

North Harbour Sports Council

State of Play Report August 2010



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Section 1 Introduction

The North Harbour sporting boundaries vary slightly from code to code but essentially cover the current local authority boundaries of the North Shore City and Rodney District.

North Shore City and Rodney District also vary in terms of geographic and population make up, which provides for a diverse range of people and sporting opportunities.

This section outlines the key characteristics of both North Shore City and Rodney District.

1.1 North Shore City Statistics

North Shore City Quick Facts:

- North Shore City is New Zealand's fourth largest city by population, making up 5 per cent of total population in the country
- Approximately 18% of people in the North Shore belong to the Asian ethnic group, which is double the national average of 9%
- North Shore City's population is projected to increase to 262,700 by 2021

North Shore City Current Situation

- 205,608 people were counted to live in North Shore City at the 2006 census.
- This was an increase of 20,784 people, or 11.2 percent, since the 2001 Census.
- The population was estimated to be approximately 225,800 residents at 30 June 2009

1996–2006 Censuses

Population of North Shore City 1996–2006 Censuses			
	1996	2001	2006
Male	83,445	89,184	99,888
Female	88,719	95,637	105,717
Total	172,164	184,821	205,608

North Shore Population Breakdown

Age

- The median age is 35.9 years for people in North Shore City which is the same as the national average.
- 10.8 percent of people in North Shore City are aged 65 years and over, compared with 12.3 percent of the total New Zealand population.
- 19.8 percent of people are aged under 15 years in North Shore City, compared with 21.5 percent for all of New Zealand.

Looking into the future the makeup of the population will change. It is projected that between 2006 and 2026, the biggest change will be:

- many more people in the 65+ age group
- many fewer younger adults and children added to the population, than in the past
- In terms of households, the biggest growth will be one person households and households formed by couples without children.

Ethnic groups

North Shore City is similar to the national average of European people, however it has double the national average of Asian people.

- 67.5 percent of people in North Shore City belong to the European ethnic group, compared with 67.6 percent for New Zealand as a whole.
- 6.3 percent of people in North Shore City belong to the Maori ethnic group, compared with 14.6 percent for all of New Zealand.
- Approximately 18% of people in the North Shore belong to the Asian ethnic group which is double the national average of 9%

Ethnic Groups in North Shore City - 2006 Census			Ethnic Groups in New Zealand - 2006 Census		
	Male (%)	Female (%)		Male (%)	Female (%)
European	66.5	68.3	European	66.7	68.4
Māori	6.7	6.1	Māori	14.6	14.7
Pacific peoples	3.5	3.2	Pacific peoples	7.0	6.8
Asian	18.1	18.8	Asian	9.0	9.4
Middle Eastern/Latin American/African	1.9	1.7	Middle Eastern/Latin American/African	1.0	0.8
Other ethnicity			Other ethnicity		
New Zealander	10.6	9.1	New Zealander	11.8	10.4
Other ethnicity– other	0.1	0.1	Other ethnicity– other	0.0	0.0
Total	10.6	9.1	Total	11.9	10.5

Source - Statistics New Zealand. Note - Percentages have been rounded

North Shore City Environment

The North Shore City has a unique natural environment including coastal areas, volcanic landforms, estuaries and a lake within its boundary which is very unique. The east coast coastline includes the Waitemata Harbour and its many inlets and estuaries along with Lake Pupuke provide a safe haven

for many water based activities such as swimming, fishing, boating, windsurfing, kite surfing and surfing.

Water access to the harbour, beaches and lake are strong characteristics of North Shore City which is exemplified by 145 kilometres of the city's coastline being within parks land (that is 78 percent of the western coastline and 53 percent of the eastern coastline). The water and continued access to it is an important element for North Shore people.

North Shore is predominately an urban environment which has been developed around the many town centres such as Takapuna and Glenfield to name a few.

There are small pockets of rural areas that are left, many of which border the boundaries with the Rodney and Waitakere areas. The rural areas of the past such as Albany, Greenhithe and their surrounding areas have been in-filled with residential and commercial developments over the past 20 years.

North Shore City Growth Areas

Over the next 20 years it has been identified that there will be a shift in growth patterns, away from urban expansion towards redevelopment in and around existing centres. North Shore City is projected to grow to just on 300,000 by 2031.

Regional and local growth planning has identified that over the next 15 to 20 years, it is expected that around two thirds of growth will occur in the existing urban area, especially around centres like Takapuna, Highbury and Glenfield ,with a third of the growth in the remaining green field areas like Albany and Greenhithe.

1.2 Rodney District Statistics

Rodney District Quick Facts:

- 81.8 percent of people in Rodney District belong to the European ethnic group, compared with 67.6 percent for New Zealand as a whole.
- 14.9 percent of people in Rodney District are aged 65 years and over, compared with 12.3 percent of the total New Zealand population.
- Its population ranks 11th in size out of the 73 districts in New Zealand.

Rodney District Current Situation

- 89,562 people lived in Rodney at the 2006 Census.
- This is an increase of 13,377 people, or 17.6 percent, since the 2001 Census.
- Its population ranks 11th in size out of the 73 districts in New Zealand.
- Rodney District has 2.2 percent of New Zealand's population.
- Statistics New Zealand estimated that the June 2008 population of the Rodney District was 96,400.

Population of Rodney District 1996 – 2006 Census			
	1996	2001	2006
Male	32,991	37,290	43,854
Female	33,495	38,892	45,708
Total	66,486	76,185	89,562

1996–2006 Censuses - Rodney District Population Breakdown

Age

- The median age is 39.8 years for people in Rodney District. For New Zealand as a whole, the median age is 35.9 years.
- 14.9 percent of people in Rodney District are aged 65 years and over, compared with 12.3 percent of the total New Zealand population.
- 21.9 percent of people are aged under 15 years in Rodney District, compared with 21.5 percent for all of New Zealand.

Ethnic groups

- The Rodney District has a higher percentage of European people than the national average, but has a lower percentage of Maori, Pacific Peoples and Asian than the national average.
- 81.8 percent of people in Rodney District belong to the European ethnic group, compared with 67.6 percent for New Zealand as a whole.
- 8.7 percent of people in Rodney District belong to the Maori ethnic group, compared with 14.6 percent for all of New Zealand.

