

12. YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FUND APPLICATION - MATT BAXTER

General Manager responsible:	General Manager Community Services, DDI 941-8534
Officer responsible:	Recreation and Sports Manager
Author:	Loren Sampson, Community Recreation Adviser

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to present one application for funding to the Board from the 2005/06 Youth Development Scheme.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The applicant is Matt Baxter, a 17 year old seeking funds to assist in attending a Friendship Series between New Zealand and Australia in Sydney as part of the Junior Black Sox Team. This tournament will take place from 29 June to 11 July 2006.
3. This is the first time the applicant has approached the Board for funding.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

4. There are no legal issues to be considered. The following table provides a general overview of the funding requested:

Matt Baxter	
Expense	Cost (\$)
Airfare (return)	
Accommodation (seven nights)	
Food (eight days)	
Transport (transfers, inter-venue shuttle)	
Sportswear	
<i>Total Cost – includes above expenses</i>	<i>\$1,500.00</i>
Fundraising efforts to date	\$440.00
Other funds to be raised	\$1,060.00
Amount Requested from Community Board	\$500.00

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board fund provide \$500 of funding to Matt Baxter from the Board's 2005/06 Discretionary fund, in lieu of the Youth Development Scheme, for his attendance at the Friendship Series in Sydney in June 2006.

BACKGROUND ON MATT BAXTER

5. Matt Baxter lives in Valecrest Avenue (Queenspark) and attends Shirley Boys High School. Matt is currently in his final year at high school and has been playing softball at a competitive level for the last eight years. Matt has captained his club team for the last five years, is captain of his school team and has represented Canterbury at age group level for the last four years. At the completion of the Friendship Series Matt's team will play a series of seven games against Australia which is the first stage of New Zealand's build up to the 2008 Junior World Series.
6. Matt is employed part-time as a cleaner for a small cleaning business and his employer comments that Matt is reliable and efficient in the performance of his duties. The majority of the money Matt has fundraised to date comes from money he has saved from his part-time job.
7. The total cost of attending the Friendship Series is \$1,500. Matt has raised \$440 to date leaving him approximately six weeks to raise the remaining \$1,060.
8. Matt's father is facing serious health problems at present which is placing some financial restraints on the family, reducing the financial assistance the family can give to Matt.