

Ice Fernz

New Zealand Women's Ice Hockey Team



24 March 2019

9.00 pm

NZ Ice Fernz settle into training camp in Austria

The New Zealand Women's Ice Hockey Team (better known as the NZ Ice Fernz) have arrived at the Sports Zentrum facility in St. Pölten, Austria, in preparation for their push for gold at the upcoming International Ice Hockey Federation ("IIHF") Division IIB Tournament.

The IIHF -sanctioned tournament takes place at the in the Transylvanian town of Brasov, Romania from the 1st – 7th April. However, the Ice Fernz will spend the next six days in St Polten, about an hours drive from Vienna, with twice-daily on-ice training sessions and an array of off-ice exercises in preparation for the tournament. The training camp in St Pölten will also include two games against local Austrian teams.

"We've settled into the most amazing sports facility here in Austria" said Team Manager Kathy Gaze. "The food and the accommodation are great. There's a lot of positive energy and professionalism here" she said.

"The team travelled well, and the girls had a gym session upon arrival, to try and shake some of the effects of the jetlag".

The honour of carrying the New Zealand Flag and Kiwi mascot fell to Hannah Cross from Dunedin. It is the 17-year old's first tournament as an Ice Fernz representative, and the honour traditionally falls to the team's youngest rookie.

The Ice Fernz will depart from Vienna to Romania on Saturday 30th March, and have a further practice session planned at the tournament venue on Sunday 31st March, before the official start of the tournament.

The first game of the tournament sees the Ice Fernz take on the formidable Chinese Taipei team on Monday 1st April at 1300 hours local time / 11pm NZ time. They will then take on Iceland, Turkey, Romania and finally Croatia, with the aim of winning all their games in the round-robin tournament and promotion to IIHF Division IIA.

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Background information

The games can be viewed in New Zealand at the following hours

April 1: NZ v Chinese Taipei at 11pm NZ Time

April 3: NZ v Iceland at 2:30am NZ Time

April 5: NZ v Turkey at 2:30am NZ Time

April 6: NZ v Romania at 6am NZ Time

April 7: NZ v Croatia at 10pm NZ Time

The full squad is:

NZ Ice Fernz team List		21-Mar-19
Name	Province	Position
Terryn Bruce	Auckland	Defence
Hannah Cross	Southern	Defence
Harriet Fuller	Auckland	Forward
Kirstin Gerken	Southern	Forward
Hope Gregory	Queenstown	Forward
Grace Harrison	Auckland	Goalie
Abbey Heale	Southern	Forward
Caitlin Heale	Southern	Forward
Jasmine Horner-Pascoe	Auckland	Forward
Lochlyn Hyde	Auckland	Goalie
Jaimie Jones	Auckland	Defence
Rebecca Lilly	Southern	Defence
Rikki-Lee McLean	Queenstown	Defence
Helen Murray	Auckland	Forward
Rachael Neville-Lamb	Auckland	Defence
Caitlin Orr	Southern	Forward
Jemma Read	Auckland	Forward
Ashley Richmond	Auckland	Defence
Reagyn Shattock	Auckland	Forward
Hannah Shields	Auckland	Forward
Danielle Strayer	Queenstown	Defence
Krystie Woodyear-Smith	Canterbury	Defence

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Links to further information

Information on the tournament can be found at

<https://www.iihf.com/en/events/2019/wwiib>

Follow the Ice Fernz on their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/IceFernz/>

and on Puck Yeah NZ <https://www.facebook.com/puckyeahnz/>

For more information please contact:

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Paul Harrison (In New Zealand until 30 March 2019, then in Romania)

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