Ethnic Groups in Rodney District – 2006 Census			Ethnic Groups in New Zealand – 2006 Census		
	Male %	Female %		Male %	Female %
European	80.8	82.5	European	66.7	68.4
Maori	8.9	8.6	Maori	14.6	14.7
Pacific Peoples	2.2	2.1	Pacific Peoples	7.0	6.8
Asian	2.8	3.5	Asian	9.0	9.4
Middle Eastern/Latin American/African	0.3	0.4	Middle Eastern/Latin American/African	1.0	0.8
Other Ethnicity			Other Ethnicity		
- New Zealander	13.5	12.0	- New Zealander	11.8	10.4
- Other ethnicity - other	0.1	0.0	- Other ethnicity - other	0.0	0.0
Total	13.6	12.0	Total	11.9	10.5

Source - Statistics New Zealand Note - Percentages have been rounded

Rodney District's Environment

The Rodney District has a diverse environment ranging from the coastal environment of the east and west coast, through to exotic and indigenous forests. The east coast which has the Hauraki Gulf provides a safe environment for water activities such as swimming, fishing, boating, windsurfing, kite surfing and surfing.

The west coast opens onto the Tasman Sea and the Kaipara Harbour and provides a more rugged and remote experience for water based activities. The water and continued access to it is an important element for Rodney District people and accessibility to the coastline to undertake water based activities will be critical as the urban sprawl of the coastline continues.

The Rodney District is a combination of urban and rural areas, however non urbanised areas make up almost 90% of the landmass. In comparison approximately 40% of population live within the urban area Hibiscus Coast.

The growth of the Auckland region is also impacting on the Rodney region with the metropolitan limit expanding northwards into rural areas of Rodney. The area of Silverdale is an example of a previous rural area that is now being developed by residential and commercial interests.

Future urban growth areas have been identified for Silverdale, Warkworth, Kumeu, Riverhead and Helensville as the key areas for residential development. The two key influencing elements on why the Rodney District is becoming a popular destination is the close proximity to Auckland's metropolitan areas and the coastlines.

The significant open space and its associated recreation opportunities in close proximity to the Auckland metropolitan area is utilised extensively by the wider Auckland population and is commonly referred to as Auckland's recreational playground.

1.3 Overall Population Growth for the Harbour Sporting Community

Area	Projection Status	Population at 30 June					
		2006	2011	2016	2021	2026	2031
Rodney District	Medium	92,400	102,200	111,600	121,000	130,500	139,900
North Shore City	Medium	216,900	232,600	247,800	262,700	277,100	291,000

Source: Statistics New Zealand

The table below summarises how this anticipated growth is projected to be distributed across the Auckland region.

Local Authority	Projected Population Growth (Number of new residents 2001 - 2026)	Projected Population Growth (By percentage increase 2001 - 2026)
Auckland City	170,000	44%
Manukau City	154,847	55%
North Shore City	75,900	43%
Waitakere City	75,300	39%
Rodney District	46,000	59%
Franklin District	34,783	61%
Papakura District	32,568	83%
Total Population increase 2001 - 2026	589,398	48%

Future Population Age Changes

The table below considers how the age structure of each local authority is projected to change between 2006 and 2026, based on a medium growth scenario:

Age Group	Auckland City	Manukau City	North Shore City	Waitakere City	Rodney District	Papakura District	Franklin District
2006							
0-19	25.4%	34.3%	27.1%	31.0%	28.4%	33.1%	31.4%
20-39	35.9%	28.8%	29.6%	29.9%	21.7%	27.3%	23.8%
40-65	29.3%	28.6%	32.6%	29.9%	35.0%	29.6%	34.2%
65+	9.4%	8.3%	10.7%	9.2%	14.9%	10.0%	10.5%
2026							
0-19	21.7%	30.0%	23.7%	27.3%	24.0%	30.5%	27.0%
20-39	32.1%	27.7%	26.9%	27.4%	22.6%	25.9%	22.2%
40-65	32.6%	28.6%	32.4%	30.1%	31.6%	28.2%	31.3%
65+	13.7%	13.7%	17.0%	15.1%	21.9%	15.4%	19.5%

%+ 2006 – 2026							
0-19	-3.7%	-4.3%	-3.4%	-3.7%	-4.4%	-2.6%	-4.4%
20-39	-3.8%	-1.1%	-2.7%	-2.5%	0.9%	-1.4%	-1.6%
40-65	3.3%	0.0%	-0.2%	0.2%	-3.4%	-1.4%	-2.9%
65+	4.3%	5.4%	6.3%	5.9%	7.0%	5.4%	9.0%

Based on Statistics New Zealand forecasts using 2006 as the base year (these projections are likely to be more accurate than Statistics New Zealand predictions which used 2001 as the base year)

The population age profile changes for North Shore City and Rodney District between 2006 and 2026 indicate:

- A projected decrease in the relative proportion of people in the 0-19 and 20-39 population age groups (most active sports participants) during this time.
- Reflect the shift towards an older population structure (65+)
- The largest declines in the relative proportion of people aged 20-39 are projected to occur in Auckland City, North Shore City and Waitakere City.
- However, in terms of absolute numbers, these areas are projected to record strong overall population growth.

Section 2 Value of Sport

“Sport has the power to unite people in a way little else can. Sport can create hope. Breaks down racial barriers ... laughs in the face of discrimination ... speaks to people in a language they can understand.”

- Nelson Mandela

While it is often recognised, the contribution sport makes to building pride and the value of recreation in community health, the additional benefits these activities bring to society are sometimes overlooked

The Western Australian State Government has undertaken a comprehensive study on the value of sport. The key findings of this study are outlined below.

2.1 The real value of sport and recreation

Sport and recreation helps to build communities through social inclusion and a sense of connection. Sport and recreation helps to bind families through shared experiences and shared achievements. Through participation, sport helps address anti social behaviour and can support education.

Sport contributes to economic growth through business investment and employment, and helps sustain the environment through protecting open space and natural areas. It also promotes the use of active modes of transport, such as cycling and walking.

Sport is not the cure all for society’s issues, but it can assist significantly in a positive way.

International research shows that increasing community participation in organised sport and recreation contributes to what is known as **“Social Capital”**, which is the “social fabric or glue that ties members together in a given locality (Cox, 1995). According to Putnam (2000), sports clubs and community organisations are important conduits for developing such capital and are good barometers of community strength.

The key components identified that make up social capital are:

- Builds communities
- Social Inclusion
- Reduced anti-social behavior
- Education
- Improving our well being
- Economic growth
- Urban and Regional Regeneration
- National pride

2.2 Building Communities

Sporting and recreational activities and events contribute to the development of stronger social networks and more cohesive communities for participants, volunteers and supporters. They provide opportunities for social engagement; often creating awareness and acceptance of differences between individuals and communities.

Bringing people together through sport and recreation boosts confidence through times of prosperity. Sport and recreation galvanises communities in times of need. This is especially evident in rural communities, where traditional Saturday sports such as football and netball are the glue that bonds the community; often acting as the main community social event for the week.

Generally, places with high levels of social capital are safer, better governed and more prosperous, compared to those places with low levels of social capital (Putnam, 2000).

