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Kiwi women take clean sweep of the Ski Podium at The North Face Frontier 4-Competition

Theme: Participation

Kiwi women take clean sweep of the Ski Podium at The North Face Frontier 4- Competition

Co-authored by Fuseworks

The Winter Games NZ returned to New Zealand's home of freeride, The Remarkables ski area in Queenstown, today for The North Face Frontier four-star competition. There were plenty of thrills and spills as skiers and snowboarders pushed themselves in tricky snow conditions in the exposed terrain of the Alta Chutes. Up against strong international competitors, Kiwi athletes put together some impressive performances to come away with seven of the twelve podium spots.

Fresh snow just covering some rocky conditions beneath made for some gnarly course conditions with the judges warning competitors to err on the side of caution today. Competitors had their work cut out finding a fast and fluid line through the exposed terrain while also going for top scores by incorporating tricks in their runs and making solid landings.

With today's competition ranked as a four-star event on the Freeride World Qualifier Tour, the goal for many was not just to earn a podium placing but also some early season qualifying points and a ticket to the international competition stage.

Kiwis took a clean sweep of the women's ski podium with Jessie Violet backing up her 2023 win and happy to bag some early season points before she heads to the northern hemisphere to follow the Freeride World Qualifier Tour.

First out of the gate in her category, Jessie put down a solid, confident run skiing fast down the main chute and incorporating some solid airtime on her way to the finish line.

"I'm feeling pretty stoked," she said after her run. "It's exciting to see the girls send and the progression of the sport. The girls are pushing hard for the podium, the bar gets set and everyone just fights for it, it's good to see everyone going for it."

Ruby Hewitt, winner of Saturday's 2-star event, finished her day in second place, earning a high score by incorporating a variety of features in her run and maintaining good control all the way through the course.

Mari Henderson skied one of the fastest runs in the women's field, the judges rewarding her strong technique with third place on the podium.

The men's ski category saw twin brothers, Kiwis Fynn and Lach Powell, finish in first and third place respectively, separated by Canadian Matthew Vankka who also won the 2-star competition two days ago.

Lach Powell was the first of the three to drop into the course, landing a huge backflip which initially had him sitting in the hot seat. Brother Fynn was excited to hear over the radio that his brother was in the lead, using this as extra motivation for his own run.

"I was so unbelievably stoked when I heard the call over the radio and I had to try and back him up," explains Fynn. "I won this event last year, so I'm really stoked to be able to come back and put another run down."

Fynn started his run with two huge 360s at the top of the course before crossing into the narrow pipeline feature and dropping two rock features with impressive control.

One of the last competitors to drop into the course, Matthew Vankka pushed hard for the top spot hopping over a rock on the top ridge before launching into backflip to start his run and skiing an incredibly fast run. The judges scored him 94 points from a possible 100, just shy of Fynn Powell's winning scoring of 96.33 points.

Canadian Jaimie Figueira was the clear winner in the women's snowboard category, the judges awarding her 90.33 points for her strong line choice, well-controlled airs and maintaining fluidity down the steep face.

After a third-place finish in 2023, Jaimie came into today's competition with her sights set on the top step of the podium.

"I really want it so I'm trying to push myself out of my comfort zone and hit more features," she explained.

Sweden's Johanna Lindqvist finished in second place, backing up her win in the 2-star event. France's Swanny D'Agostini, had the tricky job of being the very first competitor on course today and was rewarded with some untouched powder turns and third place in the final rankings.

Kiwi competitor James Thompson described his win in the men's snowboard as "a dream come true" after a previous best result of sixth place at The North Face Frontier.

The judges awarded him top points for his technical line choice as he tackled the narrow pipeline feature, also including well-controlled airs and maintaining speed and fluidity throughout his run.

Fellow Kiwi Mitchell Davern was a close contender for first place, riding incredibly fast through the venue and throwing a huge backflip and a stylish 360 before losing a little bit of control at the bottom of the course and dropping points to finish in second place.

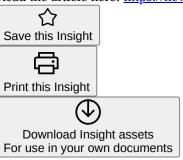
France's Tristan Legru-Yildiz was the third-place finisher in men's snowboard, showing a good variety of airs in his run and maintaining control in the challenging snow conditions at the bottom of the course.

Judge Andrew Pollard summed up the day saying, "It was really important today that people skied and rode smart. At one point we were concerned we might not have enough snow to safely run an event so it was good to see people making smart decisions, that's how you win a freeride event.

"It was a sharky one, some of the men's ski runs in particular were absolutely mindblowing, and it was just incredible what they were able to do in there".

