

# **Norths Appoint New Women's Programme Head Coach**

Norths is pleased to announce that Peter Lonergan has joined our programme as Norths Women's Senior Representative Programme Head Coach. Peter will coach our WABL Women's team and work closely with the other Senior Women's coaches to maximise the potential of all of our senior women players. He will also work with our Junior Women Rep coaches to help ensure a smooth transition through from Junior to Senior representation for our talented players, and ongoing development for our Junior Coaches.

Peter's appointment is another step forward for North's Women's Representative programme, following on from our earlier announcement of Keith Kelman as mentor of our U12/U14 Women rep teams. Keith has been our WABL Head Coach for the last 2 seasons, during which he was awarded WABL Coach of the Year. When he informed Norths that he would be unable to continue in that role for 2011, due to personal reasons, the Board undertook an immediate search, utilising their widespread basketball contacts, to find a quality replacement to continue building on the solid foundation Keith had established over the previous 2 seasons.

We were ecstatic when Peter indicated his willingness to take the role, and even more so after discussing his coaching philosophy and his intentions with respect to his new role.

Peter has more than 25 years basketball experience and is currently Assistant Coach of the Sydney University Flames in the WNBL. He has held numerous coaching and development appointments in Victoria, Queensland, Northern Territory and New South Wales, including NITCP Head Coach. He has also coached state teams in Queensland, Victoria and Northern Territory.

His international coaching experience includes Assistant Coach of the Australian Opals from 2006 through 2008, during which time the Opals won Australia's first Senior World Championship Gold Medal, and followed this up by winning the Silver Medal at the Beijing Olympics.

He was Head Coach of the Australian Under 17 Women in 2009 and 2010, during which time they took part in the inaugural FIBA World Championship for Under 17 Women, in Toulouse, France. In 2009, he was Head Coach of the Australian Youth Team at the FIBA Oceania Tournament in Saipan.

Peter has been awarded Basketball Australia's Junior Coach of the Year twice (in 2005 and 2009). To have someone of Peter's vast experience and talent is an extraordinary coup for Norths.

Peter said after accepting the multi-year appointment: "I'm excited about the opportunity to coach and take a leading role in Northern Suburbs Basketball Association's programme, and enthusiastic to have a positive impact across the entire women's programme at Norths. The club has a strong vision of where they would like their women's program to head and there is no reason within that vision that we can't bring sustainable success."

Peter's first public role at Norths will be to address all rep coaches in our Junior and Senior women's programmes, outlining the work they will be doing with him, and under his leadership, to produce better outcomes for players, coaches, the Association, and basketball.

In addition to coaching in Norths senior women's programme, Peter is specifically tasked to reach into our U16 & U18 girls programme and work with our volunteer coaching teams in the areas of playing structure, drills and tactics within the U16 & U18 elements of the JRP, to ensure players and coaches are best equipped for transition to senior ranks.

Norths Board and management have been working for some time to secure coaches with the "right stuff" to deliver sustainable improvement and success across our representative programmes and in Peter Lonergan we feel we have secured just such a person for the women's programme.

Norths Board are continuing to review the applications for the other coaching roles within the Senior Rep programme, with the aim to achieve a similar outcome for the Men.

On behalf of the Board, Management, staff and members I extend a warm Norths family welcome to Peter, his wife Jenny and daughter Sienna.

Coming soon will be dates for Peter's first address to rep coaches referred to above and 2011 Senior rep trials.

Go the Mighty Bears!

Trevor N Karsten  
General Manager  
NSBA Inc

T: 02 - 9906 - 7877

F: 02 - 9906 - 3339

E: [nsba@nsba.com.au](mailto:nsba@nsba.com.au)

W: [www.nsba.com.au](http://www.nsba.com.au)