Sport and recreation is also a key medium for creating new relationships among disparate social groups.

2.3 Social Inclusion

Sport and recreation is a key medium for creating new relationships among disparate social groups.

People from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds can be vulnerable to social and structural disconnection. Participation in sport provides increased opportunities for them to connect with the wider community (Savage, et al., 2003).

This is where sport and recreation provides some of its greatest value, far from the facilities and television cameras. It's about including people in a rewarding shared experience and making individuals and our community stronger through the process.

2.4 Supporting Education

Participation in sport contributes to academic performance. International studies have identified strong positive effects of physical activity on cognitive functioning and academic ability.

Also previous reviews of the literature relating to the effects of physical activity on cognitive functioning demonstrates that:

- There may be some short term benefits of physical activity on concentration.
- There is a positive relationship between physical activity and cognitive functioning.
- Acute bouts of physical activity exert short term benefits on cognitive functioning of youths' abilities.

Physiological and social development gained through participation in sport imparts valuable life skills. These manifest themselves positively in the classroom through enhanced learning capabilities, and lead to better academic performance.

Most university based, internationally published research finds a positive association between children's level of physical activity or sport and cognitive functioning and academic success.

2.5 Improving our well being

Sport plays a key role in improving the physical and psychological wellbeing of individuals, and therefore our community. Participation in sport can contribute to higher levels of self esteem, motivation and self worth. It can contribute to the prevention of obesity, relieve symptoms of arthritis and positively influence the immune system. It helps people improve and maintain cognitive abilities into older age, and may prevent the development of dementia and Alzheimer's disease.

“Regular physical activity has been shown to facilitate better stress management, alleviate depression and anxiety, strengthen self esteem, enhance mood and boost mental alertness. Additionally, it provides social benefits through increased social interaction and integration” (Baumann, 2002).

2.6 Reduced anti-social behaviour

Community safety issues, such as youth offending and anti social behaviour, can be assisted through sports intervention programs.

By targeting those at risk of offending, participation in sport provides positive alternatives by creating opportunities to learn new skills, develop confidence, enhance self esteem and importantly to reduce boredom and apathy, both of which can be triggers for at risk behaviours.

Sport and recreation can help divert young people from crime and anti social behaviour. It can also target those young people most at risk of committing crime and help their rehabilitation and development.

Sport and recreation is an ideal medium for social inclusion and support for at risk members of our society. It provides a level playing field and can therefore help bridge gaps in our society in a positive and constructive manner.

Enhancing social cohesion, improving self esteem, reducing the incidence of violence, delinquency and suicide, and providing a system of social support are additional benefits of sport that researchers have identified (National Centre for Culture and Recreational Studies, 2001).

2.7 Economic Growth

Sport plays a major role in the economic growth of a city. This is by way of sporting events and competitions, generation of employment, infrastructure investment and through the attraction of thousands of visitors every year.

- Events and tourism

Sporting events have the potential to attract thousands of visitors to an area and who contribute to the economy through their spend on things such as accommodation and goods and services.

- Employment

Sport and recreation is a large employer. From turf managers, sports administrators, trainers, coaches, officials and athletes, to educators and event managers, to tourism and retail, sport and recreation cuts across many sectors representing a broad and diverse industry.

- Increasing productivity

Research suggests a direct correlation between the health of an individual and their level of productivity. Healthy, fit employees are more likely to be productive, with increased output due to attitude and motivation changes from positive leisure experiences improving their quality of life (Australian Government, 2004).

- Infrastructure investment

The investment in sporting infrastructure is significant even at a local level. From sports grounds, to recreation centres to large stadiums the construction industry can benefit enormously on sporting facility developments.

2.8 Urban and Regional Regeneration

Investment in sports facilities can bolster a community's perception of their local area, restoring pride in their region and improving future social and economic possibilities.

Cities use major sporting events to redefine their image, promote urban development and fund economic growth and regeneration. The infrastructure legacy of Sydney hosting the 2000 Olympic

Games has resulted in regenerating an urban wasteland in a low socio economic area into a dedicated sports and recreation precinct at Sydney Olympic Park.

Where new facilities are established or redeveloped, often as a consequence of much hard work in fundraising and lobbying, the heightened sense of community achievement can be as valuable as the facility itself.

“Sport is not a luxury in society. On the contrary, sport is an important investment in the present and the future.”

- Walter Fust, Director General, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (2005)

Section 3 North Harbour Sporting Background

Sporting organisations and clubs within the current North Shore City and Rodney District areas historically undertook their sporting competitions either within the wider Auckland competitions, or parts of the Northland competitions, depending on the code.

The North Harbour Rugby Union formed 25 years ago and paved the way for many regional sporting organisations that participate in sport under the North Harbour banner.

3.1 Background of Sports in North Harbour

Organised sport in the North Harbour region contributes significantly to the makeup of the North Shore and Rodney communities. The 16 Regional Sports Organisations who provided information identified the following data regarding the North Harbour region. There are approximately:

- 200 sports clubs
- 80,000 sports club members
- 11,000 high school students participating in school sport
- 11,000 increase in playing numbers over the past 5 years

The above data provided by the 16 sports exclude a number of sports where no information was provided.

3.2 Sporting Support for the North Harbour Region

The North Harbour sporting community has a strong support base for athletes, coaches and administrators and is in a unique position of being home to some of New Zealand's sporting national high performance centres.

There are various levels in which the sporting community of North Harbour are supported which are identified below.

Regional Sports Organisation

The North Harbour region is home to many regional sporting organisations. The RSOs provide the governance, management and more importantly support for their local clubs.

This is beneficial for the local sporting clubs of North Harbour as they are the organisations that look after their interests and are responsible for growing their sport.

Greater Auckland Coaching Unit

The Greater Auckland Coaching Unit (GACU) was established in July 1st 2008 by ARPASS, SPARC and the 4 Regional Sports Trusts (RSTs) of the Auckland region.

GACU has been set up to provide coach development opportunities and to increase the quality and quantity of coaches in the Auckland region. North Harbour will be getting a dedicated coach support staff as part of GACU in the near future which will support community coaches.

Regional Sports Trusts

The North Shore City and Rodney District has Harbour Sport as their RST to support their sporting organisations. Harbour Sport has a dedicated team which focuses on supporting the various regional and club sporting organisations.

Millennium Institute of Sport and Health (MISH)

MISH is home to a range of sporting organisations and athletes. It offers a high performance programme for athletes along with the services of leading coaches as well as specialised training facilities.

MISH also provides a long term athlete development programme for young athletes that provides coaching, health zone checks and body management education programmes. New Zealand Swimming through to North Harbour Athletics, North Harbour Water Polo Club and North Harbour Weight Lifting are based at MISH.

