

2023-2024



ANNUAL REPORT

— Pūrongo ā-tau





MORE THAN A GAME[®]

NUI ATU I TE KĒMU

**Transforming lives and
community wellbeing
through Rugby League**

Ka mārō te haere i te wao a Tāne,
kia piki te ora o te iwi, mā roto
i te hutupōro rīki.

THE **KIWI** WAY®

**We are diverse,
we call New Zealand home
and we are all Kiwis**

**We live and play
The Kiwi Way
every day**



**We are
family first**



**We are
responsible**



**We are
innovative &
courageous**



**We are
inclusive,
respectful
& humble**



**We are
stronger
together**





PACIFIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

2023

CHAMPION

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From the Chairman and CEO

Nā te Toihau me te Tumu Whakarae

2023 was a significant year for New Zealand Rugby League (NZRL) as we celebrated another successful year of a full domestic calendar, and an extended international season.

It was exciting to see the return of the National District 9s Tournament which has grown in popularity, as it provides opportunities for smaller Districts from throughout the motu to participate. The 9s format is an effective entry point for rugby league as it encourages participation and growth of the game at a District level nationwide. In 2024 each of the four tournament divisions was won by a different District which highlights the development of the game across the country.

We also celebrated another year of one of the most anticipated events on the grassroots' calendar, the NZRL National Secondary Schools' Tournament. Held at Auckland's Bruce Pulman Park, the NZSS Tournament saw the return of the Girls' and U15s' divisions for a second year.

Congratulations to all 38 teams who participated and to St. Thomas of Canterbury College, Auckland Girls' Grammar School, Aorere College, and St. Paul's College for winning their respective divisions. St. Thomas of Canterbury College made history as the first non-Auckland and South Island school to win the NZSS Boys Premiership in over 20 years.

We also welcomed back the National Youth Tournament, with the Boys' Youth Tournament held in Rotorua seeing additional Districts field teams on the national stage for the first time. The second year of the Girls' Youth Tournament took place with spectators convening in Taupo to witness the best female rangatahi talent.

Congratulations to Aotearoa New Zealand Māori Rugby League and the Pacific Aotearoa Collective for another year of running highly successful tournaments. These tournaments continue to deepen our communities' connection to the game while also encouraging newcomers to try rugby league.

In 2023 NZRL proudly established the inaugural Ahi Kā Aotearoa female rangatahi representative team. The squad was selected off the back of the successful 'RISE' Talent Development Programme delivered nationwide in partnership with the NRL. RISE better prepares young female players aged 17-19 players for high-performance environments such as the NRLW.

Ahi Kā Aotearoa comprised talented young wāhine from across the motu to compete in the Australian Harvey Norman Women's National Championships held in the Gold Coast. The Championships is an elite pathways tournament allowing players across Australia and now New Zealand to showcase their skills in the representative arena.

As the Warriors build to reintroduce their NRLW women's team in 2025, we are committed to implementing new opportunities and pathways that cultivate the abilities and profiles of young wāhine in our game, such as the RISE programme and Ahi Kā Aotearoa team.

It was amazing to witness the Warriors fever that swept the nation during their successful 2023 season, which saw numerous sold-out Mt Smart home games and all-time high public support. Their presence and success across the NRL season are important in attracting young people to our game across New Zealand.

In November we co-hosted the inaugural Pacific Championships international test competition in partnership with the NRL. It was great to see the return of an international competition with multiple nations playing on New Zealand shores, for the first time since the 2019 Oceania Cup. Eden Park was host to a blockbuster triple-header which saw our Kiwis, Kiwi Ferns, and inaugural Kiwis A take the field in front of over 23,000 fans and 750,000 live broadcast viewers.

Congratulations to the Kiwi Ferns who beat the world champion Australian Jillaroos in Melbourne 12-6, breaking a seven-year drought of losses to the Jillaroos. The new-look team saw 12 wāhine make their debut in the Black and White jersey throughout their successful campaign.

FMG Stadium Waikato saw the Whutuporo Riki Whaikaha o Aotearoa, Physical Disability Rugby League Kiwis play as curtain-raisers for the epic Grand Final. The Kiwis then orchestrated an international upset to win the inaugural Pacific Cup by keeping the Kangaroos scoreless 30-0. This historic win was the largest loss ever handed to Australia and the Kiwis first win over the Kangaroos since 2018, including the heartbreaking 2021 Rugby League World Cup semi-final loss.

Congratulations to our Kiwis and Kiwi Ferns captains James Fisher-Harris and Georgia Hale for winning the IRL Golden Boot awards. We are proud and honoured to have the two best players in international rugby league leading our



national teams and wearing the Black and White jersey with great pride. This made for the second consecutive year that two New Zealand players have earned this accolade.

Whilst co-hosting the Pacific Championships did not come without financial challenges, it is important to recognise the inherent risk that comes with hosting large-scale events. The 2023 Championships acted as a foundation which we plan to build on to produce strong dividends in future campaigns to come. There is a clear plan in place to return to profit in 2024 including growing commercial revenue as we explore the diversification of revenue streams.

2024 will see us welcome back the Pacific Championships international contests to Aotearoa's shores as we prepare to co-host the event again in partnership with the NRL. The traditional trans-Tasman rivalry will reignite alongside battles with our other Pacific neighbours.

In 2023 our rangatahi participation increased by 28%, surpassing pre-COVID numbers and disrupting the current trend for general sport in New Zealand. We were pleased to see a 35% increase in female participation, indicating that our growing domestic tournaments, competitions, and representative opportunities are encouraging female involvement in the game. Overall, our participation numbers were up 22% on the previous year and have continued to surpass pre-COVID numbers. This growth has been across the country which is heartening to see.

Indications for 2024 point to a continued rise in participation, however, it is incumbent on NZRL to provide mechanisms for growth and ensure players have the best experience in the game, so they become long-term participants and fans of rugby league.

Without the assistance of our network of valued partners, we could not have achieved this success over the past year. Thank you to ACC, Le Va, Sports Chaplaincy New Zealand, Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand, South Seas, and our support partners.

A huge thank you to Sky Sport for another year of exceptional game coverage broadcast at the highest quality. Their outstanding assistance guarantees that all our players from grassroots to high performance have the chance to share their talents.

A special thank you to long-term partners Pirtek and Mainstream for their continued support and wonderful loyalty. Both partners have committed long-term as Primary Sponsors of our Kiwis, Kiwi Ferns, NZRL and match officials. Thank you also to Ricoh for another year of assistance as our IT Solutions and Technology Partner. We also welcome Dynasty to the NZRL whānau as our new Official Apparel Provider, we are excited to see what this partnership brings.

Thanks to the ongoing support of the NRL, Sport New Zealand, and High Performance Sport New Zealand, we are able to continue investing in the growth and development of rugby league at all levels of the game.

We acknowledge the commitment and mahi of our associate members, Masters of Rugby League, New Zealand Defence Forces Rugby League, New Zealand Rugby League Kiwis Association, New Zealand Universities and Tertiary Students Rugby League, and Physical Disability Rugby League.

We are sad to announce that at the 2024 AGM, Howie Tamati will be standing down from his role as NZRL President after 11 years of unfaltering service. We owe a debt of gratitude to Howie for his significant contribution and long service to NZRL and the game of rugby league as a player, coach, Life Member, and President. Thank you, Howie, we are so very grateful for you and your work.

Natasha Tere will also be retiring from her role as Board Director, we thank Natasha for all her work and contribution to the NZRL Board over the past four years.

We are immensely appreciative of our Zone Boards, districts, clubs, staff, coaches, managers, referees, players, and volunteers across the motu. Your consistent service and contributions to rugby league are invaluable and do not go unnoticed, our great game would not thrive without you. Thank you also to our NZRL Board of Directors, Life Members, and our Patron, Sir Anand Satyanand. Last but certainly not least thank you to the NZRL staff for all your hard work over the past year.

2023 was one of the best years for rugby league in New Zealand in the last decade, with the unprecedented growth of popularity and positive narrative surrounding the game, accompanied by increased participation. On the strength of this, NZRL is in an excellent position to maintain current momentum and continue growing the sport. We look forward to what we can do in the upcoming year for the game and all its people involved.



Hugh Martyn,
Chairman

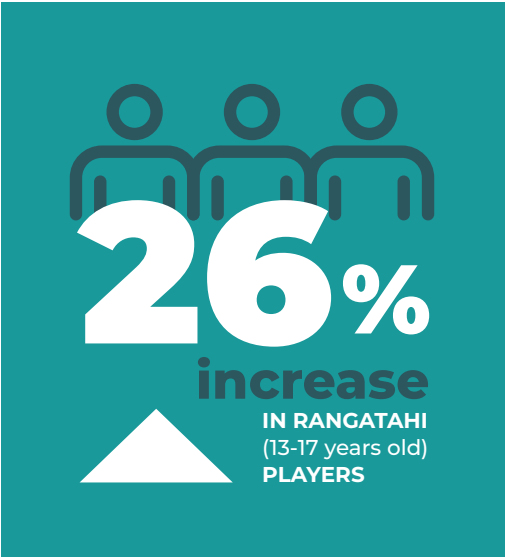
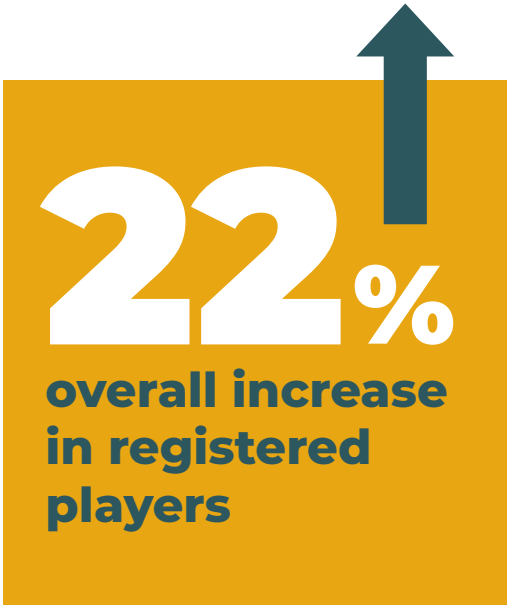


Greg Peters,
CEO



Key Statistics

● Ngā Tatauranga Matua



+152.6K social media
FOLLOWERS in 2023

**2023 PACIFIC
CHAMPIONSHIPS**

3,800,000
Viewership (NZ & Aus)

8,760,000
overall social media reach





HIGH PERFORMANCE

● Hau Tupua

PACIFIC CHAMPIONSHIPS



PACIFIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

Australia & New Zealand - October 2023

HEAD COACH

Ricky Henry

SQUAD

Abigail Roache, *Amelia Pasikala, *Angelina Teakaraanga-Katoa, *Annessa Biddle, Apii Nicholls, *Ashleigh Quinlan, *Brooke Anderson, *Capri Paekau, *Cheyelle Robins-Reti, Georgia Hale, *Jasmine Fogavini, Laishon Albert-Jones, *Leianne Tufuga, Mele Hufanga, Mya Hill-Moana, *Najvada George, Otesa Pule, Raecene McGregor, Shanice Parker, *Tiana Davison, *Tyla Nathan-Wong

*Debutants

GAME 1

Saturday 14 October 2023
Queensland Country Bank Stadium, Townsville, Australia

NZ v AUS

Debutants

Amelia Pasikala, Angelina Teakaraanga-Katoa, Annessa Biddle, Ashleigh Quinlan, Brooke Anderson, Jasmine Fogavini, Leianne Tufuga, Najvada George, Tyla Nathan-Wong.

Kiwi Ferns 10

Tries – Annessa Biddle, Mele Hufanga **Conversions** – Raecene McGregor

Australia 16

Tries – Tamika Upton 2, Caitlan Johnston **Conversions** – Ali Briginshaw 2

GAME 2

Saturday 21 October 2023
Eden Park, Auckland, New Zealand

NZ v Tonga

Debutants

Capri Paekau, Cheyelle Robins-Reti, Tiana Davison

Kiwi Ferns 28

Tries – Abigail Roache 3, Amelia Pasikala, Annessa Biddle, Mele Hufanga **Conversions** – Raecene McGregor 2

Tonga 10

Tries – Tiana Penitani 2 **Conversions** – Haylee Hifo

GAME 3

Saturday 28 October 2023
AAMI Park, Melbourne, Australia

NZ v AUS

Kiwi Ferns 12

Tries – Mele Hufanga, Leianne Tufuga **Conversions** – Raecene McGregor 2

Australia 6

Tries – Jaime Chapman **Conversions** – Lauren Brown

International Achievements

Golden Boot Award – Georgia Hale

KIWIS A

2023



Kiwis A

KIWIS A v TONGA A

Eden Park, Auckland, New Zealand

Saturday 21 October 2023

HEAD COACH

Nathan Cayless

SQUAD

Rocco Berry, Joe Chan, Zach Dockar-Clay, Kalani Going, Jack Howarth, Asu Kepaoa, Jacob Laban, Ali Leiataua, Trey Mooney, Paul Roache, Pasami Saulo, Bailey Simonsson, Tanner Stowers-Smith, Taine Tuaupiki, Benjamin Te Kura, William Warbrick

GAME 1

Saturday 21 October 2023

Eden Park, Auckland, New Zealand

Kiwis A v Tonga A

Kiwis A 36

Tries – Will Warbrick 2, Jack Howarth, Keano Kini, Paul Roache, Ali Leiataua

Conversions – Taine Tuaupiki 6

Tonga A 26

Tries – Temple Koloamatangi-Kalepo, Kulikefu Finefeuiaki, Salesi Foketi, Tony Francis

