



Koru Tour Outline.

Each January for the past 29 years Basketball Pacific and/or Basketball New Zealand have been sending teams to the Country Cup in Australia. Teams are Under 14, Under 16 and Under 18. This event has been seen as an important development opportunity for top level players. Literally 100's of New Zealand Age group players have been on the tour and many Tall Blacks and Tall Ferns started their international experience at the Cup. Basketball Pacific and the Cup event are endorsed by Basketball New Zealand.

What is the Country Cup?

The Country Cup is a tournament for Australian Country State squads (20 best players in their state – excluding players from the main capital cities). In 2019 teams from New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania, ACT and New Zealand all competed. Queensland, and Western Australia have also been involved in the past.

This link is for the Cup website for more information: http://websites.sportstg.com/assoc_page.cgi?c=1-3872-0-0-0

Who are Basketball Pacific?

Basketball Pacific is an associate member of Basketball New Zealand (BBNZ). Basketball Pacific is made up of nine BBNZ affiliated associations: Te Tai Tokerau (Whangarei), Waitakere West, Thames Valley, Waikato, Tauranga, Rotorua, Gisborne, Taranaki Country and New Plymouth. The goal of Basketball Pacific is to provide development opportunities for members of these associations, that individually associations cannot provide themselves. As well as involvement in the Koru tour each year Basketball Pacific run the Mel Young Easter Basketball Classic, a New Zealand Under 12 Jamboree and an Under 12 tour to Australia.

What does selection for the Koru tour for 2019 look like?

For 2019 Basketball Pacific will be solely responsible for the tour. Each member association will nominate their best players in each grade to be put forward for selection. A training camp/trial will be held over 14-16 June for selected athletes to pick the top 20 players in each grade. Following this training programmes will be provided for players and there will be another weekend camp during November.

What is the cost?

The NZ camp cost NZ\$125 and the 2018 tour cost was NZ\$3400. This covered: Camp costs in Rotorua, international flights, all costs for 10 days in Australia (including food, accommodation, transport), Entry fees for the Cup, insurance, uniform that players keep. It is envisaged the cost for the 2020 will be very similar.

Who Coaches and Managers the teams?

For 2020 Basketball Pacific member associations will nominate their best coaches and managers. From this pool Basketball Pacific will select the coaches and managers for each team. Basketball Pacific also send overall tour management and coach and referee mentors.

What is the next step?

Register your interest by signing up to the following link. Your Association will have a chance to review your interest and nomination. Talent ID will take place at the Mel Young Easter Classic in Tauranga (19th – 22nd April).

You can also contact Mark Rogers from Basketball Pacific on 021451433.

