



# Mana Taiohi Report 2022 - 2024

*Matua Geereg*

*Te Tākaro Ora O Murihiku*

*'Ka pū te ruha, ka hao te rangatahi'*



# Mau Rākau in Kura Tuarua 2022- 2024

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# RETURNING MĀORI MARTIAL ARTS TO MURIHIKU

WORDS NATHAN BURDON

**I**t's a traditional Māori martial art and its resurgence in Murihiku/Southland is creating excitement.

It's mau rākau, a martial art based on traditional Māori weapons, which is providing an ideal platform for our rangatahi (young people) to benefit in so many ways. Not only can they engage in physical activity, but they also develop cultural identity and a sense of belonging by expanding their knowledge of te reo me ōna tikanga (customs).

It also teaches self-discipline and respect and its resurgence hasn't happened by chance, being a collective effort by several Waihōpai/Invercargill secondary schools and supported by Active Southland.

A key aspect of its revival has been weekly trainings and a series of sessions designed to prepare students for grading, which is a similar process to other martial arts.

The goal is to develop skills and knowledge within Murihiku so that the discipline has the sustainability to grow and thrive.

Wakatipu-based Ned Wepiha has been leading mau rākau's return and is excited about the potential he has seen.

"I've been doing mahi mau rākau in Tāhuna/Queenstown for many years and I'm now in Waihōpai to support the whanau, who live in this area, and not only the whānau, but the schools (as well)," he said.

"We've started something here."

Mau rākau pou (student), Hakopa Thomas, is also excited about the opportunity being created with his fellow rangatahi.

"It's always good seeing young people coming in and being given mātauranga (knowledge), for their kete," he said.

"It goes back to our ancestors. It's good to see our tamariki come together and learn something that was lost, that was taken away from us. Now it's time to bring it back. It's good to see people enjoying themselves and learning the mahi."

Hakopa encouraged anyone curious about mau rākau to get involved.

"Haere mai, haere mai...the only reason I say that is because I was one of those people. I was really shy, I was that guy in the corner and all it takes is for that one person to lean out and say, 'you're alright, we are all whānau.'"

The key to the resurgence was the use of Ara Taiohi's Mana Taiohi framework, which informs a way to work with young people in Aotearoa.

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HAKOPA THOMAS

The strengths-based framework has been developed in partnership with the Ministry of Youth Development and Vodafone New Zealand Foundation, which aims to ensure everyone who interacts with young people in Aotearoa does so in a way that both acknowledges and enhances