Conversions – Naati Teupa 3

PACIFIC CHAMPIONSHIPS



PACIFIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

2023

CHAMPION



PACIFIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

Australia & New Zealand - October 2023

HEAD COACH

Michael Maguire

SQUAD

Nelson Asofa-Solomona, Dylan Brown, *Fa'amanu Brown, James Fisher-Harris, Kieran Foran, *Wiremu Greig, Jahrome Hughes, Jamayne Isaako, *Keano Kini, Moses Leota, Danny Levi, Joseph Manu, Ronaldo Mulitalo, *Griffin Neame, Charnze Nicoll-Klokstad, Briton Nikora, Isaiah Papali'i, Joseph Tapine, *Leo Thompson, *Matthew Timoko, *Naufahu Whyte

*Debutants

*Travelling reserves

GAME 1

Saturday 21 October 2023
Eden Park, Auckland, New Zealand

NZ v Samoa

Debutants

Fa'amanu Brown, Griffin Neame, Leo Thompson, Matthew Timoko

Kiwis 50

Tries – Jamayne Isaako 2, Jahrome Hughes, Nelson Asofa-Solomona, Isaiah Papali'i, Ronaldo Mulitalo 2, Briton Nikora, James Fisher-Harris **Conversions** – Jamayne Isaako 7

Samoa 0

GAME 2

Saturday 28 October 2023
AAMI Park, Melbourne, Australia

NZ v AUS

Kiwis 18

Tries – Briton Nikora, Ronaldo Mulitalo, Fa'amanu Brown
Conversions – Jamayne Isaako 3

Australia 36

Tries – Valentine Holmes, Lindsay Collins 2, Dylan Edwards, Ben Hunt, Cameron Murray **Conversions** – Valentine Holmes 5 **Penalty Goals** – Valentine Holmes

GRAND FINAL

Saturday 4 November
FMG Stadium Waikato, Hamilton, New Zealand

NZ v AUS

Kiwis 30

Tries – Ronaldo Mulitalo, Jamayne Isaako 2, Matthew Timoko, Griffin Neame
Conversions – Jamayne Isaako 4 **Penalty Goals** – Jamayne Isaako

Australia 0

International Achievements

Golden Boot Award – James Fisher-Harris

PACIFIC CHAMPIONSHIPS



Campaign Results

ATTENDANCE



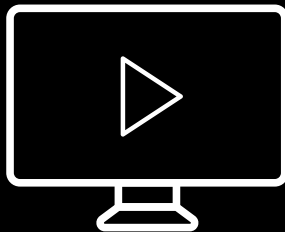
23,269

Eden Park triple-header
OFFICIAL CROWD ATTENDANCE

13,500

FMG Stadium Waikato Grand Final
OFFICIAL CROWD ATTENDANCE

VIEWERSHIP



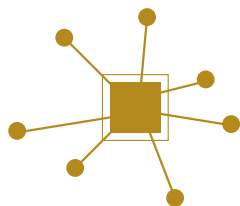
1,030,000

NZ VIEWERSHIP
(+514,500 from 2022)

3,800,000

VIEWERSHIP
(NZ, AUS)

MEDIA



8,760,000

overall campaign social media reach



174,199

visits to nzrl.co.nz

1449

pieces of media coverage

AHI KĀ AOTEAROA

2023



Harvey Norman Women's National Championship
TOURNAMENT TEAM

Tamara Ruaporo (Canterbury)

Ahi Kā Aotearoa 2023

HARVEY NORMAN WOMEN'S NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Gold Coast, Australia - May 2023

HEAD COACH SQUAD

Frank Fuimaono

Amarnee Shepherd (Waikato), Ana Allen (Northland), Charlie-Kaige Kamuhemu (Auckland), Destinee Mexted (Northland), Genesis Smith-Huriwai (Bay of Plenty), Henilietta Lokotui (Auckland), Ilaisaane Taufa (Auckland), Kyla Lynch-Brown (Canterbury), Maia Crutcher (Northland), Manea Waaka (Canterbury), Marewa Samson (Waikato), Monica Samita (Auckland) (VC), Monika Fakaosilea (Auckland), Nina Faamausili (Auckland), Ronise Matini (Auckland), Sade Schaumkel (Auckland), Sina Tuitupou (Auckland), Summer Van Gelder (Auckland) (C), Tamara Ruaporo (Wellington), Tanaia-Aroha Mertin-Herniman (Northland)

GAME 1

Thursday 18 May 2023
UAA Park, Gold Coast, Australia

Ahi Kā Aotearoa v First Nations Gems

Ahi Kā Aotearoa 8

Tries – Kyla Lynch-Brown, Monica Samita

First Nations Gems 14

Tries – Keisha-Leigh Coolwell, Rease Casey, Tamika Bull **Conversions** – Baylee Davies

GAME 2

Friday 19 May 2023
UAA Park, Gold Coast, Australia

Ahi Kā Aotearoa v Queensland Rubys

Ahi Kā Aotearoa 6

Tries – Monika Fakaosilea

Conversions – Tamara Ruaporo

Queensland Rubys 22

Tries – Helen Uatualagi, Emma Barnes 2, Eliza Lopamaua **Conversions** – Jodeci Nicholson, Rilee Jorgensen 2

GAME 3

Saturday 20 May 2023
UAA Park, Gold Coast, Australia

Ahi Kā Aotearoa v
New South Wales Country

Ahi Kā Aotearoa 16

Tries – Kyla Lynch-Brown, Sade Schaumkel, Amarnee Shepherd **Conversions** – Tamara Ruaporo 2

New South Wales Country 12

Tries – Charlotte Eather, Georgia Willey
Conversions – Charlotte Barwick 2

GAME 4

Sunday 21 May 2023
UAA Park, Gold Coast, Australia

Ahi Kā Aotearoa v South Australia

Ahi Kā Aotearoa 32

Tries – Ilaisaane Taufa, Monica Samita, Kyla Lynch-Brown, Tanaia-Aroha Martin- Herni-
man, Monika Fakaosilea, Manea Waaka
Conversions – Tamara Ruaporo 4

South Australia 0

AHI KĀ AOTEAROA

2024



Harvey Norman Women's National Championship
PLAYER OF THE TOURNAMENT
Sharnyze Pihema (Auckland)

Harvey Norman Women's National Championship
TOURNAMENT TEAM
Monica Samita (Auckland)

Ahi Kā Aotearoa 2024

HARVEY NORMAN WOMEN'S NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Gold Coast, Australia - March 2024

HEAD COACH SQUAD

George Carmont

Amarnee Shepherd (Waikato), Christabelle Tuilaepa-Onesemo (Auckland), Demielle Tuilaepa-Onesemo (Auckland), Ella Bussey-Timo (Canterbury), Henilietta Lokotui (Auckland), Kaya Whitiri-Dee (Hawkes Bay), Kyla Lynch-Brown (Canterbury), Madi Odering (Canterbury), Manea Waaka (Canterbury), Marewa Samson (Waikato), Michaela Poimatagi-Matautia (Auckland), Monica Samita (Auckland), Monika Fakaosilea (Auckland), Paris Pickering (Auckland), Pearl Tuitama (Auckland), Sade Schaumkel (Auckland), Shaniah Lui (Auckland), Sharnyze Pihema (Auckland), Tamara Ruaporo (Wellington), Tiana Thomson (Auckland)

GAME 1

Thursday 21 March 2024
UAA Park, Gold Coast, Australia

Ahi Kā Aotearoa v New South Wales City

Ahi Kā Aotearoa 0
New South Wales City 8

Tries – Sharni Waters, Katrina Phippen

GAME 2

Thursday 22 March 2024
UAA Park, Gold Coast, Australia

Ahi Kā Aotearoa v Northern Territory

Ahi Kā Aotearoa 8
Tries – Kyla Lynch-Brown, Manea Waaka
Northern Territory 6
Tries – Elisa Niki **Conversions** – Victoria Alley

GAME 3

Thursday 23 March 2024
UAA Park, Gold Coast, Australia

Ahi Kā Aotearoa v Western Australia

Ahi Kā Aotearoa 20
Tries – Manea Waaka, Shaniah Lui, Sharnyze Pihema, Amarnee Shepherd, Monica Samita
Western Australia 0

GAME 4

Thursday 24 March 2024
UAA Park, Gold Coast, Australia

Ahi Kā Aotearoa v
New South Wales Country

Ahi Kā Aotearoa 12
Tries – Amarnee Shepherd, Sade Schaumkel
Conversions – Tamara Ruaporo 2
New South Wales Country 18
Tries – Teliya Hetaraka, Carly Abbott, Caitlin Turnbull **Conversions** – Sarah Colman 3



DOMESTIC RUGBY LEAGUE

New Zealand Rugby League celebrated the second consecutive year of a full domestic rugby league calendar since the COVID pandemic.

One of the most anticipated events on the grassroots calendar, the NZRL National Secondary Schools' Tournament returned for another successful year. The NZSS Tournament took place at Auckland's Bruce Pulman Park, seeing the return of the Girls' and U15s' divisions for a second year.

Congratulations to all 38 teams who participated and to St. Thomas of Canterbury College, Auckland Girls Grammar School, Aorere College, and St. Paul's College for winning their respective divisions.

St. Thomas of Canterbury College made history as the first non-Auckland and South Island school to win the NZSS Boys Premiership in over 20 years.

We welcomed back the National Youth Tournament and celebrated the second year of the Girls' Youth Tournament, with spectators convening in Taupo to witness the best female rangatahi talent. The Boys' Youth Tournament held in Rotorua saw additional Districts fielding teams on the national stage for the first time.

The NZRL National District 9s Tournament returned in April 2023 and March 2024 and is now one of the most popular NZRL Tournaments. The 9s format has proved to be an effective entry point for rugby league as it encourages participation and growth of the game at a District level nationwide. Evidently, in 2024 each of the four divisions was won by a different District.

Contrary to the current trend in wider New Zealand sport, participation in both the rangatahi and women's spaces has continued to grow with another year of a complete domestic calendar.

We look forward to another full-on year of domestic activity and tournaments as rugby league continues to strengthen and grow across Aotearoa.

TOURNAMENTS



NZRL National Secondary Schools Tournament

BOYS' PREMIERSHIP

GRAND FINAL

St. Thomas of Canterbury College **12**
St. Paul's College **6**

FINAL STANDINGS

St. Thomas of Canterbury College
St. Paul's College
De La Salle College
Southern Cross Campus
Kelston Boys' High School
Mt. Albert Grammar School
Rotorua Boys' High School
Manurewa High School

GIRLS' CHAMPIONSHIP

GRAND FINAL

Auckland Girls' Grammar School **30**
Southern Cross Campus **12**

FINAL STANDINGS

Auckland Girls' Grammar School
Southern Cross Campus
McAuley High School
Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Kaikohe
St. Mary's College
Manurewa High School
Te Ōraka Kairangi
Tokoroa High School

BOYS' CHAMPIONSHIP

GRAND FINAL

Aorere College **16**
Wesley College **12**

FINAL STANDINGS

Aorere College
Wesley College
Westlake Boys High School
Ngā Kura ā Iwi o Aotearoa: Taikura Senior Boys
Otahuhu College
Papatoetoe High School
Howick College
Marcellin College
James Cook High School
Pukekohe High School
Haeata Community Campus
Tauranga Boys' College

BOYS' U15 CARNIVAL

GRAND FINAL

St. Paul's College 26
Western Heights High School 10

FINAL STANDINGS

St. Paul's College
Western Heights High School
Tamaki College
Manurewa High School
Southern Cross Campus
Ngā Kura ā Iwi o Aotearoa: Taikura
Thames High School
Te Kopuku High
One Tree Hill College
Tokoroa High School

2023 NZRL

NATIONAL SECONDARY SCHOOLS BOYS' TOURNAMENT TEAM

Chelden Hayward (St. Thomas of Canterbury College)
Christian Junior Sikuvea (De La Salle College)
Ezekiel Faga-Ieti (St. Thomas of Canterbury College)
Ezekiel Paulo (St. Thomas of Canterbury College)
Jackson Stewart (St. Thomas of Canterbury College)
Jason Salalilo (St. Thomas of Canterbury College)
Jeriko Filipi-Talisau (St. Paul's College)
Kalani Peyroux-Donaldson (De La Salle College)
Lennox Tuiloma (St. Thomas of Canterbury College)
Malachi Filipo (St. Paul's College)
Malakai Cama (Rotorua Boys' High School)
Maretino Kaloudau (St. Thomas of Canterbury College)
Meihana Pauling (St. Thomas of Canterbury College)
Mikaele Ilaiu (Rotorua Boys' High School)
Noah Harmer-Campbell (St. Thomas of Canterbury College)
Quiann Feterika-Mafae (St. Paul's College)
Sio Kali (St. Paul's College)
Sosaia Latu (Otahuhu College)
Tepatasi Laumalili (De La Salle College)

Emerging Player:

Phillip Lavakeiaho (Wesley College)

Tournament MVP:

Sio Kali (St. Paul's College)

2023 NZRL

NATIONAL SECONDARY SCHOOLS GIRLS' TOURNAMENT TEAM

Alianna Tonu'u (McAuley High School)
Billie Va'a (St. Mary's College)
Danii-Nicole Gray (Auckland Girls' Grammar School)
Evelyn Roberts (McAuley High School)
Faith Tavita (Auckland Girls' Grammar School)
Giovanna Suani (Auckland Girls' Grammar School)
Indiana Russell-Lia (St. Mary's College)
Ivana Lauitiiti (McAuley High School)
Jemma Tonu'u (McAuley High School)
Josinah Filisi Tauiliili (Southern Cross Campus)
Latesha Mitchener (Auckland Girls' Grammar School)
Luca-Bella Ngatuere-Ongley (St. Mary's College)
Paea Uilou (Auckland Girls' Grammar School)
Riley Fruean-Otineru (McAuley High School)
Seriah Palepale (Auckland Girls' Grammar School)
Shafenor Lui (Southern Cross Campus)
Shanthie Lui (Southern Cross Campus)
Te Raukura Leafe (St. Mary's College)
Tonga Toutai (Southern Cross Campus)

