

## News Release

15 August 2022

### **ANZ to help get kids to the crease with cricket fee subsidy**

With household budgets feeling the squeeze, ANZ Cricket Grants will help keep our younger players in the game this season by subsidising Kiwi kids' club cricket fees.

Fifty thousand dollars will be made available to families who would benefit from the support, and successful applicants will receive up to \$80 towards their fees - which will be provided in the form of a voucher to redeem when registering with New Zealand Cricket.

This financial help could be the difference between some kids playing cricket this summer, or not.

ANZ Bank New Zealand CEO Antonia Watson says paying fees is one of the first barriers families face when deciding if they can register their child to play.

"Sport is such an important part of a child's wellbeing, both mentally and physically," Ms Watson says.

"The increased cost of living can put families in a tough position when it comes to managing the household budget, we hope this will help ease some of that pressure and keep more kids playing cricket."

New Zealand Cricket GM of Community Cricket Kent Stead says the initiative from ANZ is extremely helpful, and hopes families who might have thought it not possible for their children to play this season will reconsider thanks to this new initiative.

"This is a generous gesture from ANZ and their support will ensure hundreds of kids won't miss out on the benefits that team sport brings," Mr Stead says.

"After a long hard winter, getting out and enjoying cricket is just what is needed."

Families who may have dismissed the idea of their kids playing this summer are invited to apply at [www.anzcricketworld.co.nz](http://www.anzcricketworld.co.nz) between 15 August – 23 September 2022. A maximum of two children per family can benefit from the subsidy.

ANZ has been a sponsor of New Zealand Cricket for almost 23 years, injecting more than \$1.6 million into cricket in the community during that time.

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