

## Badminton Manawatu AGM - Development Report for 2023


James Veitch, Sandra Lynch, Joshua Curry &amp; Wynn Llana

Kia Ora from all the staff at Badminton Manawatu. Following are some of the highlights of the past season from organising events to junior representative badminton. We are grateful for all the financial funding and investment received which has enabled us to deliver quality events, competitions, and appropriate opportunities for all to participate. Thanks to our Board and team of volunteers that never fail to support and help grow the aroha of the game of badminton. Thanks again to Stephen and the team in Badminton New Zealand for their continued and valued support of our association.



## Shuttle Time Delivery

Shuttle Time is the basis of our junior badminton outside of Junior Reps and is delivered by the staff Josh, Sandra and Wynn. We deliver this in schools, before & after school clubs, school holiday programmes, through skills classes and in School Comps at Arena. In 2023 we delivered in Palmerston North, Feilding, Dannevirke, Woodville, Foxton and Levin. With thanks to Sport Manawatu's Tu Manawa Fund we were able to provide access to children who would not have the opportunity to be introduced to and play badminton. Most of these schools visited in the latter half of the year have not had a badminton program in a while and do not have the proper facilities or equipment for badminton; as a result our coaches take with them pop-up nets, 20 to 30 rackets and shuttles for each day's use. Some of these schools are located in the distant smaller towns over the ranges. Wynn has commented that it is rewarding to see the students' excitement learning badminton. We hope to continue our partnership with Tu Manawa and deliver more of these sessions to more schools in the future.




# Shuttle Time Participation Data

Association:

Manawatu

Year:

End of Year 2023



Location of Activity eg XXX school / community / event	Shuttle Time Teacher (Name)	Shuttle Time Lessons/activities delivered	Unique individuals		Total	number with disability	Quantity of participant sessions			
			Male	Female			sessions per week	weeks in program	No. of sessions per individual	Total number of participant sessions
Holiday Program - Jan	Josua Curry	Lessons 1-10, 11-22	17	2	26		9	1	9	234
YMCA - Parkroad	Josua Curry	Lessons 1-10	8	12	20		1	7	7	140
Cornerstone	Josua Curry	Lessons 1-10	17	18	35		1	17	17	595
Badge Classes - PHINS	Josua Curry	Lessons 1-10	10	5	15		1	5	5	75
Primary/Intermediate Schools Comp.	Sandra Lynch, James Veitch	Lessons 1-10	135	87	222		1	7	7	1554
NZ School for the Deaf	Josua Curry	Lessons 1-10	18	22	40	40	1	7	1	40
Holiday Program - Apr	Josua Curry	Lessons 1-10, 11-22	25	7	32		9	1	9	288
Waipapehu College	Josua Curry	Lessons 1-10, 11-22	12	13	25		1	10	10	250
Ross Intermediate	Josua Curry	Lessons 1-10	4	4	8		1	1	1	8
College Street Normal	Josua Curry	Lessons 1-10	60	60	120		1	10	10	1200
Badge Classes - LAC	Josua Curry, Wynn Liela	Lessons 1-10	7	3	10		1	8	8	375
College Street Normal	Alexis Ching	Lessons 1-10	12	13	25		1	15	15	375
PN Boys High	Minnie Wilson	Lessons 1-10, 11-22	20	0	20		1	8	8	160
Awapuni School	Josua Curry	Lessons 1-10	30	30	60		1	4	4	240
Rua Lundy of Lourdes School	Josua Curry	Lessons 1-10	25	25	50		1	5	5	250
Shuttle Time Development Group	Cassandra Feealey, Yutong Mo	Lessons 1-10, 11-22	12	13	25		1	22	22	550
Secondary Schools Competition	Sandra Lynch, James Veitch	Lessons 1-10	167	245	412		1	12	12	4944
Whakarongo	Wynn Liela	Lessons 1-10	250	250	500		1	4	4	2000
Somerset Crescent	Josua Curry	Lessons 1-10	140	140	280		1	4	4	1120
Moniait Intermediate	Josua Curry, Sandra Lynch	Lessons 1-10	190	190	380		1	4	4	1520
Waipapehu College	Josua Curry	Lessons 1-10, 11-22	15	15	30		1	10	10	300
College Street Normal	Josua Curry	Lessons 1-10	60	60	120		1	8	8	960
Hokowhitu	Sandra Lynch	Lessons 1-10	115	115	230		1	4	4	920
Rua Ranganui School	Josua Curry	Lessons 1-10	80	80	160		2	2	4	640
Dannevirke South School	Josua Curry	Lessons 1-10	149	149	298		2	2	4	1192
Pahiatua School	Wynn Liela, Josua Curry	Lessons 1-10	115	115	230		1	3	3	690
Levin North	Wynn Liela	Lessons 1-10	65	65	130		2	2	4	520
Tangimanga School	Josua Curry	Lessons 1-10	8	10	18		1	4	4	72
Shuttle Time after-school T3	Josua Curry	Lessons 1-10	2	3	5		1	1	7	35
Holiday Program - Oct	Josua Curry	Lessons 1-10, 11-22	11	7	18		12	1	12	216
Shuttle Time after-school T4	Josua Curry	Lessons 1-10	13	16	29		1	7	7	203
Norwood School	Wynn Liela	Lessons 1-10	15	15	30		1	3	3	90
YMCA - Linton	Josua Curry	Lessons 1-10	2	10	12		1	9	9	108
Highway Whaka Centre	Josua Curry	Lessons 1-10	10	10	20		1	2	2	40
Holiday Program - Jul	Josua Curry	Lessons 1-10	10	10	20		12	1	12	240
Primary Schools Competition	James Veitch, Sandra Lynch	Lessons 1-10	24	23	47		1	7	7	329
Intermediate Schools competition	James Veitch, Sandra Lynch	Lessons 1-10	123	90	213		1	7	7	1491
IPU (Youth Women)	Josua Curry	Lessons 1-10	4	12	16		1	3	3	48
			0	0	0		0	0	0	0
			0	0	0		0	0	0	0
			0	0	0		0	0	0	0
(insert rows as required and copy row above)			0	0	0		0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>			1980	1951	3931	40	79	0	23717	61.0
			50%			1%				
			Female participants			PWP participants				sessions per participant