Emerging Player:

Shakira Lui (Southern Cross Campus)

Tournament MVP:

Seriah Palepale (Auckland Girls' Grammar School)

TOURNAMENTS



NZRL National Youth Tournament

U16 GIRLS

GRAND FINAL

Counties Manukau **18**
Wellington **4**

FINAL STANDINGS

Counties Manukau
Wellington
South Island
Mid Central
Akarana
Auckland
Waikato

TOURNAMENT TEAM (AOTEAROA WHAANUI)

Ava-Lea Maxwell-Ogilvy (South Island)
Bailey Edwards (Bay of Plenty)
Celine Russell (South Island)
Charley Lahmert (Mid Central)
Courtney Tyrell (Wellington)
Dormay Laufiso (South Island)
Hera Maihi (Wellington)
Kayshana Rapana (South Island)
Lahnayah Daniel (Waikato)
Lei Sipaia (Wellington)
Manaia Blake-Thompson (Mid Central)
Mihikorama Kerr (Waikato)
Olive Connolly (South Island)
Prayer Playle (Mid Central)
Riana Le'afa-Paki (Wellington)
Sophie Parker-Cornelius (Mid Central)
Te Maia Sweetman (Mid Central)
Te Ngaroahiahi Rimoni (Wellington)
Te Waikaukau Mathieson-Julian (Mid Central)
Tournament MVP: Mary-Jane Taito (Counties Manukau)

U18 GIRLS

GRAND FINAL

Auckland **38**
Akarana **0**

FINAL STANDINGS

Auckland
Akarana
Counties
Wellington
South Island
Waikato
Bay of Plenty

TOURNAMENT TEAM

Angelica Vahai (Auckland)
Amiria Ranapia (Wellington)
Ashlee Matapo (Akarana)
Braxton Sorensen-McGee (Auckland)
Claudia Finau (Akarana)
Dallas Flasz-Taupau (Wellington)
Danii Mafae (Akarana)
Dorothy Brunt (Akarana)
Elenoa Havea (Auckland)
Jessica Patea (Wellington)
Leaony Macdonald-Tuimauga (Counties Manukau)
Lialanie Muamua (Canterbury)
Maia Davis (Wellington)
Marewa Samson (Akarana)
Mele Kaufusi (Counties Manukau)
Milahn Ieremia (Akarana)
Pasikalia Tuiatua (Wellington)
Tayla-Benét Masoe (Counties Manukau)
Tiaane Tavita Fesolai (Akarana)
Tournament MVP: Claudia Finau (Akarana)

U16 BOYS

GRAND FINAL

South Island **26**
Waikato **10**

FINAL STANDINGS

South Island
Waikato
Auckland
Akarana
Wellington
Mid Central
Counties Manukau
Bay of Plenty

TOURNAMENT TEAM (AOTEAROA WHAANUI)

Azaniah Roebeck (South Island)
Bishop Neal (South Island)
Delahoia Te Pakeke-Kakoi (South Island)
Ezekiel Hammond-Siolo (South Island)
Fine Fale (Waikato)
Huriteta Barlow (Waikato)
Isaiah Savea (South Island)
Kaea Cribb (Waikato)
Kairus Booth (South Island)
Lorenz-Markel Strickland Rere (Wellington Orcas)
Micah Sula (South Island)
Pj Palamo (South Island)
Rico Lemalie (South Island)
Romana Brent Whitiora (Waikato)
Shae Taitua (Wellington)
Tavita Pomale (Bay of Plenty)
Timau Utiaio (Waikato)
Torino Jackson (South Island)
Turama Paranihi (Waikato)
Emerging Player: Tevita Kilisimasi-Ioane (Mid Central)
Tournament MVP: Fine Fale (Waikato)

U18 BOYS

GRAND FINAL

Counties Manukau **24**
South Island **12**

FINAL STANDINGS

Counties Manukau
South Island
Auckland
Akarana
Wellington
Waikato
Mid Central
Bay of Plenty

TOURNAMENT TEAM

Allan Malama-Talataina (Auckland)
Atelea Filo (Counties Manukau)
Caleb Wright (Waikato)
Carlos Davis (Akarana)
Dakota Kakoi (South Island)
Eli Bihi-Kakoi (South Island)
Eteuati Jeremiah Tatupu (Counties Manukau)
Francis Tuimauga (Counties Manukau)
Hirini Holmes (Counties Manukau)
Jaydyn Hoeta (South Island)
Joshua Grewe (South Island)
Lyrakai-Layke Posimani (Akarana)
Matiasi Lolesio (Auckland)
Maui Winitana-Patelesio (Wellington)
Psalms Iosua (Akarana)
Raphael Sio (Akarana)
Rodney Vea (Counties Manukau)
Te Kaio Cranwell (South Island)
Xavier Lynch (South Island)
Emerging Player: Jarod Cook (Northland)
Tournament MVP: Rodney Tuipulotu-Vea (Counties Manukau)

TOURNAMENTS



NZRL National Men's Premiership

GRAND FINAL

Auckland **70** v Counties Manukau **4**

FINAL STANDINGS

Auckland
Counties Manukau
Akarana
Otago
Waikato
Canterbury

FINALS MVP: Sione Feao (Auckland)

NZRL Sky Sport National Women's Premiership

GRAND FINAL

Auckland **14** v Akarana **6**

FINAL STANDINGS

Auckland
Akarana
Counties Manukau
Wellington
Canterbury

FINALS MVP: Ngatokotoru Arakua (Auckland)

NZRL National Men's Championship

GRAND FINAL

Bay of Plenty **62** v Aoraki **16**

FINAL STANDINGS

Upper North Island

Bay of Plenty
Northland
Coastline

Lower North Island

Wellington
Hawkes Bay
Manawatu

South Island

Aoraki
West Coast
Southland

NZRL National Women's Championship

GRAND FINAL

Waikato **22** v Bay of Plenty **8**

FINAL STANDINGS

North Island

Waikato
Bay of Plenty
Northland

South Island

Otago
Canterbury
Aoraki

TOURNAMENTS



NZRL National District 9s

2023

GIRLS' U16

SEMI FINALS

Wellington **20** v Auckland **4**
Northland **12** v Canterbury **10**

GRAND FINAL

Wellington **20** v Northland **6**

BOYS' U16

SEMI FINALS

Canterbury **24** v Otago **0**
Manawatu **24** v Wellington **6**

GRAND FINAL

Manawatu **18** v Canterbury **14**

GIRLS' U18

SEMI FINALS

Auckland White **12** v Waikato **8**
Auckland Red **18** v Auckland Blue **4**

GRAND FINAL

Auckland Red **20** v Auckland White **4**

BOYS' U18

SEMI FINALS

Northland **26** v Canterbury **4**
Auckland **14** v Wellington **12**

GRAND FINAL

Auckland **24** v Canterbury **4**

2024

GIRLS' U16

SEMI FINALS

Wellington **12** v Manawatu **8**
Auckland **4** v Waikato **8**

GRAND FINAL

Wellington **8** v Waikato **14**

BOYS' U16

SEMI FINALS

Wellington **10** v Canterbury **12**
Auckland **26** v Northland **4**

GRAND FINAL

Canterbury **0** v Auckland **18**

GIRLS' U18

SEMI FINALS

Waikato **10** v Canterbury **16**
Auckland **16** v Northland **4**

GRAND FINAL

Canterbury **20** v Auckland **10**

BOYS' U18

SEMI FINALS

Wellington **12** v Auckland **10**
Canterbury **8** v Otago **4**

GRAND FINAL

Wellington **20** v Canterbury **4**





REPRESENTATIVE

Hau Toa

In 2022 NZRL in collaboration with Auckland Rugby League (ARL) introduced a full representative calendar. These representative fixtures returned for 2023, with the Aotearoa Whaanui v Auckland Invitational contests and Schools v Clubs matches.

The Aotearoa Whaanui v Auckland Invitational 16s contest returned for a second year seeing Boys and Girls matches played at Auckland's Bruce Pulman Park.

The Aotearoa Whaanui v Auckland Invitational 16s contest returned for a second year seeing Boys' and Girls' matches played at Auckland's Bruce Pulman Park.

The Auckland Invitational 16s squads consisted of players from Akarana, Auckland, and Counties Manukau as selected from ARL club competitions and the Region of Origin development programme.

The Clubs v Schools clash returned for the 18s Boys and Girls, following the successful inaugural Girls match in 2023.

The Schools squads were selected from the NZRL National Secondary Schools Tournament, and the Clubs squads from the most outstanding players at the NZRL National Youth Tournaments.

We are pleased with the continuation of these representative fixtures for another year as they allow further representative opportunities for our rangatahi, particularly for young wāhine rugby league players from throughout the nation.

REPRESENTATIVE



BLK



NZ 16s Te Kapa Mātātahi

U16 GIRLS

FINAL SCORE

Aotearoa Whaanui **38**
Auckland Invitational **0**

AOTEAROA WHAANUI

Ava-Lea Maxwell-Ogilvy (South Island)
Bailey Edwards (Bay of Plenty)
Celine Russell (South Island)
Charley Lahmert (Mid Central)
Courtney Tyrell (Wellington)
Dormay Laufiso (South Island)
Hera Maihi (Wellington)
Kayshana Rapana (South Island) (VC)
Lahnayah Daniel (Waikato)
Lei Sipaia (Wellington)
Manaia Blake-Thompson (Mid Central)
Mihikorama Kerr (Waikato) (C)
Olive Connolly (South Island)
Prayer Playle (Mid Central)
Riana Le'afa-Paki (Wellington)
Sophie Parker-Cornelius (Mid Central)
Te Maia Sweetman (Mid Central)
Te Ngaroahiahi Rimoni (Wellington)
Te Waikaukau Mathieson-Julian (Mid Central)

AUCKLAND INVITATIONAL

Abigail Akaroa
Betsy Fifita
Atlanta Hetariki
Derdrey Walker-Tuiletufuga
Elizabeth Ngahe
Emacyn Jeremiah
Lavinia Liufau
Levonah Motuliki
Limilaiti Paea
Lupelota Opeti-Finau
Malena Lavea
Mary-Jane Taito
Milise Tau
Monica Ben
Mya Tony
Riley Pasese
Shakira Lui
Tiare-Anne Leauga

U16 BOYS

FINAL SCORE

Aotearoa Whaanui **20**
Auckland Invitational **10**

AOTEAROA WHAANUI

Azaniah Roebeck (South Island)
Bishop Neal (South Island)
Delahoia Te Pakeke-Kakoi (South Island)
Ezekiel Hammond-Siolo (South Island)
Fine Fale (Waikato)
Huritetaha Barlow (Waikato)
Isaiah Savea (South Island)
Kaea Cribb (Waikato)
Kairus Booth (South Island)
Lorenz-Markel Strickland Rere (Wellington Orcas)
Micah Sula (South Island)
Pj Palamo (South Island)
Rico Lemalie (South Island)
Romana Brent Whitiora (Waikato) (CC)
Shae Taitua (Wellington)
Tavita Pomale (Bay of Plenty)
Timau Utiaro (Waikato) (CC)
Torino Jackson (South Island)
Turama Paranihi (Waikato)

AUCKLAND INVITATIONAL

Ashton Denton-Woodhouse
Charleston Te Rore
Czah Sun
Dezman Laban
Ernie Mahu-Delamere
George Kite
Gordon Afoa
Houma Fotu
Hudsyn Frost
Kaawyn Patterson
Lucas Adams
Militonimolea Sikuvea
Peter Faaleaga
Phillip Lavakeiaho
Samuel Clark
Steven Moala
Torbein Beauvais
Tre'vahn Dave
Zion Sitani

REPRESENTATIVE



Schools v Clubs

Kura v Karapu

U18 GIRLS

FINAL SCORE

NZ Clubs **28**

NZ Schools **32**

NZ CLUBS

Amiria Ranapia (Wellington)
Ashlee Matapo (Akarana)
Braxton Sorensen-McGee (Auckland)
Dallas Flasz-Taupau (Wellington)
Danii Mafoe (Akarana)
Dorothy Brunt (Akarana)
Elenoa Havea (Auckland)
Gillian Fa'aumu (Auckland)
Jessica Patea (Wellington)
Leaony Macdonald-Tuimauga (Counties Manukau)
Lialanie Muamua (Canterbury)
Maia Davis (Wellington)
Marewa Samson (Akarana) (VC)
Mele Kaufusi (Counties Manukau)
Milahn Ieremia (Akarana)
Pasikalia Tuiatua (Wellington)
Tayla-Benét Masoe (Counties Manukau)
Tiaane Tavita Fesolai (Akarana)
Tyler Limmer (South Island)

