

# WCR Youth Academy

- Talent Development Program (TDP)
- 2025 Program

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MEANS  
MORE  
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# Agenda

- Introductions
- Player Pathways @ West Coast Rangers and beyond
- What is the Talent Development Program?
- TDP Objectives
- Academy in 2025 @ West Coast Rangers



# Introductions

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- Andy Dunn

- Director of Football - West Coast Rangers
- OFC A License – In Progress
- OFC B License
- New Zealand Football Advanced Pathway Coach Educator
- New Zealand Football Community Coach Educator
- Canada Soccer Association B National License
- Bachelor of Arts – University British Columbia, Canada



# Introductions

- Bailey Gaughan
- Academy Director - West Coast Rangers
- OFC B License – In Progress
- New Zealand Football Community Coach Educator
- West Coast Rangers 1st Team Player
- NZF U20 All Whites



# West Coast Rangers Club Values

- Our Vision Statement:
- ***"We strive to be the club Auckland's best football players want to play for, providing a pathway in the West all the way from Whole of Football to the All Whites and Football Ferns. Creating and nurturing a sense of community & belonging, we provide the opportunities to enable everyone to be the best they can be."***
- Our Mission Statement:
- ***"Invest in our players and strive to help everyone improve every day. Welcome and encourage new members and always seek to create new opportunities to connect - with our community and beyond. To be professional in all we do; operate with honesty and integrity."***

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# West Coast Rangers Player Development Pathway 2025

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- Whole of Football
  - Little Guardians
    - U7 / U8
- Junior Community
  - Skill Centre
    - U9 – U12
- Junior Academy +
  - 4 Term Program
- Junior Academy
- Youth Academy
  - TDP
    - U13 / U14 / U15 / U17
- Youth Community
  - U13 - U19
- U23 Men's / Womens Reserves
- 1st Team Men's / 1st Team Women's



# NZ Football Player Development Pathway

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- NRFL Premier League
  - Primary form of identification to National level programming
- NZ Football Regional Training Centre
- U15 / U17 / U20 Training Camps
- ALL Whites
- Auckland FC
- Wellington Phoenix



# Auckland FC – Partner Club

- Youth Development Centre
  - Top Identified players attend sessions and games during season
- Shared Resources
  - Auckland FC curriculum
- Coach Development Opportunities
  - Education Seminars