## **Junior Reps Season - Sandra**

What a busy season we've had this year with so many extra players representing the Manawatu in team and individual events. Attendance has been great across all age groups once again with players engaged and interested in learning from all our fantastic volunteer coaches. We hope players and parents/supporters have had a great season. We want to say a big thank you – we all live busy lives and it isn't easy being at a certain place at a certain time, but your efforts and support is invaluable in creating a good experience for everyone in the junior rep programme.



Once again successful funding has helped massively subsidise our junior rep programme this year – a huge thanks for Mainland Foundation, Pub Charity Ltd. and Lion Foundation for assisting with hall hire, entry fees & shuttles. Ruapehu-Manawatu Districts Masonic Youth Trust for entry fees.

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- NUMBERS - 3x Open Days attracted over 100 interested players!
  - o 32-player u13 squad selected
  - o 22-player u15 squad selected
  - o 22-player u17/u19 squad selected
  - o Development squad expanded to 30 players over the season – huge thanks to Cassandra, Rose, Yutong & Phoebe for coaching these players on Thursdays.
  - o Within 2 years we have almost doubled the number of junior players we can cater for!
- Weekly Tuesday training at Arena, Cornerstone & PNINS with 19 courts in action each night
- Players competing in individual tournaments of all ages – showing bravery, spirit, court etiquette and commitment to develop skills.
- Manawatu were represented at every individual sanctioned Open event in the Central Region this year!
- Kirsten Stewart being selected into the NZ u15 Squad for 2023.
- Our army of volunteer coaches & managers. They all give up their time to coach/manage because they're passionate about badminton and love to see the progression made

### **TEAM RESULTS**

#### ***CR Junior Team Comp 2023***

For this regional team comp, Manawatu had by far the most teams with 13 teams and 75 players. We also had a further 6 players representing other Associations. Despite there being 6 Associations involved, about ONE THIRD of all teams/players were Manawatu!

