



UNIVERSITY & TERTIARY SPORT
NEW ZEALAND

UTSNZ Board Vacancy – Student Board Representative (High Performance Focus)

Represent the student-athlete voice. Contribute to national sport governance. Help shape the future of tertiary sport in Aotearoa.

University and Tertiary Sport New Zealand (UTSNZ) is inviting applications for a Student Board Representative to join its Board as it enters an important phase of strategic development and alignment with national sport priorities.

This opportunity is ideally suited to a currently enrolled tertiary student with a background in high performance sport, who is passionate about student wellbeing, athlete advocacy, and the future of tertiary sport pathways.

About UTSNZ

UTSNZ is the national body for tertiary sport in New Zealand. Established in 2015, UTSNZ exists to enhance university and tertiary student wellbeing through sport, ensuring sporting opportunities are relevant, meaningful, and aligned with both student and sector needs.

UTSNZ works closely with tertiary institutions, sporting organisations, and Sport NZ to support participation, performance pathways, and the student-athlete experience at both domestic and international levels.

Why This Role Matters

Following the conclusion of the current Student Board Representative's term, UTSNZ has identified a strategic opportunity to strengthen performance and athlete pathway representation at the governance table.

Recent stakeholder engagement and strategy development work have highlighted:

- The importance of raising the profile of UTSNZ and its athletes
- The need for stronger representation of performance and international pathways
- Alignment with Sport NZ's focus on athlete voice, visibility, and progression through high-performance systems

As a result, UTSNZ is particularly seeking a high-performing student-athlete who can authentically represent the lived experience of tertiary athletes and contribute meaningfully to governance discussions.

The Role

As the Student Board Representative, you will be a full and equal member of the UTSNZ Board, with responsibilities including:

- Contributing to the strategic direction and priorities of UTSNZ
 - Ensuring the student-athlete voice is embedded in governance decisions
 - Supporting oversight of organisational performance, risk, and policy
 - Providing insight into high performance, pathway, and international student-athlete experiences
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Who We're Looking For

We are seeking a student who:

- Is currently enrolled at a New Zealand tertiary institution
 - Has strong experience in high performance sport (e.g. national representation, World University Games, performance pathway involvement)
 - Has leadership capability and the confidence to contribute at a governance level
 - Can think strategically while also representing the perspectives of tertiary students
 - Communicates effectively and can provide independent, well-considered views
 - Is passionate about advancing tertiary sport, student wellbeing, and athlete advocacy
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Time Commitment & Tenure

- Up to four Board meetings per year
 - Three online meetings (approximately 2 hours each)
 - One in-person meeting annually (travel expenses reimbursed)
 - Appointment of up to three years, contingent on continued tertiary enrolment (The term concludes six months after completion or withdrawal from study)
 - This is an unpaid governance role
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What You'll Gain

- Experience at a national governance level
 - Exposure to strategic decision-making in the sport and tertiary sectors
 - The opportunity to influence the future direction of tertiary sport in New Zealand
 - Professional development, leadership growth, and sector connections
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How to Apply

If you are interested, please submit:

- A CV
- A cover letter outlining your sporting background, leadership experience, and interest in the role

Send applications to info@utsnz.co.nz

Applications close: 5.00pm, Fri 20th March, 2026