



Media Statement

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A golden TOUCH and a WIN for Shelley

Fremantle Hospital physiotherapist Shelley Matcham received a hero's welcome when she returned to work from an international rugby competition in Dubai on Wednesday.

Shelley, a passionate sports woman and member of the inaugural Women's Rugby World Cup 7's team, scored the winning try in extra time securing finals victory over New Zealand in Dubai.

And just how did it feel to be the person to score the winning try?

"It was one of the most mind-blowing moments of my life," Shelley said.

"The championships have created history in Australian Women's sport – it is amazing for rugby and for women – this is the first time an Australian 7-sided team has played at this level and we won!"

Shelley is no stranger to elite sports and has played Touch Football for Australia since 2001. She is a winger.

She was recruited to the the 7's team after being 'spotted' during matches at the Touch Footy Nationals in Coffs Harbour in March last year.

Normal rugby teams have 15 players on each team making the inaugural competition of seven team members a unique and faster competition.

Shelley, who works out for nearly two hours a day is kept busy at the hospital working with patients recovering from hip and knee replacements and other surgical procedures.

In between she continues to train for the next round of competitions in both leagues.

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