WHANGĀREI BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL
DEVELOPING BOYS INTO FINE MEN

SPORTS ACADEMIES

Squash Academy

Programme overview

The Squash Academy is a partnership between Whangārei Boys' High School and Squash Northland, offering extra learning opportunities for students who want to improve their squash. Junior squash in Northland is very strong, and we expect many talented and motivated young players to come through the school in the coming years.



AT A GLANCE	
Who it's for	Students wanting to develop their squash and represent the school. Players must be members of a squash club
When	Monday afternoons, once a week throughout the year
Where	Whangārei Squash Club, with full use of its four courts. Transport to and from school is provided
Coaching	Shelley Kitchen, former New Zealand representative and professional squash player
Cost	All of the following apply: Coaching fee: $80 per person per term Academy Administration fee: $50 (paid per academy per year) Uniform: purchased separately from NZ Uniforms

Our coach

We are extremely fortunate to have Shelley Kitchen as coach of the Whangārei Boys' High School Squash Academy. Shelley represented New Zealand for 15 years as a professional squash player and was the top female squash player for five years.

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About the academy

Sessions are structured around long-term athlete development, with a focus on skill development and decision-making, and room for a broad range of players' needs and aspirations.

Academy players must be members of a club and are encouraged to play both casual and organised squash, including:

- Interclub and graded teams events
- Club tournaments
- District, national and junior tournaments
- The National Secondary Schools tournament

Selection

Academy players are selected by Shelley Kitchen based on:

- Their squash grading
- Their squash development
- The school values

NZ Secondary Schools Teams tournament

Each August, Whangārei Boys' High School sends a team of six players to the NZ Secondary Schools Teams tournament. The approximate cost is $500 plus flights.

Recent results

2021	Made the final and placed 2nd in New Zealand
2022 and 2023	Back-to-back NZ titles, with 2 players selected to represent New Zealand
2024	Placed 5th
2025	Placed 9th. Josh and Zac Laing selected for the New Zealand team to play Australia
2026	Placed 8th. Zac Laing selected for the New Zealand team

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Good to know

- Players provide their own equipment and training clothing
- Squash balls are provided for academy sessions
- Transport to the venue and back to school is provided