



THE SPECTATOR

Your Wellington Indian Sports Club Newsletter



WISC Executive 2025

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OUR SUPPORTERS



Air Rescue
and Community
Services



If you are interested in sponsoring the club please contact:

financevp@wisc.org.nz

President's Report

Namaste/ Kia ora,

What an incredible week it has been – and what a breathtaking weekend! I am extremely proud of all the WISC teams for their performance and conduct on the field. Your dedication and sportsmanship truly shone through. A huge thank you to all the supporters who came out to the turf and cheered on the blue and white – your energy made all the difference!



♥ A heartfelt thank you and our deepest gratitude to Dharmesh, Hiren & the team at Moneybox for their generous support as the key sponsor of WISC's 90th Jubilee ball. If you're considering buying a home, refinancing, or seeking sound financial advice, we wholeheartedly recommend reaching out to Dharmesh. With over 15 years of experience and a reputation for delivering outstanding results, Moneybox offers trusted guidance on mortgages, insurance, and more.

🧁 A sweet thank you to all of our amazing members who brought their best baking to the turf for our WISC fundraiser during the semi-finals and finals weekend –the variety and quality were simply outstanding! A special thank you to Jigna Lala and Tara Govind for the stunning cupcakes they each created –they were as beautiful as they were delicious! And of course, no bake sale would be complete without Bhavana's legendary masala chai, which warmed everyone up and added that perfect touch of spice to the day. Your contributions turned a simple fundraiser into a vibrant celebration of community and flavour. If you'd like to see more of Jigna's creations, check out JL Bakes on Facebook!

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🔥 Event & Fundraiser Heroes A big thank you to Devanand and Kailin for their fantastic work organizing the get-together at the Strathmore Local. And a special thanks to Darshna Govind whose amazing coordination made the back-to-back Saturday sausage sizzle fundraisers at the turf a great success! Also thanks to Arnesh Chhiba for lending his van and Bhavan Lala for lending his BBQ once again and everyone else who helped on the grill and with sales for both days.

🏟️ Congratulations to the 40J & Randwick men's hockey teams on an incredible season. At the start of the season, both sides were battling it out to see who would remain in Premiere 3. Fast forward to now, and both teams have shown grit, determination, and growth—proving their place in the grade.

🎉 Looking Ahead: We're excited for the upcoming ball to mark WISC's 90th Jubilee on Saturday, 4th October. Please get in early and secure your tickets—it's going to be a night to remember as we celebrate 90 years of WISC history and community spirit.

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🌟 Communications Spotlight: Chhaya Govind A special shoutout to Chhaya Govind, our new Communications Specialist, whose vibrant and consistent social media updates have brought fresh energy to WISC's online presence. Her creative storytelling and timely posts have helped us connect more deeply with our community and showcase the spirit of our club like never before.

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🍴 The Benefits of Eating with Fingers At a recent community event, I learned something fascinating — eating with your fingers isn't just tradition; it's good for your health. In Ayurveda, each finger represents one of the five elements: earth, water, fire, air, and space. Bringing food to your mouth with your hands activates nerve endings, signaling the stomach to prepare for digestion. Eating with your hands also encourages mindful eating, helps regulate food temperature, supports fine motor skills, and fosters connection with your food and those you share it with. Sometimes, the simplest traditions are the healthiest!

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🚶 The New Zealand Indian Central Association are running senior walks every Sunday from 10am to 11am. These walks are open to all seniors in our community and the group meets for a gentle, social walk that's perfect for keeping active, connecting with friends, and enjoying the fresh air. Whether you come for fitness, company, or the post-walk coffee, we'd love to see you there!

Kindest Regards

Dipak Bhana

President@wisc.org.nz

0273410765



Finance Report

The New Zealand Government is currently proposing new legislation, the Online Casino Gambling Bill ("OCG Bill") to auction off licences and legalise the online casino gambling market to overseas operators. While the Government will keep the profits from these auctions, the newly licenced online operators will have no obligation to provide any sort of social return to the community. As it stands, the OCG Bill will have a significantly detrimental impact to WISC along with countless other community organisations, as it dismisses the long-standing principle that gambling profits are shared with the community. That principle is currently applied to gambling revenue from pokies machines which fund the community grants that WISC consistently depends on to facilitate almost everything we do.

This matters to WISC as the OCG Bill will deny community sports funding from online gambling. Additionally, global trends suggest that as the market to online gambling opens up, this will eat into and eventually replace pokies gaming altogether. If this happens, these vital funding pipelines to WISC would disappear without there being any replacement. Each year, grants from pokies trusts allow WISC to purchase all sorts of sports equipment, team uniforms, subsidise the insurance premiums on the gymnasium, reduce the players' costs for travel and accommodation at NZISA hockey and cricket tournaments, help pay coaching fees, and importantly help reduce the significant cost of playing fees for all of our cricket and hockey teams. Funding grants were also relied on by WISC for the costs to replace the significant roof and seismic strengthening works of our gymnasium at Kemp Street. For the 2025 year alone, WISC has benefited from over \$60,000 in funding grants to date and without such funding, the impact would be devastating for our club and could result in the cost of player fees potentially doubling.

