



PALENA NETBALL CLUB

Panther News

June 2026

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Midway Through the Season - The Palena Spirit is Growing

As we reach the halfway point of the 2026 season, it's a great opportunity to reflect on what has already been an exciting and successful year for Palena Netball Club.

Despite holiday breaks, overflow fixtures and the colder weather beginning to roll in, one thing has remained constant - the incredible support from our Palena community. It has been fantastic to see more spectators lining the courts each week, cheering on our players and creating a wonderful atmosphere across all grades. The encouragement from families, friends and supporters plays a huge role in our club's success, and we thank everyone for continuing to show up and support our teams.

The second half of the season is shaping up to be just as exciting, with several opportunities for our members to come together away from the netball courts.

Our much-anticipated **Palena Bowls Event** will be held on **Sunday 21 June**, promising a fun-filled day of laughter, friendly competition and connection among our players, families and supporters.

Looking further ahead, we are excited to announce that our **End of Season Dinner** has been locked in for **19 September 2026** at the **Elwick Racecourse**. This special evening will provide an opportunity to celebrate the season, recognise achievements and enjoy the company of our Palena family. More details will be shared in the coming months.

As a club, we are incredibly proud of the achievements of our members both on and off the court. We would love to celebrate the milestones and successes within our community, including sporting achievements, school awards, graduations, engagements, weddings, births, community contributions and other special accomplishments.

If you have something worth celebrating, please let us know. Palena is more than just a netball club - it is a community, and we want to acknowledge and share the moments that make our members proud.

Thank you to all our players, coaches, umpires, volunteers, families and supporters for making Palena such a special club. We look forward to an exciting second half of the season and creating many more memories together.



Palena Netball Club
(Est. 1965)
(Palena Netball Club Inc.)
PO Box 893
Rosny Park Tas 7018
www.palenanetballclub.com.au

2026 Committee

President	Janelle Kava
Vice President	Lindy Maw
Treasurer	Casey Hutchinson
Secretary	Tayla Wiseman
Registrar/Roster convenor	Justin Maw
Senior head coaches	Jess Fielding & Mike Tait
Junior head coach	Karen Leonard & Justin Maw
Coaching Convenor	Debbie Morrisby
Umpiring Convenor	Suzette Weeding
Sponsorship	Alisha Tilley
General Committee	Georgia Byrne, Tanya Fisher, Elspeth Fallon & Sue Grau

GET TO KNOW YOUR PRESIDENT

Now in her second year as President of Palena Netball Club, Janelle Kava continues to lead with passion, dedication and a strong commitment to our club community. Enjoy this Q&A as we get to know the person behind the role and learn more about her journey, experiences and vision for Palena.



Getting to Know You

Can you tell us a bit about yourself and your background in netball? I started playing netball in Grade 8 (a few years ago now!). After playing a little too much sport, I had to have knee surgery when I was 18. After a couple of years away from the game, I was asked to coach my step-sister's high school team and I guess the white-line fever came back. Since then, I've had a few breaks and a few come-backs - more comebacks than John Farnham!

How long have you been involved with the club? Huntah started in Cubs in 2017 and started playing in under 11's in 2018. I joined the club halfway through that year when I was asked to fill in for the 6th Grade team due to injuries.

What do you enjoy most about being part of the club? The family atmosphere and the connections you make within the club. It really is one big family.

What's been the most rewarding part of your role so far? Being able to get around the teams, meet our families, and see players enjoying themselves and developing throughout the season.

Fun & Personal Touch

Favourite netball position and why? Goal Shooter. Standing close to the post means slightly less running than some of the other positions!

Favourite game-day snack or ritual? Banana roll or fruit salad from the canteen

Most memorable netball moment? That's a tough one. There's been a number of special moments over the years. Winning grand finals to watching my kids play in grand finals. Probably the most memorable moment would be that first time being able to take to the court with my girls.

Community & Culture

How would you describe the culture of the club? Supportive, inclusive, welcoming and fun. We celebrate each other's successes and support each other through challenges.

Why is community involvement important to you? Strong community connections help build a stronger club and a stronger community. For me, one of the most rewarding things is being able to contribute to something bigger than yourself and seeing the positive impact it can have on others.

Community involvement has always been important to me. In 2011, I was honoured to receive the Mayor's Special Award and Community Event of the Year at the Brighton Municipality Australia Day Awards in recognition of my contribution to the local community. Since then, I have had the privilege of serving as an Australia Day Ambassador, visiting Councils around Tasmania each year and speaking at their Australia Day events.