AUT University

AUT have partnered with MISH to provide the high performance sport science centre and associated facilities at MISH. AUT will provide the latest sports medicine facilities, sport research and technology developments to support the athletes, coaches, training and nutrition.

Northern Academy of Sport

The New Zealand Academy of Sport is part of New Zealand's High Performance structure and is funded by government to provide our top athletes with a wide range of support. There are two bases for the Academy of Sport; one in the South Island and one in the North Island at MISH.

Athletes who are 'carded' are able to access support staff in the areas of sports science and medicine services, including performance and technique analysis, physiology, strength and conditioning, sports psychology, physiotherapy and nutrition to help with their success.

National High Performance Training Centre

The New Zealand High Performance Institute's national training centre will be housed at MISH. The new AUT research facilities will form part of the national training centre along with the new facility developments of a 50m pool and a separate purpose built gym for the elite athletes; many of New Zealand's top coaches and athletes will be based at the national training centre

National Ocean Water Sailing Centre

The new National Ocean Sailing Centre will be established on Takapuna beach and be operational by 2011. The centre will home to the national organisation of yachting, triathlon and ocean kayaking. As well as the a high performance focus the centre will also play host to many international sporting events.

3.3 Hosting Sporting Events

The North Shore City and Rodney District have a strong history of hosting significant sporting events from regional through to international events. Some of these include:

Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Meets • National Meets
Basketball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Under 19 Boys Championships • Australian Basketball League matches • NBL matches
Badminton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Tournaments
Flatwater Kayaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Championships
Football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Football Test matches • O-League football matches • Chatham Cup Finals
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International hockey matches • World Championship qualifying tournaments
Marathon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auckland Marathon
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Test matches • ANZ Cup matches
Ocean Swim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Series
Rugby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Rugby Test matches • Super 15 Rugby matches • ITM Cup Rugby matches
Rugby League	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Rugby League Test matches
Softball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Test series • National Championships
Table Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Championships
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Championships • International Events
Touch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Championships
Triathlon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Championship races • National Championships
Weightlifting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Championships
Yachting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Championships • National Championships

3.4 Facility Types

The North Shore City and Rodney Districts have had a significant investment in sporting infrastructure, from grass roots to high performance and event facilities. The information below provides an overview of a selection of sporting facilities within the North Harbour region. These include:

Facility Type	Number of Facilities	Other Facilities	Quality of Facilities
Sportsfields	139	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools 	Local to regional
Aquatic facilities	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MISH Commercial 	Local to international
Council indoor recreation centres	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AUT Massey University 	local
Hardcourts - Netball	42	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High Schools Primary Schools 	Local to regional
Artificial Turfs	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rangitoto College Kristin School 	Local to international
Outdoor Stadium	1		International
Events Centre	2		Local to International
Softball	1		Local to International
Equestrian	1		Local to International
Mountain Bike Parks	2		Local to International
BMX Tracks	1		Local to National
Indoor Tennis Centre	1		Local to International
Badminton Centre	2		Local to International
Table Tennis Centre	1		Local to National
Rowing	2		Local to Regional
Flatwater Kayaking	1		Local to National
Synthetic Athletic Track	1		Local to Regional

Section 4 Regional Sporting Issues

4.1 Industry Overview

The sport industry continues to grow significantly year on year with a diversity of both new stakeholders and opportunities emerging. Sport which was once predominantly the domain of sports clubs and associated bodies, now sees organisations from different backgrounds, including education and commercial sectors, being actively involved. These organisations each come with a different perspective on sport and different motivations for being involved.

The number of organised sports has continued to increase over recent years. This is due to many of the non-organised 'recreation pastimes', such as Kilikiti, Surfing and Waka Ama, becoming more structured and creating both regional and national entities to oversee the competition element of their sports. The rise in popularity of informal sport opportunities (pay as you play) has continued to widen the sports spectrum.

It is worth noting that an increased range of recreation is undertaken in an informal manner and in some activities, for example mountain biking, the majority of participants only take part in recreational activities. However it is important to note that these recreation activities also have organised segments which provide competitions and administrative structures. Many of these recreational activities, such as mountain biking, have transitioned from a recreational pastime to become recognised by SPARC as legitimate sports.

4.2 Auckland Region's Issues

There has been a variety of research undertaken within the Auckland region to determine and identify the sporting issues and priorities impacting on the sporting sector. Analysis of these issues identify that the consistent regional issues for Auckland that recur on a regular basis include:

- Facilities
- Ethnic Sports
- Coaches (Quality and quantity)
- School Club Link
- Sustainable Funding
- Unstructured Sport
- Non Affiliated Sport
- Pay for Play
- Lack of Volunteers
- Equity of support for varying facilities
- Central vs. Satellite Model
- Multi Purpose Sites
- Sector delivery models
- Rural vs. Urban.

4.2.1 Facilities

The provision and access to facilities has been identified as an ongoing issue for sports for over the past decade, with some sports highlighting that they are operating at or near to capacity in terms of utilising certain facilities.

The limited ability of some sports to access more time at particular facilities has restricted some sports' ability to grow their membership as they cannot provide the opportunities to meet the demand. An increase in the provision of new facilities, or increased access to existing facilities, is often identified as potential solutions to the issue.

1. Aquatic Space

Aquatic pool space has been identified in many regional and local studies as an issue for the organised aquatics codes, the learn to swim and casual participation. The key issues identified include:

- Membership growth in aquatics sports is limited due to:
 - Lack of pool space/time
 - Lack of deep water facilities
 - The current facilities are unable to provide the aquatic needs of all swimming sectors – i.e. recreational, masters, special needs, elite, diving, water polo, synchronised swimming
- Lack of pool space at peak times for learn to swim and community recreational swimming needs.

The ARPASS Aquatic Strategy in 2007 provided a review and analysis of the issues from across the greater Auckland region as identified by the seven Auckland local authorities and the aquatic codes. The report findings considered the current provision of aquatic provision across the Greater Auckland region and identified that there was an uneven distribution of local pool provision across the Auckland region with many areas under supplied in terms of pool space to meet the local demand.

2. Sports Fields

The demand for sports fields is still increasing across the Auckland region, both from some traditional sports reaching near capacity in terms of the hours they can access, and from the pressure of new and emerging sports to access sports fields. The key issues have been identified as:

- Quality of Sports fields
- Utilisation
- Demand
- Need for some artificial surfaces

The quality of the current provision of sports fields is being addressed with the upgrades to sand based fields which are allowing an increase in the utilisation of the fields. However there are still a significant percentage of fields across Auckland that have not been upgraded, which has limited capacity. They are regularly closed and do not allow the sports to be played on them.

