

# 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

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University and Tertiary Sport NZ

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# CHAIR'S MESSAGE

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The Covid19 pandemic in 2020 caused huge disruption and presented unique challenges for University and Tertiary Sport New Zealand's (UTSNZ) staff, members and partners, particularly during lockdown in March and April. The notable outcomes were the demonstrated resilience of UTSNZ, its connection with members to find solutions to enable continued student participation, plus the seizing of this disruption as a catalyst for innovative and positive change.

UTSNZ had a full calendar of events scheduled for 2020 but with the onset of the pandemic UTSNZ's focus turned to safety of staff and stakeholders and the assembly of a business continuity committee. UTSNZ remained highly connected with its membership and as a result delivered a series of events in a year where many University academic and National Sport Organisation (NSO) events were lost. We acknowledge our partner NSO's and hosts for their preparatory work towards the management of the 2020 calendar of Tertiary Championships, we look forward to realising these events in 2021.

During the initial Covid19 lockdown, UTSNZ swiftly created an engaging platform for students to compete in, both domestically and internationally with a series of online challenges. With 1398 students registering, the Lockdown League ensured that students continued to connect through this period of physical isolation. In 2020 a new and diverse Tertiary Challenge category of events was launched, including esports. These events have connected us with new NSO's, partners and students, plus provided an online platform for the future. Our one physical event, the National Tertiary Badminton Championships hosted by Badminton NZ and Counties Manukau Badminton Association was a flagship event with live broadcasts, both nationally on SKY Sport Next and internationally on FISU TV.

At an international level, due to the pandemic, the World University Cups were cancelled. However, New Zealand student athletes participated for the inaugural FISU Esport FIFA Challenge, while Victoria University of Wellington became the first New Zealand university to represent on the world stage in Chess in the online World University Mind Sports Championship. Opportunities such as the FISU Volunteer Leaders Academy and representation on the UTSNZ Student Athlete Commission enabled student development through the workforce development programme.

Overall, approximately 1526 students participated in UTSNZ events in 2020, this is more than was reported in the 2020 Chair's report. This is an unexpected outcome in a pandemic year but a reflection on the connection UTSNZ has with its members and its desire to create positive and innovative change to engage the student community.

From a leadership perspective, UTSNZ ran multiple member forums to provide support through the year. It also assisted through taking a lead co-ordination role in the successful virtual 2020 NZ Tertiary Recreation Conference. Internationally, New Zealand has strengthened their connections with FISU due to the work of the following people: Bruce Meyer, Development of Sport Working Group, Jim Ellis, International Control Committee, Ian Murphy, International Medical Committee, and myself as Vice-President FISU Oceania.

The current Board consists of seven members, two of whom are university student representatives. The Board comprises of a representative from six of the eight Universities and is 43% female. We reluctantly farewelled Garry Carnachan, his extensive experience and the transferable knowledge from School Sport NZ has hugely benefited the development of UTSNZ. We thank Garry for this commitment. Special acknowledgment to Garry and Anne-Marie Parsons, who supported our Executive Director, Sarah Anderson, in developing and implementing Business Continuity Plans throughout 2020. The decision to extend the current UTSNZ Strategic plan for 12 months was based on the impacts of Covid19. The Board is looking forward to utilising the learnings from 2020, to work with their members and partner organisations to develop UTSNZ's strategic plan for 2022-2025.

For UTSNZ to be a sustainable organisation that fulfils the needs of its members, a minimum of two full-time employees is required. In 2020, the Marketing and Event Manager and the Executive Director were employed on a full-time permanent basis. This Board decision places pressure on the need for UTSNZ to seek further income streams. We are fortunate and thank the New Zealand Community Trust for their continued support and investment towards strengthening the sport pathway from secondary to tertiary education via UTSNZ salary support. UTSNZ has enough reserves to support deficits, such as the \$30,134 deficit in 2020, for a short period of time, however we need to ensure we are working towards a financially sustainable future.

In this year of huge disruption, I am delighted to be delivering these positive results. Thanks goes to our Executive Director, Sarah Anderson, and Marketing and Events Manager, Tiwai Wilson, for their resilience and innovation. To our members, your contribution in this period of disruption has been heartfelt and significant and we thank you for enabling students to realise their potential through sport.