**- U13s – 16 teams total across 4 divisions (5 from Manawatu):**

- **Pickles** – 1<sup>st</sup> in Div 1 – **CHAMPIONS** - The team won every single tie!
- **Dinos** – 3<sup>rd</sup> in Div 1 - Beat WEL 1 & lost by 1 game to WN 1
- **Dragons** – 3<sup>rd</sup> in Div 3
- **Frogs** – 4<sup>th</sup> in Div 3
- **Geckos** – 2<sup>nd</sup> in Div 4



**- U15s – 8 teams total across 2 divisions (3 from Manawatu):**

- **Team 1** – 1<sup>st</sup> in Div 1 – **CHAMPIONS** - The team won every single tie!
- **Team 2** – 2<sup>nd</sup> in Div 2
- **Team 3** – 4<sup>th</sup> in Div 1 - U13 team playing up an age group.

**- U17s – 8 teams total across 2 divisions (3 from Manawatu):**

- **Team 1** – 2<sup>nd</sup> in Div 1 – **RUNNER-UP**
- **Team 2** – 1<sup>st</sup> in Div 2 - U15 team playing up an age group.



**- U19s – 8 teams total across 2 divisions (3 from Manawatu):**

- **Team 1** – 3<sup>rd</sup> in Div 1
- **Team 2** – 4<sup>th</sup> in Div 2
- **Team 3** – 4<sup>th</sup> in Div 1 - U17 team playing up an age group.

**NZ Junior Team Champs 2023**

At Nationals we entered more teams and players than any other Association, increasing from 7 teams and 51 players last year to 9 teams and 70 players this year - amazing!!

**- U13s – 22 teams total across 3 divisions (4 from Manawatu):**

- **Pickles** – 8<sup>th</sup> in Div 1
- **Dinos** – 4<sup>th</sup> in Div 2
- **Frogs** – 5<sup>th</sup> in Div 3
- **Dragons** – 7<sup>th</sup> in Div 3

**- U15s – 16 teams total across 2 divisions (2 from Manawatu):**

- **Team 1** – 7<sup>th</sup> in Div 1
- **Team 2** – 6<sup>th</sup> in Div 2

**- U17s – 15 teams total across 2 divisions (1 from Manawatu):**

- **U17 Team** – 4<sup>th</sup> in Div 2

**- U19s – 19 teams total across 2 divisions (2 from Manawatu):**

- **Team 1** – 6<sup>th</sup> in Div 2
- **Team 2** – 11<sup>th</sup> in Div 2



The Badminton Manawatu community continues to prove that we can compete with all of New Zealand and we must continue to work together, train together, challenge each other and make every training session count. We are looking for even more coach and manager volunteers for 2024 as we anticipate further expansion of our junior rep programme!

**AWARDS – SPONSORED BY YONEX (Gray Nicolls)**

***Players' Player of the Year***

Each player was asked to vote for the person in their age group who they thought deserved player of the year (e.g. 'players' player'). This included considering attitude, commitment, teamwork, sportsmanship and any stand-out moments or results.

The winners have been voted as:

- Pickles Players' Player – Isabelle L
- Dinos Players' Player – Amber D
- Dragons Players' Player – Evelina Y
- Frogs Players' Player – Avalon W
- Geckos Players' Player – Disuli A
- u15 Team 1 Players' Player – Mihailo G
- u15 Team 2 Players' Player – Han P
- u17 Players' Player – Eric S
- u19 Team 1 Players' Player – Nabeel I
- u19 Team 1 Players' Player – Joshua B (*not here*)



### ***Coaches Player of the Year***

The Lead Coach for each age group was asked to select their 'coaches player of the year'. This is awarded to player that the coach would like to recognise for their hard work, determination, improvement and/or results. Each Lead Coach will now call up their winner with a brief explanation.

- u13 Coaches Player of the Year – Caleb C
- u15 Coaches Player of the Year – Kirsten S
- u17 Coaches Player of the Year – Ciaran M
- u19 Coaches Player of the Year – Yutong M



### ***Junior Player of the Year***

This award is given to an outstanding junior player and can be selected from any age group. This award is presented to recognise excellence and achievement both within the training and team environment but also beyond, including individual tournaments. The Lead Coaches together decide who this award is presented to and this year the winner is:

- Junior Player of the Year – U15 Kirsten Stewart

### ***Coaches & Managers***

We hugely value all our coaches and the tremendous amount of time and effort they put into helping all our players develop. This is done out of their love of badminton and helping others and we can't thank them enough for this commitment!

