

National Team Appointments

Softball New Zealand are pleased to announce the following national team appointments:

Junior White Sox Manager: Gail Werahiko

Junior White Sox Assistant Coaches: Jackie Smith and Alison Boys

Emerging Sox Under 17 Girls Head Coach: Karen Rigby

Emerging Sox Under 17 Boys Head Coach: Kurtis Tomkins

Former White Sox, Softball NZ Hall of Famer and Olympian Jackie Smith returns to the international stage in the form of Assistant Coach for the JWSX. Smith who will offer a wealth of experience to the programme represented New Zealand at the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games and competed in three world series; 1990 USA, 1994 Canada and 1998 Japan.

A former Junior White Sox player herself Smith will bring a high level of planning and support to the campaign, a campaign that will have expectations of re-joining the top 6 teams in the world.

Werahiko and Boys have been elevated to the junior programme after several campaigns with developing national teams. The two are in a familiar setting as they will be led by recently appointed JWSX Head Coach Carl Tuinenga. Tuinenga who is fresh out of coaching the New Zealand Selection that competed against the Oregon Ducks on Wednesday in Hastings will have a wealth of knowledge to call upon.

Boys a former White Sox catcher herself will team up with Smith in a dual assistant coach role with the aim of getting the JWSX back on track after finishing 16th at the Junior World Championships in Florida last July.

Wellington's Karen Rigby received an early Christmas present in being named Head Coach of the Emerging Sox Girls Team. Rigby who took the PK women's team to sixth at last season's Women's Open Clubs in her first attempt replaces the vacated position left by Tuinenga.

Kurtis Tomkins is rewarded for his commitment and talent by being reappointed as the Emerging Sox Boys Head Coach for another campaign.