

**BLUES²⁰
AWARDS²⁵**



**2025 BLUES
AWARD WINNERS
SPORTS**

Adithya Ashok

Faculty of Science

Adithya delivered a match-winning performance for NZ-A cricket against Bangladesh-A in May 2025, claiming five wickets in one inning and earning Man of the Match. Following a 10-month recovery from back surgery, his return to form secured a maiden New Zealand Cricket central contract and Blackcaps selection, signalling a bright future in international cricket.

Alexander Revell-Lewis

Faculty of Engineering and Design

Alexander excels in the athletics 400 meters, having been selected to represent New Zealand at the FISU World Sport University Games in Germany earlier this July. Alexander is also a record holder, placing 1st at the HVC Thrower and Rare air competition where he set a new national record.

Anika Allis Tauwhare

Business School, Faculty of Law

Anika represented New Zealand at the ICC U19 Women's T20 World Cup and plays domestically for the Auckland Hearts. Competing against world-class opposition at youth international level, she continues to develop her game, contributing to Auckland's programme and strengthening New Zealand's pathway in women's cricket.

Arie Rasmussen Magasiva

Business School

Arie represented New Zealand in the men's single sculls at the 2025 World University Games, finishing 4th in the B Final and 10th overall. A member of Rowing New Zealand's High Performance Pathway, Arie continues to demonstrate strong international promise and leadership as he advances in elite rowing.

Ashtuti Kumar

Faculty of Engineering and Design

Ashtuti has been a standout performer for the Central Districts Women's Cricket Team, showcasing exceptional batting and fielding skills. Her consistent leadership and match-winning contributions have driven the team to multiple victories.

Ava Hope Maddison

Faculty of Science

Ava has proudly represented New Zealand in cycling at both national and international levels, including the Junior World Championships and Tour de Feminin, with podium finishes in U23 national events and consistent top performances abroad.

Bee Townsend

Faculty of Engineering and Design

Bee earned a bronze medal in the Elite Women's Team Pursuit at the 2025 Oceania Track Cycling Championships, representing New Zealand with distinction. Her strong international performance and selection for the national team highlight her growth and impact as a rising talent in New Zealand track cycling.

Benjamin Daniel McLean

Faculty of Science

Benjamin represented New Zealand at the 2025 Rhine-Ruhr University Games in the Recurve Male Division of Target Archery. He secured 2nd in the mixed team event at the Australian National Championships and claimed his third consecutive national title, affirming his consistency and leadership in elite-level archery competition.

Breana Catley

Business School

Breana played for the Black Sticks Women, winning the New Zealand versus USA Series. She was named reserve for the Nations Cup and later represented New Zealand A at China's Two Lakes Innovation Cup, finishing fifth. Domestically, she helped the Tridents to second in the 2024 Premier Hockey League.

Breearne Illing

Faculty of Science

Breearne made her Silver Ferns debut in both WODI and WT20I formats against Sri Lanka in March 2025. She toured England with NZ-A midyear and earned her maiden NZC central contract in June. Breearne's rapid rise reflects her talent, consistency and growing impact in international women's cricket.

Calder Bain

Faculty of Science

Calder represented New Zealand at the FIS Alpine Skiing competition at Cardrona, placing 13th in Men's Slalom and 16th in Men's Giant Slalom. Competing against top regional athletes, Calder's strong results reflect his technical skill, determination and growing presence in the national alpine skiing scene.

Campbell Stanton

Faculty of Engineering and Design

Campbell placed 5th at the 2025 NZ 29er National Championships in Whangaparaoa and 25th at the European Championships La Grande Motte Regatta in France. His strong performances at both national and international sailing events highlight his skill, commitment and rising presence in competitive youth sailing.

Cate Pedersen

Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences

Cate made her mark in domestic cricket with a standout season, debuting in the Hallyburton-Johnstone Shield and earning her first Auckland Hearts contract for 2024/25. Her career-best List A score of 43 highlights her rapid rise and growing impact as a talented batter in New Zealand women's cricket.

Catherine Hall

Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences

Catherine played a pivotal role in leading the Mystics to the ANZ Premiership Grand Final, showcasing elite defensive skill, consistency and leadership. Her game-changing performances earned widespread praise and solidified her reputation as a standout athlete in New Zealand netball's top competition.

Chantelle May

Faculty of Arts and Education

Chantelle represented New Zealand in fencing at the 2025 Asian Championships, FISU World University Games and Senior World Championships. Her national title and top international finishes reflect her dedication, technical skill and rising prominence in elite foil competition.

