



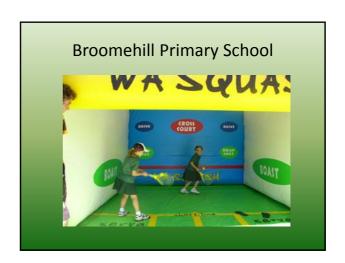
# ESPERANCE REGION Schools Development Program

- Monday Broomehill P.S
- Tuesday Hopetoun P.S
- Wednesday Ravensthorpe D.H.S
- Thursday Munglinup P.S/Cascade P.S
  - » Esperance Junior Club Coaching
- Friday Esperance Primary School/Scadden P.S
- Saturday Esperance Junior Tournament
- Monday Grass Patch P.S/ Salmon Gums P.S
- Tuesday Norseman D.H.S
- Wednesday Return home and collapse



# **Broomehill P.S Report**

- Tim and myself (Mike) showcased the new inflatable squash courts for the first time at Broomehill Primary School. The students were amazed at the prospect of playing squash in their school yard in a bouncy castle! The 70 students from Pre-Primary to Year 7 had a positive experience playing squash in their school yard. Our full range of warm-up activities and squash skills were enjoyed by all and with the kids asking us where they can play squash after the program. All in all a very successful and enjoyable day with teachers requesting a follow up day later on in the year.
- When I rang Hopetoun Primary School the Principal was very receptive that squash courts were being brought to the school for students to be involved in a squash program. Quote "This is a first for Hopetown and the kids cant wait to try squash"



# Hopetoun P.S Report

• Driving into Hopetoun was certainly a pleasant experience with the town set again the rolling waves. We eventually found our way to the new Hopetoun Primary School, only fourteen months old, and were confronted with 90 odd excited students. This being their first ever experience with squash it was certainly keeping the interest high whilst we were setting up the equipment. Our first class was Year 1's and 2's and right from the beginning they showed us their high standard of hand and eye co-ordination skills. Their infectious enthusiasm kept myself and Tim excited for the whole lesson which flowed onto the next group of Year 2's and 3's. They too had a fun time and were very excited about hitting the ball against the inflatable courts. Our next group of 4's and 5's showed that this school has a high level of hand eye co-ordination skills with a number of girls and boys showing a talent for the game. Our final group of year 5's, 6's and 7's got through the session with our King of the Court challenge enjoyed by all.



### Ravensthorpe D.H.S

• In the searing heat we ventured over from our luxury accommodation, a 2 bed 'donga', to set up our inflatable courts. We had the attention of the students early, even the Year 8's who were more enthusiastic to have a go on the courts than any other Year group. This was Ravensthorpe's first experience at playing squash and it was well received. From our first group to the Years 1's and 2's fun was had by all. We had our first lunchtime session with the courts which saw nearly 30 Year 8's having a hit on the courts, showing that everyone can have a great time on the courts. At the end of the day Tim boarded the bus to Esperance while Mike headed to Munglinup.

# Munglinup P.S Report

Our next stop was a small town between Esperance and Ravensthorpe, lying about 100km from Esperance in the middle of nowhere. This little town showed us the best talent of all the towns we had been to so far. With a strong following of tennis players, the older group of players showed they have a natural talent to play the game. This was then followed up by the lower school who in turn where probably the best youngsters that we have been involved in. They were very impressed with the bouncy castle look-a-like squash courts and took up the challenge of learning to play squash with vigour and enthusiasm. An appreciative group of people that typifies involvement in country sport.

# **Munglinup Primary School**



# Cascade P.S

• After a fantastic morning at Munglinup, we travelled to Cascade. For those who have never been there, simply follow the gravel road for 30km off the main road and you will come across it. This little community of no shops, no pub and no houses presented their skills as squash players on the inflatable courts with interest and enthusiasm. Our first group of Years 1s, 2s and 3s took up the challenge of Big Hand and did it with loads of fun and excitement. They were then followed by the upper school who learnt the basic fundamentals of squash quickly and managed to find the class champion by the end of the session. Fun was had by all, even the teachers.

# Cascade Primary School WA SQUASH SPORT IS A LOT HARDER IF YOU SMOKE! SPORT IS A LOT HARDER IF YOU SMOKE!

# **Esperance Primary School**

• This was the only program on this trip that utilised the Esperance Squash Centre. This school has been a part of the regions program for a number of years now and the children are familiar with the fundamentals of the game. This school is the predominant feeder for the Esperance Junior Program. It has been a successful part of their physical education curriculum for some time now.

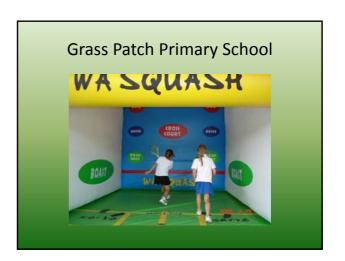
# Scadden PS

Another small school stuck out in the bush, about 55km from Esperance with 38 students. The idea of playing squash was something that the Scadden students couldn't imagine but once seeing the inflatable courts being inflated they couldn't wait to get involved with the game. From the Pre-Primarys, Years 1 and 2 (Big Hand session) all the way up to the year 6-7 class, fun was had by everybody. An excellent school with children that have a lot of hand eye coordination. Could very well have picked up 4 or 5 players for our talent squads from this school.



#### **Grass Patch PS**

 After hearing a few interesting stories from the Esperance locals about names for Grass Patch, we rocked up to find another bunch of enthusiastic students who had no idea what squash was. Once the 'bouncy castles' where inflated the students went into a frenzy as nothing like this before had been to Grass Patch. Tim finally got everyone out on the first go in Crabs and Crocodiles (Compared to Mike's 100% hit rate) and we also witnessed another group of very talented players showing that the area could quite easily match it with the metro juniors in years to come



# Salmon Gums P.S Report

• Further down the road to Norseman is a settlement called Salmon Gums, which was once bigger than Esperance. The school only just had over 20 students and no undercover area, making things interesting when the temperature peaked at 41 degrees. Luckily we found a nice tree to put the courts under, and after cleaning the court we were in action for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time that day. First up was the Junior Class, Pre-primarys and Year 1's. The Pre-Primary's struggled a bit as they have only just started going to school 2 days a week. The Senior Class was probably the luckiest class of all, for students and teacher, as there was only 5 students in the class. This gave them heaps of game time and each of them a chance to challenge Tim. After deliriously packing up the courts, we made our way onto Norseman



### Norseman D.H.S Report

 Our final day! We ventured on down to Norseman District High School to work with the primary school students. Another 40 degree day forecast, we were thrilled to see an undercover area again which offered some protection from the heat. The Norseman students appreciated a sports program at their school as they don't often get programs like this due to their remoteness with their main focus of sport being AFL



# Advantages of an Incursion over Excursion

- No Bus Hire
- Teacher Responsibility is Reduced
- No Travel Time/more time spent in program
- Cost to student and school is reduced
- Need for parent consent and permission slip is eliminated
- Allows for the younger classes (Pre-Primary, Years 1 and 2) to be involved in the program

#### Overview

After travelling for 10 days, visiting 10 towns, presenting to 600 students, travelling some 2000km, we are pleased that this tour was such a successful one, and without the inflatable courts, we would not have been able to visit such remote places, as they do not have squash courts. Our SMARTER THAN SMOKING regional development programs will prosper through the usage of the inflatable courts and will no doubt get the message out to children about squash as accessing squash courts in the past was often difficult due to transport and distances

