



Friday, June 11, 2010

Firebirds talk Tactix ahead of the game

THE Mission Queensland Firebirds are ready for their last home game of the season as the finals series looms.

In another must win match for a final four placing, the Firebirds will be on a mission to get as many points as they can on the board against the Canterbury Tactix.

Another motivator for the athletes will be Aussie pride. Having defeated four of New Zealand's five teams within the ANZ Championship, the Firebirds will be looking to make it five from five.

Mission Queensland Firebirds coach Roselee Jencke said the challenge for the Firebirds on Monday will be to step up, be counted and to perform under pressure.

"One of team our goals is to win against every Kiwi team in the ANZ Championship and we have only one more to tick off our list," she said.

"For this to happen against Tactix we will need to play four quarters of quality netball."

Despite languishing at the bottom of the ladder, the Tactix are expected to put up a fight.

Tactix have the goods which was proven in Round Three when the team forced the undefeated NSW Swifts into extra time.

Jencke said her plan going into the game will be to use the ball a lot better in attack, with better conversion on centre passes and turnovers.

"Defensively everyone is required to shut down their opponent and apply as much pressure to allow our defenders opportunities to turn the ball over and score from there," she said.

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Jencke said there are a number of Tactix players to watch out for including captain Maree Bowden, shooters Anna Thompson and Ellen Halpenny and defender Charlotte Kight.

“Tactix will come into this game full of confidence because in their last two outings they have really run with and taken it up to the opposition playing some good netball,” Jencke said.

But with a home crowd behind them, Jencke is confident with her team.

“It is always great to play in front of our home crowd and we are really looking forward to the crowd getting right behind us so we can put out a great performance,” she said.

Watch the Mission Queensland Firebirds take on the Canterbury Tactix live at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre at 7.05pm, Monday June 14.

Those who can't make the game can watch all the action on Network 10.

Media enquiries:

Christine Munson – Media Manager
07 3848 6330 ext.15/ 0439 779 069
christine.munson@netballq.org.au

