

## Newsletter 9th November 2024



**Special  
Olympics**  
Rotorua

### 2024 Sports last day and 2025 Sports start dates (after Waitangi Day)



**BASKETBALL:** Saturdays 9am – 10am at Lynmore Primary School gym, Iles Rd.

*Last day 23 Nov; restart 8 Feb*



**INDOOR BOWLS** and/or **BOCCE** Wednesdays 5pm – 6.15pm at WHHS,

Old Quarry Rd. Usually in the hall; sometimes in Te Maru or outside.

*Last day 27 Nov; restart 12 Feb*



**SOCCER:** Tuesdays 6pm – 7pm at Lynmore School, Iles Rd. *Last day 26 Nov; restart 11 Feb*



**SWIMMING:** Mondays 5.30pm – 6.30pm in the deep indoor pool, Aquatic Centre, Tarewa Rd.

*Last day 25 Nov; restart 10 Feb*



**TEN PIN BOWLING:** Two sessions, 9.30am and 10.15am, Saturdays at Strike Zone, Motion Entertainment, Te Ngae Rd. \$5 per game (subsidised by SOR). *Last day 23 Nov; restart 8 Feb*

**VOLUNTEERS** A reminder that for safety, we need enough volunteers at each training session to



meet a 1 volunteer to 4 athletes ratio and also appreciate the presence of family carers and support staff. New volunteers welcome. *A big thanks to all the volunteers who helped out this year.*

**Trophies and Athlete/Volunteer Forms** – Thankyou to all who have returned trophies.

**If you received a trophy last year and have not yet returned it, please return it as soon as possible.**

All athletes need to be registered and have an up to date medical (usually every 4 years). Volunteers also need to be registered and have police vetting every 3 years. In both cases, if athletes and volunteers are not up to date when we fill in competition entry forms (usually a month in advance) we cannot enter them. **If you have been given the current medical form,** please return it by Prizegiving because there is now a new version and from 2025 only the new version will be accepted. Early next year you will be asked to update your details on Sporty, a new online system introduced by Special Olympics NZ. Thank you.



**End of Year Prizegiving at Lynmore Primary School Hall**

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am – 1.30pm**



*You are invited to our prizegiving which will be followed by a pizza lunch and a disco.*

### Christchurch NSG 10 – 14 Dec 2025 Update

We have selected Jill Allely ph 027 234 5062 as our Head of Delegation and Belinda Herbert as Assistant HOD. We have not made a final decision on the rest of the team but will announce it early next year.

### Lynmore School Gym Renovation Update

Hopefully the currently delayed work on the gym will be completed during the summer holidays.

### Bunnings BBQs –Sundays 10 Nov & 8 Dec

Please support these fundraisers. While the 10<sup>th</sup> November is organised, we still need athletes and volunteers to help out on the 8th December. Contact Kylie 027 430 4084



**30 November Santa Parade at 11am and Amazing Race in the Redwoods** - more information is on page 2 of the online newsletter. We will have a “walking group” of athletes walking in the **Santa Parade** so will need additional volunteers/ support people to walk alongside them. Please contact Stella if you wish to take part. The **Amazing Race** is from 10.30am to about 1.30pm in the Redwoods, run by the Halberg Foundation and Parafed. It should take no more than an hour should you wish to fit in both events.



**Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year**



**Enquiries please contact:** Stella ph. 348 5889 or 027 818 3841 (Sports Coordinator)

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Follow **Special Olympics Rotorua** on Facebook for updates, photos and results.

### INFORMATION FOR SANTA PARADE PARTICIPANTS

- Once the parade has started there is to be no smoking/vaping and please refrain from any bad language/actions whilst in the parade. Keep in mind this is a family event.
  - Ensure children/participants have adequate sun protection, clothing, and water to drink.
  - All children participating in the parade under the age of 15 must always be under the direct supervision of an adult.
    - Prior notice must be given to Parade organisers of animals to be used in the parade. If permission is not granted, then you risk your float being withdrawn from the parade. Animals must be always watered and monitored in the parade. Dogs must always be on a lead.
- Walking groups of children must be supervised by adults (persons 16 years or older) at a ratio of at least 10:1.
  - Children less than 5 years of age must be supervised by adults at a ratio of at least 2:1.
  - Parade participants are solely responsible for all person's safety involved with their float, particularly children from the time of parade arrival at the assembly area, throughout the parade duration and at the parade disassembly.
- Every person in your group acknowledges that in taking part in the parade their photo/s maybe used for promotional purpose without further notice. <https://www.facebook.com/events/885800683117308/>

### AMAZING RACE in the Redwoods Q & As

#### *How does one register and any cost?*

To register, simply visit our Facebook event page where registration will open tonight. There's no cost to participate—just cover your own travel to and from the event. All necessary information will be available on the event page, but feel free to reach out with any additional questions we may not have covered.

Facebook Amazing Race Event Page Link: <https://fb.me/e/2ajv6xpnD>

#### *Do people complete it individually or in groups?*

Participants can choose to complete the course individually or in groups—whichever they prefer! There's no competitive or timed aspect; it's all about going at your own pace and enjoying a fun day out.

#### *What sort of activities do competitors compete? How difficult are they physically and intellectually?*

The activity stations are all facilitated by local organizations and are designed to be simple and engaging for each participant, ensuring that everyone can take part comfortably. Here's a look at some examples from past events:

**Backyard Games:** Last year, participants played games like Connect 4 or Cornhole to earn a stamp at the station.

**Football Skills:** At the football station, the goal was simply to kick the ball into the goal, with the option of adding a fun challenge (like closing their eyes or stepping back) if the participant wanted to make it harder.

**Riddles and Questions:** Riddles were placed along the track, and one station offered trivia questions ranging from "Name a sport that involves being in water" to "Who is the person in this photo?"

Participants chose the questions they felt most comfortable answering.

This year's activities will be similar, tailored to each participant's comfort level. Facilitators can adjust each activity to make sure everyone feels successful, making it as challenging or simple as each participant prefers.

#### *Start time and how long it will take and what time it finishes?*

The event kicks off with arrivals starting anytime from 10:30 am, and it will wrap up around 1:30 pm, including pack-down time.

On the day, you'll have the option to choose from four track distances: 1km, 2km, 2.9km, and 3.6km. All tracks begin and end at the same point. The longest track, 3.6km, generally takes about an hour to complete, though time may vary when stopping along the way for activities.

For Registration and accessibility information please click on and scroll down the Amazing Race event page to Siobhan Terry's fb pages below it. **NB We are not doing a group entry for Special Olympics so please organise your own entries as an individual or perhaps a family group.**