The Winter Games NZ action changes gear tomorrow with the first of the FIS alpine races scheduled to be held at Coronet Peak. Winter Games NZ is the Southern Hemisphere's largest snow sports event with ten world-class events set to be held across alpine, freeride and park and pipe disciplines between the 23rd of August and the 9th of September in Queenstown and Wānaka.

Read the article here: https://news.fuseworksmedia.co...

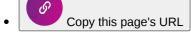


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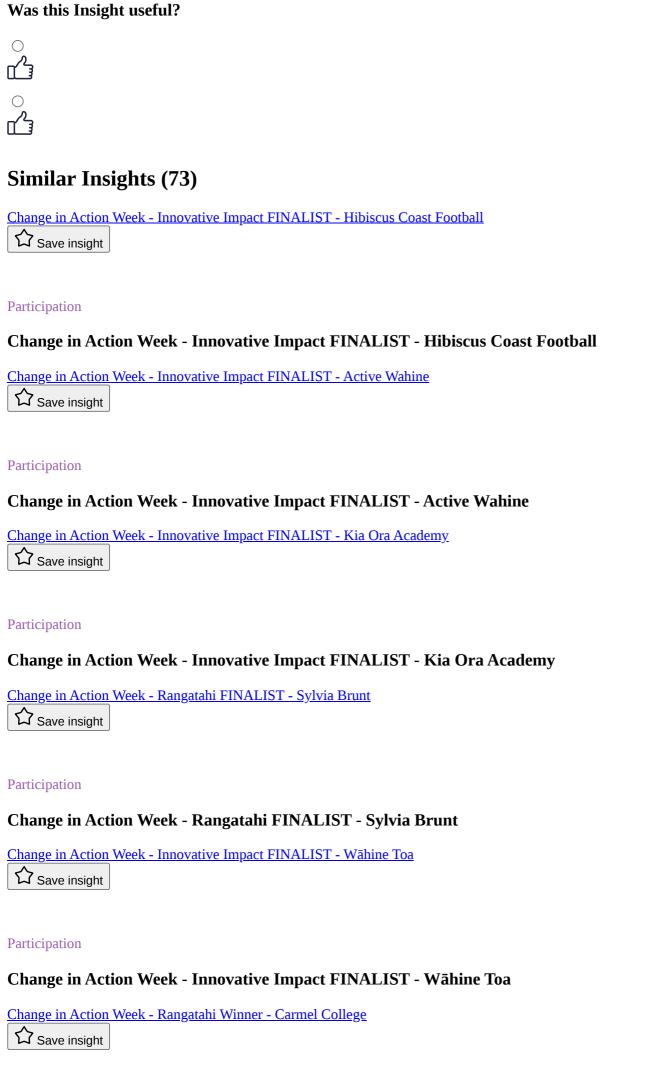


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GUIDE TO CREATING ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS FOR YOUNG WOMEN



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By Emma Evans - Sport New Zealand

A 2024 SURVEY FOR: Women in Trail and Ultrarunning

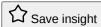


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A 2024 SURVEY FOR: Women in Trail and Ultrarunning

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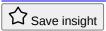
2022 IWG: Christine Young - Integrity in HP Youth Sport



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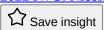
2022 IWG: David Cabello - A Gender Policy for Increasing Women's Representation in Badminton



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2022 IWG: Nicole Terril - Bruce Pulman Park - Collaborating, Connecting, Enabling Our Wahine in Sport



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2022 IWG: Nicole Terril - Bruce Pulman Park - Collaborating, Connecting, Enabling Our Wāhine in Sport

2022 IWG: Kirsten Spencer - Sport as a social development tool



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2022 IWG: Erin Hatton - Driving transformational change



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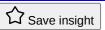
<u>Understanding Period Poverty Infographic</u>



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Understanding Period Poverty Infographic

By Cheycoda Cocks - Sport Manawatu Well Wāhine Week Case Study



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Well Wāhine Week Case Study

By Helayna Ruifrok - Sport Gisborne Tairawhiti
Netball Resources for Clubs and School Administrators



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Netball Resources for Clubs and School Administrators

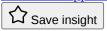
By Jenna Murie - Netball New Zealand <u>Girls Smash Modified Girls Only Cricket Programme</u>



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Girls Smash Modified Girls Only Cricket Programme

By Jess Davidson - New Zealand Cricket Innovative approaches to encouraging women's participation in Golf



Participation

Innovative approaches to encouraging women's participation in Golf

By Roxanna Holdworth - This is ME Netball Volunteer Programme



Netball Volunteer Programme

By Jenna Murie - Netball New Zealand

Mind. Set. Engage. Rugby's mental wellbeing programme.