NZ SCHOOLS

Alianna Tonu'u (McAuley High School)
Billie Va'a (St. Mary's College)
Danii-Nicole Gray (Auckland Girls' Grammar School)
Evelyn Roberts (McAuley High School)
Faith Tavita (Auckland Girls' Grammar School)
Giovanna Suani (Auckland Girls' Grammar School)
Indiana Russell-Lia (St. Mary's College)
Ivana Lauitiiti (McAuley High School)
Jemma Tonu'u (McAuley High School)
Josinah Filisi Tauilili (Southern Cross Campus)
Latesha Mitchener (Auckland Girls' Grammar School)
Luca-Bella Ngatuere-Ongley (St. Mary's College)
Paea Uilou (Auckland Girls' Grammar School) (C)
Riley Fruean-Otineru (McAuley High School)
Seriah Palepale (Auckland Girls' Grammar School)
Shafenior Lui (Southern Cross Campus)
Shanthie Lui (Southern Cross Campus)
Te Raukura Leafe (St. Mary's College)
Tonga Toutai (Southern Cross Campus)

U18 BOYS

FINAL SCORE

NZ Clubs **30**

NZ Schools **22**

NZ CLUBS

Allan Malama-Talataina (Auckland)
Atelea Filo (Counties Manukau)
Caleb Wright (Waikato)
Carlos Davis (Akarana)
Dakota Kakoi (South Island)
Eteuati Jeremiah Tatupu (Counties Manukau)
Francis Tuimauga (Counties Manukau)
Hirini Holmes (Counties Manukau)
Jamie Junior Te Whata (Counties Manukau)
Jaydyn Hoeta (South Island)
Joshua Grewe (Auckland)
Lyrakai-Layke Posimani (Akarana)
Matiasi Lolesio (Auckland)
Maui Winitana-Patelesio (Wellington)
Psalms Iosua (Akarana)
Raphael Sio (Akarana)
Rodney Vea (Counties Manukau) (CC)
Te Kaio Cranwell (South Island) (CC)
Xavier Lynch (South Island)

NZ SCHOOLS

Chelden Hayward (St. Thomas of Canterbury College)
Christian Junior Sikuvea (De La Salle College)
Elijah Paea (De La Salle College)
Ezekiel Faga-Ieti (St. Thomas of Canterbury College)
Ezekiel Paulo (St. Thomas of Canterbury College)
Jackson Stewart (St. Thomas of Canterbury College)
Jason Salalilo (St. Thomas of Canterbury College) (VC)
Jeriko Filipi-Talisau (St. Paul's College)
Kalani Peyroux-Donaldson (De La Salle College)
Lennox Tuiloma (St. Thomas of Canterbury College)
Malachi Filipo (St. Paul's College)
Malakai Cama (Rotorua Boys' High School)
Maretino Kaloudau (St. Thomas of Canterbury College)
Meihana Pauling (St. Thomas of Canterbury College)
Mikaele Ilaiu (Rotorua Boys' High School)
Noah Harmer-Campbell (St. Thomas of Canterbury College) (C)
Quiann Feterika-Mafoe (St. Paul's College)
Sosaia Latu (Otahuhu College)
Tepatasi Laumalili (De La Salle College)

NZRL SNAPSHOT

WELLBEING



Partnerships

Partnerships with providers of wellness, education, and support have provided the ability to service communities and continue implementing our wellbeing framework across Aotearoa. These partnerships have extended our reach and ability to support the game of rugby league from grassroots through to high performance. A notable outcome of these partnerships is the provision of wellbeing resources, guides, and pathways for support through NZRL wellbeing deliveries, to over 500 participants. Key partners include Le Va, Sports Chaplaincy New Zealand, Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand, and South Seas Healthcare.

Find Your Front Programme

The building and implementation of this programme utilises the holistic breadth of wellbeing, through the model of Te Whare Tapa Whā. Additionally, the model of the Find Your Front Programme interweaves all eight components of wellbeing education used in the NRL. The programme has ensured the establishment and support of wellbeing teams who carry out wellbeing deliveries across all seven zones, clubs, schools, and representative teams. The continued development of deliverable wellbeing resources and pathways is carried out, whilst training and development opportunities are created for staff or volunteers.

Staff Wellbeing

NZRL has continued to build an internal network of wellbeing support, with specially individualised support services available for staff and their whānau throughout New Zealand. This has been built and supported through Telus Health with every staff member at NZRL provided access to an individualised wellbeing portal, available online 24 hours a day. Additional staff support services are also available through the Vitae Employee Assistance Programme and Sports Chaplaincy New Zealand.

High-Performance & Development Player Support

The NZRL wellbeing team undertakes group and one-to-one wellbeing mentorship of high-performance development and representative players aged 16 to 20, mirroring NRL/NRLW club wellbeing support. With current ongoing development, NZRL works alongside teams and the NRL to establish an appropriate level of care and support that ensures equal opportunity for all player's wellbeing, as they navigate the high-performance pathway. Wellbeing support is continually provided at an international high-performance level, with additional support being provided to post-career players transitioning out of sport.



FEMALE GAME



INCREASE IN
REGISTERED
FEMALE
PLAYERS

22%

14%

INCREASE IN
REGISTERED
FEMALE
COACHES

Inaugural 'RISE' Talent Development Programme

In 2023 NZRL in partnership with the NRL launched the 'RISE' Talent Development Programme dedicated to preparing young female players aged 17-19 players for high-performance environments such as the NRLW. In 2024 the programme expanded further throughout the country with coaching deliveries taking place in Auckland, Wellington, and Christchurch.

Inaugural Ahi Kā Aotearoa national representative team

The inaugural Ahi Kā Aotearoa female rangatahi representative team was also established in 2023. The squad was selected off the back of the 'RISE' programme and comprised talented young wāhine from across the motu who competed in the Australian Harvey Norman Women's National Championships held in the Gold Coast. The Championships is an elite pathways tournament allowing players across Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, and Papua New Guinea to showcase their skills in the representative arena.

Warriors Re-Entering NRLW in 2025

As the Warriors build to reintroduce their NRLW women's team in 2025, we are committed to implementing new opportunities that cultivate the abilities and profiles of young wāhine in our game, such as the RISE programme and Ahi Kā Aotearoa team. The domestic presence of a professional women's pathway will further encourage wāhine both young and senior to continue pursuing rugby league here in Aotearoa.

NZRL SNAPSHOT

COACHING



Coach Development and Education

Since May 2023 NZRL has seen volunteer coaches, managers, and trainers access our digital SportTutor Coach Education platform to view digital videos, print resources, and register for face-to-face workshops over 150,494 times. The platform now has over 3200 registered coaches, managers, and trainers.

NZRL Coaching Pathways

The High Performance Sport NZ Core Knowledge coaching programme enhances early-stage high performance coaching development. In partnership with HPSNZ, an additional eight rugby league coaches were accepted into the 2024 Core Knowledge cohort. There are now 20 community coaches partaking in the HPSNZ coaching development programme, and three female coaches registered to the female-specific HPSNZ Te Hāpaitanga coaching programme.

Promoting Female Leadership

We have continued to promote female leadership throughout the sport, particularly in the coaching realm. The growth of the female leadership landscape is evident in the appointment of the very first female Coach Force Officer, for the development of rugby league coaches in the Bay of Plenty District. She has successfully engaged with over 350 coaches and parents in formal coaching development sessions. She also broke new ground by becoming the first female Development Officer to co-facilitate the prestigious Kiwi League Senior Club course, the highest level of coaching accreditation offered by NZRL. Creating opportunities for growth to encourage more female leadership in rugby league will remain a focus for NZRL.

Coach Experience Insights

In 2023, rangatahi stakeholders who participated in NZRL tournaments provided valuable feedback. The insights gathered showed that coaches were continuing to meet expectations and standards, with 100% of the players who participated in the survey agreeing that they felt connected and satisfied in their team environments while attending an NZRL tournament.



COMMUNITY



NGĀ RINGA ĀWHINA

81%

of programme participants believe that Ngā Ringa Āwhina catered to their cultural needs using principles/values such as Tika, Pono and Aroha in their mahi when working with stakeholders

80%

of programme participants increased their level of competence using technology platforms

90%

of programme participants found workshops and training provided either extremely or very useful

LeagueSmart

ACC Partnership

Partnership with ACC aligning with their new concussion guidelines ensuring a safer playing environment for all participants through increased awareness and proactive concussion management.

REFEREES

Kaiwawao

INTERNATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

KIWI FERNS V TONGA

Touch Judge: Paki Parkinson

REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTMENTS

AOTEAROA WHAANUI V AUCKLAND INVITATIONAL GIRLS

Referee: Paki Parkinson

Touch Judges: Lau Pauuvale, Liam O'Brien

AOTEAROA WHAANUI V AUCKLAND INVITATIONAL BOYS

Referee: Jack Feavers

Touch Judges: Lau Pauuvale, Liam O'Brien

NEW ZEALAND SCHOOLS V NEW ZEALAND CLUBS BOYS

Referee: Joseph Green

Touch Judges: Jack Feavers, Paki Parkinson

NEW ZEALAND SCHOOLS V NEW ZEALAND CLUBS GIRLS

Referee: Liam O'Brien

Touch Judges: Jack Feavers & Joseph Green

NATIONAL FINALS APPOINTMENTS

MEN'S NATIONAL PREMIERSHIP FINAL

Referee: Paki Parkinson

Touch Judges: Jack Feavers, Liam O'Brien

WOMEN'S NATIONAL PREMIERSHIP FINAL

Referee: Jack Feavers

Touch Judges: Liam O'Brien, Paki Parkinson

PREMIER MEN'S PROMOTION MATCH

Referee: Joseph Green

Touch Judges: Anthony Elliott, Corey Jull

MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

Referee: Liam O'Brien

Touch Judges: Paki Parkinson, Epiha Muru-Kete

WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

Referee: Jaxon McGowan

Touch Judges: Epiha Muru-Kete, Joshua Siaki

NATIONAL YOUTH TOURNAMENT 18 BOYS FINAL

Referee: Liam O'Brien

Touch Judges: Jack Feavers, Paki Parkinson

NATIONAL YOUTH TOURNAMENT 16 BOYS FINAL

Referee: Joseph Green

Touch judges: Jaxon McGowan, Epiha Muru-Kete

NATIONAL YOUTH TOURNAMENT 18 GIRLS FINAL

Referee: Liam O'Brien

Touch Judges: Marissa Puketapu, Paki Parkinson

NATIONAL YOUTH TOURNAMENT 16 GIRLS FINAL

Referee: Jack Feavers

Touch Judges: Jaxon McGowan, Berta Makiha



**NZRL Match Official
of the Year 2023:
Paki Parkinson**

**NATIONAL SECONDARY SCHOOLS BOYS
PREMIERSHIP FINAL**

Referee: Joseph Green.

Touch Judges: Eisle Brown, Lau Pauuvale

NATIONAL SECONDARY SCHOOLS GIRLS FINAL

Referee: Jaxon McGowan

Touch Judges: Marissa Puketapu, Owen Harvey

NATIONAL DISTRICT 9S 18 BOYS FINAL 2023

Referee: Liam O'Brien

Touch Judges: Jack Feavers, Epiha Muru-Kete

NATIONAL DISTRICT 9S 18 GIRLS FINAL 2023

Referee: Keven Ah Ken

Touch Judges: Owen Harvey, Marissa Puketapu

NATIONAL DISTRICT 9S 16 BOYS FINAL 2023

Referee: Maxine Godinet

Touch Judges: Toby Foley, Tony Cuccurullo

NATIONAL DISTRICT 9S 16 GIRLS FINAL 2023

Referee: Epiha Muru-Kete

Touch Judges: Lau Pauuvale, Owen Harvey

NATIONAL DISTRICT 9S 18 BOYS FINAL 2024

Referee: Daryl Mataiti

Touch Judges: David Millar, Nigel Williams

NATIONAL DISTRICT 9S 18 GIRLS FINAL 2024

Referee: Maxine Godinet

Touch Judges: Lau Pauuvale, Brent Newton

NATIONAL DISTRICT 9S 16 BOYS FINAL 2024

Referee: Paki Ngaira

Touch Judges: Will Toelau, Tony Cuccurullo

NATIONAL DISTRICT 9S 16 GIRLS FINAL 2024

Referee: Poriau Uamaki

Touch Judges: Jordyn Robertson, Brendan
Woledge



Aotearoa New Zealand Māori Rugby League

Aotearoa New Zealand Māori Rugby League (ANZMRL) continued its dedication to nurturing the passion and aspirations of Māori rugby league players throughout Aotearoa.

In 2023 ANZMRL hosted their five annual rugby league tournaments that catered for all age groups from tamariki, juniors, right through to tuakana, seniors. These tournaments are held in different areas throughout the nation and continuously attract large numbers of players and supporting whānau from all over the motu and Australia.

These tournaments continue to deepen our valued Māori community's connection to the game while also encouraging newcomers to try rugby league.

In October the Tuakana Tournament took place at Rotorua's Puketawhero Park, seeing 37 teams from throughout the country and Australia converge to play and represent their whānau, hapu, iwi, and rohe. The inaugural Tuakana Tournament in 1993 was played in Wellington with just four teams.

In celebration of the 30th year of the Tuakana Tournament, the ANZMRL Aotearoa Māori Wāhine Toa and Tāne, men's and women's representative teams faced off against Auckland Rugby League's Auckland Invitational men's and women's sides.

2023 also marked a year since constitutional changes were passed that elevated ANZMRL to full voting member status. These historic constitutional changes resulted from ongoing efforts to deepen and better honour the partnership between NZRL and ANZMRL.

New Zealand Rugby League is dedicated to strengthening the partnership with ANZMRL and cultivating Māori rugby league and talent for years to come.



PHYSICAL DISABILITY RUGBY LEAGUE

Whutupōro Rīki Whaikaha o Aotearoa

2023 was another year full of activity for Whutupōro Rīki o Aotearoa, Physical Disability Rugby League New Zealand.

