

Rockets Review

Team in Focus



U14 Boys Div 1 Make Nationals



U14 Boys Div 1 to Represent North Adelaide Rockets at the National Junior Classics and Australian Club Championships

Going into the State Championships was always going to be tough, we had players under an injury cloud. However, these boys had to put that aside and focus on the job at hand and the opportunity to qualify for the Junior Classics in Melbourne and the Australian Club Championships in Newcastle.

The boys kicked off the Championships with a win against Centrals finishing 64 – 45.

Saturday the boys knew would be a hard day, 3 games and starting with the grudge match against Sturt. It was a tough game from the start and was always going to be a



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battle. Unfortunately, it didn't go the way we had hoped for going down by 8 points.

We then faced Forestville, in a game in which we finished off with a big win by 60 points. A game that saw a lot of rotations with all players putting in a great effort.

Last game for the day was against Mavericks. A team that we hadn't seen much of, only meeting them once during the summer season. We managed to contain their shooter in the last quarter sealing the game 55-48. This game officially gained our spot to compete in the Australian Club Championships to be held in Newcastle towards the end of September.

Semi-final game Sunday morning saw us come up against a strong Norwood team which many considered as the 'Grand Final Match'. This was a very physical game from the start, featured numerous lead changes which ended in some sore and tired bodies. The game was decided during the last 2 minutes of the game, however the boys falling short 65-54. Norwood eventually won the State Championship.

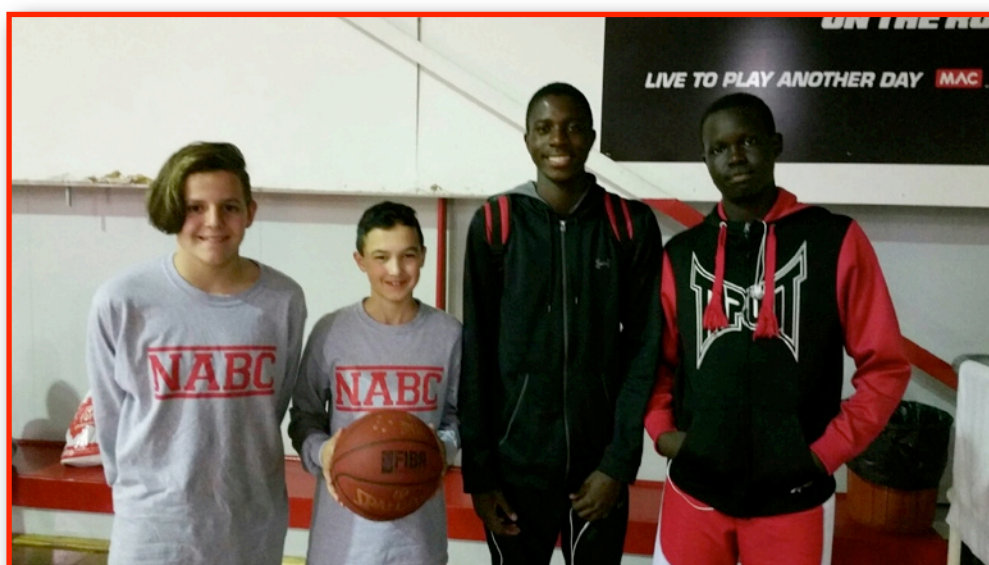
Final game of the weekend, playing off for 3rd spot was against South Adelaide. This was a must win for the boys to now also secure a spot in next month's National Junior Classics to be held in Melbourne. The score went back and forth a number of times. The boys eventually ran out winners 64-58.

A big 'Thank You' to our fantastic coaches John Della Pia and Stephen Kellis, we also appreciate all the parents for their support.

U14 Players invited to Futures Squad

Congratulations to Riley Real, Dylan Marshall, Awer Ajak and Fiston Ippasou. These boys were selected to join SA Basketballs High Performance U14 Futures Squad. The selected players will go through an intense 15-week program on Saturday's at the Uni SA Magill Campus.

Fiston has been selected to train with the U16 Boys NITP squad.



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