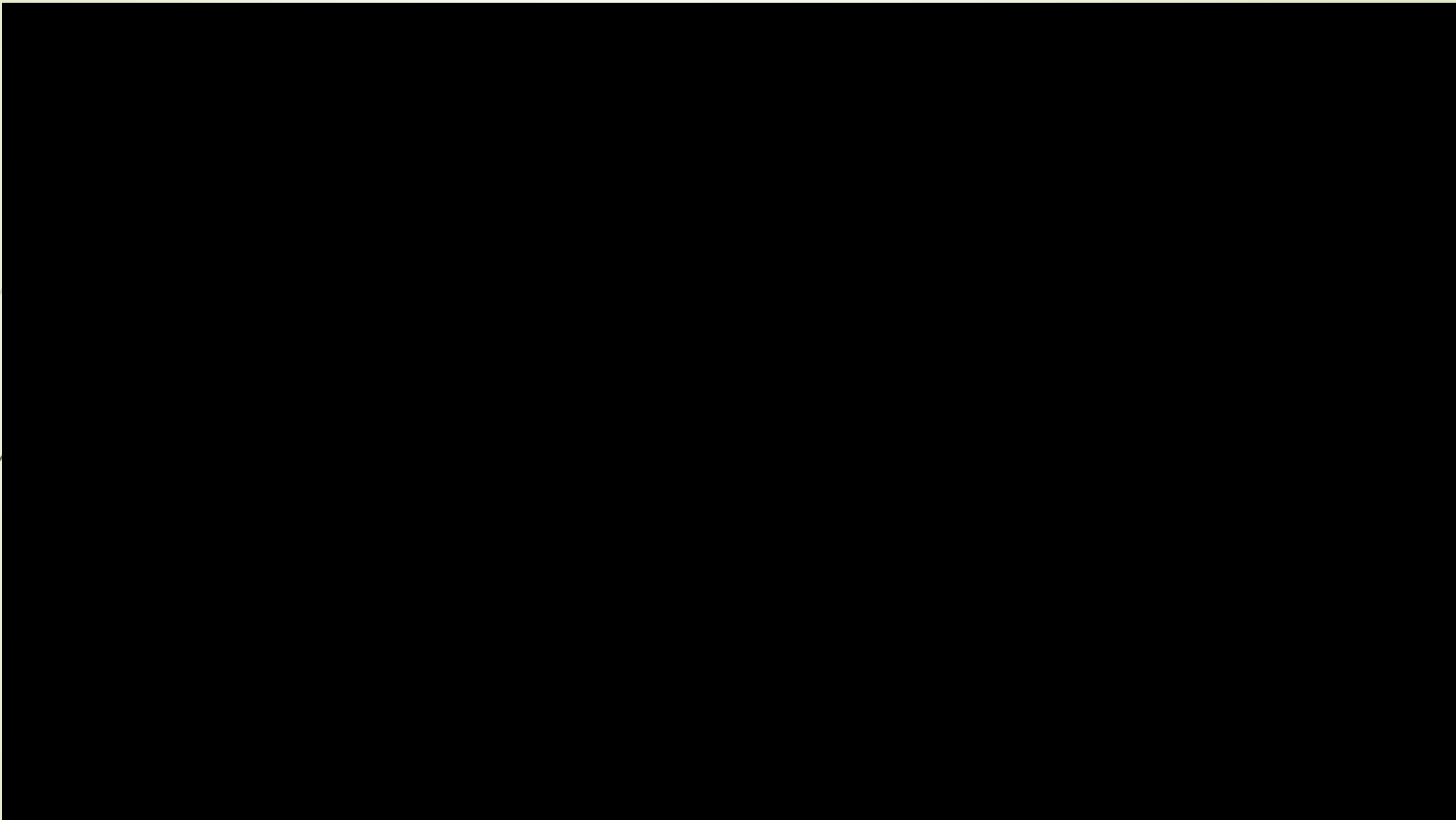
Photos: Active Southland

Active Southland rangatahi advisor, Greg Houkamau, said the future was aspirational, with the goal to provide leadership opportunities for our young people to enhance their mana and support the development of their identity.

Sport New Zealand's Tū Manawa Active Aotearoa fund, administered locally by Active Southland and designed to create more opportunities for play, active recreation and sport for young people, provided an important resource for the mahi, Houkamau said.

"There is a lot of collaboration and partnership beginning to happen across Murihiku, which will create more opportunities for our rangatahi," he said.

"And, with further development and support, will help make



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**Kā Tāoka  
I Tuku Iho**  
CHARITABLE TRUST

# Ka Tāoka I Tuku Iho Māori Sports Trust 2023- 2024

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### 3. PURPOSES OF TRUST

The vision of the Trust is to enhance the hauora (wellbeing) of the Southland community through strengthening and facilitating opportunities in Traditional Māori Sport and Active Recreation activities.

- 3.1 **Exclusively Charitable Purposes:** The Trustees hold the Trust Fund on trust to pay or apply so much of the capital and income of the Trust Fund as the Trustees think fit exclusively for or towards any one or more of the following exclusively charitable purposes in the province of Southland, New Zealand, which are declared to be the purposes of the Trust, namely:
- 3.1.1 **First Object:** Regulate the opportunities that Traditional Māori Sport and Active Recreation naturally provides within the Southland Region;
  - 3.1.2 **Second Object:** To promote, encourage and support participation in, and the development of traditional Māori Sport at all levels, from community participation to high performance level for all Southland youth;
  - 3.1.3 **Third Object:** Further enhance connections between Te Ao Māori (Māori culture) and Te Taiao (nature) “treasures past down from our ancestors” in the sport and active recreation space to the current and future generations of the community;
  - 3.1.4 **Forth Object:** Support the individual, community and the sport to reach their full potential by providing or getting access to logistic and administrative support, grants, sponsorship and funding, physical and mental training and travel;
  - 3.1.5 **Fifth Object:** Enhancing the mana of Māori sport and recreational activity by facilitating opportunities for community involvement;
  - 3.1.6 **Sixth Object:** To assist with the provision of equipment and resources for Traditional Māori sport and Active recreation;
  - 3.1.7 **Incidental Matters:** all things incidental to the charitable purposes described in this clause 3.2.

➤ A Māori Sports Trust set up by Rangatahi for Rangatahi.

Name and Tohu created by Rangatahi.

All Trustees were chosen by Rangatahi.

Mana Taiohi is the main Framework that the Trust follows.

Two Rangatahi representatives sit on the Trust.

All kaupapa are initiated by Rangatahi and all decisions are not passed unless Rangatahi say so.