Three Campbell Cup matches were proudly held throughout the season, with congratulations going to the Knights for ultimately claiming the cup once again.

The first-ever Inclusiveness Day game was played in Auckland at the Papakura Sea Eagles in June.

The annual Te Ika-a-Māui v Te Waipounamu, North Island v South Island match was played in July at Hornby Rugby League in Christchurch. The highly anticipated event saw reigning champions Te Waipounamu emerge victorious after a hard-fought battle.

In September the PDRLNZ Kiwi Training Camp was held at the New Lynn Stags clubrooms in Auckland. With the largest player attendance to date, players from across New Zealand attended to compete for a spot in the next PDRLNZ Kiwi squad.

At the conclusion of the camp, players had the chance to play together as a team against an invitational masters side, which provided an excellent opportunity to build teamwork and improve strategy in preparation for future international competitions.

In October Whutupōro Rīki Whaikaha o Aotearoa partnered with Rugby League Northland, Community Connect, and ParaFed Northland to host a come-and-try day at Tikipunga Sports Park. This served as an opportunity to share the passion for PDRL with Northland through teaching skills, drills, and a friendly game against an invitational team.

To close out the year the PDRL Kiwi v Kiwi A faced off as the curtain-raiser match at the Pacific Championships Grand Final, held at FMG Stadium Waikato in November.

NZRL and Whutupōro Rīki o Aotearoa are committed to growing PDRL throughout Aotearoa, to continue offering physically disabled persons opportunities to take part and be included in the great sport of rugby league.





ZONES

—● Āpure

AKARANA

COUNTIES MANUKAU

MID CENTRAL

NORTHLAND

SOUTHERN ZONE

UPPER CENTRAL

WELLINGTON

Akarana



Congratulations to Phil Gordon on receiving the NZRL Coach of the Year award and Monica Samita for receiving the NZRL Junior Girls Player of the Year award.

The Akarana 18s Girls were runners-up in the NZRL National Youth Tournament.

The Akarana women's team were runners-up in the NZRL Sky Sport National Women's Premiership.

Congratulations to the following Akarana representatives:

16s Boys

Dezman Laban - Warriors Harold Matthews Cup selection
Kaawyn Patterson - Warriors Harold Matthews Cup selection
Zion Opeti Sitani - Warriors Harold Matthews Cup selection
Zinzan Fuimaono - Warriors Harold Matthews Cup selection

18s Girls

Marewa Samson - NZ Clubs selection, Ahi Kā Aotearoa selection 2023 & 2024
Tiaane Tavita-Fesolai - NZ Clubs selection
Danii Mafoe - NZ Clubs selection
Ashlee Matapo - NZ Clubs selection
Claudia Finau - NZ Clubs selection, National Youth Tournament MVP
Dorothy Brunt - NZ Clubs selection
Milahn Ieremia - NZ Clubs selection

18s Boys

Raphael Sio - NZ Clubs selection, Warriors SG Ball Cup selection
Lyrakai-Layke Posimani - NZ Clubs selection, Warriors SG Ball Cup selection, Warriors Jersey Flegg Cup selection
Carlos Davis - NZ Clubs selection
Psalm Josua - NZ Clubs selection

Womens

Christabelle Tuilaepa-Onesemo - Ahi Kā Aotearoa selection 2024
Demielle Tuilaepa-Onesemo - Ahi Kā Aotearoa selection 2024
Ilaisaane Taufa - Ahi Kā Aotearoa selection 2023
Monica Samita - Ahi Kā Aotearoa selection 2023 & 2024, NZRL Junior Girls Player of the Year, Harvey Norman Women's Championship Tournament Team 2024
Ronise Matini - Ahi Kā Aotearoa selection 2023
Paris Pickering - Manly-Warringah Sea Eagles Tarsha Gale Cup selection, Ahi Kā Aotearoa selection 2024
Shaniah Lui - Ahi Kā Aotearoa selection 2024
Summer Van Gelder - Ahi Kā Aotearoa selection 2023, Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs Harvey Norman NSW Women's Premiership selection

Mens

Jeremiah Schuster - Warriors NSW Cup selection



Counties Manukau



Congratulations to the Stingrays 16s Girls & 18s Boys who won their respective NZRL National Youth Tournaments.

Congratulations to Zachary Moulder on receiving the NZRL Trainer of the Year award.

The Stingrays men's team were runners-up in the NZRL National Men's Premiership.

At least 25 Stingrays players across the age-groups including nine females who were selected to play in elite New South Wales Rugby League competitions.

Congratulations to the following Counties Manukau representatives:

16s Girls

Evelyn Roberts – NZ Schools selection, Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs Lisa Fiaola Cup selection, Lisa Fiaola Cup Player of the Tournament

Giovanna Suani – NZ Schools selection, Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs Lisa Fiaola Cup selection

Seriah Palepale – NZ Schools, Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs Lisa Fiaola Cup selection

Josinah Filisi Tauilili – NZ Schools selection, Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs Lisa Fiaola Cup selection

Mary-Jane Taito – National Youth Tournament MVP, Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs Lisa Fiaola Cup selection, Lisa Fiaola Cup Grand Final Player of the Match

16s Boys

Ambrose Puluno – Warriors Harold Matthews Cup selection

Deshontayne Te Wao – Warriors Harold Matthews Cup selection

Gordon Afoa – Warriors Harold Matthews Cup selection

Houma Fotu – Warriors Harold Matthews Cup selection

Hudsyn Frost – Warriors Harold Matthews Cup selection

Militoni Sikuvea – Warriors Harold Matthews Cup selection

Peter Fa'aleaga – Warriors Harold Matthews Cup selection

Soul Misiepo – Warriors Harold Matthews Cup selection

Steven Moala – Warriors Harold Matthews Cup selection

Tre'Vahn Dave – Warriors Harold Matthews Cup selection

18s Girls

Mele Kaufusi – NZ Clubs selection

Alianna Tonu'u – NZ Schools selection, Manly-Warringah Sea Eagles Tarsha Gale Cup selection

Danii-Nicole Gray – NZ Schools selection, Manly-Warringah Sea Eagles Tarsha Gale Cup selection

Ivana Lauitiiti – NZ Schools selection

Jemma Tonu'u – NZ Schools selection

Leaony Macdonald Tuimauga – NZ Clubs selection

Paea Uilou – NZ Schools selection, Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs Tarsha Gale Cup selection

Riley Fruean-Otineru – NZ Schools selection

Shafenior Lui – NZ Schools selection

Shanthie Lui – NZ Schools selection

Tayla Masoe – NZ Clubs selection

18s Boys

Atelea Filo – NZ Clubs selection

Eteuati Tatupu – NZ Clubs selection

Francis Tuimauga – NZ Clubs selection, Warriors SG Ball Cup selection, Warriors Jersey Flegg Cup selection

Hirini Holmes – NZ Clubs selection

Jamie Junior Te Whata – NZ Clubs selection

Kalani Peyroux-Donaldson – NZ Schools selection, Warriors SG Ball Cup selection, Warriors Jersey Flegg Cup selection

Kayliss Fatialofa – Warriors SG Ball Cup selection, Warriors Jersey Flegg Cup selection

Rodney Tuipulotu-Vea – NZ Clubs selection, National Youth Tournament MVP, Warriors SG Ball Cup selection, Warriors Jersey Flegg Cup selection

Womens

Michaela Poimatagi-Matautia – Ahi Kā Aotearoa selection 2024

Monika Fakaosilea – Ahi Kā Aotearoa selection 2023 & 2024

Nina Faamausili – Ahi Kā Aotearoa selection 2023

Sade Schaumkel – Ahi Kā Aotearoa selection 2023 & 2024, Wentworthville Magpies Harvey Norman NSW Women's Premiership selection

Sharnyze Pihema – Manly-Warringah Sea Eagles Tarsha Gale Cup selection, Ahi Kā Aotearoa selection 2024, Harvey Norman Women's Championship Player of the Tournament

Tiana Thomson – Ahi Kā Aotearoa selection 2024

Mens

Phranklyn Mano-le-mamea – Warriors Jersey Flegg Cup selection

Mid Central



Congratulations to the 2023 Manawatū 16s Boys team Mid Central who won the NZRL National District 9s.

Congratulations to the Dannevirke Tigers who received the NZRL Club of the Year award.

Congratulations to the following Mid Central representatives:

16s Girls

Te Maia Sweetman – Aotearoa Whaanui selection

Prayer Playle – Aotearoa Whaanui selection

Manaia Blake-Thompson – Aotearoa Whaanui selection

Charley Lahmert – Aotearoa Whaanui selection.

Sophie Parker-Cornelius – Aotearoa Whaanui selection

Te Waikaukau Mathieson-Julian – Aotearoa Whaanui selection

16s Boys

Tevita Kilisimasi-Ioane – National Youth Tournament Emerging Player

Womens

Kaya Whitiri-Dee – Ahi Kā Aotearoa selection 2024

Northland



The 2023 Northland 16s Girls were runners-up in the NZRL National District 9s tournament.

Congratulations to the following Northland representatives:

18s Girls

Ana Allen – Ahi Kā Aotearoa selection 2023

Destinee Mexted – Ahi Kā Aotearoa selection 2023

Maia Crutcher – Ahi Kā Aotearoa selection 2023, Manly-Warringah Sea Eagles Tarsha Gale Cup selection

Tanaia-Aroha Mertin-Herniman – Ahi Kā Aotearoa selection 2023, Manly-Warringah Sea Eagles Tarsha Gale Cup selection

18s Boys

Jarod Cook - National Youth Tournament Emerging Player





Congratulations to St. Thomas of Canterbury College who won the NZRL National Secondary Schools Tournament Boys Premiership, the first-ever South Island team to win the tournament and the first out of Auckland school to win in over 20 years.

At the 2023 NZRL National District 9s Tournament, the Canterbury 16s Boys and 18s Boys were runners-up in their divisions.

Congratulations to the South Island Scorpions 16s Boys who won the National Youth Tournament, while the Scorpions 18s Boys were runners-up in their division.

Congratulations to the 2024 Canterbury 18s Girls who won the NZRL National District 9s Tournament. At the same 2024 tournament, the Canterbury 16s Boys and 18s Boys were runners-up in their divisions.

Congratulations to the following Southern representatives:

16s Girls

Ava-Lea Maxwell-Ogilvy – Aotearoa Whaanui selection
Celine Russell – Aotearoa Whaanui selection
Dormay Laufiso – Aotearoa Whaanui selection
Kayshana Rapana – Aotearoa Whaanui selection
Olive Connolly – Aotearoa Whaanui selection

16s Boys

Azaniah Roebeck – Aotearoa Whaanui selection
Bishop Neal – Aotearoa Whaanui selection, Warriors Harold Matthews Cup selection
Delahoia Te Pakeke-Kakoi – Aotearoa Whaanui selection
Ezekiel Hammond-Siolo – Aotearoa Whaanui selection
Isaiah Savea – Aotearoa Whaanui selection, Warriors Harold Matthews Cup selection
Kairus Booth – Aotearoa Whaanui selection, Warriors Harold Matthews Cup selection
Micah Sula – Aotearoa Whaanui selection, Warriors Harold Matthews Cup selection
Pj Palamo – Aotearoa Whaanui selection
Rico Lemalie – Aotearoa Whaanui selection
Torino Jackson – Aotearoa Whaanui selection, Tweed Seagulls Cyril Connell Cup selection

18s Girls

Ella Bussey-Timo – Ahi Kā Aotearoa selection 2024
Kyla Lynch-Brown – Ahi Kā Aotearoa selection 2023 & 2024
Lialanie Muamua – NZ Clubs selection
Madi Odering – Ahi Kā Aotearoa selection 2024
Manea Waaka – Ahi Kā Aotearoa selection 2023 & 2024
Tyler Limmer – NZ Clubs selection

18s Boys

Chelden Hayward – NZ Schools selection, Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs SG Ball Cup selection
Dakota Kakoi – NZ Clubs selection, Paramatta Eels SG Ball Cup selection
Eli Bijl-Kakoi – NZ Clubs selection, Norths Devils Mal Meninga Cup selection
Ezekiel Faga-Ieti – NZ Schools selection, Warriors SG Ball Cup selection
Ezekiel Paulo – NZ Schools selection
Jackson Stewart – NZ Schools selection, Warriors SG Ball Cup selection
Jason Salalilo – NZ Schools selection, Warriors SG Ball Cup selection, Warriors Jersey Flegg Cup selection
Jaydyn Hoeta – NZ Clubs selection
Lennox Tuiloma – NZ Schools selection, Warriors Harold Matthews Cup selection
Maretino Kaloudau – NZ Schools selection
Meihana Pauling – NZ Schools selection, Warriors SG Ball Cup selection
Noah Harmer-Campbell – NZ Schools selection, Warriors SG Ball Cup selection, Warriors Jersey Flegg Cup selection
Te Kaio Cranwell – NZ Clubs selection, Newcastle Knights SG Ball Cup selection
Xavier Lynch – NZ Clubs selection

Mens

Callum Donaldson – Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs Jersey Flegg Cup selection

Upper Central



Congratulations to the Waikato women's team who won the NZRL National Women's Championship.

Congratulations to the Bay of Plenty men's team who won the NZRL National Men's Championship.

Congratulations to Paki Parkinson for receiving the NZRL Match Official of the Year award for the fourth consecutive year.

The Bay of Plenty women's team were runners-up in the National Women's Championship.

The Waikato 16s Boys in their first-ever NZRL National Youth Tournament, finished as runners-up.

Western Heights High School were runners-up in the NZRL National Secondary Schools Tournament U15s Boys Carnival.