Chris Benzie

Faculty of Engineering and Design

Chris represented New Zealand at the 2025 Oceania Badminton Championships, earning a silver medal in the mixed team event. He reached the fourth round in Men's Singles and the quarter-finals in Men's Doubles, showcasing his versatility and competitive edge on the international badminton stage.

Dominique Stephens

Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences

Dominique represented New Zealand at the FIBA 3x3 Asia Cup in Singapore, finishing 10th against top international teams. Her selection and performance on the elite stage highlight her skill, resilience and growing impact in 3x3 basketball, making her a standout athlete in the sport.

Eesha Vaani Ranchhod

Business School, Faculty of Law

Eesha represented New Zealand at the Oceania Karate Championships in New Caledonia, earning a bronze medal in the U21 Female Kata division. She also medalled at the APSKF Championships and claimed gold and silver at the 2024 Nationals in September, showcasing her excellence and consistency in elite karate competition.

Elena Rebecca Brunt

Faculty of Science

Elena represented New Zealand at the ICU World Cheerleading Championship in Orlando, Florida, earning first place with Team New Zealand JIWIS in the Advanced Junior Coed division. Competing against top international teams, Elena's performance showcased her athleticism, teamwork and excellence on the global cheerleading stage.

Elizabeth Buchanan

Business School, Faculty of Law

Elizabeth represented New Zealand at the U19 Women's Cricket World Cup in Malaysia, reaching the Super Six stage. As vice-captain of the NZ Development team, she led in a tri-series against Australia and Sri Lanka. Elizabeth has a rising cricket career, proven by her contract with Auckland Hearts, Auckland's premier women's cricket team.

Elizabeth Gault

Faculty of Law

Elizabeth made history at the 2025 World Aquatics Championships, representing New Zealand's inaugural Women's White Caps team in elite water polo. A Prime Minister's Scholarship recipient, she helped secure a top-10 global finish, exemplifying leadership and excellence as she continues to shape Aotearoa's presence on the international stage.

Ella Arnold

Faculty of Engineering and Design

Ella won 1st overall in the 2025 SSANZ Northern Triangle, completing her first women world championship and placed 3rd at the Australian Women's Match Racing Nationals. With over a decade of sailing experience, Ella excels across inshore and offshore disciplines, balancing elite competition with engineering studies and showcasing her versatility and commitment to the sport.

Ella Grace James

Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences

Ella was selected for the Futsal Ferns squad that won the inaugural OFC Futsal Women's Nations Cup in Honiara, securing Oceania's sole qualification spot for the 2025 FIFA Women's Futsal World Cup. Her contribution marks a significant milestone in New Zealand futsal history.

Elsie Lins

Faculty of Arts and Education

Elsie made her international debut representing New Zealand in Women's Épée, one of three fencing disciplines, at the 2025 World University Games in Germany. As team anchor, she led decisive bouts against top-ranked nations, including a victory over Australia. Her poised entry into elite fencing reflects strong potential and composure under pressure on the global stage.

Emilie Gordon

Faculty of Science

Emilie represented New Zealand at the 2025 Oceania Junior World Cup Qualifiers, competing in a three-match series against Australia. Her selection reflects strong development in junior hockey and signals promising potential ahead of the Junior World Cup in Chile this December.

Finn Murphy

Faculty of Science

Finn achieved 1st place in the B Final and ranked 10th overall at the ICF Paracanoe World Cup in Poznan, Poland. Competing internationally just two years after a life-changing injury, Finn's rapid rise in paracanoe highlights his exceptional drive and talent. He now sets his sights on the World Champs in Milan.

Flynn Howarth

Faculty of Engineering and Design

Flynn represented New Zealand in water polo at both the Oceania Challenge and the 2025 World University Games. Competing against top-tier international teams, Flynn played a pivotal role in rebuilding national team systems. His commitment reflects a strong personal drive to elevate water polo's standard and future in Aotearoa.

Frazer Tavener

Faculty of Engineering and Design

Frazer won gold in both the 3m Springboard and 3m Synchronised events at the Malaysia Open Diving Championships in November 2024. He followed this with gold and bronze medals at the Southern Cross Diving Series in Auckland. His consistent podium finishes reflect elite skill and competitive focus.

George Lee Rush

Faculty of Science

George won gold in the 49er class at the 2025 European Championships in Greece, representing New Zealand alongside his teammate. The victory is a defining result in his international campaign and a major milestone for New Zealand sailing on the Olympic skiff circuit.