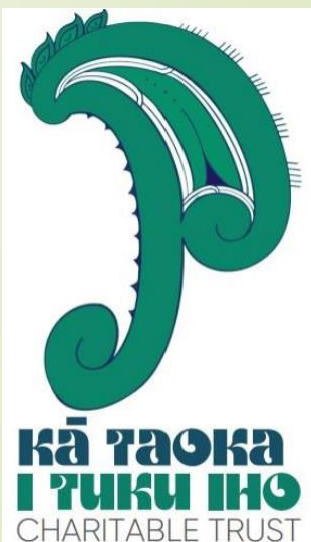
Three current Kaupapa that are currently supported by the Trust:

***KAPA HAKA – REGIONAL & NATIONAL LEVEL***

***KĪ O RAHI KI MURIHIKU – RANGATAHI & TAMARIKI LEVEL***

***WHĀNAU SUPPORT FUNDING – SCHOLARSHIPS FOR WHĀNAU TO TAUTOKO  
THIER SON/DAUGHTER ON REGIONAL AND NATIONAL SPORTING EVENTS***

*'Ka pū te ruha, ka hao te rangatahi'*





# Murihiku Kī O Rahi 2023- 2024

*Matua Geereg*

*Te Tākaro Ora O Murihiku*



**'Ka pū te ruha, ka hao te rangatahi'**



Pounamu Fernandez and Jayda Waitere are two of the many volunteers who help out at the new Ki o Rahi Secondary Schools module held at Turnbull Thompson Park created by rangatahi.

KAVINDA HERATH / SOUTHLAND TIMES

- Southland rangatahi wanted to provide themselves with more kaupapa Māori activity opportunities.
- A trust was created and features adults and rangatahi, who were selected to the board, to help oversee things on behalf of rangatahi, but also help to provide them with more Kaupapa Māori Activity opportunities.
- The youth chose all the board members for the trust. Since creating the trust, more sporting opportunities have popped up for the rangatahi and in October last year a Ki o Rahi module was created - which has since increased in capacity in 2024. Fourteen Southland secondary school teams and eight primary school teams throughout Waihopa line up on Monday and Thursday each week, battling it out as part of the newly created Ki o Rahi module.
- Kā Taaka I Tuku Iho - is a Māori Sports Trust and member Greg Houkamau said the Rangatahi asked for this to happen.
- "Mana Tajohi is giving the mana back to our youth and letting them make the decisions about what they want. So, our rangatahi asked if we could get Ki o Rahi module up and running in Murihiku."
- "Kā Taaka I Tuku Iho applied for some funding through Te Pūtahitanga and from that we put all this together, starting with eight teams in the secondary module."
- The after-school competition was a collaboration between Kā Taaka I Tuku Iho Māori Sports Trust and Active Southland.
- "Everything we've done is on the advice of our Rangatahi. Our logo was designed by a youth, I asked them what they wanted, and they came up with the concept. It's about giving them the mana."
- "It's all about our rangatahi."
- Houkamau said it's a sport that's inclusive for everyone. "Ki o Rahi is inclusive for everybody, no matter their skill level, everyone has a role to play and that's why it is so great for our rangatahi."
- Other games are in the pipeline but with Ki o Rahi being a national game, it was seen as the perfect starting point for our rangatahi and tamariki.
- "For now, it's all about coming along having a good time and getting into it."
- "It's a game played throughout New Zealand. There are regional and national tournaments for the rangatahi and we're even looking at adult competitions down here in the future."
- Rangatahi that aren't in teams are still invited to come down because there's space for everyone to be included, he said.
- "It's a learning curve for everyone as we go ahead but it's all about giving our rangatahi an opportunity to try something different. It's free and we provide kai. Eventually I want to step back and give the opportunity to somebody else to run it."
- We have boys', girls' teams, and mixed teams, it's all about making sure everyone gets a go.
- "We are trying to create that whakawhanaungatanga space for our youth. Sportsmanship is one of the big things we endorse."
- "The game is based around the Pūrakau o Rahi which is a Māori myth. It's quite a deep Pūrakau. Each space and area have a name. Most of the rangatahi know what that Pūrakau is, and we talk to them about the importance of it. We are also promoting Te Reo Māori, so when the Rangatahi touch the Pou they call out tahi, rua, toru as they get to each one."
- "The team touching the pou are the Ki Oma and the other team attacking the tipu in the middle are the Taniwha. There's a whole lot of learning as well as having fun."
- Pounamu Fernandez, of Te Wharekura o Arowhenua, said it was cool being able to help and be part of something like this.

