

7. YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FUND – APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

General Manager responsible	General Manager Community Services, DDI 941-8534
Officer responsible:	John Filsell, Recreation and Sports Manager
Author:	Helen Miles, Community Recreation Advisor

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the Board's approval for an application for funding from its 2006/07 Youth Development Fund.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Funding is being sought by Richie Edwards, a 16 year old boy who lives in the Hornby area, towards costs associated with representing New Zealand in the Under 19 National Basketball team. The team will be attending the Oceania World Championship Qualifying series to be held in Nowra, Australia and the Oceania Youth Festival to be held in Auckland. A team preparation camp will occur before both events. The Oceania pre camp and qualification tournament will held from 29 July to 6 August 2006 and the Oceania pre camp and youth festival will be held from 12 to 21 October 2006.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

3. There are no legal issues to be considered. Ritchie has received previous youth funding from the Board in both 2003 and 2004. The following table provides a breakdown of the funding requested:

Oceania Qualification tournament	
Air Travel	\$1,100
Accommodation & Meals	\$1,305
Rentals	\$ 370
Miscellaneous – (includes clothing, insurance, taxes, equipment, management fee)	\$ 225
Total	\$3,000
The total fee is larger than this but has been subsidized by Basketball New Zealand	

BACKGROUND ON YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FUND – APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

4. Richie has been playing basketball since he was 9 years of age. He first represented Canterbury in 2000 and then made then New Zealand under 14 team in 2003. Richie is currently the youngest player in the Junior Tall Black team. A win in the Oceania World Championship Qualifying series will enable New Zealand to compete at the World championships. Richie's main goal for attending the series is to cement his place in the Junior Tall Black team and help the Junior Tall Blacks to secure a win. Richie's ultimate goal is to secure a college scholarship to play in America and then go on to play in the NBA.
5. Richie currently helps out refereeing at a Friday night junior competition run at the Wharenui Sports Centre. This not only helps him develop his skills but also enables him to pass on some of his skills and act as a role model to the junior players.
6. The total cost of the trip is \$3,000. Richie's current timetable does not allow time for a part time job. He is currently looking at other Trusts who may be able to assist, however, funding for individuals is difficult to secure. He is extremely reliant on his parents meeting the shortfall of funding not raised and this puts huge pressure on the family.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Board agrees to allocate \$500 to Richie Edwards from its 2006/07 Youth Development Fund to assist with costs associated with the applicant attending the Oceania World Championship Qualifying series from 29 July to 6 August 2006 and the Oceania Youth Festival from 12 to 21 October 2006.