

3. MERLINS NETBALL CLUB – FUNDING REQUEST

General Manager responsible:	Human Resources General Manager
Officer responsible:	Unit Manager Recreation and Sport Unit
Author:	Helen Miles, Community Recreation Adviser DDI 941-5409

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to present a funding application to the Board from the Merlins Netball Club to be considered under Discretionary funds. The club is requesting \$3,600 to assist in the purchase and installation of lighting.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The Merlins Netball Club is seeking funding of \$3,600 to assist with the purchase and installation of a new lighting system. The total cost of this project is \$7,194.26. The club is also submitting an application to the Shirley/Papanui Community Board for \$3,600.
3. Previously the Merlins Netball Club has trained and practiced at the Indoor Netball Centre at St James Park. This facility was destroyed by fire approximately two years ago and since that time the junior teams have had no permanent training venue. The Club has secured the use of Isleworth School three netball courts for training, however the area is not lit which is a significant health and safety risk to the players, coaches and parents.
4. The Merlins Netball Club was established in 1986 by a group of Merlins Rugby Club wives. Since then the Club has grown to 260 members. The Club is expecting membership to take a dramatic increase this season as it is now the only club in the Northwest area that takes juniors. The club draws its members from the Fendalton/Waimairi and Shirley/Papanui wards.
5. The Club is a community focused club and offers opportunities for all young girls and women to play competition netball from the age of ten to masters level. The Club has an excellent youth development training programme and this year they hope to put in a mentoring structure for new coaches. Each year the Club fundraises to cover the cost of electricity, equipment, volunteers, training and uniform costs. The Club also likes to raise money to assist those families with more than one child who cannot afford the Canterbury Association subs. The Club has an excellent management structure in place and has very good support from the community.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

6. The Merlins Netball Club have received a grant of \$1,300 from the Shirley/Papanui Sport & Recreation Fund to assist with the YMCA hall hire costs for their senior and premiere teams. The Club has applied to seven Trusts for this project and all applications have been unsuccessful.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board approve a grant of \$3,600 from its 2006/2007 Discretionary funds for the purchase and installation of lighting of netball courts.

BACKGROUND

7. The Merlins Club pays approximately \$1,800.00 in fees to Papanui Club for all members who are fifteen years and older. This entitles Merlins Club to: free storage; weekly use of their meeting rooms; use of the function rooms for their Club events; management of their accounts and access to all the clubs facilities. The Papanui Club does not provide any financial support to meet the clubs costs.
8. The club received three quotes ranging in price from \$5,978.00 to \$6,394.90 (GST exclusive). The club would prefer to go with the quote of \$6,394.90 as the lighting, switch control and vandal proofing is superior to the other quotes.
9. During the season the Club undertakes regular fundraising and most of this year's money will be needed to cover new equipment and uniforms arising from the expected increase of junior members.

OPTIONS

10. In relation to this application the Board could choose to:
 - a) Fully fund as requested
 - b) Partially fund
 - c) Decline the application

PREFERRED OPTION

11. That the Board agrees to partially fund Merlins Netball Club \$3,600 to purchase and install outdoor lighting for netball courts.