

10. YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FUND – APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

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The purpose of this report is to seek the Board's approval to an application for funding from its 2004/05 Youth Development Fund.

Funding is being sought by three children of one family (twins aged 15, and a sister aged 13 years) living in the Beckenham area towards costs associated with travelling to Australia as part of the under 17 and under 15 South Island Basketball team to play in the Pacific Slam Tournament in January 2005.

The tournament is being held in Port MacQuarrie, and is a development tournament for top level players in Australia. The South Island team's objective is to provide an opportunity for development and work towards qualification for future tournaments. South Island teams competing are the under 17 (girls/boys) and under 15 (girls/boys) from the South Island who have been selected through a trial process to ensure the best players participate in the tournament.

The applicants are registered with Canterbury Basketball Association and therefore affiliated to Basketball New Zealand, the governing body. Basketball Pacific South is part of the New Zealand Basketball Structure for development of junior players.

The individual player contribution for the trip (which covers return airfares, accommodation, transport, food, uniforms and tournament fees) is \$2,050 – making a total of \$6,150 required in total for the three children to attend.

All three children have participated in fundraising events this year, including being actively involved in selling chocolates and lamingtons, raffles, making jewellery, refereeing basketball games, manning sausage sizzles and collecting sponsorship for a sport-a-thon. A car parking fundraiser was also held over Show Weekend.

Since commencing this report, the writer has been advised that another funding application has been declined.

The twins attend year 10 at Cashmere High School, with one being selected for the under 17 boys Basketball Pacific South team, and the other for the under 17 girls Basketball Pacific South team. Both have represented their school in the senior and under 16 teams, with one of the twins being awarded "most valuable player" for their senior team. Both applicants have represented Canterbury.

The 13 year old applicant attends year 9 at Cashmere High School and has been selected for the under 15 girls Basketball Pacific South team. This year she has played basketball for her school in both the senior and year 9 teams. In the secondary school competition her senior team won their division and the year 9 team came in second. This year she has again represented Canterbury, playing the girls under 14 team. The applicant was one of two Canterbury players chosen as part of the top ten players of a recent national tournament.

Each of the applicants bring the skills they have learned from competitions back to each environment they compete within. They have all coached younger teams and refereed at school and regional tournaments. One of the twins has taken over "floor control" responsibility for all basketball competitions held at Cashmere High School.

It should be noted that if the Board approves funding for the previous applications to the Youth Development Fund, the remaining balance will be \$1,950; and the Board currently has \$49,525 available in its 2004/05 Discretionary Fund.

Staff

Recommendation: That the Board consider allocating a total of \$1,500 from either its 2004/05 Youth Development Fund or 2004/05 Discretionary Fund to assist with costs associated with the applicants traveling to Australia to compete in the under 15 Pacific Slam Tournament being held in Australia in January 2005.

Chairman's

Recommendation: Since there will be other applications for the Youth Development Fund during the remainder of the current financial year, the Board allocate \$1,500 from its 2004/05 Discretionary Fund.