

# PLAY-UP Club 2024-25: Voices from the Margins: Sport Coaching and Young People



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**WAIKATO**  
*Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato*

**Closing date:** 1/12/23

## Project details:

Applications are invited for a master's scholarship opportunity in Te Huataki Waiora School of Health. This project is part of a larger programme of research exploring the impact of a child rights approach to coaching. Partnering with Sport Waikato and UNICEF, this project explores the impact of a child rights approach to coaching on a range of youth development outcomes through the PLAY-UP club – a child-centered sports club hosted at the University of Waikato.

Sports coaches and sports clubs are largely responsible for creating positive environments for children to enjoy sport, and to learn, develop and succeed through sport. They also have a profound impact on whether a child's experience in sport is positive, and whether a child benefits physically, socially and/or mentally through their participation (Morley et al., 2021). This project will focus on the development of learner centered pedagogies and how foregrounding children's voices in their choice of sport participation can impact on their own Physical Literacy. Specifically, constraints-based pedagogies and play will be the lens through which autonomy can be facilitated in young learners.

The successful applicant should be eligible to enrol at the University of Waikato. Prior experience in the study and practice of sport coaching would be advantageous.

### Supervisory team:

Will Roberts, Senior Lecturer in Sport Development and Coaching

Dr Rob Townsend, Senior Lecturer in Sport Coaching and Pedagogy

Dr Amy Marfell, General Manager, Sport Waikato.

## Eligibility and selection criteria:

- A- GPA or international equivalent (e.g. 1<sup>st</sup> class honours).
- Full-time
- Domestic and International

## Application documents required:

*Please note that candidates who want to be considered for a doctoral scholarship must also submit a complete [Application to Enrol](#).*

- Curriculum Vitae
- 2 Academic References
- Link to a three-minute video pitch about the candidate and why this area of research interests you.

## Value and tenure of funding:

**Tenure** Full time for up to 18 months

**Stipend** N/A

<b>Fees</b>	Fully covered up to the value of \$8000.	
<b>Student Services Fee</b>	Included	<b>Not Included</b>
<b>Other</b>	The scholarship includes up to \$1000 for research related costs.	
<b>Contact and email address for applicants</b>		
<b>Name</b>	Will Roberts, Senior Lecturer in Sport Development and Coaching	
<b>Email</b>	Will.roberts@waikato.ac.nz	