Congratulations to the following Upper Central representatives:

16s Girls

Mihikorama Kerr – Aotearoa Whaanui selection

Lahnayah Daniel – Aotearoa Whaanui selection, Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs Lisa Fiaola Cup selection

Bailey Edwards – Aotearoa Whaanui selection

16s Boys

Kaea Cribb – Aotearoa Whaanui selection

Fine Fale – Aotearoa Whaanui selection, National Youth Tournament MVP

Tavita Pomale – Aotearoa Whaanui selection

Timau Utiaro – Aotearoa Whaanui selection, Warriors Harold Matthews Cup selection

Turama Paranihi – Aotearoa Whaanui selection, Warriors Harold Matthews Cup selection

Romana Whitiora – Aotearoa Whaanui selection, Warriors Harold Matthews Cup selection

Huritetaha Barlow – Aotearoa Whaanui selection

18s Boys

Caleb Wright – NZ Clubs selection

Malakai Cama – NZ Schools selection, Warriors SG Ball Cup selection

Mikaele Ilaiu – NZ Schools selection, Warriors SG Ball Cup selection, Warriors Jersey Flegg Cup selection



Wellington



Congratulations to the 2023 16s Girls and 2024 18s Boys who won their NZRL National District 9s Tournaments.

The 2024 16s Girls were runners-up in their NZRL National District 9s Tournament.

Congratulations to Jacob Laban who received the NZRL Junior Boys Player of the Year award, Rachael Leafe who received the NZRL Manager of the Year award, and Nick Hennessy who received the NZRL Volunteer of the Year award.

Congratulations to the following Wellington representatives:

16s Girls

Courtney Tyrell – Aotearoa Whaanui selection

Hera Maihi – Aotearoa Whaanui selection

Lei Sipaia – Aotearoa Whaanui selection

Riana Le'afa-Paki – Aotearoa Whaanui selection

Te Ngaroahiahi Rimoni – Aotearoa Whaanui selection

Trinity Tauaneai – 2023 National 9s Tournament MVP, Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs Lisa Fiaola Cup selection, St. George Illawarra Dragons NRLW development contract

16s Boys

Lorenz-Markel Strickland Rere – Aotearoa Whaanui selection

Shae Taitua – Aotearoa Whaanui selection

18s Girls

Amiria Ranapia – NZ Clubs selection

Billie Va'a – NZ Schools selection

Dallas Taupau – NZ Clubs selection

Indiana Russell-Lia – NZ Schools selection, Manly-Warringah Sea Eagles Tarsha Gale Cup selection

Jessica Patea – NZ Schools selection, Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs Tarsha Gale Cup selection, St. George Illawarra Dragons NRLW development contract

Luca-Bella Ngatuere-Ongley – NZ Schools selection

Maia Davis – NZ Clubs selection

Pasikalia Tuiatua – NZ Clubs selection

Te Raukura Leafe – NZ Schools selection

18s Boys

Maui Winitana-Patelesio – NZ Clubs selection, Warriors SG Ball Cup selection

Womens

Alexis Tauaneai – Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs Tarsha Gale Cup selection, Tarsha Gale Cup Player of the Tournament, Harvey Norman Women's National Championships Player of the Tournament, New South Wales U-19 selection, St. George Illawarra Dragons NRLW selection

Tamara Ruaporo – Ahi Kā Aotearoa selection 2023 & 2024, Harvey Norman Women's Championship Tournament Team

Mens

Jacob Laban – NZRL Junior Boys Player of the Year, Warriors NSW Cup selection

AWARDS

● Ngā tohu

INTERNATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

GOLDEN BOOTS

Georgia Hale
James Fisher-Harris

2023 NZRL HIGH PERFORMANCE AWARD WINNERS

KIWIS PLAYER OF THE YEAR

James Fisher-Harris

KIWI FERNS PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Georgia Hale

KIWIS ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

Matthew Timoko

KIWIS A ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

Rocco Berry

KIWI FERNS ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

Annessa Biddle

PDRLNZ KARL HICKEY MEMORIAL TAONGA

Mal Davis





2007 Anthony Woodhouse - Australia	2010 Tony Marshall - New Zealand	2011
2008 Dennis Luckman - Australia	2011 Subashini Thevaran - Australia	2012
2009 Catherine Smith - Australia	2012 Karna Williams - England	2013
2010 Mike Stone - Australia	2013 Subashini Thevaran - Australia	2014
2011 Tony Higgs - Australia	2014 Shanti Williams - New Zealand	2015

2023 NZRL DOMESTIC WINNERS

GRASSROOTS CLUB OF THE YEAR

Dannevirke Tigers (Mid Central)

MEN'S DOMESTIC PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Sione Feao (Auckland)

WOMEN'S DOMESTIC PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Onjeurlina Leiataua Hunt (Auckland)

JUNIOR BOYS (U19) PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Jacob Laban (Wellington)

JUNIOR GIRLS (U19) PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Monica Samita (Akarana)

COACH OF THE YEAR

Phil Gordon (Akarana)

TRAINER OF THE YEAR

Zachary Moulder (Counties Manukau)

MANAGER OF THE YEAR

Rachael Leafe (Wellington)

MATCH OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR

Paki Parkinson (Bay of Plenty)

PIRTEK VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Nick Hennessy (Wellington)





OUR PEOPLE

Ō tātau tāngata

LIFE MEMBERS:

1920 Stan Brice **1921** Duncan McLean
1926 Thomas Boswell, William
Liversidge, Arthur Schofield, George
Wheatley **1935** Arthur Harlock **1937**
Lewis Binns, Cyril Snedden **1939**
Ernest Stallworthy **1940** Wilf Davies,
George Bassett **1941** Tonga Mahuta
1942 Scotty McClymont **1943** Lance
Hunter **1946** Gordon Hooker **1947**
Edward Chapman **1948** Owen Carlaw
1949 Thomas Smith, Leslie Bull
1950 Ivan Culpan, Harry Rogers **1953**
Robert Doble, Jack Redwood OBE
1956 George Falgar **1957** Ernie Asher
1958 David Wilkie, William Swift
1961 John Watson, Roy Lash **1962** Dr
Fred Gwynne **1963** Bill Moyle, Colin
Siddle **1964** Tom Skinner KBE, Tom
McKenzie **1966** "Ted" Knowling MBE
1968 George Plant **1969** Eric Bennett
1970 Dr Leo Cooney **1971** Arthur
Chapman, Ray Cody MNZM, Doug
Wilson **1972** Ces Mountford MBE, Ivan
Stonex **1974** Archie Stuart BEM **1976**
Trevor Wellmore **1977** Keith Blow,
Jack Williams **1978** Ron McGregor
JP & OBE **1980** Ken English **1981** Des
Barchard **1982** Dr Brian Watson **1983**
Les Huston **1984** Bill O'Callaghan JP,
Tom Newton, **1985** Allen Gore* KSM,
Mel Clinton OBE **1988** Bill Nesbitt,
"Bud" Lisle MNZM, Bill Whitehead
QSM **1989** Bob Aynsley **1990** Jim
Campbell MNZM **1991** Bill Sorensen
1993 George Rainey **1994** "Ted"
Cutberlet QSM, John McKeown* **2000**
Crispin Easterbrook **2003** Ray Cranch
MNZM **2006** Gerald Ryan ONZM,
Don Hammond **2007** Peter Kerridge*
JP & MNZM **2008** Lory Blanchard
MNZM, Bernie Wood MNZM **2009**
Howie Tamati* MBE **2010** John Bray*
KSM **2012** David Robinson **2013** Ray
Haffenden* MNZM, Trevor Maxwell*
2014 Mrs Cathy Friend QSM & DSA
2015 Jack Fagan, Sel Pearson*, Brian
Reidy **2016** Sir Peter Leitch* KNZM
& QSM **2017** Cherie Steele-Shanks*,
2018 John Coffey* **2019** Kevin
Tamati*, Cameron McGregor* **2020**
Frank Morris Endacott* ONZM **2022**
Reon Edwards* **2023** William (Bill)
McEntee*, Christine Rewa Panapa*

*current life member

In Memoriam

Roger "Spud" Tait #440

Des White #323

Paul Joseph Schultz #434

Manu 'Joe' Diamond (Manager)

John Bond #351

CURRENT LIFE MEMBERS

(alphabetical order)

John Bray KSM, John Coffey
QSM, Reon Edwards, Frank
Endacott, Allen Gore KSM, Ray
Haffenden MNZM, Peter Kerridge
JP & MNZM, Sir Peter Leitch
KNZM & QSM, Trevor Maxwell,
William (Bill) McEntee, Cameron
McGregor, Christine Rewa
Panapa, Sel Pearson, Cherie
Steele-Shanks, Howie Tamati,
Kevin Tamati



OUR ASSOCIATES



Masters of Rugby League



New Zealand Defence Forces Rugby League



New Zealand Rugby League Kiwis Association



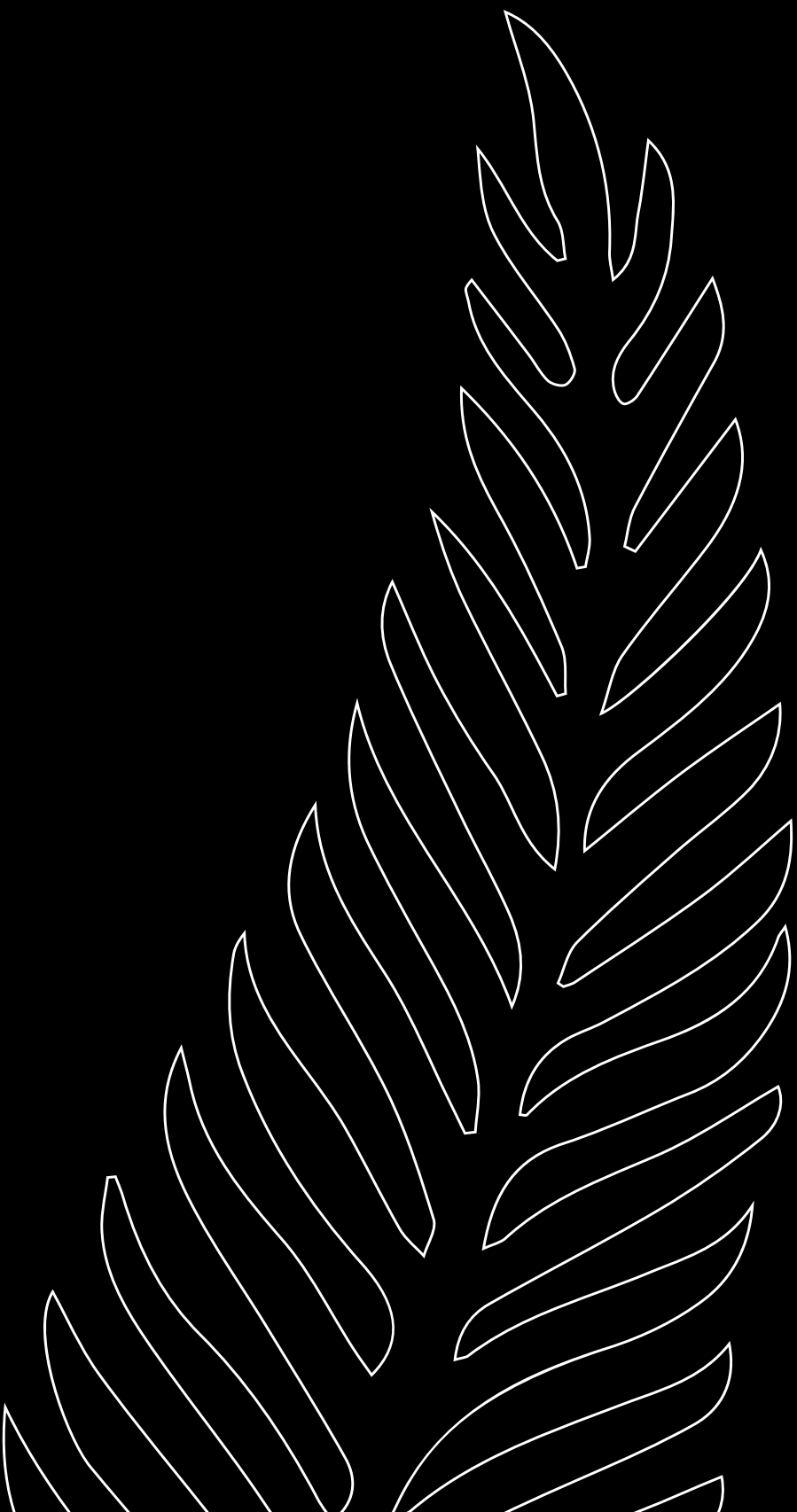
**New Zealand Universities and
Tertiary Students Rugby League**



**Whutupōro Rīki Whaikaha o Aotearoa
Physical Disability Rugby League**

Tauaki Pūtea

FINANCIALS



NEW ZEALAND RUGBY LEAGUE INC. DIRECTORS' REPORT

The Directors present the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

These consolidated financial statements reflect the overall state of the game controlled by the New Zealand Rugby League Incorporated ("the Society"). The seven Zones have been consolidated with the results of those of the Society and NZRL Investment Limited Partnership.

The consolidated deficit for the year was \$580,000 (2023: \$2,281,000 deficit) and the consolidated excess of assets over liabilities was \$2,968,000 (2023: \$3,548,000).