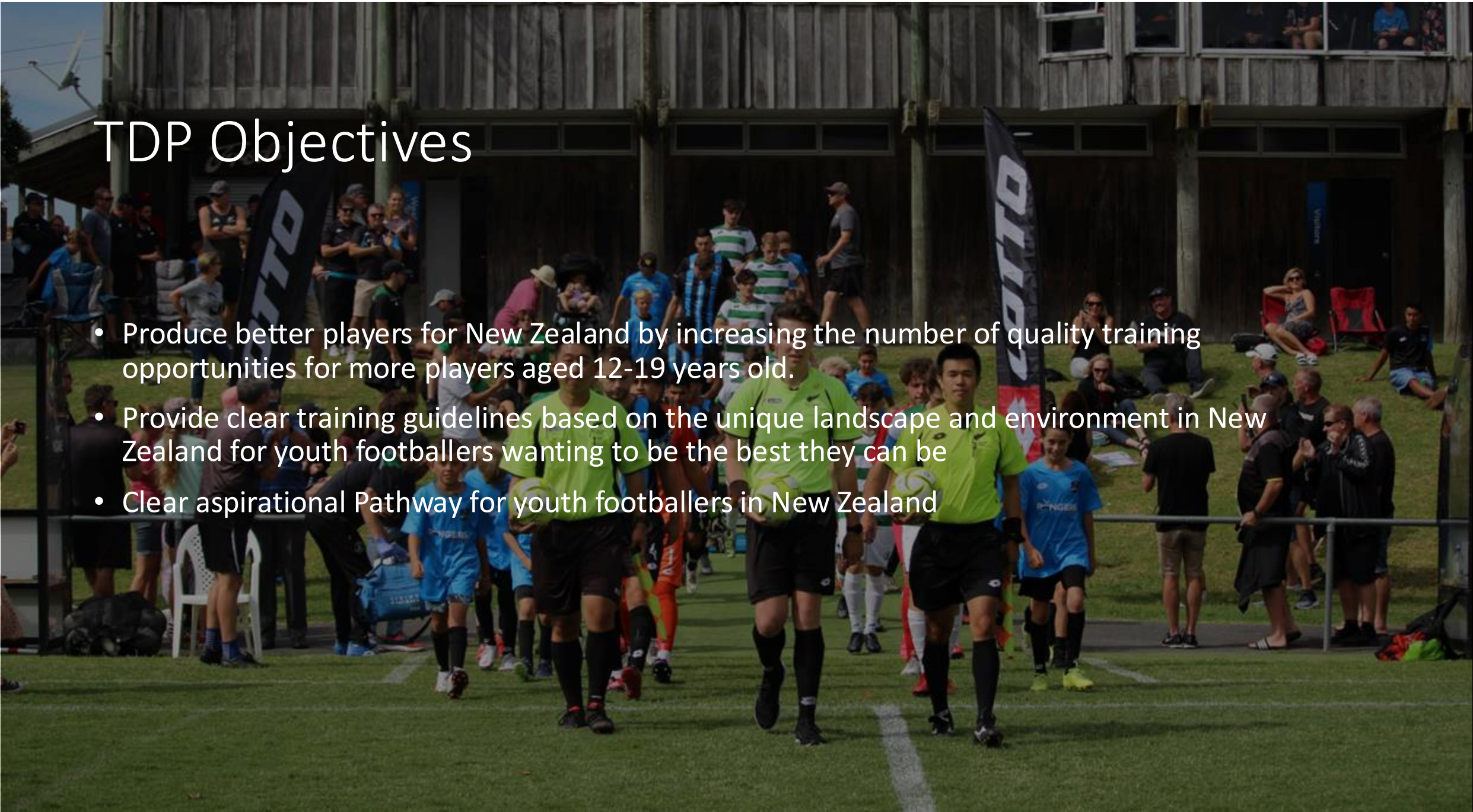


# What is TDP?

- The New Zealand Football Talent Development Programme provides an aligned, coordinated approach to the development of high potential youth footballers, aged 12-19 years.
- The programme outlines the standards that clubs must meet as a part of gaining a New Zealand Football Regional Youth League Club License.

# TDP Objectives

- Produce better players for New Zealand by increasing the number of quality training opportunities for more players aged 12-19 years old.
- Provide clear training guidelines based on the unique landscape and environment in New Zealand for youth footballers wanting to be the best they can be
- Clear aspirational Pathway for youth footballers in New Zealand



# What is Talent?

- Talent is having the ability and/or attitude capable of reaching a higher level of performance within a sporting context.
- Our belief is that this is something achieved through effort, commitment, and guidance.



- TDP Objectives –  
How do we  
develop Talent?

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- Minimum Coaching Standards
  - B License Director of Football
  - C License Head Coach
  - Youth Level 2 Assistant Coach
  - GK C License Coach





- TDP Objectives  
– How do we develop Talent?

- 5 Year development plan
  - Individual focus rather than team / result focus
    - U13 / U14 Learn to Train
    - U15 Learn to Compete
    - U17 Learn to Win
- Planned and Periodized Schedule
  - 28 week program
  - 22 league games
  - Themed sessions



- TDP Objectives –  
How do we develop Talent?
- Appropriate Training Volume
  - 2-3x weeks
  - 1 hour / 1.5 hours per session
  - Strength + Conditioning 1x week
    - Optional Session
    - Technical Skill / S+Q

# • TDP Objectives – How do we develop Talent?

- NRFL Premier League Competition
  - Highest level of youth competition in Auckland
  - Exposure to New Zealand Football and clear progression to NZF Youth National teams
  - 22 League Games
    - 1st Phase - Round Robin 15 Games
    - 2nd Phase NRFL Prem / NRFL Champ
      - League split based on Club Ranking Model






# • TDP Objectives – How do we develop Talent?

- Player 1st approach to development
  - 4 Corner Model
  - Dealing with Difference
  - Relative Age Effect
- Home Grown Rule
  - 65% must be home grown
  - 2 consecutive years at the club





