

Seasons set to do it again

Steve Menzies
NETBALL

THERE will be a reality check for Seasons Lasseters as they tackle Rovers Scope in round 18 of the Club Eastside Alice Springs Netball Association A-grade on Saturday.

Seasons proved they would be a competitive finals side after defeating second-placed West's Gillen Club last week.

But they are pitted against the second-placed Rovers who are looking to play in their 10th consecutive grand final.

It will be a tough task despite coach Bec Ford being confident about the way the side is performing.

"We are starting to really click as a team and we will be looking for the win," Ford said.

"We have a hard job ahead of us but my girls are ready.

"It is to Rovers' credit that they have had their players come back at the right time but we will be looking forward to a good match with hopefully a great outcome."

Seasons will be without lively wing attack Carley Halkett, one of a number of players including sisters Megan and Shannan Cantwell who have joined from other clubs.

Ford said there was good depth within the team, led by Nikki Marsh.

"The Cantwell sisters and Carley have being a great pick up for us this year," she said.

"They each have brought their own styles of play ... they give us more options either side of the court."

West's Gillen Club go into the late game against Neata Glass Giants full of confidence, putting the loss to Seasons behind them.

West's will be without captain Dani Wenske and defender Lauren Wapling but expect to regain vice-captain Georgia Sleep. Wenske, one of the most accurate shooters in the competition but West have the players to cover for her.

Giants showed last week against top side Federal Trusty Glass what could be if they had someone to get the ball in the net. The players work hard but need to find a shooter or two for next season to be able to match the other sides.



Megan Cantwell has been a good recruit for Seasons

Picture: CHARLIE LOWSON

Miller part of doubles win

ALICE Springs darts player Chippy Miller was part of a men's doubles winning combination in the 35th PUMA Australian Darts Championships in Adelaide recently.

Miller and Lindsay Haji-Ali represented the Northern Territory and they defeated South Australian pair of Raymond O'Donnell and Martin Rose 6-4 to be crowned Australian men's doubles champions.

The pair had a 4-2 victory against Queensland pairing Dwayne Turner and Nathan Paice in the quarter-finals before a 5-0 demolishing of Western Australians Conan Ugle and Adam Rowe in their semi-final.

Back on track for points

Nick Kossatch
DIRT KARTS

ALICE Springs Dirt Karting Club points competition is back in action this Sunday from 9.30am at the Arunga Park Speedway complex.

This will be a points meeting for all classes, plus the KT Medium trophy day.

This class will compete over the four heats and also contest a final.

Club publicity officer Craig Schier said there had been strong participation in the KT Medium class.

"It has been running the largest fields all year with a

mixture of experience through to first-year drivers," he said.

"Sam Butler and Steven Howell will be strong.

"But don't count out the likes of Cameron Glover and Sharali Mahomet, who have been consistently finishing up the order."

Schier said that several other drivers had the ability to upstage their more fancied opponents.

"Darcy Reid and Wade Beaton have shown improvement and may also steal some points from the frontrunners," he said.

"Your starting position is determined by the results of

the four heats, so any did-not-finish results during the heats will prove costly for the final."

All other classes will be racing as well, with sign-on at 8.30am.

Entry is free to spectators, with canteen and bar facilities available.

Meanwhile, Schier suffered season-ending ruptured ligaments in his left shoulder following a nasty crash in the previous meeting on July 27.

"I was in a tangle down at the back and hit the kart in front of me, and then got hit from behind and was spat out of my kart," he said.

"It's a bit disappointing."

Dyer on fire at the gallops

Shane Green
HORSE RACING

VICTORIAN-BASED trainer Neil Dyer's recent Darwin carnival campaign was a successful endeavour. The Kyneton based trainer is certainly no stranger to Northern Territory success and he has the figures behind him to back it up.

Darwin Cup stalwart Hawke's Bay has been the flag-bearer for Dyer's top end trips in recent years but the tide has turned with his recent retirement, and before he left Victoria, Dyer would have held reservations with regard to this season's Darwin campaign without his star galloper.

It mattered little in the end with Dyer's team racing with great consistency, he won races with four different gallopers, Bel Ez, Bel Sir and Pot Black were all victorious, while the highly gifted Royal Request proved to be the jewel in Dyer's golden crown. He captured the prestigious NT Derby. Tomorrow at Pioneer Park Dyer will saddle up two big chances as he heads back home.

Six-year-old gelding Bel Gold was ultra consistent in Darwin without winning, he hasn't raced since a very good third behind Port Hercule at Fannie Bay on July 19 over 1600m.

He's back in distance to 1200m tomorrow when he tackles the Truckie's Day 22nd August Hcp but he will still take a power of beating.

Bel Gold has won at the trip in the past and he will have

been freshened since his last run. Natural Hero is first up and he should be in the finish, while the Gary Bignall-trained Kimberley Downs, also first up, has good enough form to shake the life out of tomorrow's race.

Dyer will also start maiden mare Little Rock Siren in the last race, The Rock Bar Maiden Hcp (1000m) and she will be right in the finish. She has never run a placing in her six runs to date but that will change on Saturday. Her runs in Darwin were better than they looked on paper and tomorrow's race is as weak as a cup of Shelley's lemonade. She will be handled by a battered and bruised Kayla Cross. The talented apprentice took a nasty tumble in Darwin on Cup Day when she was hurtled from Hand In Glove.

The Coleman's Printing Hcp (1200m) is a tricky affair but Barely A Beat is working up to a win. The Nigel Moody trained mare has had two runs here and both were solid performances. Adelaide hoop Wayne Kerford has retained the ride on Barely A Beat and she should provide punters with a good run for their money.

King Crusader can return to the winner's list tomorrow when he takes on the First national Frampton's Hcp (1100m). He has won four races here last season and looked very good doing it. He failed here before Christmas and was spelled before embarking on a Victorian campaign where he came up short.



**ALICE SPRINGS
TOUGH ASSOCIATION**

NEW SEASON COMMENCING
20TH AUGUST 2014

TEAM NOMINATIONS CLOSE AUG 15TH, 2014

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S
COMPETITIONS
Wednesday Evenings

MIXED COMPETITIONS
A Grade B Grade C Grade
Friday Evenings Games

Games start at 6:00pm

TEAM NOMINATION \$150.00
CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS ACCEPTED

PLAYER REGISTRATION
\$110.00 (SENIORS) \$75.00 (JUNIORS)

SCHOOL VOUCHERS CAN BE USED

Nomination and registration forms available at
www.foxsportspulse.com/aasoc_page.cgi?c=1-565-0-0-0
or at Flynn Drive Oval Wed 13th August, 5:30 - 7pm

For more information please contact
ALICE TOUCH: astouch0870@gmail.com