

## 9. 2003/04 YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FUND - APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING

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The purpose of this report is to seek the Board's consideration of two applications for funding from its 2003/04 Youth Development Fund.

### APPLICATION # 1

The applicant is a 16-year old girl living in the St Martins area, who is seeking assistance with costs associated with competing in the World Irish Dancing Championships being held in Belfast, Ireland, in April 2004; plus pre-training costs in Ireland as part of the team of six dancers from the O'Neill School of Dance, representing New Zealand.

The applicant is an affiliate member of the Traditional Irish Dancing Association of New Zealand, whose parent international organisation in Ireland is An Coimisiun Le Rinci Gaelacha.

When the applicant last attended the world event in 2000 she was placed middle of the field of 161 competitors. Two years ago she was judged 15<sup>th</sup> at the British nationals in the solo hard-shoe event. This year, the applicant will be competing against dancers who are involved in competitions every weekend, whereas in New Zealand, there are only half a dozen competitions a year. For this reason, her training regime has been increased to 20 hours per week.

Letters of support have been provided from the Dean of Marian College and principals of the O'Neill School of Dance, together with a reference from the head of hospitality for CPIT, where the applicant works two nights per week in the training restaurant to help fund her dancing.

The applicant is an eight times New Zealand Champion in her age group. She has taught young dancers on a voluntary basis each Saturday for the last four years, and demonstrates dancing for charity events – Variety Club, rest homes, etc. She also takes part in other fundraising activities to help her school.

In regard to the applicant's dancing, the following certificates have also been attained:

- SPARC certificate in Getting Started Coaching course (June 2003)
- SPARC Future Champions Award (2002 finalist)
- Zonta Sports Awards – Young Sportswomen and Sportsmen of the Year (2002 finalist)

The following outlines the cost of attending the World Irish Dancing Championships, plus other funding sources raised/currently under consideration:

Air fare, Christchurch/Belfast/Christchurch	\$ 2,203
Accommodation and food	\$ 3,000
Entry fee	\$ 90
Total expenses	\$ 5,293
Ferrymead Lions (successful)	\$ 200

### APPLICATION # 2

The applicant is a 14-year old girl living in the Opawa area, who is seeking assistance with costs associated with competing in the World Irish Dancing Championships being held in Belfast, Ireland in April 2004; plus pre-training costs in Ireland. She is one of a team of six dancers from the O'Neill School of Dance, representing New Zealand at this event.

The applicant is an affiliate member of the Traditional Irish Dancing Association of New Zealand, whose parent international organisation in Ireland is An Coimisiun Le Rinci Gaelacha.

Letters of support have been provided by the principals of the O'Neill School of Dance.

The applicant regularly goes out into the community (eg rest homes, A & P Show, St Patrick's Day) to display her dancing skills to the wider community. She also helps to teach the younger members of the O'Neill School of Dance, and attendance at the World Championships in Ireland will assist her in passing on new skills and ideas to Dance School members on her return.

The following outlines the cost of attending the World Irish Dancing Championships, plus other funding sources raised/currently under consideration:

Air fare, Christchurch/Belfast/Christchurch	\$ 2,203
Accommodation and living expenses	\$ 3,000
Entry fee	\$ 90
Total expenses	<b>\$ 5,293</b>

Ferrymead Lions (successful) \$ 200

It should be noted that neither applicant has sought a specific amount from the Board, but are seeking retrospective funding in regard to costs already incurred. The Youth Development Fund was recently promoted in 14 local schools' newsletters, and five responses have been received to date. There is currently \$3,215 available in the 2003/04 Youth Development Fund.

**Staff**

**Recommendation:** That the Board grant a total of \$1,000 (being \$500 each to applicants 1 and 2) from its 2003/04 Youth Development Fund to assist with costs associated with attending the World Irish Dancing Championships in Belfast, Ireland, during April 2004.

**Chairperson's**

**Recommendation:** For consideration.