Those experiences have reinforced the value of volunteering, supporting others and creating opportunities for people to connect. I believe those same values are what help make our club such a special place.

Club Vision & Growth

What is your vision for the club over the next few years? I'd like to see the club continue to be successful, increase participation and remain a place where players of all ages and abilities feel welcome.

How do you see the club growing or evolving?

By continuing to attract new players and families while maintaining the strong community spirit that makes our club special.

What makes this club special compared to others?

Without a doubt, it's the family atmosphere. Everyone is welcomed, supported and encouraged. Also, the whole club end of season celebration dinner is pretty special to have all our members there.

Can you share a moment that really highlights the club spirit? Seeing players from different team's cheer on other Palena teams each week really shows what our club is all about.

On a personal level, after Huntah's recent knee injury, the number of people who reached out was overwhelming. It was incredible the amount of support shown not only from our club but the wider netball community.

Who would you like to give a special shoutout to this season? First and foremost, my family, who are always there supporting me. From training nights and game days to spending entire Saturdays at the netball courts. Their support never wavers and I'm incredibly grateful for everything they do. I'd also like to give a huge thank you to our committee members, coaches, umpires, and all of our volunteers who generously give their time each week. A special mention to all of our parents as well, who tirelessly run their children to and from training and games week after week. The club wouldn't be what it is without your dedication and your efforts certainly don't go unnoticed.

How can members stay involved and support the club?

Come along to games, support club events, volunteer when you can, and continue creating the positive and welcoming environment that we're proud to be known for.



Junior Netball Season Update

The 2026 season is flying by, and we are incredibly proud of the efforts and achievements of our junior players, coaches and families. This year, Palena is fielding seven junior teams, all of whom have represented the club with enthusiasm, determination and outstanding sportsmanship.

A special thank you goes to our coaching team for their dedication and commitment throughout the season:

- U9–Justin Maw
- 11D - Lindy Maw
- 13C - Semele Bachelor
- 15B - Justin Maw & Lindy Maw
- 15C - Rahnee Butterworth
- 15D- Justin Maw
- 17B - Karen Leonard
- 17D - Lindy Maddock

We are particularly excited to welcome back Justin Maw and Karen Leonard as our Junior Head Coaches this season. Their experience, leadership and passion for player development continue to have a positive impact across the entire junior program.

The hard work of our players and coaches is paying off, with four of our seven teams currently sitting inside the top four as we head into the second half of the season. While ladder positions are encouraging, we are equally proud of the growth, teamwork and resilience shown by all our teams each week.

One of the highlights of the season so far has been celebrating a significant milestone for Rebecca Ogg, who recently played her 100th game for Palena. Reaching 100 games is a wonderful achievement and reflects Rebecca's commitment, dedication and love of the club. Congratulations, Bec, on this fantastic milestone.



RISING UMPIRES

Congratulations to Emily Carnes and Will Green, who recently achieved an exciting milestone by umpiring their first Tasmanian Netball League (TNL) match this season.

Their appointment is a testament to the hard work, dedication and commitment they have shown throughout their umpiring journey. Both Emily and Will have spent countless hours developing their skills, building their confidence and striving to improve their performance on the court.

Palena Netball Club is incredibly proud of their achievement and looks forward to watching them continue to grow and succeed as rising stars in the umpiring ranks. Well done, Emily and Will!



Senior Netball Season Update

This season, our senior teams are also led by an outstanding group of coaches:


- 21A - Karen Leonard
- 21B - Janelle Kava
- Men's Black - Karen Leonard
- Men's Yellow - Mike Tait
- Premier League Reserves - Shane Free & Jai McWells
- 2nd Grade - Sandra McCann
- 3rd Grade - Casey Hutchinson
- 4th Grade - Georgia Byrne & Sam Williamson
- 5th Grade - Mike Tait
- 6th Grade Pink - Tanya Fisher
- 6th Grade Black - Rahnee Butterworth
- 7th Grade - Janelle Kava

A special welcome back to Mike Tait and Jess Fielding, who have returned as our Senior Head Coaches for 2026. Their hard work and determination for the game continue to strengthen our senior program and provide invaluable support to both players and coaches across all grades.

The season has been filled with plenty of exciting moments, and the hard work being put in at training and on game day is reflected in our results. We are proud to have nine of our 12 senior teams currently sitting inside the top four as we head into the second half of the season. This is a fantastic achievement and a testament to the commitment of our players and coaching staff.