New Zealand Rugby League Board Members

The following people held office as a Director of New Zealand Rugby League Inc. during the year:

Hugh Martyn (Chairperson)
Justin Leydesdorff
Tawera Nikau (Term ended 24/06/23)
Jeni Pearce (Term ended 24/06/23)
Grant Stapleton
Natasha Tere
Honey Hireme-Smiler
John Devonshire
Tania Te Whenua (Appointed 24/06/23)
Ian Olan (Elected 24/06/23)

Directors' Interests in Transactions with the Group

Total remuneration and fees paid to Directors and transactions with parties related to Directors are disclosed in note 16 to the financial statements.

Auditors

BDO Auckland were appointed auditors for the year ended 31 March 2024. The audit is conducted on a group basis with one audit fee paid for and recorded in the financial statements of New Zealand Rugby League Inc.

For and on behalf of the Board



Director

Date: 11 June 2024



Director

Date: 11 June 2024

NEW ZEALAND RUGBY LEAGUE INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE REVENUE AND EXPENSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

		Group	
	Note	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
<i>Revenue from exchange transactions:</i>	3(a)i		
Coaching and development		134	177
<i>Revenue from non-exchange transactions:</i>	3(a)ii		
Match revenue		1,333	1,388
Charitable trust grants		1,271	1,293
Other grants		450	513
Sponsorship and funding		6,075	5,964
TAB NZ		2,778	1,632
Other income		142	202
		<u>12,183</u>	<u>11,169</u>
Expenses:			
Employee benefits expenses	5	(5,528)	(6,514)
Depreciation expense	9	(124)	(106)
General expenses	6	(7,058)	(6,846)
		<u>(12,710)</u>	<u>(13,466)</u>
(Loss) / Surplus before net financing costs		<u>(527)</u>	<u>(2,297)</u>
Finance income		33	16
Finance costs		(86)	-
Net finance cost		<u>(53)</u>	<u>16</u>
(Loss) / Surplus for the year		<u>(580)</u>	<u>(2,281)</u>
Other comprehensive revenue and expense for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive revenue and expense for the year attributable to owners of the controlling entity		<u><u>(580)</u></u>	<u><u>(2,281)</u></u>

The above statements should be read in conjunction with the notes to and forming part of the financial statements.



**NEW ZEALAND RUGBY LEAGUE INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS/EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

Group

	Accumulated comprehensive revenue and expenses	Revaluation Reserve	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Balance as at 1 April 2023	969	2,579	3,548
Total comprehensive revenue and expenses for the year	(580)	-	(580)
Balance as at 31 March 2024	389	2,579	2,968
Balance as at 1 April 2022	3,250	2,579	5,829
Total comprehensive revenue and expenses for the year	(2,281)	-	(2,281)
Balance as at 31 March 2023	969	2,579	3,548

The above statements should be read in conjunction with the notes to and forming part of the financial statements.

NEW ZEALAND RUGBY LEAGUE INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

		Group	
	Note	2024	2023
		\$'000	\$'000
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	7	1,136	926
Receivables (non-exchange transactions)	8	943	1,019
Prepayments		156	147
		2,235	2,092
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	9	4,108	4,123
		4,108	4,123
TOTAL ASSETS		6,343	6,215
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Payables (from exchange transactions) and accruals	10	1,251	921
BNZ Loan	12	1,271	821
Deferred revenue	11	595	557
Employee benefit liability		231	351
Goods and service taxation		27	17
		3,375	2,667
TOTAL LIABILITIES		3,375	2,667
EQUITY			
Accumulated comprehensive revenue and expenses		389	969
Revaluation Reserve		2,579	2,579
TOTAL EQUITY		2,968	3,548
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		6,343	6,215

The above statements should be read in conjunction with the notes to and forming part of the financial statements.



**NEW ZEALAND RUGBY LEAGUE INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

		Group	
	Note	2024	2023
		\$'000	\$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Proceeds from:			
Coaching and development fees		276	379
Grants, sponsorship, match revenue, and TAB NZ		12,021	8,946
Interest received		33	16
Payments to suppliers		(6,857)	(6,471)
Payments to employees		(5,528)	(6,462)
Net GST received / (paid)		10	(8)
Interest paid		(86)	-
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities		(131)	(3,600)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Payments for purchase of property, plant and equipment		(109)	(321)
Net cash (outflow) from investing activities		(109)	(321)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Drawdown of loans		1,690	1,000
Repayment of loans		(1,240)	(179)
Net cash outflow from financing activities		450	821
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		210	(3,100)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		926	4,026
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of year	7	1,136	926

The above statements should be read in conjunction with the notes to and forming part of the financial statements.

NEW ZEALAND RUGBY LEAGUE INC.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF SERVICE PERFORMANCE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Description of Entity's Outcomes

New Zealand Rugby League is a not-for-profit national sports organisation charged with the growth, development, and delivery of the game of rugby league in New Zealand.

	Group	
	2024	2023
Goal 1: Rugby league is enjoyed by more people		
Total player numbers	28,180	24,934
Total Rangatahi (youth) numbers	7,709	6,037
Goal 2: Women's game thriving and enhanced opportunities for Females in the game		
Number of Females as registered players	5,810	5,306
NZRL Board Diversity (Female Directors / Total Directors)	3 / 8	3 / 8

Notes: The Player figures are based on the rugby league season which runs annually from November - October.

Rangatahi is defined as players aged 13 - 17.



NEW ZEALAND RUGBY LEAGUE INC.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Note 1 - Reporting entity

New Zealand Rugby League Inc. (the “Controlling Entity”, also referred to as “the Society”) is a public benefit entity for the purposes of financial reporting in accordance with the Financial Reporting Act 2013.

These consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 comprise the controlling entity and its controlled entities (together referred to as the ‘Group’) and individually as ‘Group entities’.

Note 2 - Basis of preparation

(a) Statement of compliance

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with New Zealand Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (“NZ GAAP”). They comply with Public Benefit Entity Accounting Standards Reduced Disclosure Regime (“PPE Standards RDR”) as appropriate for Tier 2 public benefit entities, for which all reduced disclosure regime exemptions have been applied.

The Group qualifies as a Tier 2 reporting entity as for the current and prior period the group is not publicly accountable and is not large (operations expenditure has been between \$2m and \$30m).

These financial statements were authorised for issue by the New Zealand Rugby League Board on 11 June 2024.

(b) Measurement basis

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis, except for revalued land and buildings.

(c) Functional and presentation currency

The financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars (\$) which is the controlling entity’s functional and Group’s presentation currency, rounded to the nearest thousand dollars.

There has been no change in the functional currency of the Group during the year.

(d) Going Concern basis

The Group has made a deficit for the year of \$580,000 (2023: \$2,281,000 deficit before other comprehensive income) and report negative working capital of \$1,140,000 (2023: negative working capital of \$575,000).

The forecasts for the Society report a surplus. The forecast revenue is also susceptible and sensitive to the risks that not all sponsorship and grant income can be reliably confirmed and that gate takings and prize money are reliant on attendance at events.

Accordingly, there is a possibility that actual results do not turn out as forecast.

Consideration has been given in the approved forecasts, to the on-going funding of the Society and its Zones, the business model under which the NZRL presently operates and the possible outcome of negotiations for additional grants and sponsorships. Based on the forecasts prepared and available funding, the Directors have adopted the going concern assumption in the preparation of these financial statements.

BNZ have provided assurance that the loan of \$1,271k which is listed as current liability due to the term expiring on 30 August 2024 will not be called and will be renewed in the next financial year.

Note 3 - Significant accounting policies

The accounting policies set out below have been applied consistently to all periods presented in these financial statements and have been applied consistently by the Group.

The significant accounting policies of the Group are detailed below:

NEW ZEALAND RUGBY LEAGUE INC.
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

(a) Revenue

Revenue is comprised of exchange and non-exchange transactions. Exchange transaction revenue arises when one entity receives assets or services, or has liabilities extinguished, and directly gives approximately equal value in exchange.

Non-exchange transaction revenue arises from transactions without an apparent exchange of approximately equal value. Non-exchange revenue includes grant, sponsorship and other revenue derived from activities that are partially funded by rates.

Revenue is recognised when the amount of revenue can be measured reliably and it is probable that economic benefits will flow to the Group, and measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable.

The following specific recognition criteria in relation to the Group's revenue streams must also be met before revenue is recognised.

i. Revenue from exchange transactions

Coaching and development

Coaching and development revenue consists of revenue sourced from players' fees and levies. Revenue from these fees and levies will be recognised as the services associated are completed. Amounts received in advance for services to be provided in future periods are recognised as a liability until such time as the service is provided.

ii. Revenue from non-exchange transactions

Charitable trust grants, other grants and sponsorships

Revenue from grants and sponsorship is recognised when it becomes receivable unless there is an obligation to return the funds if conditions of the grant or sponsorship agreement are not met. If there is such an obligation, the grants are initially recorded as grants received in advance and recognised as revenue when conditions of the contract are satisfied.

Match revenue and TAB NZ revenue

Match revenue and TAB NZ revenue is recognised when the amount of revenue can be measured reliably and it is probable that economic benefits will flow to the Group, and measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable.

(b) Foreign currency transactions

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the reporting date are retranslated to the functional currency at the exchange rate at that date. The foreign currency gain or loss on monetary items is the difference between amortised cost in the functional currency at the beginning of the year, adjusted for effective interest and payments during the year, and the amortised cost in foreign currency translated at the exchange rate at the end of the year.



NEW ZEALAND RUGBY LEAGUE INC.
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Note 4 - Use of judgements and estimates

Judgements

In the process of applying the Group's accounting policies, management has made judgements, which have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the consolidated financial statements.

Estimates and assumptions

The key assumptions concerning the future and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date, that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year, are described below. The Group based its assumptions and estimates on parameters available when the consolidated financial statements were prepared. Existing circumstances and assumptions about future developments however, may change due to market changes or circumstances arising beyond the control of The Group. Such changes are reflected in the assumptions when they occur.

Key assumptions and judgements relate to:

- Revenue recognition: non-exchange revenue - Management is required to make a judgement on the value received (where the revenue stream is not received in cash or is not easily measurable) and as to the existence of any conditions and restrictions. (Note 8)
- Going concern - Management is required to make a judgement on key inputs and assumptions to cash flow forecasts used to assess the Group as a going concern. (Note 2d)
- Revaluation of land and buildings - The Group's land and buildings were revalued at 31 March 2021 using an independent valuer. Management has judged that the revaluation method is more relevant than the cost method for the Society, as it ensures the carrying value of the land and buildings reflects the market/fair value of the assets as at 31 March 2024.

In estimating the fair value of land and buildings, the fair value method of valuation was used under PBE IPSAS 17 *Property Plant and Equipment*. The fair value method makes significant use of observable prices in active markets and recent market transactions on an arm's length basis. Management consider it appropriate to have the land and buildings revalued every 3 - 5 years.

NEW ZEALAND RUGBY LEAGUE INC.
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Note 5 - Employee benefits expense

	Group	
	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Short-Term employee benefits	4,595	4,439
Defined employee contribution plan - Kiwisaver	107	108
Match fees, allowances and other employee related costs	826	1,967
Total employee benefit expenses	5,528	6,514

Short-term employee benefit liabilities are recognised when the Group has a legal or constructive obligation to remunerate employees for services provided within 12 months of the reporting date and is measured on an undiscounted basis and expensed in the period in which employment services are provided.

Note 6 - General expenses

	Group	
	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
General expenses includes:		
Administration and communication expenses	860	868
Coaching and development expenses	357	124
Directors fees	125	117
Event management expenses	1,450	1,465
Legal fees	41	181
Other professional service fees	327	324
Team expenses	1,007	1,387
Travel expenses	2,891	2,380

Note 7 - Cash and cash equivalents

	Group	
	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Current assets:		
Current Account	575	282
Call Account	179	215
Donations Account	287	325
League 4 Life (held on behalf of)	88	94
Foreign Currency Accounts	7	10
	1,136	926

The Society holds an account with the Bank of New Zealand in trust for the League-4-Life Foundation, which it manages under direction from the Trustees of the Foundation, and hence a liability is recognised to the League-4-Life Foundation (refer Note 10).



NEW ZEALAND RUGBY LEAGUE INC.
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Note 8 - Receivables (non-exchange transactions)

	Group	
	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Receivables (non-exchange transactions)	943	1,019
Total receivables from non-exchange transactions	943	1,019

Note 9 - Property, plant and equipment

Group	Freehold land *	Buildings *	Motor vehicles	Plant and equipment	Furniture and fittings	Capital work-in-progress	Total
<u>Cost/Valuation</u>	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Balance as at 31 Mar 2023	960	2,910	12	474	110	154	4,620
Additions/Disposals	-	7	-	79	23	-	109
Transfers	-	154	-	-	-	(154)	-
Balance as at 31 Mar 2024	960	3,071	12	553	133	0	4,729
<u>Accumulated depreciation and impairment</u>							
Balance as at 31 Mar 2023	-	93	10	309	85	-	497
Depreciation	-	58	1	58	7	-	124
Balance as at 31 Mar 2024	-	151	11	367	92	-	621
<u>Net book value</u>							
As at 31 Mar 2022	960	2,851	0	72	25	0	3,908
As at 31 Mar 2023	960	2,817	2	165	25	154	4,123
As at 31 Mar 2024	960	2,920	1	186	41	0	4,108

* Freehold land and buildings are measured on a revaluation basis.

NEW ZEALAND RUGBY LEAGUE INC.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Recognition and measurement

Property, plant and equipment are initially shown at cost or at fair value in the case where an asset is acquired at no cost or for a nominal cost, less accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses. Cost includes any costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition of the items including the costs of bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended.