- **Lead Coaches:** Sandra Lynch, Chris Sharrock, Josh Curry & Wayne Young.
- **Coaches:** James Conroy, Cassandra Feasey, Alan Li, Tina Moon, Jeyamohan Ponnampalam, James Veitch, Rose Wapp, Gary Teague.
- **Managers:** Suseela Batchelor, Russell Brebner, Jenny Chen, Jessica Li, Susan Swan, Hayley/Neroli Stewart.

### **Senior Reps Season**

MBA selected five teams to represent Manawatu in 2023. Two in Senior Div, 1 Masters, 2 Vets. We started the season with trials and got together a number of selectors for the different age groups. The I-A ties kicked off in April and ended in September. A big thank you to ECCT for assisting with some uniform and team travel costs. All results available here - [Badminton New Zealand - BNZ Inter-Association North Island 2023 - Organization \(tournamentsoftware.com\)](https://www.badmintonnewzealand.co.nz/inter-association-north-island-2023-organization)



Senior Division 3 came 6<sup>th</sup>  
 Senior Central Regions Division 1 came 7<sup>th</sup>  
 Masters Division 1 came 7<sup>th</sup>  
 Vets 1 Div 2 came 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 Vets 2 Div 3 came 8<sup>th</sup>



Manawatu might not have a team in Wis/Slaz (Div 1 & 2 Inter-Association) yet, but some of our players are competed nonetheless! A huge well done to Phoebe Young who played Slaz for Wellington, Isabella played Slaz for Wellington North and Cassandra who played Slaz for Nelson.

## **Clubs**

### **The Club Scene**

- Masters club continues to run on Tuesday Nights in PNINS.
- PN Badminton Club continues to be the biggest club in the city, playing in Arena on Tuesday Nights.
- Rainbow Club continues to provide a place and space for families, coaches and juniors on Thursday Nights in Arena.
- Massey United Manawatu Badminton Club continues to service the university on Wednesdays and Saturdays.
- Welcome back to Monrad Badminton Club after a hiatus due to COVID 19; their new home is PNINS on Monday Nights.

There are many other groups that play throughout the community, and we try to provide support for them if needed.

### **Central Regions Administration and Badminton Hawkes Bay support**

As an Association we are also heavily engaged with Badminton NZ, representing Manawatu & the Central Regions on several of their committees through Sandra and James. Badminton Manawatu are also in the process of providing governance and operational support to Badminton Hawke's Bay, with the cooperation of Sport Hawke's Bay, Badminton NZ and the BHB Committee. Players may have noticed that no Hawke's Bay teams were entered into any junior tournaments this year. Over the next 12-18 months we will help them re-establish a network of junior badminton opportunities and competitions. After a turbulent start to 2023 with extreme weather events, we are hoping HB will benefit HB from our support and the wider CR with increased competition for all players.

## **40 Years of New Zealand Junior Championships in Palmerston North**

For generations, this event has been the pinnacle of excitement for junior players, and it is time where we celebrate this remarkable occasion. For 40 years, aspiring juniors from all around the country have come together, proudly representing their associations, embarking on memorable journeys, forging new friendships, and creating lifelong memories along the way.



NZJTC has evolved throughout the years and it has become known as a crucial stepping stone for young talent, providing a platform for both budding beginners and high-performing athletes to shine. It is an exceptional opportunity for newcomers to learn from experienced players, honing their skills while immersing themselves in the vibrant badminton community.

Richard Skarott, a Manawatu representative and one of the pillars of the event, succinctly captures the essence of the long-standing event, acknowledging how everyone “values the contacts and friendships made over the years. It’s fantastic to see players go on to be integral parts of their association teams or to higher honours.” Over the decades, the venue has also undergone many changes, from a rubber compound on concrete to sprung wooden floors and expanding the capacity to accommodate the growing demand. With an impressive 24 courts in regular use and a staggering 38 courts for this year, Palmerston North continues to raise the bar for excellence.