Physical



Mental



Social/Emotional



Technical/Tactical

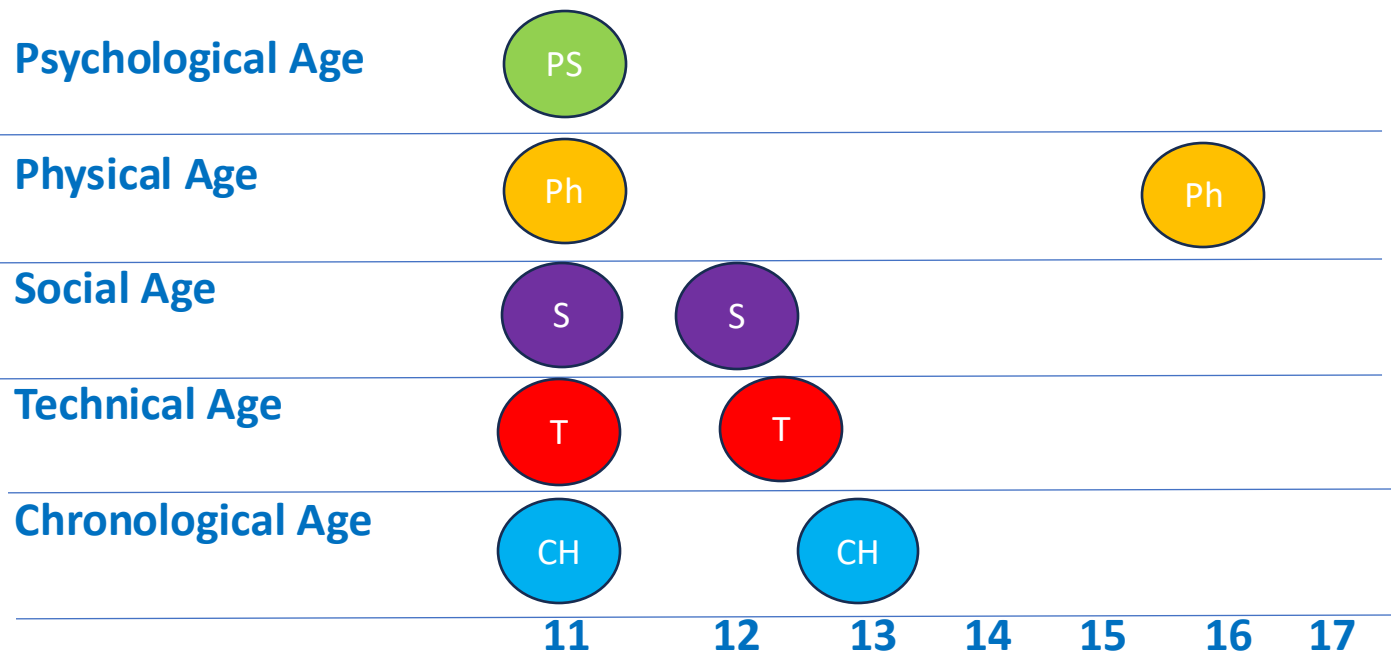
# 4 Corner Model

- Physical
  - Strength and Conditioning
  - Balance / Co-ordination
  - Acceleration / Deceleration
- Mental
  - Discipline
  - Sport Psychology
  - Attitude / Habits
- Social / Emotional
  - Confidence
  - Friendship
  - Ability to compete
  - Ability to deal with set-backs
- Technical / Tactical
  - Technical Skills
  - Game Understanding
  - Decision Making

