

**DRUMMOYNE WATER POLO PLAYER SELECTED IN AUSTRALIAN YOUTH TEAM**

The emergence of the Drummoyne Water Club junior development program has been recognised by National and State selectors. John Hahn achieved the distinction of becoming the first Australian representative from the Drummoyne club since they commenced their junior development programme in 2002. John was selected in the Australian Under 17 Youth team who played in tournaments against the world's best youth teams in Spain and Italy. "Training and playing against the worlds best teams including the best youth players from Spain, Hungary, Croatia, USA and Italy was a great experience" according to John who joined Drummoyne in 2001 where he combines his club training with training at the NSW Institute of Sport at Homebush.

Drummoyne juniors Sarah Dill Macky, Tyler Martin and Aiden Roach played for NSW in the East Coast Challenge. The tournament held on the Gold Coast involved the best Under 14 water polo players from around Australia. Both NSW teams successfully defended their titles defeating Queensland in the boys final while the NSW teams qualified for the final to guarantee both girls teams the gold and silver medal.

"These players have come through our junior development programme which is about to enter its 4<sup>th</sup> year" according to Club President Andrew Murray. "We knew that we had to move away from some of the traditions of our club otherwise we would continue to lose our juniors. Traditionally players would have to play with the National League clubs to get recognised by the representative selectors. It became very frustrating losing players. The Drummoyne club chose to do something to reverse the trend and introduced the highly successful Junior Development Program".

About to start pre-season training the club has appointed former National League player Juan Ramirez and current NSW junior girls coach Dave Hudson as Club Coach for the Men's and Women's programme. Andrew Murray outlined their role following their appointment. "Dave and Juan have a wealth of experience that is being used to implement a coaching structure aligned with Drummoyne's development goals. They will be actively involved in coordinating the junior and senior program, including the highly successful Friday night Sub Junior programme, October School Holiday Clinic at Drummoyne pool as well as preparing our top grades".

This season Drummoyne are entering teams in the Ladies and Men's 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade competitions as well as the Under 14 and 16 girls and boys competitions. They will also enter Ladies and Men's teams in the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade NSW Water Polo competition starting mid October.

Juan and David are looking forward to the season ahead and the challenge to develop players to go on and play at the highest level. The clubs preseason training commenced early September at Cabarita Pool. Training will commence at Drummoyne Pool in the first week of October with some sessions continuing at Cabarita pool.

With some 300 members, the Drummoyne club is one of the largest water polo clubs in Australia. If you are interested in playing water polo with Drummoyne or would like to find out more about the Sub Junior and October School Holiday Clinic visit [www.drummoynewaterpolo.com.au](http://www.drummoynewaterpolo.com.au) or send an email to [info@drummoynewaterpolo.com.au](mailto:info@drummoynewaterpolo.com.au)

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For further information, or to arrange a photograph, please contact;  
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