Wales would like to congratulate New South Wales representative, 16 year old, Ashleigh Karaitiana, who has today been named in the Australian Under-19 women's basketball team, the Gems, or the 2009 FIBA Under-19 World Championship for Women in Bangkok, Thailand from July 23 – August 2.

Ashleigh competed in the Gem's recently completed tour of France. She returned to Australia on June 16th.

Karaitiana, who's junior association is the City of Sydney, has represented NSW though both U/16 & U/18 age divisions at National Championships and was a long time member of the NSW NIT Program. Ashleigh this year began her scholarship at the Australian Institute of Sport.

178cm guard Stephanie Cumming has been named Team Captain and is just one of 11 athletes from the Australian Institute of Sport selected in the 12-strong side including 203cm Opal Liz Cambage; Gretel Tippett the exception.

The team was selected following the Gems tour to France earlier this month where the team recorded wins over Under-19 national teams from China, Turkey, Latvia, Russia, Belgium, and France.

The Gems have drawn in Group A at the World Championship alongside France, Argentina and Korea, and will tip off their tournament against Argentina on July 23.

Other nations competing at the event are Brazil, Czech Republic, Thailand, Lithuania, Canada, Japan, Russia, Tunisia, Spain, China, USA and Mali.

Australia placed fifth at the 2007 FIBA Under-19 World Championship for Women with a 7 win, 2 loss record.

[Full tournament schedule](#)

[Official website of the 2009 FIBA Under-19 World Championship for Women](#)



Australia's Under-19 women's basketball team for Tour to France:

Name / Junior Association / State

Elizabeth CAMBAGE / Dandenong / Victoria / AIS
Stephanie CUMMING / Dandenong / Victoria / AIS (Captain)
Bree FARLEY / Kadina / South Australia / AIS
Kerryn HARRINGTON / Bendigo / Victoria / AIS
Jillian HAUGHTON / Mackay / Queensland / AIS
Kelsey IRELAND / Kadina / South Australia / AIS
Rachel JARRY / Dandenong / Victoria / AIS
Ashleigh KARAITIANA / City of Sydney / New South Wales / AIS
Alice KUNEK / Eltham / Victoria / AIS
Rosie MOULT / Nunawading / Victoria / AIS
Tess MADGEN / Eastern Mavericks / South Australia / AIS
Gretel TIPPETT / Miami / Queensland

Head Coach: Dean Kinsman
Assistant Coach: Dale Waters, Sandy Tomley
Team Manager: Trudy Pearce
Doctor: Dr. Larissa Trease
Physiotherapist: Ebonie Scase

For more information please contact:
Andrew Tilley
Marketing & Communications Manager
Basketball New South Wales
T: 8765 8555
E: andrew_tilley@nswbasketball.net.au