In some areas current sports fields are struggling to meet the demand for some of the sports at peak times. Many sports have adapted to provide for competition during the week away from the

traditional Saturday play to try and accommodate the demand. While this has helped there is a maximum level of use a sports field can take before it is damaged and results in increased closures.

Artificial turf fields have been used overseas for a number of years as they allow for increased hours of use with minimal damage to the surface. A few councils in Auckland have partnered with sports clubs (rugby and football) to upgrade existing grass turfs into artificial turfs. This is one of the potential solutions to increasing the usage of current fields.

The demand for sports fields is increasing. Factors include:

- Membership in the majority of traditional sports is still increasing
- New and emerging sports are trying to establish themselves within the sporting sector of Auckland
- The growth is particularly in the junior, social and masters grades
- Growth of ethnic leagues.
- Demand for extended seasons for both summer and winter codes.

Many Auckland councils have undertaken detailed studies to identify the demand and supply of sports fields for their community to determine the exact sports and areas which are over and under supplied.

3. Outdoor Hardcourt and Artificial Surfaces

The demand on outdoor hardcourt and artificial turfs for sports such as netball and hockey has been identified as a regional issue for Auckland sports. For example netball and hockey, which were once played on Saturday are now played across the week as the only way to accommodate the demand. Once training is taken into consideration most netball and hockey centres are operating at near capacity.

In addition to the increased utilisation of the main netball centres there are also significant netball competitions, which are not associated with netball centres, being managed and operating out of primary schools.

The increasing demand for specialised facilities for a number of sports has increased the pressure on facilities further. For example the use of rebound surfaces for the premier grades of netball and hockey means that they are now played exclusively on artificial turf.

Both sports operate from centralised venues; the increasing playing numbers playing their sport will continue to add to the demand for hardcourt and artificial space at existing sites.

The ARPASS Netball Facilities Study identified that the three main netball centres in Auckland (Auckland Netball Centre, Waitakere Netball Centre and the North Harbour Netball Centre) will require either expansion of the current provision, or that new sites will have to be developed to meet demand in the future.

To meet demand, the main hockey centres of Auckland (Auckland and North Harbour) are utilising additional artificial turfs at school sites to meet the demand.

The cost of providing the playing hardcourt and artificial surfaces has been predominately met by the sport with some support by the councils and ASB Community Trust through grants. This is different to the grass sports fields whereby the costs is fully met by council. The different levels of support and potential inequities between codes is an issue that needs to be considered in the future.

Also there is a higher expectation from the users as to the standard of facilities they want to utilise. This results in an increase costs to the player, club, association and provider associated with the facility.

4. Indoor Space

Unlike sports which are played outside, indoor sports such as basketball and volleyball utilise predominately council owned recreation centres. With the competing demands from other community interests for access to space at council owned facilities the sports face an ongoing difficulty trying to obtain adequate hours of use to be able to run and grow their sport.

The cost to hire the indoor facilities to run the sports competitions are identified as a burden for indoor sports as the cost is significantly higher than those involved with grass field based sports..

5. Paddling and Rowing Based Sports

The ARPASS Regional Paddling study identified the lack of appropriate training and competition venues for the paddling and rowing sports in Auckland. Currently some schools are travelling across Auckland to utilise the better sites, or are heading outside the region to utilise Lake Karapiro.

The major factors limiting Auckland's site's are:

- the ability to access large stretches of water for training,
- the potential to accommodate and mark a 2000 metre temporary course,
- the proximately to population growth areas,
- protection from the prevailing weather patterns

There is also the issue of the need to accommodate large on-shore facility developments to store the many large craft. Some of the current sites are operating at near capacity in terms of catering for club training and regional type regattas.

4.2.2 Ethnic Sports

The growth in the ethnic population in the Auckland region has been significant over the past few decades which has impacted and will continue to impact of the organised sport sector of the region.

The ARPASS study in ethnic immigrants and sport identified;

Between 1986 and 2006, the numbers born in Asia and resident in New Zealand increased by 661 percent, with the Chinese (899.4%) and Indian (841.6%) dominating this growth. In each of these populations, those arriving from China and India have come to play an increasing role because of the numbers involved. For example, those born in China in 1984 numbered 4,944; by 2006, the number was 78,111 (+1479.9%). Those from India grew from 6,570 (1986) to 43,341 (2006). Immigrants from China and India have increased significantly in number in the last 20 years and now dominate the inflows of Asian immigrants.

Auckland, as a whole, now has almost 40% of its residents as immigrants. This is a long way ahead of the nearest Australian city, Sydney, where 32% of its residents are immigrants.

Auckland Birthplace Origins by Numbers, 2006 Immigrant/Ethnic Population Growth

Territorial Authority	New Zealand	Australia	Pacific Islands	UK and Ireland	Europe	North America	Asia	Other	Total Overseas	Not Elsewhere Included
Rodney District	65,136	1,710	732	10,803	2,022	786	1,998	2,220	20,274	4,149
North Shore City	118,038	3,675	3,669	22,044	5,862	1,872	31,200	13,068	81,390	6,177
Waitakere City	115,896	2,616	14,535	12,513	4,263	1,053	19,002	4,899	58,887	11,661
Auckland City	228,222	7,092	29,067	22,641	9,138	3,804	69,966	11,331	153,039	23,391
Manukau City	182,484	3,819	49,428	14,868	3,339	1,278	40,500	13,167	126,399	20,085
Papakura District	33,987	609	1,644	2,439	528	180	2,130	1,092	8,622	2,574
Franklin District	45,705	918	912	4,245	894	246	1,560	831	9,600	3,627
Auckland Region	776,472	20,223	99,840	88,461	25,770	9,171	166,122	46,446	456,033	70,566
Total NZ	2,960,214	62,742	135,852	251,688	68,070	26,940	251,130	83,124	879,546	188,187

In the Auckland context the following breakdown of future ethnicity has been identified as

Auckland 2016		
Pakeha/European	860,000	(+40,000)
Maori	183,000	(+40,000)
Pacific Peoples	260,000	(+80,000)
Asian Peoples	400,000	(+200,000)

An important issue for the sports is to understand how the ethnic growth might impact on their sport and identify areas in which they can embrace the ethnic community.

Just as the 1960s Pacific immigration impacted on our traditional sports of rugby, league and netball in a positive manner, the 1990's Asian immigration has impacted on sports such as table tennis and badminton with both sports seeing a growth in player numbers from amongst the new immigrant communities.

One Auckland based regional sporting organisation for table tennis noted that of its registered players, 90 percent are Asian, while a similar number of its coaches are also Asian. In the case of one Auckland based regional sporting organisation, that of badminton, about 70 percent of registered players and a similar proportion of coaches are Asian.