**Nicola Clayden**





# OUR PEOPLE

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## Board

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Nicola Clayden (Chairperson)  
Chris Atherton (Treasurer)  
Anne Marie Parsons  
Sarah Cowley Ross  
Bruce Meyer  
Garry Carnachan (resigned Dec 2020)  
Darcy Knox (Student Representative)  
Jacob Mulholland (Student Representative)

## Staff

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Sarah Anderson - Executive Director  
Tiwai Wilson - Marketing and Events Manager



# MEMBERS

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- The University of Auckland
- AUT
- Massey University
- Victoria University of Wellington
- University of Waikato
- University of Canterbury
- Lincoln University
- University of Otago

# AFFILIATIONS

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- International University Sports Federation (FISU)
- Oceania University Sports Association (FISU Oceania/OUASA)





# GOVERNANCE

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In total, there were four USTNZ board meetings held in 2020.

All meetings were held online via video conference.

## Board Meeting Dates

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11 March

20 May

12 August

4 November

# STUDENT ATHLETE COMMISSION

The team providing student voice.



## Student Representatives:

- Rebecca Neil (UoA)
- Brittany Richards (LU)
- Hugh Hawkey (MU)
- Nick Jarrold (AUT)
- Tom Withnall (VuW)
- Maggi Johnson (Otago)
- Jordan Urwin (UoW)
- Jacob Mulholland (UC)

The Student Athlete Commission met regularly throughout 2020, providing invaluable feedback and insight to UTSNZ staff during the COVID19 lockdown period, and in relation to modified events and delivery models.

Representatives were also integral in leading and delivering International Day of University Sport (IDUS) celebrations on their respective campuses.



# TREASURER'S REPORT

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At the start of 2020 we had planned for a full calendar of national and international events. This was cut short in February due to the pandemic and resulted in all international events being cancelled and curtailing the domestic events to only one National Tertiary Championship event. The altered environment proved to be the catalyst for innovation and the Badminton events, Esport Challenge and online sports events are evidence of this.

The pandemic created a particularly difficult financial environment for UTSNZ, and it is with gratitude that we acknowledge the support of our funders, particularly that of the member Universities who have allowed us to keep going in such trying conditions. The overall deficit for the year was \$30,134, down from the surplus of \$66,894 in 2019. Although on the face of it this was a poor result, it compares favourably with the budgeted loss of \$56,355 which allowed for increases in costs and flat revenue. In particular, we continue to support the Marketing and Events Manager role which allows UTSNZ meeting its strategic objectives. This role has been made permanent post balance date. Going forward UTSNZ will need additional funding support to be financially sustainable and support this role. Income was down by \$361,258, dropping to \$211,024, mainly due to the loss of income from World University Events (which were \$314,150 in 2019). Membership levies and domestic event income were also down contributing to this loss of revenue. Conversely costs were much lower, dropping \$264,230 to \$241,148 with lower World University event costs being zero (2019: \$269,091). International travel costs were also zero.

My appreciation goes to Sarah Anderson, the Executive Director, and other Board members for careful management of the finances by throughout the pandemic lockdown and beyond have meant that losses have been limited and financial reserves protected. The overall financial position of UTSNZ is little changed from 2019, with liquid assets – bank accounts and cash – being only \$8,860 less than in 2019. UTSNZ has no loans or other borrowings other than what is owed on the business credit cards and trade payables resulting in a reasonably secure financial position.

**Chris Atherton**

# PARTNERSHIPS & COLLABORATION

Much in our world changed at the onset of COVID-19, and no less so within tertiary education settings and within the sport sector. In 2020 we were faced with a number of new challenges as a result of the pandemic, and some pre-existing challenges were further exposed. Through strong partnerships and collaboration, UTSNZ was however able to move quickly and deliver alternative models of delivery.



Existing partnerships with Basketball NZ, Football NZ, NZ Ultimate, Badminton NZ, Hockey NZ and their communities saw the delivery of a series of Lockdown League online challenge events, and new relationships were forged with Golf NZ and Athletics NZ at the community level.



