



ISSUE ONE, July 2025

The 2025 season is underway...

As we hit the halfway mark for our 2025 season, we are very excited to be issuing our inaugural monthly newsletter and to welcome back our members for another fantastic football season. In particular, we would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our new members. As New Zealand's oldest football club, it is excellent to have new members to be part of our legacy and our great footballing community. We look forward to seeing everyone on and off the pitch and to continue to build on the great achievements of the season so far.

From the Board

Personnel

We are delighted have appointed Mauricio Rojas as our director of football. Mauricio was our first team assistant coach for last season's Lotto NRFL Men's Championship campaign. Mauricio has a UEFA A-Licence, was the team liaison officer for the Uruguay national football team during the London 2012 Olympics Games and was a goalkeeper coach for the Paraguay FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup team in New Zealand. He has also worked as an academy coach at London clubs Crystal Palace, Fulham and Queens Park Rangers. In New Zealand, he was the technical director for Hibiscus Coast. Mauricio's role also incorporates that of football development manager, left vacant by the departure of Ryan Ward. Ryan has taken a full-time position at Takapuna Grammar School, where he has been the head coach of their boy's first team. We again thank Ryan for this commitment to the club and wish him all the best in this new role.



We are also pleased to welcome two new Board members this season, Emily Christie and Sita Proud and to have their perspective and expertise as part of the governance of the club.

Player Development Programme

So far this season, the Board has been focussed on The Player Development Programme (PDP), a new initiative for the 2025 season. This is a high-performance footballing programme aiming to provide structured and holistic development at the youth level. Further details can be found on the website, with a more detailed update on progress of the PDP programme to come in future newsletters.

Facilities

Bayswater Park: the club has been in discussions with Auckland Council for the past two years regarding the two run-down buildings at Bayswater Park, both of which are Council owned. The proposal we have negotiated - which remains subject to final approval - is that: (i) the masonry building will be demolished, (ii) a new changing room and shower block (in a style similar to the facilities at Greville Reserve and Ashley Reserve) will be built to replace it and (iii) NSU will take ownership of the wooden clubhouse building and renovate it. The new shower and changing room block will be repositioned so that there is a separation between it and the wooden clubhouse building. Proposed timing is that building works will be undertaken this coming summer. This is fantastic news for the club and please support upcoming fundraising activities that will assist with financing the renovation of the clubhouse building.

Allen Hill Stadium: the club has also been in discussions with the Council regarding improvements at Allen Hill. We provided input into a needs assessment and the Council has subsequently undertaken an options analysis study with high level costings. The next step in the process takes place in July where the Council will put forward their draft plan to the Devonport Takapuna Local Board. We will keep you updated as things progress. Exterior painting of the Allen Hill Clubroom is to start shortly as the final part of our recent clubroom renovation project. We also acknowledge the support of our sponsors and those club and community members who donated to this renovation project with the imminent installation of names inside our clubroom as well as plaques on donated picnic tables in the beer garden.

NRF Gender Equity Survey

Thank you to those of you who responded to the NRF Gender Equity Survey. We have received valuable feedback and insights through this survey which our Women's Committee is working through, together with the Board.

Teams update

Our Men's First Team are the youngest in the league again this year and are performing consistently well, currently sitting mid-table but pushing for higher spots off the back of a five-game winning streak. Three trips to the Waikato over the coming months will be tough but the team are excited for the challenge.



Our Women's First Team have also had a solid start to the season, sitting in 3rd place having recently beaten local rivals Birkenhead 6-2.



First Kicks, Junior, Youth and Seniors are also having great seasons so far with lots of exciting games and results. We are delighted that this season we have the highest number of registrations for First Kicks in the club's history.



Upcoming events

We have some exciting fixtures and events planned for the second half of the season. Keep an eye out for more details in future newsletters and mailings. In the meantime, please mark your diaries for the following:

Upcoming action at Allen Hill

- 6 July - 11am Women's Reserve Team v Clendon United
- 12 July - 3pm Men's 1st Team v Melville
- 13 July - 1pm Women's 1st Team v Takapuna

Social events

- 2 August - Legends Race Night
- 9 August - Hobbs Sportsman of the Year
- 16 August - Step Bros Quiz Night
- 23 August - 82's Live Band Event
- 8 November - Bollywood Night

Calling all Volunteers

Thank you to all our dedicated volunteers for all their efforts. We need more volunteers and urgently so if you can get involved, we strongly encourage you to do so. Please contact clubmanager@nsu.org.nz if you are able to help.

Thank you to our sponsors

We are very grateful to have the continued support of sponsors from previous seasons as well as new sponsors who are partnering with us this season, thank you to you all for your support. We will be profiling specific sponsors in future monthly newsletters. We encourage members to support our sponsors. If you are interested in partnering with us, please email sponsorships@nsu.org.nz. We look forward to discussing how we can help promote your brand.