The ARPASS study provided the following constraints as identified by the ethnic community as potential barriers to participating in organised sport:

- Language
- Cultural or Religious Requirements
- Cultural Attitudes
- Age Specific Participation
- Physical Requirements
- Approach to Ethnic and Immigrant Communities
- Issues from Ethnic perspective
- Attitudes Towards Sport
- Facilities
- Generational Requirements
- Sports Organisations
- Cultural Interests

The ability to understand and engage with the growing ethnic populations will be key to a sports future growth and sustainability.

4.2.3 Coaches

Almost every research study undertaken to determine issues for sport has identified 'coaches' as one of their key issues that needs addressing in terms of numbers and quality.

There is an identified need to improve the quality of existing coaching, by giving them the skills and resources, so that the coach can give the participants a positive experience and where the player wants to come back. Poor coaching has been identified as a main reason why many children drop out of organised sport.

Most sports also identify the lack of coaches, especially in the junior grades, as a continuing issue. There are examples of clubs and schools not being able to field a team in a competition as a result of not having an available coach.

4.2.4 Sector Delivery Models

Sport is undertaken by various delivery models depending on the sport and the age level.

Some of the different delivery models can be identified as:

- Centralised delivery

Where the competition component of sport is undertaken at one site and all the clubs, teams and players participate at the site. (e.g. netball and hockey)

- Satellite delivery

Where the competition component of sport is undertaken at the various club sites throughout the region

- Club based delivery

Where playing membership is through a club who organise teams, coaches and administration. The club governs the teams and come under the club's constitution.

- Team based delivery

Where playing membership is through a team only and where there is no affiliation to a club. The team is governed by itself.

- School based delivery

Where playing membership is through the school that organise the teams, coaches and administration. The school governs the teams and come under the school's responsibility.

Different delivery models face many challenges. For example a participant may play for a club as a junior until the age of high school. Then the high school manages the participant until they leave school, at which stage the participant goes back to the club for the remainder of their playing career. This results in a fragmented participation delivery model with individuals losing the connection with the club, increasing the potential to individuals to drop out of the sport.

The other issue of once leaving secondary school and having a sport where there is no club based delivery, but only a team based delivery, has been identified as a potential issue for drop out rates of secondary school participants.

This is also the case for many club codes who administer their sport up until high school age and then cater for them again after they leave high school.

4.2.5 School Club Links

The drop out rate between those at high school participating at organised sport and those who remain in organised sport when they leave high school is significant.

This has been an issue for sport for a long period of time. Some of it can be put down to the cycle of life when many young people are entering the next phase which entails full time employment, further educational studies or travel which now takes up their time and focus and sport becomes secondary.

However many high school participants drop out of sport when they leave school due to their lack of awareness or connection from school to club.

It has been identified that local clubs need to provide a better connection with their local schools and schools need to engage with clubs to provide a pathway for high school players to continue their sporting career. The pathway will need to be both from a competition and social element to cater for the different needs of the participant.

4.2.6 Unstructured Sport/Diverse range of opportunities

The number of organised sports has continued to increase over recent years. This is due to many of the unstructured 'recreation pastimes', such as Mountain Biking, Snowboarding, Kilikiti, Surfing and

Waka Ama, becoming more structured and creating both regional and national entities to oversee the competition element of their sports.

It is worth noting that extreme recreation is undertaken in an informal manner by the majority of participants. However, these extreme recreation activities also have organised segments which provide competitions and administrative structures. Many of these activities, for example mountain biking, have transitioned to become recognised by SPARC as legitimate sports.

The increased diverse range of sporting opportunities both unstructured and structured compete for the participants of the traditional sports and for funding to run their sport and their required infrastructure.

4.2.7 Multi Purpose Sites and Facilities

The limited funding available for sporting facilities has resulted in the need to focus on better utilising the spend undertaken in the sector.

The key trend both worldwide and nationally is focused on providing sites and facilities that cater for multiple stakeholders and not just single users as they may have done in the past.

The most commonly cited reasons for undertaking multipurpose facilities include:

- Being able to leverage additional capital – “Gaining more bang for your buck”.
- Multi stakeholders gaining access to strategic sites.
- Generating better operational synergies (Reduced operational costs).
- Minimising unnecessary facility duplication.
- An ability to access other partners’ skills.

The focus on multipurpose facilities would assist with solving the identified facilities issue.

4.2.8 Pay for Play Opportunities

The rise in popularity of informal sport (pay as you play) opportunities has continued to widen the sports spectrum.

The pay for play opportunities are predominantly being provided by commercial and council facility operators which is based on the social element of playing with friends and family. The ability for people not to have to belong to clubs and the ability just to turn up with everything provided (facility, referees) and play is the major factor to why this form of sport is popular. It can also be financially rewarding for the commercial and council operators.

Some sports have seen the advantage of the social pay for play trend and have started to provide the opportunities within their sporting setting.

4.2.9 Funding

Funding, and more importantly sustainable funding, is the core issue facing all sports in the Auckland region. The ability to provide and create revenue streams that are viable and sustainable is critical to enable sports to operate and function properly.

The funding options are limited currently with membership fees providing most of the revenue. Sponsorship and gaming funding has declined significantly over recent years and cannot be counted

on to supplement a sports core funding. Some sports still rely on gaming trust grants to operate their sport and as such can only plan on a year to year basis.

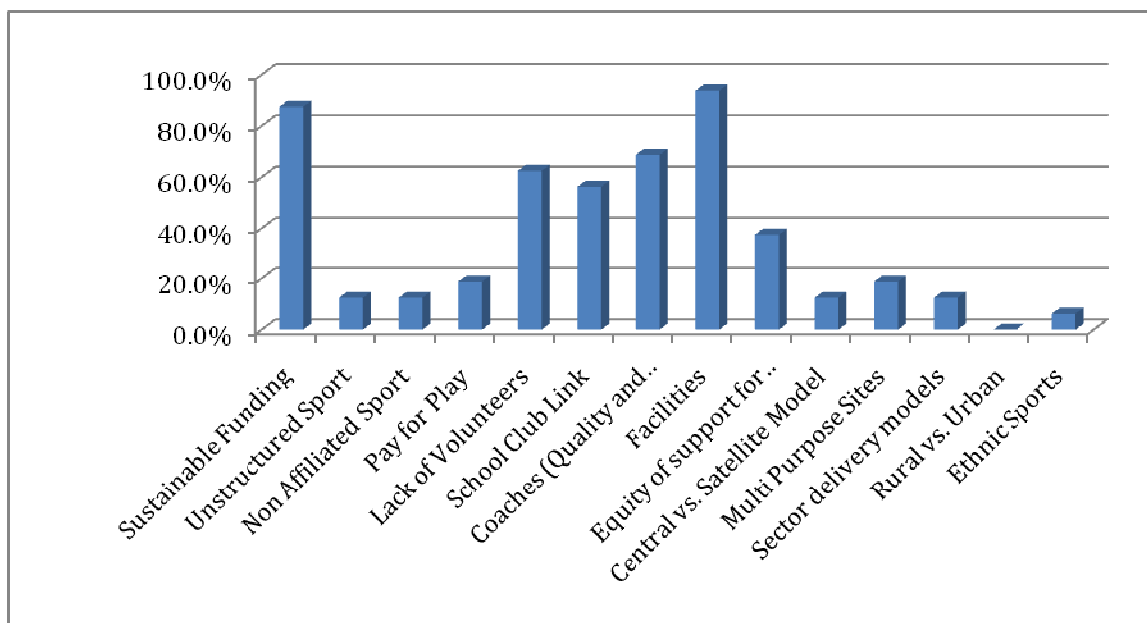
The sustainable funding issue is at all levels from national bodies through to regional and club level and the identification of alternative revenue streams will be an important part of sports in the future.

