



MĀORI AND CRICKET

Growing engagement with Māori

Timatanga

Introduction

NZC are on a journey to better connect with Māori that will contribute towards creating an exciting, open and accessible environment to grow the Māori participation base as part of the overall NZC strategy.

**He kēmu mō Aotearoa; He
kēmu mataora**

**A game for all New Zealanders;
A game for life**

Cricket is a forward-thinking, innovative global game that is always evolving to bring people together. Cricket has been an integral part of Aotearoa, helping define our inclusive, competitive yet laid-back Kiwi spirit, from the big stage to the backyard.

Ko te māpihi maurea

Objective

Create opportunities to grow participation that is inclusive, fun and relevant for Māori today and tomorrow

Te hītori kirikiti Māori

History of Māori cricket

Māori have played cricket in New Zealand since the early 19th Century – as early as 1832, when missionary Henry Williams wrote about a game in Paihia in the Bay of Islands.

In 1835, famous naturalist Charles Darwin watched Māori cricket in Northland, on his visit to New Zealand. There were formal Māori cricket clubs as early as the 1880s, and sepia-toned first XI photographs show that Māori in colleges like Hawke's Bay's Te Aute College had cricket teams around the same time.

Higher profile Māori players included John 'Jack' Taiaroa, who represented Hawke's Bay as a batsman through the 1890s; and John Hopere Wharewiti Uru, who played for Canterbury as a fast bowler in the 1890s. When New Zealand's national women's team played its first international match in 1935, it also included New Zealand's first Māori Test players – the late Agnes Eil (whose brother, Jack Eil, played first-class cricket for Wellington between 1933 and 1946); and Hilda Buck, of Ngati Mutunga descent. Other notable Māori players to represent New Zealand include Shane Bond, Trent Boult, Adam Parore, Maia Lewis, Rebecca Rolls, Lea Tahuhu and Suzie Bates.

(Tourism New Zealand: It's a little known story for the most part but - along with rugby - Maori players have played an influential role in New Zealand cricket. Retrieved 25/10/2019).



Ko te whakapumau tūhononga mō te kemu krikiti me te iwi Māori

Establishing a connection between Māori and cricket

TANGATA WHENUA

Acknowledgement
of the unique place
Māori have as
tangata whenua of
Aotearoa

CONNECTION

Connection and
re-connection
between players
and their
whakapapa / iwi

CULTURE

Embracement of
culture and te reo
that increases
understanding
and awareness

PARTICIPATION

Create participation
opportunities to grow
cricket as a sport for
Māori

A mātou wawata

Our aspiration

AWARENESS LESSONS AND RESOURCES

School awareness lessons delivered in te reo Māori that aim to promote the language and cricket participation opportunities. Creation of cricket delivery resources in te reo.

PLAYING OPPORTUNITIES

Develop Māori national age-group tournaments (boys and girls) with a focus on developing participation pathways.

NZ MĀORI SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Playing opportunities for national secondary school teams that has a strong emphasis on quality experiences, connection to culture and te reo.

NZ MĀORI U19 & NZ MAORI SENIOR TEAMS

Annual / biennial matches for NZ Māori U19 (male or female) and NZ Māori Senior teams (male and female). Participation in ICC EAP Developing nations tournaments.

A mātou wawata

Our aspiration

OFF-FIELD OPPORTUNITIES

Develop and grow Māori governance, coaches and administrators in cricket.

CHANGING PERCEPTIONS

There is an underlying perception that cricket is a game for Pakeha. Our aim is to change this perception to be more inclusive, open and accessible for Māori.

STORYTELLING

Engage with Māori and our wider audiences to tell our stories and our work in this space.

CONNECTION

Organisational connectedness to Maoridom and iwi.



NZ MĀORI SECONDARY SCHOOLBOYS

In 2019, the first ever NZ Māori Schoolboys team was selected to play a match against a Governor Generals X in Wellington. The team spent a week at Tapu Te Ranga marae engaged in tikanga and team-building activities. For many members of the team, this was their first connection with their Māori culture.

2020 will see a second Māori schoolboys team selected to play a match against a Governor Generals XI. A key feature for the team will be to build on the momentum and interest generated in 2019 but also deepen their cultural understanding and cultural connection.



A young man, Trent Boult, is shown from the chest up, wearing a dark blue New Zealand cricket jersey. He has his arms raised in a celebratory gesture, with his mouth wide open as if shouting or cheering. The jersey features the Ford logo on the left chest and the ANZ logo on the right chest. The background is a solid, vibrant red color.

“It was an honour to present the caps to the boys last season and it’s great to see a girl’s team will be formed also. I’m very proud of my Māori heritage and hope to see this initiative continue for years to come” – Trent Boult (Ngāti Porou)

NZ MĀORI SECONDARY SCHOOLGIRLS

Much like the schoolboy's team in 2019, the first ever NZ Māori Schoolgirls team will be selected in 2020 to play a T20 match against a Governor Generals XI in Wellington.

The team will spend a week together at Pūtea marae alongside the boy's team engaged in tikanga Māori activities throughout the week.

The team will be coached by former captain of the WHITE FERNS Maia Lewis (Ngati Whatua/ Ngati Maniapoto).



NZ MĀORI UNDER 19 MEN



In March 2020, NZC will assemble the first ever Māori Under 19 team to tour Australia. The team will play three 50-over matches against an Indigenous Australian U19 in Sydney. The tour is about creating playing opportunities for Māori but also connecting with Indigenous Cricket in Australia and further profiling cricket as a sport for Māori. Much like the secondary school's initiative, the tour will be underpinned by cultural connection and tikanga Māori.

In the recent NZ v Bangladesh U19 series, six members of the NZ squad were of Maori heritage.



NEW ZEALAND
MAORI SCHOOLS