

2023 MainPower Youth Sports Scholarship Finalists

MainPower is pleased to support youth sporting achievement in North Canterbury

The aim of the MainPower Youth Sports Scholarships is to assist local sporting talent to perform to their utmost ability. The Scholarships support high achieving young sports people from within Waimakariri, Hurunui and Kaikoura districts to achieve attainable goals and to build a foundation that will encourage a strong culture of sporting success and excellence across the North Canterbury region.

Through a partnership between MainPower and NC Sports, scholarships will be awarded to these outstanding young North Canterbury sports people at a special awards ceremony at MainPower Stadium on Friday 20th October. Scholarships provide financial support from MainPower as well as high performance services from Active Health to support the scholars' continued development in their chosen sport for the next 12 months.



Millie-Jane McIlraith (17) - Shooting

- 1st at National Champs B Grade in Single Barrel
- Chosen as 1st Reserve for NZ Women's "Down the Line" team
- Ranked 6th Women in NZ for "Down the Line"
- Top women's shooter in Canterbury for "Skeet", "Double Rise" and "Single Barrel"
- 1st at NZ Secondary Schools 2-person "Skeet" team



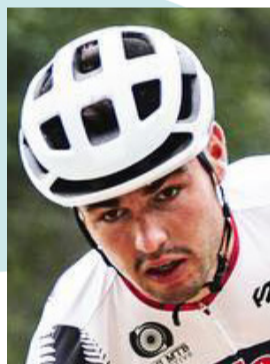
Kirsty Watts (16) - Cycling

- 2nd in Time Trial and 8th in Road Race at NZ Elite Road National Championships 2023
- 9th in Time Trail and 18th in Road Race at Oceania Road Cycling Championships 2023
- 1st in Points Race, Team Pursuit and Team Sprint at NZ Track National Championships 2023
- 2nd at Cyclocross National Championships 2023
- Selected to compete at UCI Junior Road World Champs (in both TT and RR) in Switzerland 2024



Harrison Shanks (16) - Motor Racing

- Selected to represent NZ at Asia Talent Cup 2023
- 2022 Motorcycling Canterbury 250cc Champion
- 2nd place in 300cc Supersport 2022
- 10th in 2023 season of NZ Superbike Series



Jacob Turner (20) - Mountain Biking

- 6th Elite at XCO Short Track event in Greece 2022
- 11th Elite at National XCO 2023
- 3rd placings at MTBNZ National Series events 2023
- 8th at Oceania XCO Championships 2023
- 13th Elite at XCO event in Croatia 2023
- 9th U23 at XCO event in Slovenia 2023
- 15th Elite at XCO event in Slovenia 2023
- Competed in European XCO World Cup season 2023



Xanthe Jane (17) - Football

- U19 NZ Secondary Schools Team competing at Dallas International Girls Cup - April 2023
- Captain of Canterbury United Pride National Youth League team 2022 & 2023 (League winners 2022)
- Member of Canterbury United Pride squad 2023
- Selected for NZ High Performance Sport players pathway programme



Georgyna Orchard (17) - Shooting

- 3rd in National Secondary Schools Competition
- Selected for NZ Secondary Schools team to compete against a UK team
- 1st at National Indoor Champs (C-grade)
- In team that placed 1st in Division 1 at National District Champs



Ashlyn Rean (17) - Basketball

- Member of NZ U17 Women's team at Asian Champs in Jordan and World Cup in Hungary 2023
- Member of Mainland Pouakai Women's Basketball team and Rapid League team 2023
- Named in tournament team from 2023 U19 National Championships and North Canterbury team MVP
- Member of North Canterbury Premier Women's team



Molly Spark (20) - Adventure Racing

- Member of "Fear Youth" Adventure Racing team
- 7th place in 2023 Godzone Adventure Teams Race
- 1st in two-day Tandem at 2023 Coast to Coast
- 2nd in Big Hollyday Adventure Race 2022
- 4th in 48hr True West Adventure Race 2022
- 2nd in Kaikoura Adventure Race 2022
- Representing NZ at the Adventure Racing World Champs in South Africa