Section 5 North Harbour Sporting Priority Issues & Considerations

5.1 Priority Issues for North Harbour Sports

As part of the development of this report, the regional sporting organisations of North Harbour were surveyed to identify the priority issues facing their sport. The responses received were then combined to identify the 'common' priority issues that require to be considered to assist the sports.

The below graph outlines the priority issues as identified by the North Harbour regional sports organisations.



The top five 'common' sporting issues were identified as follows:

1. Facilities – the need for increased access
2. Sustainable Funding
3. Coaches – Quality and Quantity
4. Lack of Volunteers
5. School Club Links

5.2 Considerations to Priority Issues

The top five priority issues have been reviewed to consider potential solutions to addressing them through an analysis of effective practice and consultation with a selection of regional sports organisations.

5.2.1 Facilities – The need for increased access

The North Harbour Sports have identified that increased access to facilities at peak times is needed to enable them to grow their sport and membership. The sports noted that membership in organised sport in North Harbour has increase by approximately 11,000 over the last five years while few additional sporting facilities have been developed. A number of existing facilities are nearing capacity at peak times or are restricting the amount of time a sport is able to access the facility for to enable them to provide for other activities.

The increasing population, projected to grow by approximately 120,000 over the next 15 years in the North Harbour region, will add pressure to the existing network of sporting facilities. While there is projected to be growth in participation it is important to consider that the future population growth will impact differently on different codes. With the high level of growth projected in the Asian communities this is likely to have a greater impact on future participation in codes such as badminton, table tennis and football.

North Harbour sports such as netball, basketball and hockey have moved competitions from the traditional Saturday play to now playing up to four nights during the week. North Harbour rugby now plays some junior grades on a Friday night.

The cost of accessing facilities varies significantly between different codes depending on the facilities they require, for example indoor, hardcourt, artificial turf, aquatic space or grass playing field. The codes acknowledged that the cost of developing and maintaining large sporting assets can vary from facility to facility however it is considered that there are inequities between with the costs that different codes and participants are required to meet.

For the North Harbour region to work towards providing access to facilities for the amount of time that is sufficient for the sport's requirements and at a cost effective way, a range of options will need to be considered. These are:

1. Service level planning for each facility type

A detailed service level plan for each facility type (aquatic, grass fields, artificial turfs and indoor facilities) should be undertaken. This basically follows the process to determine the sports current and future needs matched against current and planned facility provision. The outcome is that it identifies the gaps in provision for:

- Per facility type
- Per sport
- In the different geographical areas of the region

An example of this is the 'Sportsfields Demand Analysis' which Auckland City, Manukau City and Waitakere City Councils have undertaken. This has identified not only the sports that are under supplied in terms of access to sports fields but also those which over supplied. From this piece of work a reallocation of sportsfields can be undertaken based on demand. This work is based on the Sport England model which they use to allocate sports access to fields and now SPARC have endorsed the work to be rolled out nationally.

Another example of a service level plan has been done for netball and rowing from a regionally perspective. This highlighted the need for North Harbour Netball to require an additional site to meet the future demand and the need to upgrade the rowing site at Greenhithe to assist with meeting current demand.

2. Upgrading existing facilities to increase the utilisation period

Maximising the use of the existing North Harbour facilities will be key to assist in meeting the need for increased access to facilities. The majority of the population in the North Harbour region live in the urban areas where there is limited available land left for development. The future population growth of the North Harbour area is planned to be based around intensification of the existing town centres. The majority of the existing facilities are base around the urban areas. Thus it will be important to utilise the existing facilities to their full potential. Considerations for maximising the existing facilities are:

- Upgrading the quality of the existing facility

This could be converting more grass fields into sand based fields. Sand based fields allow for more hours of use a week than grass based fields.

It is also worth considering converting a selection of existing grass fields into artificial based fields. Artificial fields will provide the maximum hours of use of any of the turf types and are good for training and competitions. There is also no cancellations of fields use when using artificial turfs

- Sharing the existing facilities with other codes should also be considered for those sports who have 'hours of use' available to them. Cross code sharing of existing facilities where possible will be essential in future years.

As an example increasing the amount of netball courts covered for indoor use at Netball North's home site could also benefit basketballs needs at some level whether it be training or junior use.

3. Utilising school facilities more

A lot of sports now partner and utilise existing school sporting facilities for their training and competition use. Hockey utilise two college turfs for their training and competition purposes and a lot of junior sport which is school based utilise the school facilities.

The school facilities are a resource that is now often seen as a community hub by the local community.

Considerations need to be given by the sports of how they can partner with a school for mutual benefit to utilise the school facilities. Whether they are used as satellite venues for local junior competitions so teams do not have to travel as far is an example of how a sport may look to work with schools.

There also needs to be more involvement between the council and new school developments to influence design and capability of new school facilities to assist in meeting the sporting community needs. The new Councils 'facility partnership' fund will be a key source of funding that can be utilised for schools to work with the council in jointly developing community sports facilities on school grounds.

4. New facility development

New infrastructure may also be required in the North Harbour region to meet the future demand and needs and the growing population.

The service level planning, the upgrading of existing facilities and the increase use of school facilities will determine if new infrastructure will be required.

If it is identified that new facilities are required to be developed then consideration will need to be given to:

- Multi-purpose facilities
- Shared use between codes
- Joint development with schools

5.2.2 Sustainable Funding

Sustainable funding for sports in the North Harbour region was identified as the second priority issue facing the sports. The ability to generate long term revenue streams to not only cover the costs of administering the sport but also enable the sport to grow is vital to a sports survival and progression.

