

## Otago Junior Coaching

### EAGLES COACHING TOKO/BALCLUTHA Sunday, March 11

It is very difficult getting a day to suit two clubs, so we were fortunate to settle. after consultation, on Sunday, March 11. The weather was very warm, although Toko had a very heavy dew which dried up around 11am.

Toko Secretary Mrs Margaret Cain, was a tremendous help in organising the morning and although she could not stay long, while present she took numerous photos. Local Eagle, Lester Clark was kept informed and helped

throughout the morning.

Sixteen children, plus parents attended the morning. Lester Clark, Biil Cranfield, Murray Nyhon helped Melanie while I endeavoured to speak with parents and distributed brochures explaining what Eagles did for the Halberg Disability Sports Foundation.

Melanie has been involved with coaching now for many years and has excellent way with children, starting on the putting green and working through to hitting on the fairway. After a 2-hour session it was surprising how well the children could hit the ball.

Melanie works through e-mails and we were therefore able to gauge how many children would attend. Working this way Melanie can keep in touch with both parents and children. She reported having received a number of e-mails thanking her and the Eagles for the lessons and appreciating the fact they did not have too far to drive.

Balclutha was different. Jeff Bisset, (son of an old Eagle) has been coaching there for some time, so when organising we included Jeff with the Secretary and Charlie Ollerenshaw, a local Eagle, in all discussions.

However although six schools were contacted, Melanie received only one reply, which we found difficult to believe. After much to and fro-ing Jeff came up with 9 names on Friday and saved the day. However, we were pleased that on

the Sunday afternoon 13 arrived and the same procedures as with Toko were adopted with Melanie showing Jeff some new coaching methods.

Again we spoke with parents, thanking them for bringing the children and passed out brochures.

Jeff Bisset is doing a great job with slightly older children and we suggested he keeps in touch as we may be able to help him in some way. Again the parents were very grateful for the Coaching. Murray Nyhon, Jeff and Bill helped

Melanie.