

Waikato Institute for Leadership & Sport Studies Alumni Newsletter

Welcome to the 2023 Edition

2023 was a breath of fresh air with no lockdowns and some semblance of order coming back to the country. Then there was an election!! By the time this newsletter is published I am hopeful that we will see a stable government and the sport and education sectors will be well served by great ministers and a supportive and cohesive leadership group.

Here at WILSS we saw an increase in the number of learners we engaged with across most of our programmes. The one area we struggled with was the New Zealand Certificate programmes in Sport Coaching and First Line Management. It seems that people are still a bit reluctant to commit to a part time programme spanning over 26 or 40 weeks. Mid-year we made a few changes to the way we do things. The main change was to provide a rolling intake model rather than one specific start date in March. This provides flexibility for the learner so that they can enrol at any time and fit the workshops into the least busy time of their year. It also means that they can link the self-directed learning aspect of the programme into the most appropriate part of the year for them. A good example of this is the Sport Coaching intake that started in September. We had several hockey coaches join the programme and they will complete eight workshops before the end of the year and the final two early in the new year. This will lead directly into hockey trial in February and the start of their season in March where they will be able to use their coaching to support the assessment tasks. We had previously tried to get winter sport coaches onto the programme in our March intake, but it was just too busy for them to complete workshops and run their teams at the same time.

I do have a little call to action for all our alumni. If you know of individuals or organisations that you think might be interested in our New Zealand Certificate Sport Coaching or First Line Management programmes, direct them to our web site (www.wilss@wilss.ac.nz) and encourage

them to get in touch with alan@wilss.ac.nz.

Alternatively, you can let us know and we will follow them up. We know the benefit of these programmes and the best endorsement of the programme is the recommendation from alumni.

This year has seen a lot of work going on in the background to strengthen our academic rigor. Alan has been doing a lot of work on tightening up our academic processes to ensure we meet NZQA's requirements. We have seen the benefit of this with a new programme being approved without any rework and our NZQA category being restored to category two following our recent NZQA Review (EER).

We have had one staff movement this year with Sam (our Volunteer Programmes Coordinator) leave us to take up a teaching role at the new Mangakōtukutuku College. This college incorporates the old Melville High School and Melville Intermediate School. Sam has done a great job over the past two years in building new relationships and programmes for WILSS. Sam has been replaced by Kim who started in October. Kim is a Sport Management and Marketing graduate from Nelson Mandela University, South Africa and moved to New Zealand in April 2021. Kim has more than eight years' experience in Sports within schools as well as various event planning. As the Volunteer Programme Coordinator her role will focus on leadership and volunteering with Primary, Intermediate and Secondary School students as well as community groups.

Overall, the future is looking up for WILSS and we will continue to service our community into 2024 and beyond. The external environment that affects WILSS is moving in the right direction and the mood amongst the staff and trustees is buoyant.

Jack Clayton—WILSS General Manager



“We need to accept that we won't always make the right decisions, that we'll screw up royally sometimes – understanding that failure is not the opposite of success, it's part of success.” — Ariana Huffington

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WILSS Celebrate Success—2023

WILSS Staff and Trustee members would like to congratulate all the 2022 graduates in:

New Zealand Certificate in Sport Coaching (Level 3)

New Zealand Certificate in Business (First Line Management) (Level 4)

A total of 30 students successfully achieved their qualification.

Graduation is part of recognizing and celebrating the journey that graduates have all started as part of their own personal development and will continue on this journey that will go on to enrich the lives of many others around them, whether it is in the workplace, at home, in school, club, association or community.

We had a small gathering of graduates where they were presented with their certificates and shared some of their stories of changes made due to them gaining their qualification. One graduate shared about a complete change in employment and another about their promotion within their workplace.



2022 Graduates

New Zealand Certificate in Sport Coaching (Level 3)

Gillian Tata Henry
David Hopi
Hailey Barnett
Sunia Tupou
Asinate Tonga
David Datu

Dion Redley
Merena Reid
Haua Keene
Zavien Deisher
Sione Langi

New Zealand Certificate in Business (First Line Management) (Level 4)

Kara Lockhart
Melanie Chou
Andrea Hampton
Nelson Joseph
Alison Turoa
Louise Cohen
Sarah Harihari
Brent McMillin
Saint Whatuira
Camron Vinson

Jennifer Nola
Deanne Cronin
Jaspreet Kaur
Joanne Taylor
Jarnia Cameron
Karen Fergusson
Somitha Joseph
Michael Webb
Paul McDonald

“Goal setting is the most important aspect of all improvement and personal development plans. It is the key to all fulfilment and achievement.” ~
Paul J. Meyer

Business Qualification

New Zealand Certificate in Business (First Line Management) (Level 4)

Registrations now open for the 2024 Programme

Take the next step towards a fulfilling career in leadership and management. This part-time programme enables you to continue to work as you learn and empower you to take your next professional step forward to achieve your career goals. It has been designed to give aspiring managers the hands-on skills and knowledge to effectively lead teams to achieve their objectives.