Currently the majority of the revenue streams are based around membership fees and on gaming funding. Many of the sports within North Harbour identify a portion of their operating budget to be reliant on gaming funding. With gaming funding being a non guaranteed revenue source and one which has been decreasing in the amount of available money they have for community grants then this places the sports in an uneasy situation.

Sports will need to consider a more sustainable funding approach. Potential more sustainable revenue streams could be:

1. Diversify opportunities offered to participants

There is the potential for sports to offer opportunities to play their sport which are outside the core of what is provided currently.

Many sports have identified the increase in the masters and social grade memberships over recent years which have helped with increased membership fees with other sports have started to offer the pay for play type opportunity. Examples include:

- Basketball is looking into the potential of offering a summer league outside which could be run as satellites.
- Cricket clubs are offering the 20/20 game at a social level during the week in summer which is proving popular.
- Hockey is providing different summer competitions based on customer feedback and now provide small six week blocks for juniors and mixed which has increased the playing numbers.

There is demand for the pay for play, social opportunity with no club ties. Social pay for play opportunities has been offered by the commercial sector for some time now, considerations should be given by the sports to see if they can provide those same opportunities to gain not only the financial rewards but also potentially new members.

Codes will also need to give consideration to the increasing ethnic diversity within the region and to engage with the new immigrant population and ensure that the activities they provided reflect the needs of this changing community.

2. Shared costs with other sports/clubs/partners

The potential for sports to share costs with other sports, clubs or partners can be a way in which costs can be reduced.

Shared administration duties for regional sports organisations whether it be financial expertise or other administration duties has the ability to reduce costs. The options could be cross code or within a code.

An example of this is North Harbour Diving who has joined with Waitakere Diving to form an overarching Trust. They still operate as two separate clubs but undertake a centralised billing and administration concept which reduces the duplication in costs.

3. Engaging with new communities

The North Shore area is home to a significant Asian ethnic population that is projected to continue to increase into the future. The Asian population is currently 18% of North Shore's population which is double the national average. This is expected to grow to 25% by 2021.

Sports such as badminton and table tennis in North Harbour has experienced significant growth in membership numbers from the Asian community as these have been traditionally strong Asian sports.

The considerations for other sports within North Shore especially is what opportunities can they provide the Asian community and how best to engage with them to grow their membership.

5.2.3 Coaches and Volunteers – Quality and Quantity

Coaching and volunteering has been identified as priority issues for the sports of North Harbour. The issue is in terms of not having enough coaches and volunteers, especially in the junior grades, as well as the need to increase the quality of them. The quality is an issue as it has been identified that a bad experience with a coach in particular is a factor for children dropping out of sports.

There are five considerations that can assist with increasing the quality and quantity of coaches and volunteers.

1. System to track coaches and volunteers

There is a large volume of people who coach or volunteer for a period a time and then leave the sport. A system where by a sports can keep track of the coaches and volunteers they have then they can plan to support and reward them which can keep them in the system.

2. Management

The management of existing coaches and volunteers is important to try and retain the ones you have. Just like you would in the workplace there are elements you can do to help them. Things such as:

- Development Plans which allows for professional development and support
- Reviews to identify their wants and needs
- Rewards for recognition of their value to the organisation

3. Minimum qualifications for different coaching levels

A minimum qualification for coaching at different levels will assist with quality element of coaching. A number of national sporting organisations are starting to implement this for coaches from club to elite levels.

It is important that the qualification is linked to the level of learning so that someone coaching 7 year olds' is learning something different than someone coaching representatives.

4. Mentors for community coaches and volunteers

Providing mentors for community coaches and volunteers is a way in a sport can support them. Most coaches and volunteers at the community level are parents, ex players etc who do not have the confidence or skills when first being involved in the sport. The ability to link community coaches and volunteers up with a group of experienced mentor's to enable the sharing of learning's and the ability to discuss issues is a positive step.

5. Broadening the learning opportunities tailored to the needs

Coaches and volunteers are wanting the opportunity to understand and learn more about discipline and requirements for them to undertake their job. The traditional ways of workshops and courses do not meet the needs of everyone.

The ability to provide a broader base of learning opportunities for coaches and volunteers up skill to themselves is essential. The ability to access information in a variety of forms could be key to allowing the coach and volunteer to up skill themselves when and where they want.

The recent North Harbour Support Centre is an example of somewhere a coach can go to access coaching information to up skill themselves. They can also tailor the information to be specific to their needs. A selection of NSO' and RSO's coaches are utilising the online support centre opportunities.

There is also an opportunity to utilise the AUT sport and recreation students to assist with ongoing coaching and volunteering as their campus is based on the North Shore.

The AUT students undertake coach and volunteer practicum's within sports organisations for a short period of time to gain experience. There is the opportunity for the sports to manage the student coaches and volunteers by way of up skilling them, mentoring and providing opportunities for them to continue being involved.

Basketball has developed opportunities for their students whereby if the primary school needs a coach for their school team to enter in the junior basketball programme they will pay basketball to provide the coach. Basketball then pays their students to coach the school team for the period of the programme.

Diving on the hand has a shortage of experience coaches at the elite level. North Shore Diving and Waitakere Diving under their new Trust model have one elite coach they share between the two clubs.

5.2.4 School Club Links

The need for increased links between the local sports clubs and local schools has been identified as the number five priority by the sports of North Harbour.

It has been well documented the dropout rates between those participating at high school and numbers carrying on to participate at club level are high. One particular sport identified that of the 693 secondary school girls they had playing there sport they only had 150 carrying on to participate after they left school.

There are opportunities worth considering to increase the links between clubs and schools.

1. Club to provide opportunities at the school during and after school for juniors

Many junior children are now being introduced to sports at primary school by commercial organisations such as Kelly Sports who provide sporting programmes.

A portion of this is delivered in school time where the school will pay the commercial organisation to deliver the sports programme. Where the programme is delivered after school the child pays for it. There is no pathway or connection to a club under this model.

There is the potential for the sports club to provide the sports programme to the primary schools.

Just as the commercial organisations do the sports club could utilise the tertiary students to deliver the programmes as the cost would be covered by either the school or participant. Under this model there would be a connection between the club and participant that could move the child into the club structure.

At the moment organisations like Kelly Sports do offer for clubs to come and promote their clubs at the Kelly Sports programmes.

2. Competitive and social pathways at sports clubs

The pathway from school to club is often based on the competitive player where the pathway is focused on reaching the 'top' team. This is needed and required to provide the school player a pathway to make it the elite stage in their sport.

However as stated earlier in this report the social pay for play opportunities are becoming popular. Considerations should be given by sports to provide this social component of sport to school leavers within their club and sporting setting.

The social element of organised sport is often offered to the adult segment of its membership or in the off season of the sport. If this social pathway was provided to the school leavers it may encourage new membership.