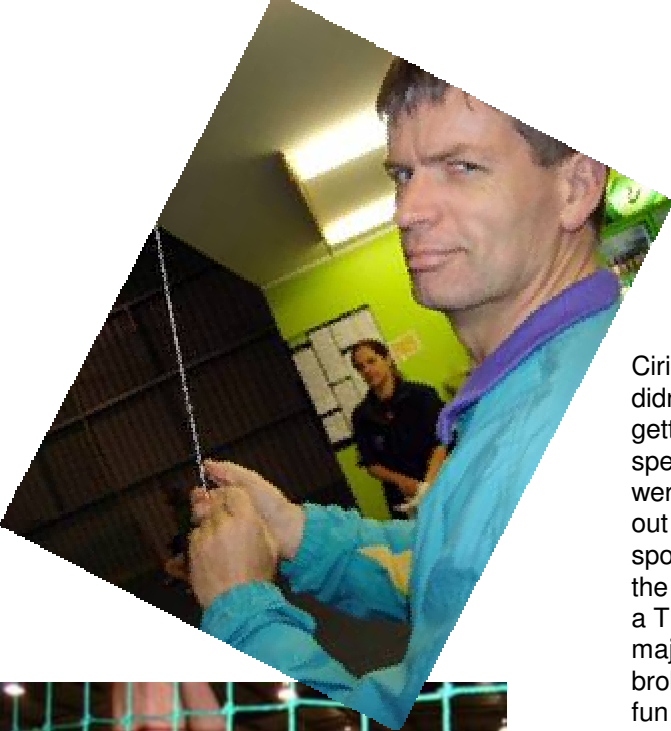


Without a paddle



Cirina...It was all so much fun that I didn't want it to end. I didn't want the team to separate and the prospect of getting fat and lazy over winter was all too real. After speaking with Jane and Erin I realized that a number of us were feeling the same way. With the help of Megan (look out for her in the boat 06/07!), we decided to start a new sport in the off-paddling season – and indoor netball was the game of choice. “Without a Paddle’s” first game was a Thursday night, the team was very green with the majority of us never playing before. We fumbled the ball, broke all the rules and lost terribly but boy did we have fun! By the time the Autumn season had finished our fitness levels had improved and we had gotten to know most of the rules, we were still losing most of our games but everyone was glad to be there. In fact there was so much interest we needed to start another team on Tuesday nights. A lot of potential 2006/2007 paddlers have started playing netball and the teambuilding has already begun. Netball was also a good excuse to include what we consider the extended dragonboat team. . . partners, children, friends and family have all come along for a game.

Erin...Now that we are practiced and in our new season we are winning more and more of our games and the losses we do have are by much smaller margins. We even beat the team (a bunch of energetic school kids) that wasted us in our very first game. A great accomplishment! It's amazing how much of a difference a bit of fitness... and knowing the rules...makes to winning games!

Cirina... If anyone else is interested in playing a game, even on a casual basis, just send me an email.

