

7. YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FUND – APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

General Manager responsible:	General Manager Community Services, DDI 941-8548
Officer responsible:	Recreation and Sport Manager
Author:	Lisa Gregory, Community Recreation Advisor

PURPOSE OF REPORT

- The purpose of this report is to present two applications for funding to the Board from its 2006/07 Discretionary Fund. There is a nil balance in the Board's 2006/07 Youth Development Fund.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The two applications are:
 - Mereana Rademakers, a 15 year old who is seeking financial assistance towards costs associated with competing in the Portimao International Rhythmic Gymnastics Competition in Portugal. This trip will occur from 20 April to 7 May 2007.
 - Olivia Hannah Watts, a 16 year old who is seeking financial assistance towards costs associated with competing in the Portimao International Rhythmic Gymnastics Competition in Portugal. This trip will occur from 20 April to 7 May 2007.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- There are no legal issues to be considered. The following table provides a breakdown of the funding requested.

MEREANA RADEMAKERS	
Expenses	Cost (\$)
Accommodation/Meals	\$1,000
Airfares	\$3,000
Fees & Uniforms	\$ 720
Total Cost	\$4,720
Funds raised by applicants to date	\$ 800
Amount Requested from Community Board	\$ 500

OLIVIA HANNAH WATTS	
Expenses	Cost (\$)
Accommodation/Meals	\$1,000
Airfares	\$3,000
Fees & Uniforms	\$ 720
Total Cost	\$4,720
Funds raised by applicants to date	\$ 800
Amount Requested from Community Board	\$ 500

BACKGROUND ON MEREANA RADEMAKERS

- Mereana is a year 11 student at Riccarton High School where she has twice won the Junior Sports Women's Award and has been involved in gymnastics since the age of seven. Mereana was first selected for the New Zealand Gymnastic High Performance Squad in 2005 and has been in the New Zealand Gymnastic team since 2006.
- Mereana has previously been a national gymnastic title holder and SPARC has awarded her a Future Champion Award in the sport of gymnastics. Mereana's goal is to qualify for the 2007 World Rhythmic Gymnastic Championships, and she feels this is a great opportunity to gain experience required for such a competition.

BACKGROUND ON OLIVIA WATTS

6. Olivia is a year 12 student at Avonside Girls High School, who has been involved in gymnastics for 6 years. Olivia was selected for the Canterbury gymnastic team in 2006 and competed at the New Zealand nationals in the same year.
7. Olivia is working towards selection for the NZ team to compete at the 2007 World Gymnastic Championships in Greece and also aims to train overseas at the Circo-Art school and join the Cirque de Soleil.
8. Olivia and Mereana will be raising their own funds by organising sausage sizzles, garage sales and running practice sessions for younger gymnasts. They have raised approximately \$800 each so far. With no funding available from New Zealand Gymsports for this competition, any assistance given from the Board would be greatly appreciated.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Board agrees to allocate \$500 each to Mereana Rademakers and Olivia Watts from its 2006/07 Discretionary Fund for costs associated with both individuals competing in the Portimao International Rhythmic Gymnastics Competition in Portugal from 20 April to 7 May 2007.