



2019 MALE PARTICIPATION PILOT



*Foster the knowledge of Youth
Hāpaita te ara mātauranga, kia haukaha te tipu ō ngā rangatira mō āpōpō
Create an environment for Youth to flourish*



With the introduction of **Mother Earth futureFERNs** and as part of the consultation phase of the Netball New Zealand Youth Engagement and Retention Strategy (YERS), NNZ gathered youth voice using a range of methods. In the youth focus groups, individuals wrote letters to Netball New Zealand with their dream requests. A consistent question youth asked was “What opportunities are there for males to play at Secondary School Level”.

“I think we should play more games, it goes by so fast and all you want to do is keep playing Netball, because that is what we love about it.....My brother loves sport and wants to play as much as he can. Netball needs to encourage more to all genders” - Youth Voice 2018.

WHO

Hawke’s Bay Netbal

Netball Manawatu

Netball Taranaki

OBJECTIVES

- Relationships with all male schools
- Offer Secondary School Male Competitions weekly and tournament based
- Seek funding
- Understand the demand and provide opportunities for males to play
- Promotion of male’s Netball to the wider community
- Recognising diversity and improving accessibility

WHAT THEY DID

Hawke's Bay Netball

- Promoted through the **Mother Earth futureFERNs** that males can still play
- Ran a mixed grade in the Saturday competition
- Ran a successful youth focused mixed competition, 6 weeks, pay as you go, no limits on males on court, modified rules and the focus was on fun
- Build relationships with all male schools to raise the awareness of opportunities for males to play Netball at Secondary School
- Ran a males only 5-week competition
- Use of KiwiSport funding to support the opportunities
- Adapted rules for uniform

Learnings: Get some actions up and running, keep going, be flexible on the rules and open minded that it might take some time.

Netball Manawatu

- Ran a Secondary School males only tournament with no cost to the participant
- Engaged a sponsor: Hunting and Fishing "A great space to be in for us as we believe that everyone should have the opportunities to play regardless of gender and we are so much more than blood and guts" Simon
- Relaxed the rules in the games and the playing attire
- No rules on playing attire and a relaxed rules approach
- Two grades: Year 9/10 and Year 11-13
- 9 Teams, 6 schools and over 80 males involved in a positive atmosphere

Next Steps: More sessions and player development programmes for all genders in 2020, 8-week winter competition and build on the 2019 tournament success.

Netball Taranaki

- With a focus on diversity and inclusiveness for all genders, Netball Taranaki have adapted their North Island Age Group Representative Tournament for 2020:
 - » Age Group Grades: Year 9 and Under 16
 - » Gender Grades: Mixed, Males and Females
 - » Teams: North Island Centre Representative Teams