Why this programme?

- ◆ Learn the practical skills and techniques to lead effectively and become a great manager.
- ◆ Get the best from your team through effective communication.
- ◆ Create team environments that value diversity and positive performance.
- ◆ Complete a qualification while still working.

Who should enrol?

- ◆ Current first-line managers wanting to upskill.
- ◆ Future managers who want to gain a formal qualification.

Entry Criteria:

- ◆ Participants will require a mentor/coach who should ideally come from the participant's area of interest. If this is not possible, assistance can be given to find a suitable mentor/coach.
- ◆ Early registration recommended as participant numbers are limited to maximise the learning and one-to-one coaching opportunities for participants.



Want to know More?

For further information about the programme, dates or to request an Enrolment Form, scan the QR code or contact:

Alan Peary - Tertiary Programmes Manager

Phone: 07 839 9908 / 027 2329025

Email: alan@wilss.ac.nz

Registrations now open for programme starting early 2024.

*"Some people say I have attitude – maybe I do...but I think you have to. You have to believe in yourself when no one else does – that makes you a winner right there."
- Venus Williams*

“The power of recognition is one of the most effective tools in a leaders arsenal to inspire, engage and retain top talent.”

- John C Maxwell

“Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.”

– Elizabeth Andrew

"Recognition is not a luxury; it's a necessity. It fuels the fire within volunteers, igniting their passion and riving them toward excellence

- Les Brown.”

“The broadest, and maybe the most meaningful definition of volunteering: Doing more than you have to because you want to, in a cause you consider good.”

– Ivan Scheier

AMAZING RACE 2023

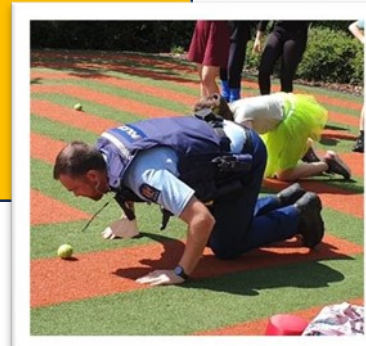
Kim Guest—Volunteer Programme Coordinator



On the 25th October, The WILSS Amazing Race took place throughout the Hamilton Gardens, namely Rhododendron Lawn, Camellia Garden, Governor's Green and Children's Playground.

Despite the rain in the morning, the participants pushed through and had a fantastic time and within no time the sun was out in action. This year's turnout consisted of 73 teams and 584 participants from both Primary and Intermediate Schools. There was a total of 80 volunteers from Hillcrest and Hamilton Girls' High School who did such an amazing job at running each activity.

The activities incorporated problem solving, teamwork, physical activity, and a whole lot of fun. Overall the day was huge success, and we look forward to next year's Amazing Race.



What is the purpose of a website?

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Having a website is an important marketing tool and vital for any business to succeed in this day and age. It provides your company with long-term success in generating leads and conversations while building and retaining a loyal customer base. They are an opportunity to make a great first impression, let people know you have something to offer and give your target audience comfort that you're a real business. It is the first step in getting yourself out there. Customers are always able to find you – anytime, anywhere. Even outside of business hours, your website continues to find and secure new customers. It offers the user convenience as they can access the information they need in the comfort of their own home, with no added pressure to buy.

Changes to WILSS Website

Because WILSS is a small organization, we rely on our website to reach a wider target audience beyond the Waikato to advertise what we offer in the way of courses and qualifications.

Always trying to improve our website and following some requests from prospective students, WILSS has added a 'Registration of Interest' link on to the Business and Sport Coaching pages to give people the opportunity to choose from a few options of the courses planned to start in the near future. This has been very successful and has generated plenty of interest, along with the need to create multiple start dates.

“What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.” —Jane Goodall

NZ Certificate in Sport Coaching (Level 3)

The NZ Certificate in Sport Coaching (Level 3) is for any individual. Multiple options are available to enable this qualification to be delivered within a Secondary School where Unit Standards can be achieved that help gain credits towards NCEA or within a sporting organisation context. Either way, there are great learning opportunities, and some amazing resources.

This programme is for any individual who is:

- Interested in learning more about coaching, or
- New to coaching, or
- Has been coaching in primary and now looking at moving into intermediate and/or secondary level, or
- Is looking to start a career pathway into the area of sport coaching.

Want to know More?

