



# Sport Connector

## New CEO for Sport Southland

Sport Southland will have a new chief executive in 2013, with current general manager Brendon McDermott stepping into the role left vacant by outgoing CEO Richard Hoskin.

Richard has opted to move home to Arrowtown to spend more time with his family and is delighted with the new appointment.

“I think it is a very good appointment for Sport Southland given where it is at in terms of its growth and direction and Brendon will provide an extremely safe paid or hands and strong leadership for the organisation moving forward.”

Brendon has worked for Sport Southland for the past six years, as operations manager then general manager and is excited about the opportunity the CEO role presents.

“I am thrilled to accept the appointment and the opportunity to further develop such a successful organisation,” he says.

“I believe Sport Southland has increased its profile in recent years and is doing some great things for the community. It will be my role to ensure that continues to happen and that we continue to grow.”

Both Richard and Brendon anticipate Brendon’s transition to the chief executive role to be a smooth one. The takeover date is yet to be confirmed.

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## Bye Jim!



While we welcome one staff member into a new role, we will be very sad to say goodbye to Jim Watson, our primary schools sports advisor, at the end of this year. Jim is retiring after a wonderful career as a teacher, principal and sports advisor. He has been an absolute asset to us here at Sport Southland and to primary schools throughout Southland, and we wish him very well for his future whatever it may bring.

Applications for the position of primary schools sports advisor have now closed, so we will keep you updated as and when a new appointment is made.

## Coaches breakfast tomorrow!



Four of Southland's top coaches are set to share their Olympic and World Championship experiences with Southland's coaching community at a breakfast on Thursday morning.

The breakfast is a continuation of Sport Southland's coaches' breakfasts that have been running this year and will be held in conjunction with the Academy Southland programme, which supports both coaches and athletes to achieve to the highest standards.

Jeremy Duncan (swimming) and Stuart MacDonald (cycling) will both share their experiences of coaching New Zealand teams at the London Olympic Games, while Ross Machejefski (cycling) and John O'Connor (rowing) will offer input from recent World Championship events, in a question and answer-style session.

Registrations for the breakfast (which will be held in the Sarah Ulmer Lounge between 7.30am and 8.30am) are **essential**. There are limited spaces still available, contact Sport Southland senior community sport advisor Andrew Petrie on 03 211 2150 or [andrew.petrie@sportsouthland.co.nz](mailto:andrew.petrie@sportsouthland.co.nz).

**AND ...** Keep an eye out for more information on our seminar programme for 2013. Topics will range from help with organisational planning to use of social media and generic coaching support for new coaches.

## Holiday Sports Programmes: 2013

The dates for the January holiday sports programmes (sponsored by BNZ and the ILT) are set and are as follows:

Tuesday 15 January: Te Anau

Wednesday 16 January: Winton

Thursday 17 January: Gore

Friday 18 January: Riverton

Monday 21 January – Friday 25 January:  
ILT Invercargill Holiday Sports Programme

If you would like your sport to be involved or are looking for ways to leverage from your involvement in the programme, [please get in touch with us](#).





## Sport Southland Christmas Hours

The Sport Southland offices will be closing at 12noon on Friday 21 December. From January 9 to 11 our reception will be open from 9am to 3pm, and we will resume usual hours (8.30am to 5pm Monday through Friday) from Monday 14 January.

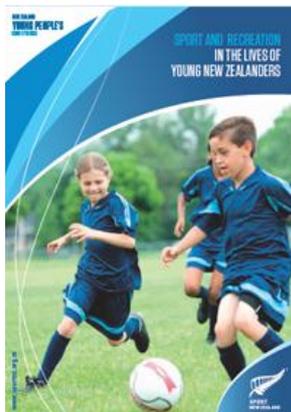
## Annual Report

Against the backdrop of some significant challenges in our environment in recent times, Sport Southland has delivered, strengthened and supported some exciting positive projects and programmes in and for our community.

[CLICK HERE](#) for an electronic copy of our annual report and, if you would like a hard copy, [email us](#) and we'll be happy to send a copy out.



## Young Persons Survey



Sport New Zealand's Young Persons Survey is available for viewing online and provides an interesting insight into young people and their involvement in sport and recreation in New Zealand.

The survey of more than 17,000 pupils in primary, intermediate and secondary schools is the most significant piece of research into young New Zealanders' participation in sport and recreation in more than 10 years.

[CLICK HERE](#) to access the full report, key findings, insights into the results and what Sport New Zealand is doing in response to the findings.

A regional breakdown of the results will be available in the coming months.

## Sportfunder

A crowdfunding website for sports people and teams has been launched called Sportfunder. It is a way for sports people to create a public fundraising project that supporters can donate or pledge funds to. Bruce Gatward-Cook is available to help sports individuals or teams get their projects uploaded – and he can be contacted via email at [bruce@adviso.co.nz](mailto:bruce@adviso.co.nz).

You can also visit [www.sportfunder.com](http://www.sportfunder.com) to check out the site.