

NAME: Jason Ivinson

SPORT: Basketball Girls Championships

1. SELECTION OF SQUAD/TEAM

The squad of fifteen players(10 players & 5 reserves) was chosen from the performances of the players over the Basketball Championships held in Darwin from 2nd -4th May 2007.

The criteria used for selection was distributed to all clusters before the championships, and given out again at the Pre-Event Meeting. The selectors were Jason Ivinson (coach), May Bury (manager), and because they're was no sport identity available at the championships, Sue Martin (Boy's NT Coach) and Pam Adam (Boy's NT Manager) were asked to become selectors.

The Team chosen is:

Staci Trindle-Price	Desert Storm	Captain
Michelle Ellis	Desert Storm	
Jessie White	Desert Storm	
Claire Humphrey	Northern Suburbs	
Carlee Ah Mat	Northern Suburbs	
Edith Boundary	Northern Suburbs	Vice Captain
Brianna Grazioli	Northern Suburbs	
Keisha Tinley	Northern Suburbs	Vice Captain
Desiree Weetra	Northern Suburbs	
Jessica Moller	Parcs	

Reserves:

Claire O'Bryan	City
Tahnee Lewfatt	Arnhem
Jane Walsh	Desert Storm
Lucy Adam	Northern Suburbs
Sarah Clee	Northern Suburbs

Although the team chosen was not the biggest side, it was a well rounded team with many players able to play various roles throughout the week.

2. PRE-EVENT TRAINING PROGRAM

All team members were given a home shooting program to do weekly. As a majority of the players were already involved in high level of training preparing for National Championships, it was decided to for go the weekly training session.

3. OUT-OF-DARWIN TEAM MEMBER PREPARATION

Home shooting programs were given and continue weekly training with state and club teams.

4. INTENSIVE WEEKEND/CAMP/WEEK

It was decided by the touring officials, we would hold our Pre-Event Camp in Cairns. This proved very valuable in our preparations for the tournament, as it allowed the group to become use to the facilities, climate, etc, without the distractions from family & friends. We were able to organize a game against a Cairns high school girls basketball team. Although we lost by 4 points, it allowed the girls to practice some of their plays against quality opposition. We were also able to take the players to watch an ABA Men's Final between Cairn's Marlin's and the Gold Coast Goanna's.

5. COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE

Thank you to Gary Boodnikoff for presenting the uniforms to the players and also for have a chat to the kids, about what it takes to play at the next level. Gary plays for the Cairn's Marlin's in the ABA and Cairn's Taipan's in the NBL. Gary is originally from Alice Springs and played all his junior basketball in the Northern Territory and was coached by Budgie Preece.

6. GAMES REPORT

QLD 83 NT 40

Tough game first-up as QLD were the reigning champions and this was their home court. Score were level 13 all at the end of the 1st qrt, but a big 2nd qrt by QLD outscoring us 23 – 6 to lead 36 – 19 at the halftime break. Close 3rd qrt QLD winning 21 – 18 to lead 57 – 37 down only 20 points going into the last term, but unfortunately a 26- 3 run by QLD finished the NT chances of causing an upset.

Best for the NT Jessica Moller, Michelle Ellis and Staci Trindle-Price

NSW 97 NT 38

We met a very big NSW team full of confidence after a big 90 point win over ACT on the first day. Regardless of the superior height, we took the game to them being down 25 – 14 at the end of the 1st qrt. NSW continued to press full court to build a 56 – 26 halftime lead. NSW outscored us 41 – 12 in the 2nd half. The positive was we kept them from reaching 100 points.

Best for the NT Staci Trindle-Price, Jessica Moller and Michelle Ellis

ACT 75 NT 69

A very close game with both sides creating many opportunities to score. ACT 24 – 17 at the end of the 1st qrt. A big defensive effort in the 2nd qrt allowed NT to be down 1 point at the main break 33 – 32. Even 3rd qrt with no team able to pull away, ACT 52 – 51. Silly turnovers and missed foul shots allowed ACT to build a 6 point buffer, which proved the difference ACT 75 – 69.

Best for the NT Michelle Ellis, Staci Trindle-Price and Brianna Grazioli.

WA 78 NT 44

Very hard game to back-up for, after close lost to ACT in the morning. Changed the starting line-up to shake things up, which worked well leading 13-3, but then WA used their superior size to go on a 17-0 run to be up 20 – 13 at the end of the 1st qrt. Lost the 2nd qrt 11-10 to be down 8 points at the halftime break 31 – 23. A full court press

provided WA with loads of opportunities outscoring us 47 – 21 in the 2nd half. WA winning 78 – 44.

Best for the NT Edith Boundary, Staci Trindle-Price, Michelle Ellis and Jessica Moller

VIC 96 NT 43

The Vics came out needing a big win to get ready for the finals. Although we tried, we were unable to get ourselves open for any shots with the Vics consistently pressuring the ball, down 57 – 23 at halftime. The girls to their credit would not go down without trying, losing the 2nd half 39 – 20. Yet again not allowing a team to get a 100 points, a small win for the side. Staci Trindle-Price was injured in the warm-up.

Best for the NT Michelle Ellis and Jessica Moller

PLAYOFF 5TH V 6TH

NT 52 ACT 43

The girls were ready for this game as we believed we should have beaten ACT, the first time we played. ACT jumped us early with better finishing around the basket to lead 12 – 4 at the end of the 1st qrt. Defence lifted in the 2nd qrt to be down 5 points at the mainbreak 24 – 19. The girls were playing alright, but the team harmony was gone. We took the side to the changerooms, where everyone had a say about how they thought they were playing. Staci Trindle-Price then gave a passionate plea to the girls about her last game going out a winner. This was great as a different team emerged from the changerooms outscoring the ACT 33 – 19 in the 2nd half. Special mention to our captain Staci Trindle-Price whose intensity lifted the girls to their first win of the tournament.

Best for the NT Staci Trindle-Price, Keisha Tinley and Michelle Ellis.

I believe the girl's side are capable of making the semi's in the next few years, as we are better prepared every year. Thanks to all the coaches who have helped along the way. We finished 5th out of 6 teams and this was also my first win at championship level.

Unfortunately no players were chosen in the Australian Team, but Staci Trindle-Price was close, but overlooked as we played her out of position as a centre, to help with team balance, Staci normally plays as a guard.

Jason Ivinson

NT Championship Girls Coach