



ISSUE TWO, August 2025

The Season Charges On...

As we enter the final third of the 2025 season, there's a real buzz around the club. We've had some great results on the pitch, and exciting progress off the pitch.

From the Board

Skechers joins the Shore family

We are proud to welcome Skechers as an official sponsor of NSU. This exciting partnership brings global brand power to support our club from First Kicks right through to Men's and Women's First Teams, reflecting Skechers' commitment to grassroots football and growing the game in our local community.



Angus Woodhead (National Sales Manager - Skechers New Zealand) (left) with Northshore United's men's first team Captain Harry Lissington and his Skechers SKX 1.5 Elite boots.



Julia Bennett (left) (Northshore United's women's first team Captain) and Eva Steckler (CF) with their Skechers boots.

Female Football Committee – we need your support

NSU is committed to growing the game for our girls and women on and off the pitch and **we need your support with this.** We founded the **Female Football Committee** to provide

governance over female football at NSU with the objective of creating the best grass roots football club for female football in Auckland. The Committee is focussed on creating a fun nurturing environment specifically tailored for girls at First Kicks and junior level and develop pathways for female youth and senior players to compete at the highest level our local talent can achieve. **We are looking for enthusiastic and community focussed individuals to join our Female Football Committee.** We currently have vacancies for **Chair, Fundraising & Sponsorship, Treasurer and Grants.** Whether you are experienced in any of these areas or just want to be involved in a meaningful way, this is a great chance to shape the future of women's football at NSU. To find out more or express your interest, please email femalefootball@nsu.org.nz.

Facilities

Bayswater Park improvements: Work is progressing to finalise details with Auckland Council for both the design of the new changing room block and the club taking ownership of and renovating the wooden clubhouse. We are working on securing grant funding for the renovation and please support upcoming fundraising initiatives.

Allen Hill improvements: Auckland Council is finalising its upgrade proposal for Dacre Park (aka Allen Hill stadium) and is scheduled to present this to the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board next month. We will provide further updates as the process progresses. The timing of the demolition of the two buildings at 27 Lake Road neighbouring Allen Hill is uncertain at this stage as Auckland Council is still working through the paperwork. The club will be kept informed and there is currently no further update about future use of the site.

We would like to recognise and thank **Mark Collinson** of **Mark Collinson Builders** for his effort and support with essential maintenance and remedial work at Allen Hill and Bayswater. His prompt response and co-ordination of essential work at both sites has been brilliant and generous and we are extremely grateful.

Many of you will have noticed that **Kingdom Decorators** has commenced work painting our Allen Hill club room. We are delighted that this project is underway and to have Kingdom Decorators as a club sponsor from this year.



Teams update

Our **Men's First Team** had a recent solid performance against Ellerslie at Allen Hill, with Ryan Singh coming off the bench to score the winner in his **Skechers** boots. Looking back on the season, coach Dave Fahy considers we should be sitting on 5 or 6 more points which would have the team in contention for promotion. There are some good lessons and takeaways for the team going forward. The team is now focussed on finishing in the top 4. The next two games will be tough against promotion chasing teams, Northern Rovers and Manukau and will be a great test of the team's resilience. We hope to see many supporters at both games and the team is grateful for all the support.

The past month has been a mixed bag for our **Women's First Team**, with two wins and two losses however the squad's hard work and determination throughout have been outstanding. One recent highlight was the team's trip to Waiheke where the team managed to come from behind and secure an excellent 2-1 win, a testament to the team's resilience. The trip also offered a fantastic opportunity for the squad to bond off the pitch. Coach Joe Hughes is excited to see the squad finish the season strong.

23s coach Craig Heslop reflects that it has been rewarding to see the individual progress of many of our **23s** players this season, with several of the squad earning an opportunity to participate in first team football. Our 23s side has an average age of 17 years, so the learning curve has been sharp. The team has been focussed on developing their experience, professionalism, skills, and awareness. The **17s** have trained together with the 23s for most of the season which has enabled smoother transitions between the teams. The 17s have really evolved in terms of unity, performance and results this year. This development and performance of both teams is exciting for the future of the club.

In July, our **junior teams** proudly represented the club at festivals across Auckland, displaying their passion and talent on the field. On July 17th, we had a Grade 9 and Grade 10 team compete at the Manurewa FC Festival, while on July 20th, a Grade 11 team and two Grade 12 teams took part in the Albany FC Festival. These festivals are fantastic opportunities for our players to challenge themselves against some of Auckland's best teams. The intensive festival schedules create an environment for growth—helping players sharpen their skills, learn tactics, and build stronger connections with their teammates. Beyond the pitch, these events strengthen the bonds between players, parents, and the wider club community. A heartfelt thank you goes out to all the parents who help bring these events to life. From organising baking, barbeques, etc, through to those that spend the day coaching and refereeing—your dedication is hugely appreciated. It is certainly hard work, and the beers after the final whistle are well-earned!



Upcoming events – mark your diaries

We have some exciting fixtures and events planned for the remainder of the season and beyond. 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

Men

- 9 August @ 1500 v Ellerslie (1st team)
- 9 August @ 1230 v Ellerslie (23s)
- 23 August v Onehunga Mangere @ 1230 (23s)
- 23 August v Onehunga Mangere @ 1500 (1st team)

Women

- 17 August @ 1100 v Ellerslie (reserves)
- 17 August @ 1300 v Uni Mount (1st team)
- 31 August @ 1100 v Pukekohe (reserves)
- 31 August @ 1300 v Birkenhead (1st team)

Upcoming social events

- 9 August – Hobbs Sportsperson of the Year
- 23 August – 82s Live Band Event
- 13 September – First Kicks Fun Day
- 8 November – Bollywood night

Note: 16 August – Step Bros Quiz Night has been postponed. New date to be announced shortly.

Sponsor spotlight

A big thank you to **Jason Wall** of **Jason Wall Plumbing**, a dedicated club member and supporter and one of the most reliable tradesmen on the Shore. Jason and his team have been servicing the Devonport area for over 30 years. Jason has a long affiliation with NSU, with both his grandfather and father having played for the club. Jason currently plays for the senior men's team Hobbs. He has been there for NSU time and time again providing years of gratis work and materials to repair and keep our facilities running smoothly. He is not only a dedicated NSU supporter, player and sponsor but also a go-to problem solver for our facilities. Jason offers master plumbing for residential jobs, specializing in kitchen and bathroom installations and fast, friendly, expert service: www.jasonwallplumbing.co.nz; 021 939 127.

A special shoutout to **Paul Sievers** at **Devonport Electrical** for his support of the club - Paul's expertise and community focus make a real difference at NSU and also to **Nick Young** and **Autoland North Shore** who generously donated paint which was used to paint the club gear shed last year.

Please support those who support us!

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.