Additions

The cost of an item of property, plant and equipment is recognised as an asset if, and only if, it is probable that future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the Group and the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

Disposals

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount of the asset. Gains and losses on disposals are recognised in surplus or deficit.

Depreciation

Property, plant and equipment depreciation is based on the cost of an asset less its residual value.

Depreciation is recognised in surplus or deficit on a diminishing value or straight line basis over the estimated useful lives of each component of an item of property, plant and equipment. Land is not depreciated.

The diminishing value and straight line depreciation rates are:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| • Buildings | 1.5% - 2.0% |
| • Trailers | 20% |
| • Plant and equipment | 10.0% - 50.0% |
| • Furniture and fittings | 8.0% - 20.0% |

Depreciation methods, useful lives, and residual values are reviewed at reporting date and adjusted if appropriate.

Revaluation

Following initial recognition at cost, land and buildings are carried at re-valued amounts, which is the fair value at the date of the revaluation less any accumulated impairment losses. Fair value is determined by reference to market based evidence, which is the amount for which the assets could be exchanged between a willing buyer and a knowledgeable willing seller in an arm's length transaction as at the valuation date.

Any revaluation surplus is recognised in other comprehensive income and credited to the asset revaluation reserve in equity, unless the increase relates to a revaluation decrease of the same asset previously recognised in the profit or loss. Any revaluation deficit is recognised in other comprehensive income and debited to the asset revaluation reserve in equity to the extent of the revaluation reserve balance accumulated from previous year gains. When no revaluation reserve balance is available to offset a revaluation loss the revaluation deficit is reported within profit or loss for the year.

Revaluations are completed on an asset basis and movements are evaluated on an asset class basis. Upon disposal, any revaluation reserve relating to the particular asset being sold is reclassified to retained earnings. Revaluations are completed every 3 - 5 years, unless the board deems a revaluation is required due to external factors.

Subsequent to revaluation, the building assets are depreciated based on their estimated useful lives.



NEW ZEALAND RUGBY LEAGUE INC.
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Note 10 - Payables (from exchange transactions) and accruals

	Group	
	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Trade payables from exchange transactions	785	573
League 4 Life Payable (refer note 7)	88	94
Other accruals	378	254
	1,251	921

Note 11 - Deferred revenue

	Group	
	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Charitable trust donations received in advance	308	304
Other revenue received in advance	287	253
	595	557

Note 12 - Loans

Security held

In 2019 the Society arranged a \$1,700,000 term loan facility with the Bank of New Zealand, secured against a registered first mortgage over the property at 7 Beasley Avenue, Penrose, Auckland (refer to note 9). At balance date the Society had \$1,271,080 drawn on this facility (2023: \$821,040), out of a total of \$1,327,160 available to draw down. A floating per annum interest rate applies which at reporting date was 10.33%.

The BNZ loan of \$1,271,080 is listed as a current liability due to the term of the loan expiring on 30 August 2024. Subsequent to year end the BNZ have provided assurance that the loan will not be called, and it will be renewed in the next financial year.

Note 13 - Financial Instruments

Group 2024

		Carrying Value (\$)	
		Financial Assets	Financial Liabilities
	Note	Amortised Cost	Amortised Cost
		\$'000	\$'000
			Total
			\$'000
<i>Subsequently not measured at fair value</i>			
Cash and cash equivalents (assets)	7	1,136	-
Gross receivables from non-exchange transactions	8	943	-
Payables (from exchange transactions) and accruals	10	-	(873)
Balance as at 31 March 2024		2,079	(873)

NEW ZEALAND RUGBY LEAGUE INC. **NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

Group 2023

Group 2023	Carrying Value (\$)			Total
	Note	Financial Assets	Financial Liabilities	
		Amortised Cost	Amortised Cost	
		\$'000	\$'000	
<i>Subsequently not measured at fair value</i>				
Cash and cash equivalents (assets)	7	926	-	926
Gross receivables from non-exchange transactions	8	1,019	-	1,019
Payables (from exchange transactions) and accruals	10	-	(667)	(667)
Balance as at 31 March 2023		1,945	(667)	1,278

i. Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market.

Loans and receivables are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment losses.

Loans and receivables comprise of cash and cash equivalents, and net receivables from non-exchange transactions.

Cash and cash equivalents represent highly liquid investments that are readily convertible into a known amount of cash with an insignificant risk of changes in value, with maturities of 3 months or less.

ii. Amortised cost financial liabilities

Financial liabilities classified as *amortised cost* are non-derivative financial liabilities that are not classified as *fair value through surplus or deficit* financial liabilities.

Financial liabilities classified as *amortised cost* are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Financial liabilities classified as *amortised cost* comprise cash and cash equivalents (bank overdrafts), trade and other payables, and loans.

Trade and other payables are carried at amortised cost using effective interest method and due to their short-term nature they are not discounted.

Note 14 - Group entities

The Group consolidated financial statements comprise New Zealand Rugby League Inc. and the following entities:

- NZRL Investment Limited Partnership
- Rugby League Northland Zone of NZRL Inc.
- Akarana Zone of NZRL Inc.
- Counties Manukau Zone of NZRL Inc.
- Upper Central Zone of NZRL Inc.
- Mid Central Zone of NZRL Inc.
- Wellington Rugby League Zone of NZRL Inc.
- Southern Zone of NZRL Inc.



NEW ZEALAND RUGBY LEAGUE INC. **NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

All controlled entities have a balance date of 31 March.

There are no significant restrictions regarding to the transfer of loan repayments, and other funds from controlled entities.

The Zones have been established as the delivery mechanism of the national strategy working with Clubs and District Leagues. The Limited Partnership was established to create an entity to hold its land and building assets. These assets were subsequently mortgaged to the Bank of New Zealand to secure a new term loan.

For accounting and financial reporting purposes, the seven Zones and the Limited Partnership are considered to be subsidiaries of New Zealand Rugby League Inc.

Basis of consolidation

i. Controlled entities

Controlled entities are entities controlled by the Group, being where the Group has power to govern the financial and operating policies of another entity so as to benefit from that entity's activities. The financial statements of the Group's controlled entities are included in the consolidated financial statements from the date that control commences until the date that control ceases.

Subsequent changes in a controlled entity that do not result in a loss of control are accounted for as transactions with controllers of the controlling entity in their capacity as controllers, within net assets/equity.

ii. Transactions eliminated on consolidation

Intra-group balances and transactions, and any unrealised income and expenses arising from intra-group transactions, are eliminated in preparing the consolidated financial statements.

Unrealised losses are eliminated in the same way as unrealised gains, but only to the extent that there is no evidence of impairment.

Note 15 - Operating leases

(i) Leases as lessee

The future non-cancellable minimum lease payments of operating leases as lessee at reporting date are detailed in the table below:

	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Not later than one year	92	80
Later than one year and not later than five years	29	30
Total non-cancellable operating lease payments	121	110

The Group has entered into a number of operating leases for the lease of motor vehicles. The majority of the leases are in the name of New Zealand Rugby League Inc., with 1 lease in the name of Mid-Central Zone of NZRL Inc.

NEW ZEALAND RUGBY LEAGUE INC.
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Note 16 - Related party transactions

(i) Controlling entity and ultimate controlling entity

New Zealand Rugby League is the ultimate controlling entity.

Related party disclosures have not been made for transactions with related parties that are within a normal supplier or client/recipient relationship on terms and conditions no more or less favourable than those that it is reasonable to expect the entity would have adopted in dealing with the party at arm's length in the same circumstances.

Related party transactions required to be disclosed

Funding Support - Zones

During the period the Parent Entity provided its subsidiaries with funding support, and had receivable balances outstanding, as outlined below:

	2024		2023	
	Funding Support \$'000	Current Amount Receivable \$'000	Funding Support \$'000	Current Amount Receivable \$'000
Related Party				
Rugby League Northland Zone	64	4	60	4
Akarana Zone	60	1	60	1
Counties-Manukau Zone	80	3	80	3
Upper Central Zone	4	-	20	-
Mid Central Zone	98	-	110	-
Wellington Zone	92	2	92	2
Southern Zone	126	2	122	1
Total	524	12	544	11

(ii) Key management personnel remuneration

The Group classifies its key management personnel into one of two classes:

- Members of the governing body
- Senior executive officers, including the Chief Executive Officer

Members of the governing body are paid annual fees of \$3,000 to \$34,000 which is dependent on their role within the governing body.

Senior executive officers are employed as employees of the Group, on normal employment terms.

The aggregate level of remuneration paid and number of persons (measured in 'people' for Members of the governing body, and 'full-time-equivalents' (FTE's) for Senior executive officers in each class of key management personnel is presented below. The long term incentive ('LTI') has been accrued in these financial statements but will not be paid until the year ending 31 March 2026 providing certain criteria are achieved.

	2024		2023	
	Remuneration \$'000	Number of individuals	Remuneration \$'000	Number of individuals
Members of the governing body	125	8 people	117	8 people
Senior executive officers - Base	328	1 FTE	305	1 FTE
Senior executive officers - LTI	68	1 FTE	26	1 FTE
Total	521		448	



**NEW ZEALAND RUGBY LEAGUE INC.
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

(iii) Rugby League International Federation Limited

Greg Peters is a director of the Rugby League International Federation Limited (RLIF), a joint venture partner in relation to the GB Oceania Limited Joint Venture (see iv).

(iv) GB Oceania Limited Joint Venture:

On 7 May 2019, a joint venture between New Zealand Rugby League Inc., The Rugby League Football Limited and Rugby League International Federation Limited, known as GB Oceania Limited, was incorporated. Greg Peters was a director of this company. This company was wound up on 19 December 2023.

(v) NZRL Investment GP Limited:

NZRL Investment GP Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of New Zealand Rugby League Inc., was incorporated on 2 July 2019 as a general partner in the NZRL Investment Limited Partnership. Hugh Martyn and Grant Stapleton are the directors of this company.

Note 17 - Commitments and contingencies

(i) Commitments

The Group had no commitments of a capital nature as at 31 March 2024 (2023: \$Nil).

(ii) Contingent liabilities

The Group had no contingent liabilities as at 31 March 2024 (2023: \$Nil)

(iii) Contingent assets

The Group had no contingent assets as at 31 March 2024 (2023: \$Nil).

Note 18 - Subsequent Events

There were no subsequent events arising after the balance date.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF NEW ZEALAND RUGBY LEAGUE INCORPORATED**

Opinion

We have audited the consolidated financial report of New Zealand Rugby League Incorporated ("the Group"), which comprise the financial statements on pages 2 to 5, and the service performance information on page 6. The complete set of financial statements comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 March 2024 the statement of comprehensive revenue and expense, statement of changes in net assets/equity, statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion the accompanying general purpose financial report presents fairly, in all material respects:

- The consolidated financial position of the Group as at 31 March 2024 and (of) its financial performance, and its cash flows for the year then ended; and
- the service performance for the year ended 31 March 2024 in accordance with the entity's service performance criteria,

in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Standards Reduced Disclosure Regime ("PBE Standards RDR") issued by the New Zealand Accounting Standards Board.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit of the financial statements in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) (ISAs (NZ)) and the audit of the service performance information in accordance with the ISAs and New Zealand Auditing Standard (NZ AS) 1 *The Audit of Service Performance Information (NZ)*. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the General Purpose Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Group in accordance with Professional and Ethical Standard 1 *International Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners (including International Independence Standards) (New Zealand)* issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other than in our capacity as auditor we have no relationship with, or interests in, the Group.

Other Information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information obtained at the date of this auditor's report is information contained in the general purpose financial report, but does not include the service performance information and the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the service performance information and financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of audit opinion or assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the service performance information and financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the service performance information and the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.



If, based on the work we have performed on the other information obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Directors' Responsibilities for the Consolidated Financial Report

Those charged with governance are responsible on behalf of the Group for:

(a) the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements and service performance information in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Standards RDR issued by the New Zealand Accounting Standards Board;

(b) service performance criteria that are suitable in order to prepare service performance information in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Standards RDR; and

(c) such internal control as those charged with governance determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements and service performance information that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the general purpose financial report those charged with governance are responsible for assessing the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless those charged with governance either intend to liquidate the Group or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the General Purpose Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements as a whole, and the service performance information are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (NZ) and NZ AS 1 will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate or collectively, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of users taken on the basis of this general purpose financial report.

A further description of the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the consolidated financial report is located at the XRB's website at <https://www.xrb.govt.nz/standards/assurance-standards/auditors-responsibilities/audit-report-14/>

This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Who we Report to

This report is made solely to the Groups members, as a body. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state those matters which we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Group and the Group's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report or for the opinions we have formed.



BDO Auckland
Auckland
New Zealand
12 June 2024

League 4 life

League 4 Life is about empowering, equipping and encouraging the rugby league community affected by injury, illness and disability.

We provide grants to individuals, families and organisations to ensure our community is supported through difficult times.

Our two main focus areas for these grants are as follows:

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES

To provide financial support for people involved in rugby league that would otherwise be improbable due to injury, disability or hardship.

HEALTH & RECOVERY

To provide financial support for rehabilitation after injury, including towards medical bills and in-home equipment. We would like to thank all involved for their support in making League 4 Life a New Zealand Rugby League community success. As a result, we have been able to help a number of people in the rugby league community from up and down the country.



Sponsors & Partners

Ngā kaitautoko, ngā hoa



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TAB



NZRL Head Office

Email: admin@nzrl.co.nz
Phone: +64 9 525 5592
Fax: +64 9 525 5596
www.nzrl.co.nz

**Physical address**

Level 1, Rugby League House,
7 Beasley Avenue, Penrose,
Auckland 1061,
New Zealand