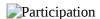


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Mind. Set. Engage. Rugby's mental wellbeing programme.

Sport as a Social Development Tool

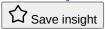




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Sport as a Social Development Tool

By Kirsten Spencer - Auckland University of Technology Netball Player Development Programme



Participation

Netball Player Development Programme

By Alysha Jensen - Netball New Zealand

COACHING GIRLS GUIDE: HOW TO GET (AND KEEP) GIRLS PLAYING



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COACHING GIRLS GUIDE: HOW TO GET (AND KEEP) GIRLS PLAYING

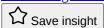
Why Aussie women's sport needs to talk about fertility



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Why Aussie women's sport needs to talk about fertility

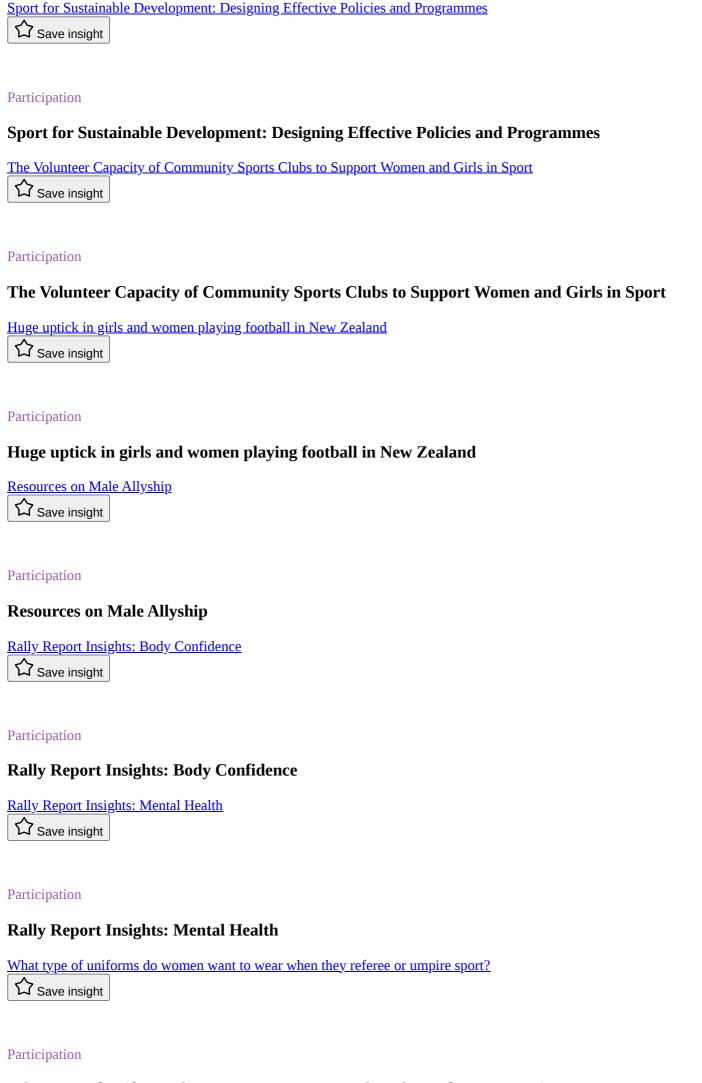
She Belongs: Building Social Connection for Lasting Participation in Sport



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She Belongs: Building Social Connection for Lasting Participation in Sport

By Canadian Women & Sport - Canadian Women & Sport



What type of uniforms do women want to wear when they referee or umpire sport?

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Women & Padel: Start of a love story

Empowering young women to lead their experiences - Journeys Central Otago



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Empowering young women to lead their experiences - Journeys Central Otago

By Rachel Howells - Sport New Zealand

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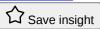


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Creating safe environments for young women to be active their way

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Kōhine māia



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Kōhine māia

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Yeah! Girls Move - Cricket not the way you know it





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Yeah! Girls Move - Cricket not the way you know it

By Rachel Howells - Sport New Zealand

For young women, by young women - WORD girls-only programme



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For young women, by young women - WORD girls-only programme

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Not just for the "sporty", the Not-So-Sports-Club



Not just for the "sporty", the Not-So-Sports-Club

By Rachel Howells - Sport New Zealand Manawatū Cricket Association case study



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Manawatū Cricket Association case study

By Cheycoda Cocks - Sport Manawatu Backyard Smash & Sista Smash

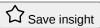


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Backyard Smash & Sista Smash