We have also had the privilege of celebrating some incredible player milestones this season. Congratulations to Tanya Fisher and Abbie Hayden on reaching the remarkable milestone of 200 club games, and to Elspeth Fallon and Nat Jenkins on the outstanding achievement of playing 300 games. These milestones are a reflection of years of dedication, commitment and passion for both netball and the Palena Netball Club. We thank each of these players for their ongoing contribution to our club and congratulate them on these significant achievements.

While ladder positions are encouraging, what stands out most is the culture within our senior group. Week after week, players are supporting one another, stepping up when needed, filling in for other grades and proudly wearing the black and gold. From our youngest senior players through to our most experienced members, the dedication to the club has been exceptional.



FUNDRAISERS

Chocolate Fundraiser

Our first fundraising event was launched in May. The Chocolate Box Fundraiser is due by Wednesday, 1 July 2026.

If you have sold your chocolates, please ensure all money is returned by the due date so we can finalise the fundraiser. Your support helps raise valuable funds for our club and is greatly appreciated.

Thank you to everyone who has supported this fundraiser. Your contribution helps us continue to provide opportunities and resources for our players throughout the season.

Payment Options

Cash

Cash can be given directly to your coach, who will pass it on to the appropriate committee members.

Bank Transfer

- **Account Name:** PALENA NETBALL CLUB
- **Bank:** MyState Financial
- **BSB:** 807-009
- **Account Number:** 12102345
- **Reference:** Player Name

EVENTS

PALENA
Netball Club

Bowls Event

One club. All ages. Great times!

SUNDAY 21ST JUNE

JOIN US FOR A FUN-FILLED DAY OF BOWLS FOR **EVERYONE!**

JUNIORS 17 & UNDER | **SENIORS 18 & OVER** | **FAMILY & FRIENDS** | **ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME!**

11:00am – 3:00pm

GLENORCHY CITY BOWLS CLUB
4 Alcorso Drive
Berriedale 7011

TICKET SALES

Juniors 17 & UNDER \$10 | **Seniors 18 & OVER \$15**

PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS ONLINE!
<https://www.trybooking.com/DMP5H>

See you on the green! Fun • Friends • Club Spirit • Great Times

“Who would you like to see shiver under a bucket of icy-cold water?”

ICE BUCKET CHALLENGE - WHO'S UP FOR IT?

The graphic features a blue background with a bucket of water and ice cubes. The text 'ICE BUCKET CHALLENGE' is written in large, stylized letters. The MND Australia logo is in the top right, with the tagline 'MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE CHANGES LIVES. SO CAN WE.' Below it is the Paena Netball Club logo, which includes the name 'PAENA' and 'Netball Club' with a stylized eye graphic. At the bottom, there are three call-to-action boxes: 'WE'RE GOING ICE COLD to raise awareness and vital funds for MND Australia.', 'DONATE OR BUY A BEANIE Show your support and help make a difference.', and 'NOMINATE. VOTE. WATCH. Who will take the plunge? You decide!'. A 'BIG 12 FREEZE' logo is also present, along with the URL <https://donate.mndaustralia.org.au/> and the slogan 'TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE. TOGETHER, WE CAN FREEZE MND.'

As part of our upcoming **Bowls Event**, we're running an **Ice Bucket Challenge** to help raise awareness and support for **Motor Neurone Disease (MND) Australia**.

We encourage all Panthers, families and supporters to get behind this great cause by donating via the link and/or purchasing a beanie.

Now for the fun part...

Who would you like to see take on the challenge?

We're looking for **three coool participants!**

Current Nominees: Emma Holloway, Casey Hutchinson, Debbie Tait, Georgia Byrne, Janelle Kava, Mike Tait, Oliver Bryant, The entire Premier League reserves team

So, Panthers... **who's it going to be?**

Watch our social media page for more updates

Uniform

RUG UP THIS WINTER WITH PALENA MERCHANDISE!

As the weather cools down, now is the perfect time to stay warm and show your club spirit by grabbing some Palena merchandise!

We currently have a limited number of **Palena beanies and hoodies** available for purchase online. Whether you're cheering from the sidelines, heading to training, or simply out and about, our merchandise is a great way to support the club while keeping cosy this winter.

Hoodies - perfect for those chilly training nights and weekend games.

Beanies - keep your head warm while proudly representing Palena.

Stock is limited and once they're gone, they're gone! Don't miss out on securing your winter essentials.



<https://www.playhq.com/netball-australia/org/palena-netball-club/5b073c75/shop>

Get in quick and place your order online today!

Thank you for supporting Palena Netball Club. We can't wait to see everyone rugged up and repping the club throughout the winter season.