For further information about the programme, dates or to request an Enrolment Form, scan the QR code or contact:

Alan Peary - Tertiary Programmes Manager

Phone: 07 839 9908 / 027 2329025

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TRAFFIC REWARD DAY

Kim Guest — Volunteer Programme Coordinator

TE AWAMUTU & CAMBRIDGE

Traffic Reward Day is a special day planned for all of those who volunteer within their school's as a Road Patroller or Bus Warden. This year we had 12 different schools and approximately 350 students attend the Reward Day which ran over two days. Traffic control would not be the same if we did not have these amazing young students who offer up their time.

Thank you for making our school as safe as possible! Together we are a team!



"Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders: The Transformative Power of Youth Volunteering in New Zealand's Sports Sector"

Jack Clayton — General Manager

As we reflect on 2023, it is timely to recognize the profound impact that youth volunteering, particularly in the dynamic realm of sports, has on shaping the leaders of tomorrow. New Zealand, with its rich sporting culture, offers a unique platform for young people to not only contribute to their communities but also develop essential skills that will serve them throughout their lives.

The Power of Giving Back

Youth volunteering plays a pivotal role in fostering a sense of community and instilling values that extend far beyond the sports field. Whether it is coaching a junior volleyball team, organizing local sporting events, or assisting in sports administration, the act of giving back empowers young people to become active, engaged citizens. WILSS has always emphasised the importance of community engagement, and youth volunteering is a natural extension of this philosophy.

Skill Development and Personal Growth

Engaging in volunteer work within the sports sector provides a unique avenue for skill development and personal growth. The hands-on experience gained through volunteering enhances leadership abilities, communication skills, and the capacity to work effectively within a team – all essential qualities for success in any field. The sports sector, with its diverse range of roles, allows volunteers to discover and refine their strengths, whether it be in coaching, event management, or sports administration.

Through my own journey as a volunteer coach for a local youth hockey team, I witnessed first-hand the transformative power of this experience. Guiding and inspiring young athletes not only honed my coaching skills but also taught me the importance of patience, empathy, and adaptability. These are attributes that I carry with me into my professional life today, thanks to the lessons learned on the sports field.

Building Stronger Communities

New Zealand's sports culture is deeply intertwined with its sense of community. Youth volunteering in the sports sector contributes to the building of stronger, more resilient communities. When young people invest their time and energy in community sports, they not only contribute to the well-being of others but also become active agents in creating a positive and inclusive environment. These experiences foster a sense of belonging and interconnectedness, values that align seamlessly with the ethos of WILSS.

A Pathway to Professional Success

Beyond the immediate benefits of skill development and community engagement, youth volunteering in the sports sector serves as a valuable stepping stone for future professional success. Employers increasingly value candidates with a demonstrated commitment to community service and a diverse set of skills acquired through volunteering experiences. In the competitive landscape of today's job market, people with a track record of active engagement and leadership through volunteering stand out as dynamic and well-rounded professionals.

Inspiring the Next Generation

We have the responsibility to inspire and guide the next generation of leaders. By sharing our own experiences in youth volunteering, we can encourage current students to actively seek opportunities within the sports sector. The lessons learned and skills acquired through volunteering not only benefit the individual but also contribute to the broader community, creating a positive ripple effect that extends far beyond the sports field.

Conclusion

Youth volunteering in New Zealand's sports sector is a powerful vehicle for personal and community development. WILSS has laid the foundation for young people to be not just leaders in their respective fields but also compassionate and engaged citizens. As we continue to navigate our professional journeys, let us carry forward the spirit of volunteerism and inspire positive change in our communities, knowing that the impact of our actions today will resonate for years to come.

Unit Standards in Schools

Alan Peary — Tertiary Programmes Manager

WILSS provides resources and support to schools so that they can create a classroom experience that meets the unique needs of students while seamlessly incorporating Unit Standards.

Our commitment is to provide comprehensive, quality resources to teachers so they can support their learners to successfully complete Unit Standards and facilitate their achievement of credits towards National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA).

Our suite of Unit Standard resources is generally focussed on their integration within the sports department of schools, with each Resource Pack containing a Teacher's Guide, Marking Sheets, Student Assessments and Teacher Sample Answers.

The Unit Standards can be used as stand-alone or grouped into flexible but distinct pathways. It is strongly recommended that schools carefully consider and align their chosen pathway with the specific characteristics of their students, school environment, and the broader community they serve.

Over 1100 Unit Standard assessments were moderated over the past year. These came from 14 different High Schools that have used our suite of resources, with schools from as far north as Whangarei and as far south as Hastings. The suite of 16 Unit Standard resources provides the High Schools with teaching guides and student assessments. These high-quality resources have assisted many students to earn credits towards the three Levels of NCEA.

“One of the differences between some successful and unsuccessful people is that one group is full of doers, while the other is full of wishers.”
— Edmond Mbiaka

“Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement.. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence.”
— Helen Keller

“Goal setting is the most important aspect of all improvement and personal development plans. It is the key to all fulfilment and achievement.”
- Paul J. Meyer