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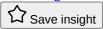
The female-friendliness of New Zealand's tennis clubs



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The female-friendliness of New Zealand's tennis clubs

Removing Period Poverty As a Barrier to Participation

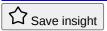


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Removing Period Poverty As a Barrier to Participation

By Roxanna Holdworth - This is ME

Te Awamutu AFC starts 2024 off strong with growing demand



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Te Awamutu AFC starts 2024 off strong with growing demand

Five things to know about women and sport



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Five things to know about women and sport

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<u>Angel City Equity House Podcast: Myth Busters presented by Gatorade</u>

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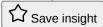
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2022 IWG: Emily Davidson - She Loves Golf Presentation



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Hikurangi Golf Club president Felice Croft encouraging more women into the sport



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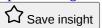
Running and periods: The myths about exercise and your menstrual cycle, debunked



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Running and periods: The myths about exercise and your menstrual cycle, debunked

Updated Pregnancy guidance from UK Sport



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Updated Pregnancy guidance from UK Sport

IWG: Daenin Roth - Grassroots Role Models Inspiring Change



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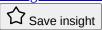
IWG: Dr Riki Tesler: Social capital and health among participants in the cachibol league in Israel



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IWG: Dr Riki Tesler: Social capital and health among participants in the cachibol league in Israel

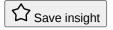
Young Women Profile - September 2021



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Young Women Profile - September 2021

IWG: Etsuko Ogasawara - New Way of Thinking to Promote Physical Activity for Girls



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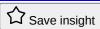
New Zealand Football Performance & Prevention - Considerations for Female Athletes



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New Zealand Football Performance & Prevention - Considerations for Female Athletes

IWG: Christine Young - Women in Taekwondo - Over 40 is not Over the Hill



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Co-Designing Effective Programmes for Young Girls: Insights and Principles



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Co-Designing Effective Programmes for Young Girls: Insights and Principles

By Briana irving - Aktive - Auckland Sport & Recreation How To Co-Design A Programme With Participants

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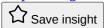
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How To Co-Design A Programme With Participants

By Briana irving - Aktive - Auckland Sport & Recreation

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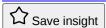


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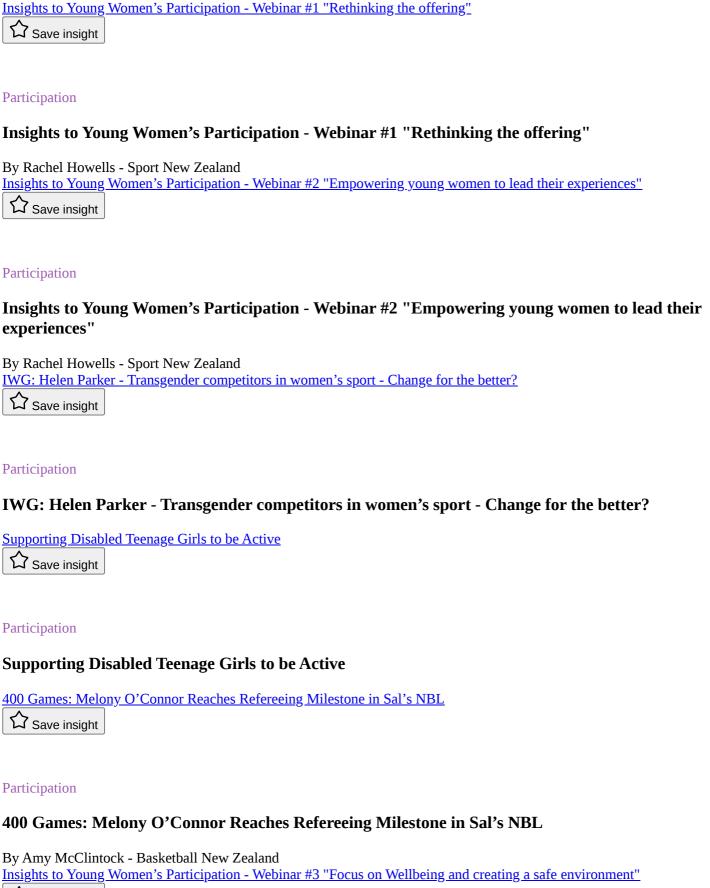
By Briana irving - Aktive - Auckland Sport & Recreation Aktive Women & Girls Facility Guide



Women & Girls Facility Guide

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Insights to Young Women's Participation - Webinar #3 "Focus on Wellbeing and creating a safe environment"

By Rachel Howells - Sport New Zealand

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