

Game report March 25th 2007



Final game of the summer season of pesapallo.

Well it was film day. Enni Tuomisalo and her crew were at the game. It was an early start for Ian, Susanna, Paul, Willie and myself. We were the likely candidates for the film making. Interviewing and action shots were done over and over. It was really a great way to learn the game I suppose. Just go over and over until the crew were happy or we got it right. Willie though he got to do all the running to base one. Look puffed out when you come down the line they asked him. Hell I am stuffed he told them. We all were really. There was a lot of stuff that had to be done and Bless her Enni didnt get flustered at all. Problems arose by some people not being there meant nothing to her. Just move on and use someone else. I suppose we got to see how it is on the set of any movie. Whether it is like todays film shoot or maybe what could be expected to be seen in Hollywood. Mid day and we are supposed to start the final. We have some players there and still others arriving. We have to start cos there is film still be shot. Two teams of five players per team. Ians team in blue are Clinton, Susanna, Minna, Paul and of course Ian. Willies team is in white and that team was made up with Gavin, Glen, Sirpa Ottaway, Tanja and of course Willie

Willies team bats first with Gavin from Willies teams serving. Each batting team provides the server. So we batted through the batting line up twice before changing over. Players are required to run to base one and then onto base two as per the usual rules of the game. Then they get batted home if they are lucky. They just have to run from base two back to the serving area. It is a close fought game for the first couple of innings. Everyone is getting serious. Tanja is on base one when Willies team went to field. She must have had glue in her glove because today she made some brilliant catches. The game is going along well with plenty of runs being scored. Not sure of what the run count is because we are really playing this game with some serious attitude. Throws are on target and the hitting is getting ferocious. People are going to die if they get hit by the ball. Then came the play of the game. Gavin serving. Tanja batting. Ian on one and Paul on two. Bases loaded. Third strike and Tanja missed the hit. Gavin picks up the ball claiming the first out with the runner coming home from two. Gavin threw the ball to Ian at one claiming out number two. Ian then threw a rocket powered ball over to Paul. Now Paul hadnt been making the ball stick today but this time things were different. The runner is well down the track to two and the ball races past the runner at just above head level for Paul. Glove up and a wee jump and Paul has caught and help onto the ball. He claims out number three. It was just such an awesome piece of playing that it is worthy of play of the day. Well done guys this time it all went as it should do.

Well we had fielders running all over the place to chase down balls and we had runners really looking for the extra base. The batters really did do well. There were some very savage hits which could have put many a player in hospital if they were watching. Today thank goodness they watched. No injuries which is good.

We even had to take a wee rest period in today's game. Just too hot and everyone was worn out.

Then one more inning each. This was the deciding end of the game and I gotta say that after all that had been done today at the field it was fitting that both teams fought until the end. Sadly though for today's game there had to be a winner. A summer of pesapallo champion.

Sorry Willie even though I was on your team and even though I am the writer of this report your team got beat today. No shame though mate. It was a brilliant game and one that we have needed to have for a long time.

Congratulations to Ians Blue Team they took out the final game. It was a challenge right to the end.

Cant say how many runs were scored by either team and I dont think that matters too much. All we know is that Ians mob well they won. So lets be happy about that huh???

Thank you so much to Enni and her crew I sure hope the film project is successful.

And to all who have supported pesapallo this summer I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

I have an opportunity to go coach at Softball. I have to tell you this. Pesapallo is my first real love in sport. It is such a great game. Speed and I can run, Long throws and I can chuck that ball. Plenty of hitting and yes I can bat. It has it all. Importantly it has you the players who have been with me and the game all through the few years we have been going. And I have given a lot of thought about the softball opportunity. However again a couple of people believe this game can really work so I am going to work with them to keep trying to make pesapallo a window for Finland here in NZ.

During the off season a few of us are going to work on things that will hopefully change the way we treat pesapallo here. We hope the game will move onto a new level and begin to move ahead to finally have dedicated teams playing. Just as they do in any other team sport here in NZ

I must again thank sincerely Susanna Palomaki. Today at the filming I got a lot said about what I have done for this game etc. I havent done that much. I had an idea and that was all. Susanna Palomaki whether you like her or not has made pesapallo available to everyone who cared enough to come play. Susanna took this idea I had and made it work. No one else has done as much for this game as this woman.

Susanna thank you matey. What else can I say. I am humbled by what you have caused to happen. Dont ever leave this game.

New to the game is Paul. In a short period of time Paul has changed this game. First he pushed for and got the Unitec field. Everytime this field is marked out for us Paul pays for it. He has never asked to be compensated for this. He just makes sure it is done and takes care of business. Paul is part of the leadership for this game. His ideas are fresh. His friendliness is appreciated and his dedication to the game and those who think the same way is second to none. Thank you Paul everything you have done has made us all more aware of our game.

So it is done.

Next season is really months away. Think about getting serious as a player. Think about contributing to this game. Become part of a team who really wants to play pesapallo on any given Sunday.

See you at the field in the spring time