Behind this grand event stands an extraordinary team of dedicated volunteers, some of whom have been involved for over 30 years. Among them, Janice Cudby has served in various roles such as Treasurer, Event Director, President, and now Referee. Janice and her fellow volunteers share a deep passion for nurturing young talents and witnessing their growth in the sport as they progress through the age groups. Despite the challenges faced over the years, from snowstorms to leaking roofs and even the unforeseen impacts of Covid, the spirit of the event perseveres.

Janice remarks, “The show must go on,” and with a wealth of experience and resilience, the team stands ready to overcome any obstacles that may arise.

### **Para Badminton**

An incredible medal haul for New Zealand at the Oceania Para Badminton Championships in October 2023, with five Oceania titles from our team of six Para athletes! Manawatu athlete Oliver Linton and his longtime coach Josh Curry headed to the Championships. Oliver continues to train in Palmerston North and has been nominated for further professional development by Badminton NZ in 2024.



- 🏆 Mixed Doubles SL3-SU5 - Oliver Linton (MAN) / Amonrat Jamporn (AUS)
- 🏆 Men’s Doubles SL3-SL4 - Oliver Linton (MAN) / Danny Ten (PNG)



## **Competitions and Sanctioned Events**

Manawatu ABCD Champs 2023 was another huge individual tournament despite a clash with the Wellington North BCD on the same weekend. Despite this, we had 109 players enter, with 97 from Manawatu alone! We ran 17 events with 124 entries over the two days. The very high local engagement with the Manawatu ABCD Champs indicates the demand for this type of tournament. The 2024 edition has already been locked in for Arena and careful to avoid clashes with additional similar events being held in Whanganui, Wellington, Wellington North & Hutt Valley.

The Manawatu Open 2023 and North Island / Manawatu u17 Championships 2023 saw around 82% and 65%, respectfully, of participants not from Palmerston North, which is higher than in previous years. The Open had a total of 62 players and 89 entries. These numbers are set to balloon in 2024 with the Manawatu Open joining the NZ Tour to replace the Wellington North Open. We are excited to welcome the best players in New Zealand and keen to see how our local players compete against them. The u17 Champs ran 7 events and had 46 participants and 97 entries.

The Manawatu u15 Open 2023 and Manawatu u19 Open 2023 had a combined total of 83 players and 154 entries across the 10 main draw events. While u15 entries were much greater, the amount of u19 entries was very good, likely down to the timing of the tournament before the school exam period. Manawatu players were 46% of the u15 draw and just 24% of the u19 draw, highlighting the demand for sanctioned tournaments within our region and the prominent role Manawatu plays in delivering a quality experience for those who participate.

Unfortunately, the planned Manawatu Masters Open was cancelled due to insufficient entries. Given the lack of interest there is no plan to run another sanctioned masters event in the foreseeable future.

We would like to say a big thank you to our volunteer officials for assisting us to continue to deliver quality local events – Janice, Richard and Greg. Another thanks to Sport Manawatu and the Palmerston North City Council for their investment which enables us to attract participants from all over New Zealand.





## Schools Competitions

It was another full and successful year for school competition participation, offering a structured and social opportunity for school aged players to continue playing outside of school. The in-school and after-school Shuttle Time programme helps to generate interest in playing badminton, strengthening the pathway within primary and intermediate schools into our school competitions.

2023 School Competition Numbers			
Term 1 Yr 5-8	Term 2 Sec	Term 3 Pri	Term 4 Int
1 8x Carncot	8x Awatapu	1x Central Normal	1x Carncot
2 1x Central Normal	1x Cornerstone	6x Cornerstone	3x Cornerstone
3 6x Cornerstone	12x Freyberg	9x CSNS	1x LAC
4 3x CSNS	7x LAC	2x Hokowhitu	13x Monrad
5 1x LAC	3x Nga Tawa	2x OLOL	10x Ross
6 2x Monrad	23x PNBHS	1x Whakarongo	34x PNINS
7 40x PNINS	34x PNGHS	1x Winchester	7x St Peters
8 10x Ross	4x QEC		2x Whakarongo
9 3x St Peters	9x SPC		
10 0.5x West End	2x Waiopahu		
11 4x Whakarongo			
3 person teams	4 person teams	2 person teams	3 person teams
74 teams	103 teams	22 teams	71 teams
226 players	420 players	47 players	216 players
Total		909 players	

The Tu Manawatu Active Aotearoa fund administered through Sport Manawatu enables us to successfully deliver and activate badminton throughout our inactive community groups or schools.