■ - The Southland Times



***'Ka pū te ruha, ka hao te rangatahi'***



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# STRATEGIC AS

## 2021-2024 STRATEGIC PLAN

### WHAT ARE OUR PRIORITIES?

AS<sup>2</sup>

#### Regional Leadership

- Regional strategy
- Big Data project
- Stronger sports together project

#### Active Young People

- Place based community projects
- Mana Taiohi

#### Active Communities

- Whanau/hapori led projects
- Insights and evaluation
- Workforce pathways

#### Active AS

- Better systems
- Marketing and Comms' Strategy
- Cultural competency framework

# AS Commitment 2023- 2024

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# Active Southland's Mana Taiohi Principles Implementation Plan 2023

Kaupapa	Embedding Mana Taiohi Principals into Active Southland		Estimated time to complete	Ongoing	
Active Southland Whāinga	Ko wai	Āhea	I pēhea	Mana Taiohi Kaupapa	Rauemi
Facilitate internal hui with Teams each month to cover Mana Taiohi Principals. (Each hui will be 1 hour)	Greg	8x Monthly hui Mondays (from 29 May – 27 November 2023)	A space for teams to continue the wānanga of these kupu (what do they mean, how does this fit within my mahi, personal āo)	Mana Taiohi in its entirety	Hui Team effort/buy in Mana Taiohi videos (YouTube) and resources
Learn opening and closing karakia for the beginning and ending of hui, Karakia kai and waiata tautoko for Kaikōrero.	Greg & Matiria + Wider staff	January 2023 ongoing	Learn the wākapapa and meaning of karakia and waiata, and add to a Kete of karakia and waiata as we progress	Whanaungatanga, Mātauranga, Manaakitanga	Create a Karakia & Waiata book with translations and wāhakamaramatanga
Create an environment where our Rangatahi can be a part of our decision making when it comes to governance's roles where possible within and outside our organisation.	Active Southland Teams, Hāpori, and Rangatahi Team	May 2023 ongoing	A chance for governance bodies to take the responsibility to imbed the Mana Taiohi principles	Mana Taiohi in its entirety	Tautoko and awahi from Greg and the Rangatahi Team Hui Mana Taiohi Rauemi
By drawing from experiences teams can present to the BOT how they have implemented Mana Taiohi into their everyday practice.	AS Teams with the tautoko of Greg	October BOT Hui 2023	An opportunity for AS teams to show case their mahi around Mana Taiohi	Mana Taiohi in its entirety	PowerPoints Mana Taiohi Rauemi
Return of Ara Taiohi to see progress within the Active Southland Team	Ara Taiohi	November 2023		Mana Taiohi in its entirety	Ara Taiohi

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## ***WHAT WORKED AND STILL IS WORKING WELL.***

- ▶ Two visits by our awesome Mana Taiohi Kaimahi to deliver to our senior management and staff.
- ▶ 2023 AS commits to Mana Taiohi as part of their Strategic Plan with the Rangatahi and Healthy Active Learning Teams leading out with this kaupapa.
- ▶ The HAL team collaborate with 8 Primary schools, using the Mana Taiohi framework collecting insight and whakaaro from tamariki, whānau and kura receive funding from AS Tu Manawa to design and implement permanent Kī O Rahi fields for their kura, opening these during Matariki this week.
- ▶ AS are restructuring the Tu Manawa panel looking at getting a Rangatahi representative on the panel that has voting rights.
- ▶ Conversations and actions taken from other teams such as Healthy Active Communities and Spaces and Places to get Rangatahi feedback about what things should look like from their perspective.
- ▶ Teams are on board and aware that the Mana Taiohi principals play an important part of the decision making within their perspective roles.
- ▶ On the ground we work well in Implementing Mana Taiohi Principals.
- ▶ I sit on a few boards now and have the influence to make change at Governance level so that Mana Taiohi is recognised at this level.

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## ***WHAT HASN'T WORKED WELL AND NEEDS TO BE IMPROVED ON.***

- ▶ As a Mana Taiohi Champion I had set high goals instead of SMART goals for our RST, which made this harder for me to implement my plan. I now know how difficult it is to change mindset especially at Governance level within my own RST.
- ▶ Working with our AS Board so they have a better understanding of how Mana Taiohi can play an important role at Governance Level.
- ▶ While most of our Kaimahi understand and are working on implementing Mana Taiohi in their everyday mahi and Senior Management encourage this as part of our practice, I feel because of the current changes in government and priorities our Board are looking at a new directional shift.

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