To voice our concern on behalf of WISC, I have presented a written submission to the Parliamentary Select Committee using the guidance from both Hockey New Zealand and the Wellington Hockey Association regarding the OCG Bill and its impact not only to our club, but the wider sporting community in Aotearoa. We will keep you updated as this process unfolds. In the meantime, we encourage all members to stay informed, support our submission, and help us protect the future of our club to keep sport affordable for all.

Finance VP
Shivum Patel



Sports VP Report

Hi all,

The winter open grade hockey season has wrapped up in style with an epic finals weekend. Congratulations to all our winners – your hard work and commitment truly paid off!

It was fantastic to see so many supporters on the sidelines decked out in our club merch. The atmosphere was electric, and the community spirit was at an all time high. Highlighted by the many that lined up to get into the BBQ and Bake fundraiser for our 90th Ball celebrations. Thank you to everyone who made the event such a success.

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For some of our players, the journey continues with representative and school tournaments still to come, while our Minis and Juniors keep the season rolling with plenty of energy and smiles out on the turf each week.

Meanwhile, our cricketers are already looking ahead, dusting off the pads and preparing for the summer season just around the corner.

Here's to an unforgettable winter season, and an exciting few months ahead for all our members!

Up The WISC!
Hemant



Women's Hockey Report

Women's hockey has wrapped up for the season – and what a finish it's been!

Final Standings:

- P2 Women finished in 5th place, ending strong with some great wins in their last couple of games.
- P3 Women placed 10th and will play a relegation match on 6th September to keep their spot in P3 – let's get behind them!
- P4 Women finished in 7th, ending their season on a high with an exciting penalty shootout win in their final match.

The vibes were high all season – so much energy, fight, and support out on the turf. A massive thank you to everyone who came down to cheer the girls on, your support makes all the difference!

Shoutout to our incredible managers – Amanda, Amita, Kareena P, Seleena & Neesha – for keeping everything ticking along. And a special thank you to Girish Mama, our P2 coach – your mahi with the girls has been amazing this season.

Having three women's teams this year has been fantastic, and it's been great to see so many girls out there enjoying their hockey. The new P2 uniforms looked sharp, and overall, it's been an incredible season! Enjoy the break, and we'll see you back on the turf next year in 2026!

Darshna
WISC Women's Hockey Rep

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Men's Hockey Report

Kia ora tātou,

And just like that, the 2025 hockey season is completed! What a whirlwind it's been with plenty of ups and downs, but ultimately an overwhelmingly positive season for all of our WISC teams.

The weekend past brought about a stunning close to the season with all WISC Men's teams competing for Top 4 spots, and four teams vying for their respective championships!

The first of these was WISC Randwick, who claimed this years Premier 3 Men's competition, winning their final vs Tawa 2-0. A supremely successful season for the team, finishing with 15 wins from 18 games, amassing 93 goals. A shoutout to Jamie Lunn and Monte Burmester who topped the goalscoring charts with 18 and 15 goals respectively. Congratulations team!

WISC Rambos XI were not far behind, securing 3rd place for the season with a 6-5 win over Varsity. The team were just two wins off making another all WISC final, but unfortunately not to be this year. Nevertheless a great season from the team!

Our second win of the weekend went to WISC 40J, who came out on top in the all WISC P4 Final vs the Money team, to close Saturday's proceedings. When we queried WHA about the match's start time, they noted that times were staggered regarding "the lead-in and build up" - and this game certainly proved to be the best of the day. 40J took an early lead, then doubling it, there was a saved stroke, before the Money team secured a draw at the death with two goals in the last minute. A shootout followed and both goalies did well to keep their team in it to the end. 40J would come away with the win off the back of some Jayesh Patel heroics in goal, securing bragging rights. Unfortunately there could only be one winner, but both teams can be incredibly proud of their seasons, finishing in the top two at the end of the round, and then beating the competition in the finals round to land an all WISC showdown.

Our WISC Premier Men landed a grand final berth vs Dalefield, with a chance to go back to back. Unfortunately the lads went down 2-1, with Dalefield putting out a better performance to secure their spot. The result stings and will do for a while, but looking back at the season the team can be proud of our efforts, which did include retaining our Intercity title. Fuel to the fire for next year.

