

The spirit of "Enthusiasm and Sincerity" is the starting point of the team

A women's basketball team was established in 1971 as a result of the passion of the then Manager of the Employee Relations Department. In 1990, the supporters' group backed by the entire EBARA Group was launched with EBARA's directors and the Ebara Women's Basketball Manager playing a central role. The team was called the EBARA Vickies, a name chosen from among the suggestions submitted in-house, and has been active as a member of the WJBL*1 since 2001. With the enthusiasm and sincerity of many people brought together, the team has been making contributions to the promotion of amateur sports for adults and community activities including the

Basketball Clinic in elementary and junior high schools, which was started in 2003 as a reflection of the present manager's desire to contribute to the community.

To contribute to local community through sports

While taking part in official games as a corporate team, the Vickies are actively involved as instructors in physical education classes and Basketball Clinics at



Assistance with school classes

elementary and junior high schools near EBARA's business locations or when they are on a road trip. The way that children who were not good at physical activities or fond of basketball make quick progress with their eyes full of joy by coming into contact with the real art shows that the activities can instill a sense of *can-do confidence*, which has been received favorably by teachers and PTAs. In 2008, the team had 30 opportunities to interact with 2,628 children in total through basketball. Finding "enthusiasm and sincerity"*2 in children's keen involvement provides a driving force for continuing these activities. For years to come, we intend to carry on these activities to promote the fun of sports among many people.

< See the details at: http://www.ebara.co.jp/csr/localsociety/sports_exchange.html >

2008 CSR Topic 3

For conveying the fun of basketball to more children

— Women's basketball team EBARA Vickies —

Victory at the National Athletic Meet 2008

In response to a request from the Tokyo Basketball Association, the Vickies participated in the 63rd National Athletic Meet held in Oita Prefecture in 2008 as a representative of Tokyo. The team won fiercely competitive games against strong teams and successfully lifted the crown of victory. It was the first achievement in 26 years for Tokyo, which brought the team a certificate of appreciation from the Tokyo Basketball Association.

Wishing more and more success

Mr. Hidesaburo Narisawa
President Tokyo Basketball Association

I would like to express my heartiest appreciation for bringing Tokyo the honor of victory. I wish the EBARA Vickies, a team making great contributions to the promotion of basketball and sound upbringing of young people, more and more success.



Clinic activities and assistance with classes at schools (2008)

- **Clinic** Request from organizations taking part in club activities
17 locations Total number of participants: 1,402
- **Assistance with school classes**
Request from school principals for the dispatch of instructors as part of physical education classes and comprehensive learning
Elementary and junior high schools: 13 dispatches to 11 schools
Total number of participants: 1,041
- **Events** Cooperative projects with local governments, municipal associations and community groups
November (OTA Fureai Festa, Shinagawa Ward Basketball Festa, etc.)

Participation in the National Athletic Meet 2008

- April Accepted a request from the Tokyo Basketball Association for the dispatch of elite players.
- August Beat the winning team of the National Athletic Meet 2007 in the Kanto Block tournament and became the representative of the Kanto Block.
- September Beat the 2007 winner in the semifinals of the final round of the National Athletic Meet.
- October Won the final game and secured victory as the team representing Tokyo.

The team received credit for its success in the corporate team league, the victory at the National Athletic Meet and the longstanding social contribution activities through the Basketball Clinic and was given the EBARA CSR Contribution Award*3 2008 Best Contributor Prize.



Banner given by children and displayed at a game



photo by Yoshihiro KOIKE

The activities of the EBARA Vickies are led by the enthusiasm and sincerity of many people brought together. The team is assiduously making a united effort to reach a higher goal. The EBARA Vickies' continued contribution to the building of a happy society by interacting with communities and children through basketball is also one of the important roles played by the EBARA Group for society. In 2008, the team participated in the National Athletic Meet as a representative of Tokyo and became the national winner, thanks to the cooperation and support of many people.



What sport can do for communities and children

Shigeru Sakane
Manager
Ebara Women's Basketball

About seven years ago, I found out that an opposition team was teaching basketball in elementary school classes. I thought we could do the same and gave briefing on community sports at board of education and principals' meetings. My wish to contribute to the sound upbringing of children through sports rather than corporate PR won the understanding of teachers and PTAs when they saw how full of life the children were. A lot of children who have taken part in the Basketball Clinic come to official games to cheer the Vickies, which gives us great encouragement.

Voice!

Thankful for the support of many people

Miyuki Agata
Member of the
EBARA Vickies

I work during the day, practice after work and play in games on non-working days. My days are busy but fulfilling. I am very happy that so many people give us a cheer thanks to the opportunities to interact with children and people in communities through basketball and I feel very grateful. We owe the victory at the National Athletic Meet to those who support us.



photo by Yoshihiro KOIKE

*1 [WJBL] Stands for the Woman's Japan Basketball League Organization

*2 ["Enthusiasm and Sincerity"] EBARA's founding spirit; see page 16.

*3 [EBARA CSR Contribution Award] Awarded for the contribution made to the development and improvement of the company's business through CSR activities. Newly founded in 2008 by incorporating the former Environmental Contribution Award.