Thank you to Badminton NZ and Counties Manukau Badminton Association for delivering an exceptional National Tertiary Badminton Championship in Sept - a highlight for the year.



For the NSOs and hosts of cancelled championships, UTSNZ recognises the time and resources invested in planning what would have been great events and for some, record numbers.

The value of international relationships was also highlighted in 2020. Collaboration with FISU, FISU Oceania and Unisport Australia provided the opportunity to retain an element of international rivalry, as well as the opportunity to share and brainstorm issues and challenges specific to university environments and the on-going pandemic.



With many sporting events cancelled throughout all age groups, connections with School Sport NZ were also valuable to share good practice, problem solve as well as consider connections with school leavers after a disrupted final year.



On-going financial support from the New Zealand Community Trust during what was a challenging time for the Gaming Industry was also highly appreciated.



# QUALITY EVENTS



Lockdown League

Tertiary Challenge Series

National Tertiary Championships

University Invitationals

International Events

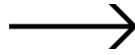


## UTSNZ Lockdown League

The Lockdown League ensured UTSNZ continued to deliver quality events despite the period of physical isolation during the COVID-19 pandemic. The online initiatives delivered through alert level four maintained and leveraged rivalry between institutions and enabled student representation by providing a platform for students to participate. 1398 students registered to be part of the Lockdown League challenge activities and over 430 video entries were received.



**Lockdown League**



**Challenge Series**



**Lockdown League**

A suite of online events and challenges developed for tertiary students and staff during lockdown alert level 4.



**Trans-Tasman Lockdown League**

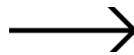
International expansion of the Lockdown League to include a Trans-Tasman component working alongside Unisport Australia.



**Challenge Series**

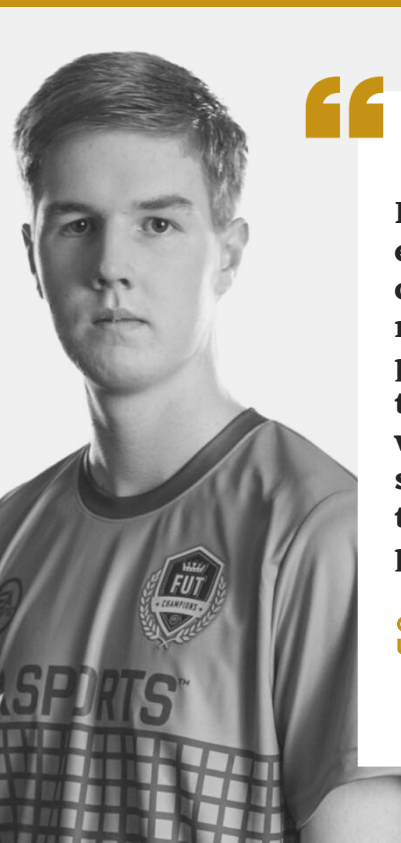
A new, permanent category of events comprising of online and physical events. Will run annually alongside the National Tertiary Championship programme.

**RESPOND**



**ADAPT**

## Exploring different channels



“

**I like competitive environments and constantly challenging myself against other people. The opportunity to combine that with video games was something I never thought would be possible...**

**CAMPBELL KNOWLES**  
UNIVERSITY OF WAIKATO

New and varied platforms of delivery and engagement.

Inaugural Esport Challenge Series launched.

Tertiary Challenge - Esport FIFA20  
Tertiary Challenge - Esport NBA2K





## National Tertiary Championships

Following lockdown, the remaining delivery window of Aug-Sept saw just one National Tertiary Championship delivered in 2020. With 10 National Tertiary Championship events scheduled, this was saddening but it also highlighted the importance of what we do.

Despite the loss of other events, the outstanding hosts of Badminton NZ and Counties Manukau Badminton Association significantly bolstered achievement in relation to the provision of quality events. Delivery of the 2020 National Tertiary Badminton Championship was first-class and in partnership with UTSNZ, Badminton NZ took the profile and promotion of university sport to another level with live broadcast of the event, both nationally on SKY Sport Next and internationally on FISU.TV.

With seven teams participating the two-day championship was eventually won by the University of Auckland, with Massey University runners-Up.