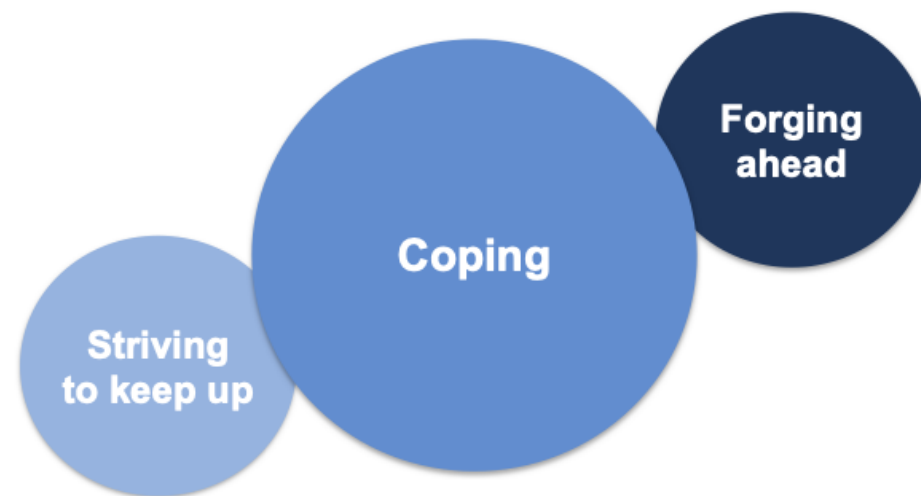
# Dealing with Difference

- Players develop at different rates in all aspects of the 4-corner model
- Staff to assess / determine where each player is on their football journey
- Find the appropriate challenge point for each player

