Hockeyroo Brooke Peris returns to Darwin at the top of her game

Her cousin Nova famously won Olympic gold with the Hockeyroos in 1996, but it was another Australian star, Kobie McGurk, who sparked a fire in Peris. “This brings back a lot of memories from when the Hockeyroos came to Darwin once before,” Peris said. “One of the Hockeyroos girls, Kobie McGurk, was here and I fell in love with her. That’s when I was like, ‘I want to be her’. In her last two years I got to play with her and that meant a great deal to me.”

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MARC McGOWAN

BROOKE Peris remembers being one of the excitable kids when the Hockeyroos last visited Darwin. The roles were reversed yesterday at Marrara Hockey Centre, when Perth-based Peris – now a Hockeyroo – made her triumphant homecoming. Peris and her teammates are in the Top End this week for a Four Nations tournament against New Zealand, Japan and India ahead of the Rio Olympics.

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