Sunday was our final men's game of the year, with our P2 Men competing in their 3v4 playoff. The lads put in a statement performance, coming away with a 3-1 win to cap off a season where a young team (mixed in with some of the wisest of the wise) fought their way to a well deserved bronze medal spot. Fantastic to see the development of this group and puts them and us in good stead for what is to come!



“ Looking around the turf on Saturday certainly makes you proud as a player. There aren't many clubs who would have that level of connection, so it is truly an honour and privilege for all our teams to be so well supported! ”

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What a season. Ups and downs aplenty but mostly ups for our Men's teams. The highlight for me however was once again was everyone who came out to support our WISC teams, especially this past weekend. Looking around the turf on Saturday certainly makes you proud as a player. There aren't many clubs who would have that level of connection, so it is truly an honour and privilege for all our teams to be so well supported!



Lastly - although the Wellington season has finished, hockey continues for some! A big shoutout once again to our man Finn Ward who has been selected again for the Black Sticks to compete in this years Oceania Cup over in Darwin. After a standout debut tournament we can't wait to see you go to work against one of the worlds best - may the upwards trend continue!

Thanks to you all, enjoy the off season!

Ka kite
Sajan Patel
Men's Hockey Rep

Events Committee Report

Kemcho all,

Hope everyone is keeping well!

A quick reminder about the 90th Jubilee Ball and Prizegiving, which is being held on Saturday 4th October at the Rydges Hotel. Tickets for this will be released very soon, so make sure to get your ticket early to ensure that you will be able to be apart of what promises to be an awesome evening celebrating our clubs history and our teams achievements from this season! On another note we are happy to announce three events that will round off 2025 in style!

irstly, a Kids Afternoon Out at Adventurerama for our future WISC mens and women's sporting stars. Come along from 4-7pm on Sunday 21 September (the next day is the start of school holidays!) to Adventurerama where the kids can explore Clip n Climb, Junglerama, Jumperama and Cyberpunk Ninja for only \$10, with all proceeds going back to WISC. Stay tuned for more info to be released very soon!

Next we have got a fundraiser quiz night on November 4th at the one and only Parrotdog Bar! We will also be running a raffle alongside this where we will announce the winners at quiz night. With that said, if you or your business could be interested in donating an item for the raffle please flick us an email at events@wisc.org.nz to discuss what we can offer you/your business for providing a prize for the raffle. So start getting your team together and brainstorming team names, we cannot wait for this and look forward to seeing you all there!

What better way to close out 2025, than an enjoying a hot drink and a nibble with some great company! Bring a plate, along with your family and friends to the Mātairangi Meeting Room, at Ākau Tangi Sports Centre for a WISC afternoon tea to celebrate 2025, our 90th year on Sunday 7 December from 2-5pm. More information to be announced at a later date.

Cheers,
Devanand and Kailin



Junior Hockey Report

With just a few weeks left in the season, it's fantastic to see our juniors continue to grow, play hard, and show great teamwork. The commitment shown—especially in winter weather—has been inspiring.

Special shout-out to our senior players who have just finished and our college players who are at the end of their season and have tournament week coming up soon. If you know anyone from the WISC whānau who would like to share their success from hockey, please get in touch!

Thanks to all coaches, families, and umpires for your support. It's been nice for our Years 7 & 8 to be playing PC's this term. Thanks to those who have paid their fees. If you haven't, please do so ASAP.

Information about this year's prizegiving will be sent out soon—keep an eye on your inbox. Let's finish strong and enjoy the last games ahead!

Go WISC Juniors!

Nga mihi,
Shiv Patel
Junior Hockey Representative
Wellington Indian Sports Club

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”

“
The commitment shown—especially in winter weather—has been inspiring.
”





KIDS AFTERNOON OUT

Kick off these school holidays at Adventurerama, where you can explore the Clip n Climb, Junglerama, Jumperama and Cyberpunk Ninja!

Only \$10 each - all proceeds go to WISC!



