

Eight Sports Selected in 2019 Wellington City Council Sports Talent Development Programme



Sport Wellington is excited to announce the following eight sports that have been accepted as part of the 2019 Wellington City Council funded Sports Talent Development Programme. The successful sporting organisations for 2019 are: Dynamites Sport Climbing, Wellington Basketball, Capital Football, Wellington Hockey, Netball Wellington Centre, Central Rowing, Volleyball Wellington, and Swimming Wellington.

The sports selected are aligned with the Sport New Zealand National Talent Strategy that focus's helping people realise their potential in sport and life through a balanced and holistic development approach.

“We are proud to be associated with the Sports Talent Development Programme; it is a fantastic programme that any emerging athlete in the region can aspire to become a part of. Since our involvement in the programme we have seen more and more athletes from Wellington representing New Zealand at an international level”, says Councilor Simon Woolf.

The Wellington City Council Talent Development Programme supports a number of talent development projects aligned to the national and regional sporting organisations. In 2018, 13 applications were received with eight sports successful in securing funding to support a range of initiatives. These initiatives include; research into performance measures, development of processes for individual performance planning, as well as access to specialist services such as athlete life advice, nutrition and strength and conditioning.

Over the last five years the programme has transformed from being an outcome-based investment to become a process-lead investment associated with developing talent and effective Talent Development environments. The programme is focused on creating effective learning environments enabling athletes to gather information that they can then take into their context, practice it, reflect on it, and ultimately grow as athletes and people.

Mark Watson, Sport Wellington's Performance Hub Senior Advisor states, “The impact of this approach is starting to come to fruition with athletes, parents and coaches now fully integrated into this process alongside staff associated with the Regional Sports Organisation's (RSO) performance programmes.”

Also associated to the 2019 programme, Sport Wellington will continue to work with Wellington Golf, Fencing Central, Wellington Softball and Wellington Badminton in developing their athlete development programs by continuing the great work that has been going on within these sports over the last two to three years.

Netball Wellington Centre General Manager Sue Geale says “We can't thank you and the team from Sport Wellington and Wellington City Council enough for the support you have provided these girls with through the funding towards the Emerging Talent Programme. It has been instrumental towards these girls achieving this (high) level of performance and one that I know they are hungry to take even higher given the opportunity.”

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Wellington Netball Centre athletes are now featuring at all levels of the sport. From regional and NZ age group teams to the professional teams like the pulse and Silver ferns.



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