Insurance

All members of our club are entitled to lodge an insurance claim through Netball Tasmania. If you are a registered member of Netball Australia and sustain an injury while taking part in a netball or netball-related activity, you may be eligible to submit a Personal Accident claim.

Netball Tasmania's insurance is provided through Howden, ensuring members have access to appropriate support if an injury occurs. If you do suffer an injury, it's important to report it promptly and follow the claims process to ensure your application is assessed as quickly as possible.

For more information on how to lodge a claim or what is covered, please reach out to the club committee or submit a insurance claim at <https://www.howdengroup.com/au-en/netball-how-to-make-a-claim>

FIRST AID

A reminder to all players, coaches and families that STNA has appointed a First Aid Officer that is onsite each Saturday.

The First Aid Room is located in the link building between Stadium 1 and Stadium 2.

Each coach also carries a first aid kit containing basic necessities for minor injuries. If ice is required, it can be found in the white freezer located outside the First Aid Room.

Quietly Making a Big Impact

Suzette Weeding

Every successful club has people working tirelessly behind the scenes, and at Palena Netball Club, Suzette Weeding is one of those invaluable contributors.

As our Umpiring Coordinator, Suzette plays a vital role in ensuring our club's umpiring program runs smoothly each week. She is responsible for umpire rosters and allocations, working closely with Southern Tasmanian Netball Association administration to ensure every allocated court is filled.

Beyond weekly allocations, Suzette is passionate about developing the next generation of umpires. She identifies and supports rising talent within our club, nominating promising umpires for specialised mentoring opportunities through STNA Programs, where participants receive advanced coaching and weekly feedback to enhance their skills.

Suzette also contributes valuable feedback towards end-of-season recognition programs, helping identify deserving recipients for awards such as the STNA Zambrero Rising Star Umpire Award as well as our clubs own umpiring awards. She is a strong advocate for umpire development, encouraging and supporting umpires as they build their confidence, knowledge and experience on their journey towards achieving C, B and A Badge qualifications.

What truly sets Suzette apart is her approachable and supportive nature. She is always willing to lend a hand, answer questions and provide guidance to developing umpires. When gaps appear in umpire allocations, Suzette regularly steps up to fill the role herself without hesitation, ensuring the needs of the club are always met.

Away from her umpiring responsibilities, Suzette is also a valued player in our 2nd Grade team and contributes to the club's future through her involvement on the committee, helping shape strategy, growth and development initiatives.

Suzette may be a quiet achiever, but her contribution to Palena is anything but small. Her dedication, reliability and commitment to supporting players, umpires and the wider club community make her an integral part of Palena's success.

Thank you, Suzette, for everything you do for our club.



Pictured: Judy Prokopiec, Rachel Mackie, Emily Carnes, Suzette Weeding



PARTNER WITH US. MAKE AN IMPACT.

SUPPORT OUR PLAYERS. STRENGTHEN OUR CLUB. BUILD OUR COMMUNITY.

SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES OVERVIEW

 SPONSORSHIP BENEFITS	MAJOR \$4,000 p.a. (Min. 3 yrs)	SILVER \$1,000 p.a.	BRONZE \$500 p.a.	UMPIRE \$1,000 (3 yrs)
 Naming Rights to Club	✓	✗	✗	✗
 Logo on Selected Club Uniform Items	✓	✓*	✗	✓**
 Logo on Sponsorship Banner	✓	✓	✓	✓
 Logo on Stadium 1 Club Sign	✓	✗	✗	✗
 Quarterly Newsletter Feature	✓	✓	✓	✗
 Social Media Promotion	✓	✓	✓	✓
 Logo & Business Description on Website	✓	✓	✓	✓
 End-of-Season Presentation Dinner Tickets	2	2	✗	✗

PACKAGE NOTES






*Silver – Logo displayed on playing bibs for a specific team.

**Umpire – Logo displayed on umpiring polo shirt and dress.

All packages can be tailored to align with your organisation's marketing goals and community engagement objectives.

YOUR IMPACT

Sponsoring Palena Netball Club directly supports:

-  Reducing membership fees to keep sport accessible and affordable for families
-  Purchasing quality equipment to enhance player development and training standards
-  Improving safety resources and uniforms to ensure player wellbeing
-  Expanding inclusive programs to meet growing community needs
-  Supporting the development and professionalism of our umpires



*Stronger
together.
Community forever.*





**TOGETHER, WE CAN CREATE OPPORTUNITIES
ON COURT AND IN OUR COMMUNITY.**

Thank you for your support!

INTERESTED?

Let's chat about how we can work together!

 treasurer@palenanetballclub.com

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