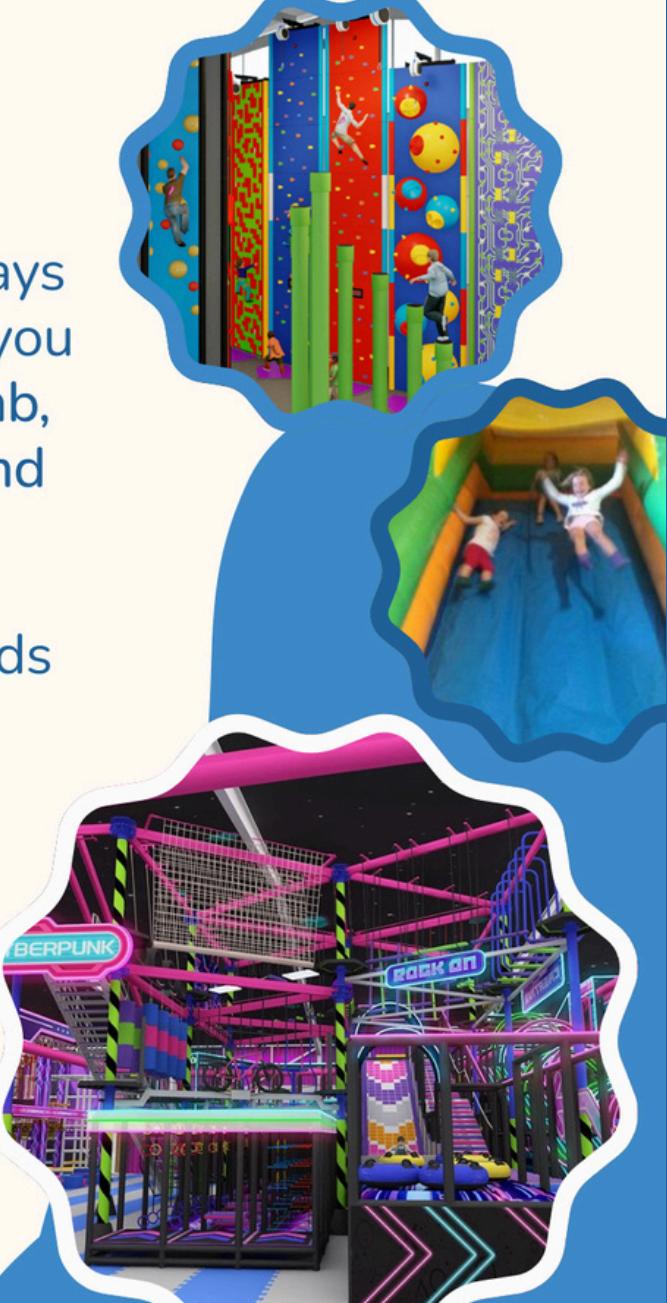
Sunday
21 September, 2025



4 - 7 PM



Adventurerama,
93 Hutt Park Rd,
Lower Hutt



SAVE THE DATE

WISC 90TH JUBILEE
Ball + Prizegiving



4 OCTOBER 2025

The Rydges Hotel,
75 Featherston St

TICKETS AVAILABLE SOON
contact events@wisc.org.nz to sponsor or donate

19TH OCTOBER

RUSSLEY GOLF CLUB
428 MEMORIAL AVENUE,
CHRISTCHURCH.



THECHRISTCHURCHINDIANSPORTSCLUB

SHAPING UP TO BE A GREAT DAY

**EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION FEE
ENDING SOON**

SINGLE PLAYER

\$89

INCLUDES YOUR ROUND & BUFFET DINNER

TEAM OF 4 (AMBROSE)

\$356

INCLUDES YOUR ROUND & BUFFET
DINNER

[**PLEASE CLICK HERE TO REGISTER:**](#)

Yet to sort - Accommodation

We've secured a **special group rate** at the [Commodore Hotel](#), located just across from the golf course.

- **Group Name:** NZ Indian Sports Association Golf Tournament
- **Dates:** 17–20 October 2025 (arrive 17th or 18th)
- **Room Type:** Premium Level
- **Rate:** \$297.50 per night
- **Booking Ref:** 2271795



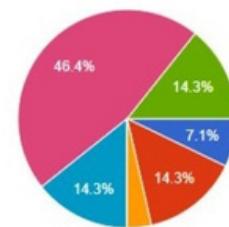
Reminder - Need a Golf Cart

Please **book directly** with [Russley Golf Club](#) to secure yours early.



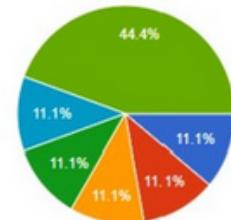
CURRENTLY 42 PLAYERS REGISTERED

DIVISION ONE - Affiliated Players



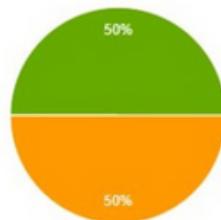
● North Harbour
● Auckland
● Pukekohe
● Waikato
● Bay of Plenty
● Central Districts
● Wellington
● Christchurch

DIVISION 2 - Social Players



● North Harbour
● Auckland
● Pukekohe
● Waikato
● Bay of Plenty
● Central Districts
● Wellington
● Christchurch

DIVISION 3 - Ambrose



● North Harbour
● Auckland
● Pukekohe
● Waikato
● Bay of Plenty
● Central Districts
● Wellington
● Christchurch

\$45 SUPPORTERS PACKS

Let our local ladies showcase Christchurch's best places to shop, dine, wine and have fun.

Invite your wives, partner, friends or/and family to join the fun.

Supporter Pack includes

- BBQ down at the course
- Ticket to the evening event - Prizegiving & Buffet Dinner