For the first time outside of the National Tertiary Ultimate Championship, UTSNZ implemented the Spirit of the Game award – an award presented to a team who displayed outstanding sportsmanship, support and respect throughout the duration of the tournament as voted by the teams and officials. Winning the award at the 2020 badminton championship was Victoria University of Wellington with each team member receiving a custom Spirit medal and sponsored t-shirt.

UTSNZ would like to congratulate all participants and thank the universities and their staff for their support of the event. We would also like to thank event partners Badminton New Zealand and Counties Manukau Badminton Association for their work in the lead-up to and during the event



## University Invitational Events



1.

### **Massey University Brings Hockey Communities Together**

Teams from Massey University, the University of Waikato and Victoria University of Wellington competed in Hockey 5s at Massey's new turf facility.

#### **Won by:**

University of Waikato (men's)  
Massey University (women's)



2.

### **Southern Universities Basketball Challenge Shield**

Lincoln University, the University of Otago and the University of Canterbury teams battled it out in Christchurch for the South Island Basketball Challenge Shield.

#### **Won by:**

Lincoln University (men's and women's)



3.

### **Tertiary Futsal returns for the University of Auckland Tri-Series**

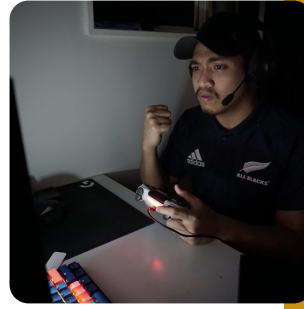
Northern futsal rivalries between the University of Auckland, AUT and the University of Waikato were reignited at the University of Auckland's tri-series tournament.

#### **Won by:**

University of Waikato (men's)  
AUT (women's)

## International Events

### FISU Esport Football Challenge



In order to qualify for the FISU World Esport Challenge event , New Zealand universities were invited to participate in the Oceania Qualifier which took place on the 27th and 28th of June.

Entries were received from AUT, The University of Auckland, University of Waikato and University of Canterbury. Pool play saw both Mohammad Firdaus Shairi from the University of Canterbury and Campbell Knowles from the University of Waikato go through undefeated to reach the finals stage.

Ultimately, it was Mohammad Firdaus Shiari, from UC who finished top for New Zealand to secure his place on the world esports stage.

*"It felt awesome and amazing at the same time. It really is a huge competition for a small player like me. I never thought that I would represent New Zealand in Esports."  
Mat Shairi,  
University of  
Canterbury.*

### FISU University World Cup- Mind Sports

Victoria University of Wellington became the first university to represent New Zealand on the world stage in Chess, playing in the 2020 FISU Virtual World University Mind Sports Championship.

Competing against 78 teams with representatives across all continents, the VuW team finished 70th (out of 78 teams), with a win over Saudi Arabia and draws against another Saudi Arabian team, as well as Argentina.





# PROFILE AND PROMOTION



## Celebrating the value of sport

UTSNZ, along with FISU and FISU Oceania, invited students, universities, sport organisations and other supporters to join the global IDUS initiative by organising events, or taking part in them, be it virtually or live.

- Over 1000 students involved in physical on-campus activities.
- Social media campaign reach over 50,000.



