

24 June 2024

Dear Members and Clubs,

This week I have great pleasure in introducing our newest affiliated club to the IHNZ family - Welcome to the Whakatāne Avalanche Inline Hockey club!



The Whakatāne Avalanche Inline Hockey club has made a triumphant return thanks to its original members, who have re-established the club after years of absence. In 2024, the club is proud to announce the debut of its Senior A team in the Tūi Conference, marking a significant milestone for the organisation.

A remarkable aspect of this revival is that 9 out of the team's 11 players were part of the original Whakatāne Avalanche club, which thrived in the late 90's and early 2000's. Their dedication and experience form the backbone of the team's resurgence along with some enthusiastic new players.

Beyond competing, the club holds a larger vision: to rekindle the spirit of Inline Hockey in the Eastern Bay of Plenty region. With plans to establish Junior teams through introductory programs, they aim to foster a new generation of players and enthusiasts.

To mark their comeback, the club proudly unveils a fresh jersey adorned with a new logo that pays homage to the classic Avalanche colours, symbolising a blend of tradition and renewal.

The re-emergence of the Whakatāne Avalanche has been met with overwhelming support from the community. Senior members of the sport fondly recall the original club and warmly embrace its return, reflecting a shared excitement and optimism for the future of Inline Hockey in the region.



Matariki:

This week sees our annual IHNZ Matariki tournament take place in New Plymouth. The schedule has been published so we invite everyone to come watch the hockey on display. Those wishing to join us for the hāngi lunch and haven't yet advised please let Sheree know by Tuesday 5pm.

The Team Mission and Team Bauer Exhibition game is scheduled for a 7pm start. Streaming details will be passed on this week.

We are all looking forward to another Matariki event showcasing both the Rangatira and rangitahi of our sport!

Board Update:

The Board met over the weekend and are currently busy working through a list of tasks, priorities and a timeline. This includes meetings with our key stakeholders and members and a meeting will be scheduled in which the new board will be presented and the handover process detailed.

Epic Warrior 16/18 Tournament:

The venue is confirmed for Hamilton over the weekend of 11/12 August, entries in by 28 June via the link attached -

<https://secure.esportsdesk.com/login.cfm?leagueID=34462&clientID=7022®EventID=66952>

This weeks tasks include:

- ✚ Continued work on the financials, including the continued analysis of the 3 conference accounts from 2023
- ✚ Operational work includes NARCh arrangements, Female Development League, IHNZ NPL, the 16/18 Epic Warrior Tournament, draft 2025 Calendar, pre planning for the IHNZ National Championships

Please remember whether you are a player, referee, coach, manager or committee member, to register via Esports! The last day for players to be registered with IHNZ if they wish to compete at the 2024 National Championships is 31 July 2024.

For any questions you may have, please send via the usual channel to gm@inlinehockeynz.org.nz . Enjoy your week and we look forward to bringing you our further updates as soon as able.

Willy Harvey

IHNZ