Grace Nweke

Business School

Grace plays for the NSW Swifts in Australia's Suncorp Super Netball league, helping the team reach the semi-finals in 2025. Her impact at the elite level highlights her strength as a goal shooter and her continued rise in professional netball.

Grant Clancy

Business School

Grant represented New Zealand at the 2025 ICF Canoe Sprint World Cup in Szeged, Hungary, finishing 2nd in his K2 final. He also claimed 1st place in the Open Men Double Ski at the NZ Surf Lifesaving Championships. His dual success highlights impressive versatility and competitive strength.

Hamish McLaren

Faculty of Engineering and Design

Hamish, a member of the New Zealand Sailing Squad and AON Fast Track programme, placed third at the 2025 Oceanbridge Sail Auckland in the 49er class. He gained further international experience at the European Championships in Greece and will compete at the 49er World Championships in Sardinia, Italy this October.

Hannah Adye

Faculty of Science

Hannah placed 1st with a personal best of 4.05m at the Potts Classic in Hastings in February 2025. Her selection for the FISU Summer World University Games in Germany highlights her rising status in pole vault and reflects a strong season of growth and national achievement.

Hannah Findlay

Faculty of Engineering and Design

Hannah represented New Zealand at the 2025 Oceania Junior World Cup Qualifiers, competing in a three-match series against Australia. Her selection for the Junior World Cup squad heading to Chile this December highlights her growing impact in international hockey and promising future in the sport.

Havana Hopman

Faculty of Science

Havana placed 8th overall at the 2025 Grand Prix in Thiais, France, with top-5 finishes across multiple apparatus finals. A national champion and record-holder, she also led New Zealand as flag bearer at the FISU World University Games. Havana has recently represented New Zealand at the 2025 World Championships in Rio.

Helen H Wang

Business School

Helen was selected to represent New Zealand at the Senior Asian Zonal Championships, World University Games and Senior World Championships in fencing. Competing internationally after just three years in the sport, Helen's rapid rise reflects exceptional talent and commitment.

Isabella Grace Matthews

Faculty of Science

Isabella represented New Zealand at the Singapore 2025 Asia Cup Leg 2, where she shot a personal best of 638 - the highest score by a Kiwi woman at an international event. A double national champion and record-breaker, Isabella also competed at the FISU World University Games in July.

Jesse Mutton

Faculty of Engineering and Design

Jesse represented New Zealand at the 2025 Winter Universiade in Torino, competing in Giant Slalom and Slalom. He placed 61st and 54th respectively, gaining valuable international experience. As his first major university-level event, it marks a promising step in Jesse's alpine skiing development.

Jett Curteis

Business School

Jett placed 30th in elite men and 18th in U23 at the 2025 Oceania Triathlon Championships in Devonport. His consistent performance across national events reflects strong progression in triathlon. With continued development, Jett is building momentum toward future elite competition.

Jordana Bremner

Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences

Jordana played a key role in the Futsal Ferns' victory at the 2024 OFC Women's Futsal Nations Cup in the Solomon Islands, securing qualification for the 2025 FIFA Women's Futsal World Cup. She also represented New Zealand at the CFA International Tournament in China, showcasing elite skill and commitment.

Jordyn Blake

Business School

Jordyn represented New Zealand at the Summer World University Games in Germany in July 2025. She earned podium finishes in the 400m at both the NZ Championships and the Meeting Arcobaleno in Italy. Her rising sprint career reflects outstanding dedication, with more international opportunities on the horizon.

Joshua Hyde

Faculty of Engineering and Design

Joshua holds the world #1 Youth Match Racing Skipper ranking and is a three-time National Champion. With multiple international victories - including a Hardie Cup title and three consecutive Toyota Cup wins - he led New Zealand to 4th at the World Championships, cementing his status as a global leader in youth sailing.

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Joshua Teitelbaum

Faculty of Engineering and Design

Joshua represented New Zealand in artistic gymnastics at the 2025 World University Games in Germany, marking a major milestone in his first year as a Senior International. With a third-place finish at Nationals, Joshua's precision and discipline continue to elevate his standing in elite gymnastics competition.

Josi Andres

Faculty of Engineering and Design

Josie led her team to a silver medal at the 2024 World Sailing Women's Match Racing Championship, showcasing strategic precision and composure under pressure. Her performance on the global stage affirms her status as a world-class sailor and a key figure in New Zealand's competitive sailing landscape.

