BLACK SOX SQUAD FOR GISBORNE TRAINING CAMP ANNOUNCED

Golden Homes Black Sox management have named 23 athletes to attend next month's training camp in Gisborne. The camp will be the second time the team has been together since the team won silver at the World Championships in Canada 13 months ago.

Black Sox Manager Jayden Moore says "apart from the excitement of holding a training camp in Gisborne, which is a first for the Black Sox, bringing our National Squad together on this occasion will mark a significant step in our ascend up the mountain towards the World Championships in Whitehorse, Canada next July. For the past 8 months we have placed a strong focus on strength & conditioning while the four days we spend together in Gisborne will see us conduct fitness testing, softball specific training, team building activities and community engagement. All of this provides a fantastic opportunity for our athletes to put their best foot forward in front of the coaching staff to be included in the 17 man squad to tour Argentina in November".

Softball New Zealand are delighted to be able to coordinate the Black Sox camp in an area that has taken quantum leaps in developing softball over the last five years. "It is very satisfying to support Tairawhiti Softball Association in this manner. Tairawhiti is an Association leading by example not only on the diamond but off the diamond through volunteer and development programs. Part of their success is due to a strong community focus and a close working with Sport Gisborne" says SNZ CEO, Tony Giles.

Tairawhiti Softball Association President Walton Walker says "the region is super excited about the up-coming visit of the Black Sox team to Gisborne. With the huge growth of softball in the region it will be a great start to the new season, a great workout for the new softball diamond but most importantly a great way to showcase the sport of softball with the most successful men's softball team in the world".

The Golden Homes Black Sox squad to meet in Gisborne 22-25th, September is: Hohepa Monk (North Harbour), Bayley Hoani-Pearson, Thomas Enoka Connor Peden, Jerome Haretuku, Ben Enoka*, Alfonz Oveinikovas*, Matt Oxley, Zane Van Lieshout, Kallan Compain, Eruera Drague, Campbell Enoka (Auckland), Nik Hayes, Cory Timu, Joel Evans (Hutt Valley), Josh Pettett, Jovaan Hanley, Wayne Laulu, Jerome Raemaki (Wellington), Penese Iosefo, Joshua Harbrow, Tyron Bartorillo, Ihaka Davis (Canterbury). * = unavailable due to playing commitments in Europe.

Team Management

Mark Sorenson (Head Coach), Darryl Marino (Assistant Coach), Jim Wana (Battery Coach), Jayden Moore (Manager), Carl Franklin (Selector), Guy Mothersole (Lead Strength & Conditioning), Paul Aitu (Physio), John Quinn (Mental Skills), Amrit John / James Frisby (Video Analysts)

Frisby named as Black Sox Video Analysis

Jamie Frisby will join the Black Sox Management team as the new video analysis technician. Frisby a long-time member of the Parklands Christchurch United Devils and Canterbury Red Sox team will join the Black Sox as the teams builds towards the ultimate goal of a seventh world title.

"After a long playing career it is often the body that gives up before the brain. I felt it wasn't time to walk away completely so undertook the role of Assistant Coach with the Canterbury Red Sox. After a few enjoyable seasons involved with that aspect of the game, the Black Sox analyst role is giving me the opportunity to contribute to something I have held in such high regard for a long time" says Frisby.