## Dealing With Difference



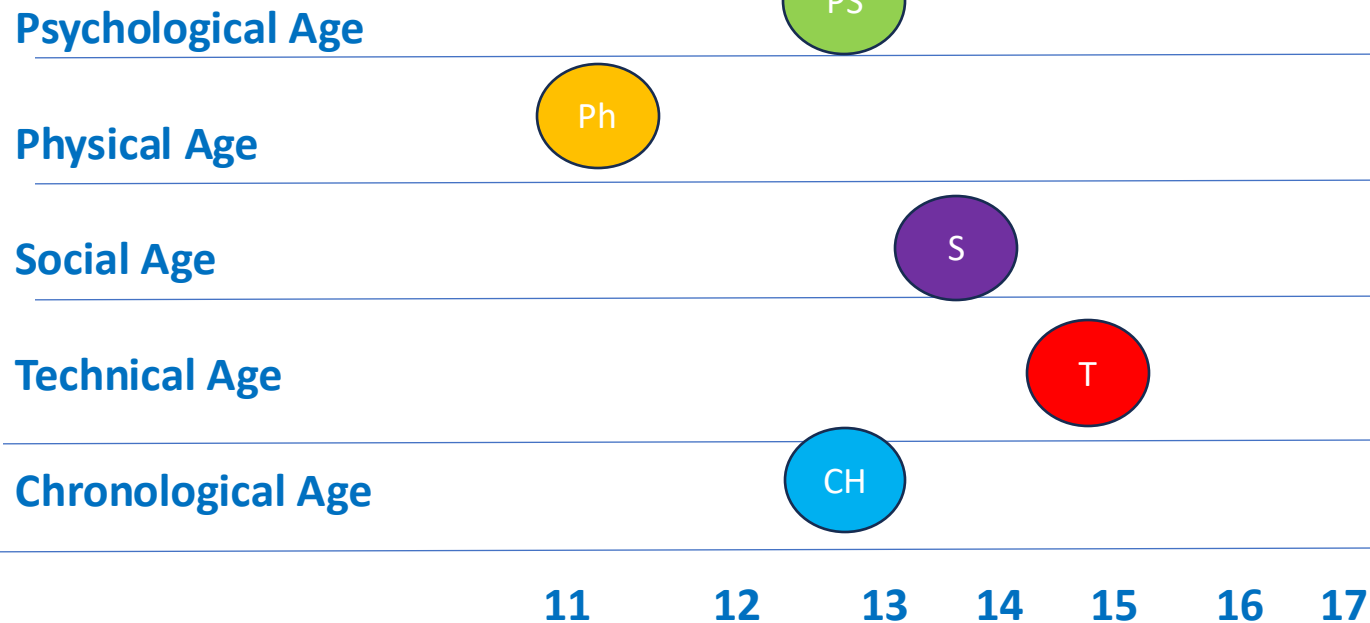
## Dealing with Difference



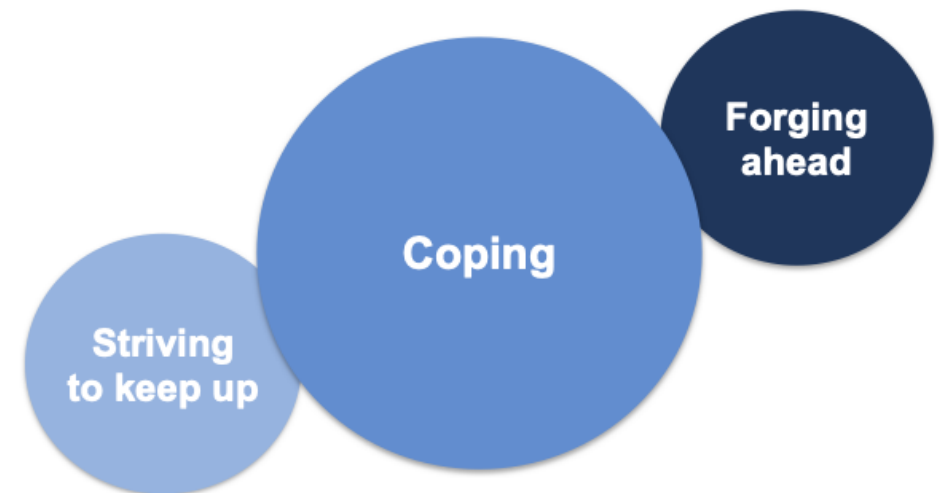
# Dealing with Difference

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## Dealing With Difference



## Dealing with Difference





# West Coast Rangers TDP – Additions 2025

- Sport Psych / Nutrition Seminars / Video Analysis
  - Periodic sessions throughout the season
- Fuel Vouchers for Long Travel Days
- Tracksuit Top and Pants
- Junior / Youth coaching courses
  - Facilitated during the year

**#STRONGERTOGETHER**



# West Coast Rangers TDP – Additions

- Video analysis
  - Veo @ all games
  - 14/ 15/ 17s
  - Classroom sessions to review
- Optional Strength and Conditioning + Position Specific Training Session

Cost for TDP 2025  
\$1450 plus Registration Fee

Cost for Championship /  
Conference teams 2025  
\$675 plus Registration Fee

# Identification Window + League Start Date

- **February 11th – February 20th Identification Window**
  - **Tuesday Thursdays Fred Taylor 5:00pm – 6:15pm**
- **Sunday March 23rd NRFL Premier League Starts**
  - **League Schedule TBC**



# West Coast Rangers – Youth Focused Club

- *West Coast Rangers has a genuine focus and desire to provide the best football environment and opportunities for our youth players*
- *Notable Highlights:*
- Men's U23s
  - Charlie Farac (16 years old)  
Signed with Wellington Phoenix Academy
- Men's 1st Team
  - Alec Death (17 years old) scored first 1st Team goal vs Auckland City in 2024





# West Coast Rangers – Youth Focused Club

## *Beyond West Coast Rangers*

- Fusion FC
  - Partner club in Vancouver, Canada
  - Tournament Opportunities
  - Travel Opportunities
  - University Connections in Canada
  - Direct Link to Vancouver Whitecaps – MLS and Vancouver FC – Canadian Premier League



# West Coast Rangers – Youth Focused Club *Beyond West Coast Rangers*

- Strive Management
  - Official partner with West Coast Rangers
  - Agency to connect players to universities in United States
  - Information evening early 2025

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# PARTNERSHIP

# Community Impact

- Junior and Youth Coaching
  - Little Guardians
  - Holiday Program
  - Junior community teams
- Community Referee Courses
- Parent involvement an expectation
  - Game Day Set Up
  - Fundraising!
  - Overall Club Support



# Club Partners – Northland FC

- Player Development Opportunities
- Staff Education
- Shared Resources
- International Travel



# Club Partners – Northland FC

- 2025 Plans
  - Australia – October School Holidays
    - U14 Boys
  - Christchurch – July School Holidays
    - U15 Boys
  - Club Run Game Days
    - U17 / U19 Tournament Friendlies



# Review – TDP 2025

- ACCELERATED PERFORMANCE & SUSTAINED SUCCESS
- Individual NOT team-based model
- Five year development cycle, not based on results in a single year
  - Long term player development
- Development focused not results driven
  - Process
    - Flexibility to move up and down grades for individual development purposes.
    - This will be taking place in 2025

if you have any questions, please contact

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