Julia Lena Padrutt

Faculty of Science

Julia competed for New Zealand at the 2025 U23 Canoe Sprint World Championships in Portugal, competing in the K1 200m and K2 500m events. She reached the K1 semifinal and placed 16th in K2. A national bronze medallist in surf lifesaving, Julia continues to excel across disciplines.

Ka Yi Nicole Leung

Faculty of Science

Ka Yi Nicole represented New Zealand at the 2024 WKF Cadet, Junior, and U21 World Championships, competing among top global athletes. She also earned silver in both Senior and U21 Individual Kata at the Oceania Karate Championships, demonstrating technical excellence and strong international potential.

Khanye'lii Munro-Nonoa

Faculty of Arts and Education

Khanye'lii was named in the New Zealand U21 squad for the World Youth Cup in Gibraltar, held in September 2025. She also competed in the ANZ Premiership with the Northern Mystics, gaining valuable experience at the highest level of netball during a challenging season.

Lara Molloy

Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences

Lara placed 47th in the Long Distance at the 2025 World Orienteering Championships in Finland - New Zealand's top female result. Competing in the elite W21E grade, she also placed 13th in the World Cup relay.

Li Hao Yeoh

Faculty of Science

Li represented New Zealand in Frisbee at the 2024 World Ultimate Championships in the Open division, earning selection as co-captain from over 100 trialists. His leadership and skill contributed to New Zealand's highest-ever placement in this category, marking a standout achievement in his sporting career with promising seasons ahead.

Logan Somerville

Faculty of Science

Logan won gold in U21 and bronze in Senior -75kg kumite at the 2025 Karate Oceania Championships, qualifying for the Senior World Championships in Cairo this November. His strong season also included U21 bronze at the USA Open and gold at the Australian Open, reflecting elite consistency and drive.

Lucy Matehaere

Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences

Lucy placed 5th and 4th in the K4 500m at two ICF Canoe Sprint World Cups in 2025, racing alongside Olympic and World champions. Her performances on the world stage reflect elite-level composure and strength. Lucy has recently competed at the Canoe Sprint World Championships in Italy where she placed 4th in the K4 500m race.seasons ahead.

Luke Simon

Faculty of Science

Luke played three matches for New Zealand at the 2025 Division 2 World Championships, where the team placed 3rd. His contribution at this international level highlights growing experience and commitment in competitive ice hockey.

Marielle Denise C. Venida

Business School

In her first senior year, sprinter Marielle won New Zealand's 200m title and placed third in the 100m at the Sir Graeme Douglas International, just 0.01s off the U20 national record. She represented New Zealand at the World Athletics U20 Championships and qualified for the FISU World University Games team.

Markus MacDonald

Faculty of Engineering and Design

Markus was a late call-up to New Zealand's senior team for the 2025 Division 2 World Championships, following his gold medal win at the U20 Division 3 World Champs in Turkey. At just 18, his rapid rise highlights strong potential and growing impact in ice hockey.

Mason Mulcahy

Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences

Mason won silver at the 2025 World Teams Racing Championships in Newport, Rhode Island, as the youngest member of the New Zealand team. A key part of Waitemata Racing, ranked 2nd globally in youth match racing, Mason has claimed multiple international titles while balancing elite sport with medical studies.

Matthew Valkenburg

Faculty of Science

Matthew placed 12th at the British Open Championships and remains at the top of New Zealand's men's fencing (épée category) rankings. His consistent performance across national and international events reflects elite skill and determination, with selections for major championships confirming his standing in the sport.

Mike Antamanov

Faculty of Arts and Education

Mike earned the Golden Glove at the 2024 FIFA Futsal World Cup in Uzbekistan, delivering New Zealand's highest-ever goalkeeping performance at a FIFA futsal event. His standout efforts as part of the Futsal Whites included 32 saves, two from penalties, against world-class teams, showcasing elite skill and resilience on futsal's biggest international stage.

Nicholas John Green

Faculty of Science

Nicholas placed fourth in the Middle Distance (M20E) at the 2025 Oceania Orienteering Championships in Manawātū. In 2024, he was selected for the New Zealand Universities team, competing at the FISU World University Orienteering Championships in Bansko, Bulgaria, reflecting his rising form at international level.

Nikith Perera

Business School, Faculty of Law

Representing Auckland Aces, Nikith featured in the 2024/25 Super Smash campaign and continued to contribute across domestic formats. An all-rounder, he added depth with bat and ball and strengthened the Aces' squad, underlining his promise within New Zealand cricket as he builds experience at the professional level.