## National Tertiary Championships

Live on

skySPORT

**NEXT**



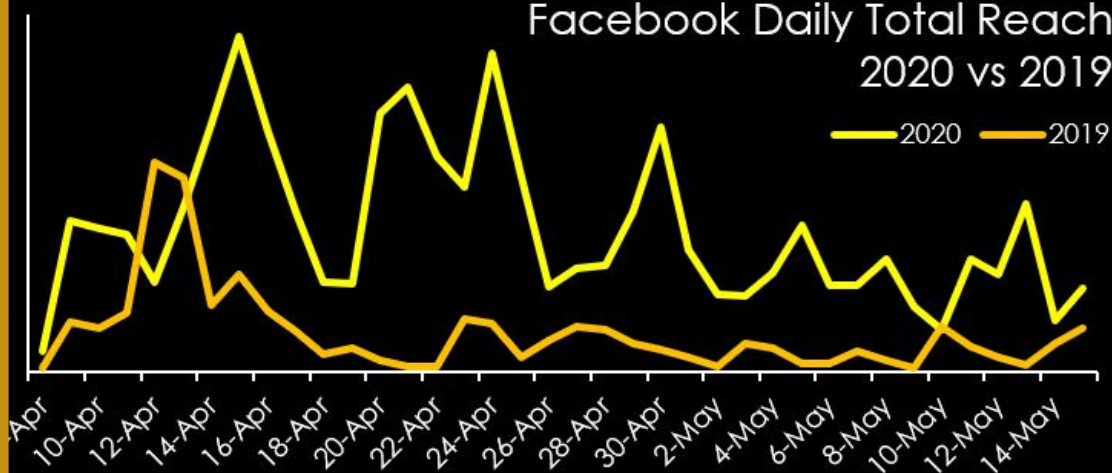
## Creating a bigger presence

- 6464 live stream views in total
- 2127 views of the championship final

## Creating an online presence

- During Alert Level 4, Facebook reach for Lockdown League peaked close to 6000

## Facebook Daily Total Reach 2020 vs 2019





## Student Satisfaction

# 88.5%

of students who participated in the National Tertiary Badminton Championship (39.6% of whom were first year students) rated their satisfaction level as extremely or very satisfied.

## Student Experience

### FISU Volunteer Leaders Academy

#### International Representation and Experience

"Being able to represent my country in a global environment was an amazing experience."

#### Acquisition of Knowledge

"I cannot wait to build on the knowledge gained around aspects of leadership and sports participation, and how this can positively impact society."

#### Personal Development

"I was able to learn, grow and make worldwide connections".



**Jacob James Mulholland**

New Zealand

**STUDENT AMBASSADOR**



## Student wellbeing

"It was awesome to have a variety of sports challenges to help keep students, athletes and staff busy during the lockdown. Creativity and a bit of friendly competition between each of the universities was really cool to be part of!"

**Ben Bowie, Lincoln University**

"At home we had really bad Wi-Fi, so I was a bit stressed out with all my university work and how I was going to get that done. So to have a new sport challenge every week was really helpful."

**Shannon Trebes, University of Waikato**

# FINANCIALS

## University and Tertiary Sport New Zealand Incorporated Statement of Financial Performance For the year ended 31 December 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>Revenue</b>			
Membership levies and events	1	183,962	217,262
Grants and donations		21,739	34,500
World University Events revenue recovered		-	314,150
Interest received		12	18
Other revenue		5,311	6,352
<b>Total revenue</b>		<b>211,024</b>	<b>572,282</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Costs relating to membership and events	2	36,733	38,585
Employee related expenses	2	193,802	185,075
Other expenses	2	10,623	12,637
World University Events expense recovery		-	269,091
<b>Total expenses</b>		<b>241,158</b>	<b>505,388</b>
Surplus for the year before tax		<b>(30,134)</b>	<b>66,894</b>
Income tax expense	6	-	-
<b>(Deficit)/Surplus for the year</b>		<b>(30,134)</b>	<b>66,894</b>

Note: The Statement of Financial Performance should be read in conjunction with the notes to, and form part of, the Performance Report. Please contact UTSNZ if you wish to view the Performance Report in its entirety.

University and Tertiary Sport New Zealand (UTSNZ) financial performance report and final accounts presented as per Full Financial Audit completed BakerTilly Staples Rodway 2020.



# FINANCIALS

## University and Tertiary Sport New Zealand Incorporated Statement of Financial Position For the year ended 31 December 2020

Assets	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>Current assets</b>			
Bank accounts and cash	3	185,196	193,078
Debtors and prepayments	3	-	978
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>185,196</b>	<b>194,056</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	4	396	792
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<b>396</b>	<b>792</b>
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>185,592</b>	<b>194,848</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Trade creditors and other payables	3	85,545	64,918
Accruals	3	4,900	4,650
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>90,445</b>	<b>69,568</b>
<b>Total assets less total liabilities (net assets)</b>		<b>95,147</b>	<b>125,280</b>
<b>Accumulated funds</b>			
Accumulated surpluses	5	95,147	125,280
<b>Total accumulated funds</b>		<b>95,147</b>	<b>125,280</b>

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