2023 Shuttle Time Intermediate School Competition Results			
Position	Nature's Division	Pahia's Division	Topanga's Division
1	PNINS 11	PNINS 11	PNINS 11
2	PNINS 11	PNINS 11	LAC 10
3	PNINS 11	PNINS 11	PNINS 11
4	PNINS 11	PNINS 11	PNINS 11
5	PNINS 11	PNINS 11	PNINS 11
6	PNINS 11	PNINS 11	PNINS 11
7	PNINS 11	PNINS 11	PNINS 11
8	PNINS 11	PNINS 11	PNINS 11
9	PNINS 11	PNINS 11	PNINS 11
Position	Topanga's Division	Uruangi's Division	Whakapapa's Division
1	PNINS 11	PNINS 11	PNINS 11
2	PNINS 11	PNINS 11	PNINS 11
3	PNINS 11	PNINS 11	PNINS 11
4	PNINS 11	PNINS 11	PNINS 11
5	PNINS 11	PNINS 11	PNINS 11
6	PNINS 11	PNINS 11	PNINS 11
7	PNINS 11	PNINS 11	PNINS 11
8	PNINS 11	PNINS 11	PNINS 11
9	PNINS 11	PNINS 11	PNINS 11
10	PNINS 11	PNINS 11	PNINS 11

## Thursday Night Badminton League



TNBL ran for the entire year and provides a regular socially competitive double match-play environment for players of all abilities, without the need for months-long commitment. We managed to complete a whopping 9 rounds in total over 43 weeks. However, this was only possible with the help and assistance from the Arena as we were able to secure additional weeks previously unavailable to us in past years. This year saw an increase in the social grades with many new family and school teams taking part once again. This source of teams has taken over completely from the flow of teams from local clubs.

In 2023, we had 41 different teams compete with 16 playing in every round and a further 9 teams competing in 6 or more rounds. A total of 6681 games were played in 2990 matches in 510 ties over the year. This translates to 234,810 points played! The age range goes from 7 years old to 75 years old and we continue to provide an event that caters for everyone in the rohe, no matter what age or ability. Thanks to our main volunteer Richard Skarott for his time and reporting skills, and those that step in when required.





## **Fundraising**

We continued to fundraise and apply for funding in 2023. Thursday Night Badminton League continues to be our biggest revenue earner, again thanks to James for managing this and Richard for volunteering every Thursday. The income from our other competitions (day-events and schools competitions) also assists with funding the operations of our association.

Our Racket stringing service continues to create income for the association with particular thanks to our stringer Richard Skarott.

The professionalism and quality of our competitions also attracts schools players and players from the wider community. School's competitions have increased year on year even through COVID times showing us that the tamariki and rangatahi have an appetite to participate in this sport. Entry fees for these tournaments assists the association to continue to develop our sport.

Yonex rackets and grips were also available to buy from the MBA and this provides us with some extra income for our activities. Shuttles are also available to purchase.

A huge thanks must go out to the following trusts and charities for their support in 2023:





Lastly, a the biggest thank you must go to Badminton New Zealand, all our stakeholders, our volunteers, officials, coaches, managers, clubs, committee/Board members and players who enable us to deliver badminton to the community and keep coming back for more!



2024 will prove to be another challenging year with cost-of-living increases and spending habits continue to change in the rohe. We are lucky to have such a loyal and interested community that are always here to support us. We appreciate everyone who has shown us aroha this year and look forward to enjoying some on court fun next season. We will continue to try to offer opportunities to our community and will continue to seek funding to assist participation. Our Board are keen on strategic development in line with Badminton NZ and Sport NZ goal setting. The Board are constantly recruiting and are keen to hear from anyone who is interested in getting involved.

Kia Kaha & Nga Mihi

*Sandra James Josh & Wynn*