Patricia Louise Walsh

Business School

Competing in para athletics (women's long jump), Patricia broke her own national record twice at the 2025 New Zealand Track & Field Championships, first at 4.75m then 4.79m. The double record underscores her continued progression and leadership within New Zealand's para athletics community.

Robson Faleafa

Business School

Robson represented New Zealand at the 2025 World Rugby U20 Championship in Italy, helping the team secure a silver medal. He also competed with the Auckland Blues U20 squad at the Super Rugby U20 tournament. Robson's consistent performances mark him as a rising force in New Zealand rugby.

Sam Charles Aston Woods

Business School

Representing New Zealand in alpine skiing, Sam competed at the 2025 World University Games in Turin and the World Junior Championships in Tarvisio after a six-month European season of 40+ races. He won two U21 events with multiple podiums, was national U21 champion and placed second overall.

Samrath Singh

Faculty of Science

After making two first-class appearances for Auckland in 2024/2025, Samrath earned a full professional contract with the Auckland Aces for the 2025/2026 season. His progression into the senior squad reflects his talent, consistency and readiness to contribute at the highest level of domestic cricket.

Samuel Ruruarau Hiha

Faculty of Engineering and Design

Representing New Zealand, Samuel won gold with the Black Sticks Men at the 2025 FIH Nations Cup in Malaysia, beating Pakistan 6–2 in the final. He has since been selected for the 2025 Oceania Cup squad in Darwin, reflecting his growing impact at the highest level of New Zealand hockey.

Seth Irons

Business School

Seth debuted for the New Zealand U21 Black Sticks at the 2025 Oceania Junior World Cup Qualifiers, helping secure a place at the upcoming World Cup in India. Also named to the national indoor hockey team, Seth's selection reflects his growing impact across formats and commitment to international excellence.

Shaunna Li

**Business School, Faculty of
Science**

Shaunna reclaimed the Women's Singles title at the 2025 Oceania Badminton Championships, also earning silver in Mixed Doubles and Mixed Team events. Her consistent international performances secured qualification for the Badminton World Federation's World Championships in Paris, affirming her status as one of New Zealand's most accomplished and versatile badminton athletes.

Sofia Higgott

Business School

Sofia represented New Zealand at the 2024 Youth Match Racing World Championships in Saudi Arabia, where her team placed 4th among the world's top under-23 sailing crews. Sofia's tactical skill and composure signal strong promise for future international success.

Stella Bilger

**Business School, Faculty of
Science**

Stella represented New Zealand at the 2025 iQFOiL World Championships in Denmark, placing 23rd overall. Stella continues to demonstrate Olympic potential and resilience in elite windsurfing, advancing her campaign toward the 2028 Los Angeles Games in a highly competitive global field.

Theresa Setefano

Fitzpatrick

Faculty of Science

Theresa delivered an exceptional season for the Black Ferns Sevens, winning World Series gold medals in Vancouver and Hong Kong. Her consistent international form earned her selection to the New Zealand squad for the 2025 Rugby World Cup, highlighting her continued impact at the highest level of sport.

Vincent Jin-Hao Tao

**Business School, Faculty of
Engineering and Design**

Vincent delivered a standout performance at the 2025 Oceania Badminton Championships, winning gold in Mixed Doubles, bronze in Men's Doubles, and silver in the Mixed Team event. His consistent success across national and regional tournaments highlights his technical strength and growing influence in New Zealand's competitive badminton scene.

Xavi Asemaga Taele

Faculty of Science

Xavi earned selection to the prestigious All Blacks Rugby team, showcasing elite skill and cultural pride on the international stage. Competing against top-tier teams including Scotland and Japan, Xavi's powerful performances and resilience affirm his status as one of New Zealand's most promising young talents in professional rugby.

Yamato Maemura

Business School

Yamato placed third in his age category at the 2025 Asia Africa Pacific Powerlifting Championships in Japan, as the youngest lifter in his class. A two-time national representative, he also holds three Oceania records in the U74kg U18 division and will compete again at the Oceania Championships this November.

Zaria Ireland

Faculty of Science

Zaria helped New Zealand's women's team achieve a historic 6th-place finish at the World Ultimate Championships, earning team most valued player and ranking 3rd equal individually. With podium finishes at national events and selection as head coach for the U20 team, Zaria continues to shape the future of Ultimate Frisbee in Aotearoa.