Skip to content





Trailblazing surf star lines up new gig

Theme: Leadership

Trailblazing surf star lines up new gig

Co-authored by Jamie Troughton, LockerRoom

The high-achieving sporting career of Danielle Richards is set to break new ground, with the champion surf lifesaver about to embark on her first official coaching gig.

The five-time New Zealand ironwoman winner will become one of the first female coaches at club level, signing on as an assistant coach at Omanu in the Bay of Plenty.

She'll join forces with another legend of the sport, head coach, three-time world champion and 11-time national ironman champion Cory Hutchings.

Richards (nee McKenzie) says: "I don't really know what I'm going to do next in terms of racing – there's definitely going to be a next, because I'm not done yet – but this is such a great opportunity.

"It puts me in such a good mindset and it's given me great direction for the near future. I've been through a phase where I didn't know what was next and the timing of this role popping up was perfect."

The 29-year-old spent much of the past year kayaking, helping Aimee Fisher qualify a K2 boat for the Paris Olympics, before Richards was controversially omitted when team boat selections were confirmed in March.

Even with Olympic dreams dashed, there have been few more varied – and storied – sporting careers than hers.

After spending her teenage years as one of New Zealand's best junior triathletes, she spent eight years as a professional ironwoman in Australia, making history as the first New Zealand female to podium at the Nutri-Grain Series.

She clinched second place in the 2021/2022 series and third the next year, and has won more Australian surf lifesaving titles than any other New Zealander (including an immensely popular double-ski win with Georgia Miller this year).

Richards won an Ocean Ski world championship in 2019 and collected world titles with the New Zealand surf lifesaving Black Fins team in 2014 and 2016, which is where she first made contact with Hutchings.

"Having Cory here at Omanu was definitely a big enticement. I've worked with him in the past, when he was helping coach New Zealand teams, and his knowledge around skills and racing and combating nerves is second-to-none. Having a female coach is really amazing for a club – it brings a whole new element in – and I can see us really complementing each other."

Other women have made significant impacts in surf lifesaving, most notably Christchurch's Jonelle Quane and latterly sprint specialist Arna Wright, but Richards' appointment is hugely significant at club level.

Omanu general manager, and former national coach, Scott Bartlett, said the club was delighted with the appointment, with Richards due to start in late August.

"If Danielle isn't New Zealand's greatest surf lifesaving athlete, she's probably pretty comfortably in the top-two, alongside the other member of our coaching staff," Bartlett said.

"But what we're especially excited about is the respect she has, across all sports she's competed in. People see her tenacity and competitive spirit but they also see what a quality human she is, and how she so willingly gives back to her sports.

"Having her here isn't just going to be great for Omanu and our young athletes but also the entire surf lifesaving movement throughout Bay of Plenty."

Jamie Troughton is a freelance journalist and photographer with more than two decades' experience writing about sport. <u>More by</u> <u>Jamie Troughton</u>.

https://newsroom.co.nz/2024/06...

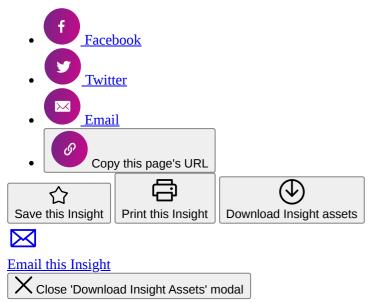




Was this Insight helpful?



Share this Insight



\oplus Download Insight assets

- <u>Trailblazing surf star lines up new gig.pdf</u>
- Surf Life Saving.png 810KB PNG

Was this Insight useful?



Similar Insights (109)

Change in Action Week - Innovative Impact FINALIST - Cambridge FC

Save insight

Leadership

Change in Action Week - Innovative Impact FINALIST - Cambridge FC

Change in Action Week - Wāhine Toa FINALIST - Macarena Carrascosa

☆ Save insight

Change in Action Week - Wāhine Toa FINALIST - Macarena Carrascosa Change in Action Week - Dad's as Allies FINALIST - Dan Doland

Save insight

Leadership

Change in Action Week - Dad's as Allies FINALIST - Dan Doland

Change in Action Week - Digital Innovation FINALIST - Brad Lenko

Save insight

Leadership

Change in Action Week - Digital Innovation FINALIST - Brad Lenko

Change in Action Week - Wāhine Toa FINALIST - Te Aroha Papanui-Hunt

Save insight

Leadership

Change in Action Week - Wāhine Toa FINALIST - Te Aroha Papanui-Hunt

Change in Action Week - Pioneer of Change FINALIST - Dino Michalakis

Leadership

Change in Action Week - Pioneer of Change FINALIST - Dino Michalakis

 $\frac{\text{Akarana Falcons front with all-female coaching staff}}{2}$

Leadership

Akarana Falcons front with all-female coaching staff

Leadership

Change in Action Week - Dad's as Allies FINALIST - Tyson Waina

Change in Action Week - Pioneer of Change FINALIST - Crispian Stewart

Change in Action Week - Pioneer of Change Winner - Kimberley Kan

Change in Action Week - Wāhine Toa Winner - Shanee Kiriau

Leadership

Change in Action Week - Wāhine Toa Winner - Shanee Kiriau

Leadership

Change in Action Week - Dad's as Allies Winner - Ben Quane

Play to Lead: The Generational Impact of Sport on Women's Leadership

Leadership

Play to Lead: The Generational Impact of Sport on Women's Leadership

Rise & Thrive Coaching Course - Manawatū

Leadership

Rise & Thrive Coaching Course - Manawatū

By Merran Brockie-David - Women in Sport Aotearoa Whanake o te Kōpara - Four Year Impact Report Save insight

Leadership

Whanake o te Kōpara - Four Year Impact Report

By Merran Brockie-David - Women in Sport Aotearoa <u>NZC prioritise understanding of Female Athlete Health</u>

分 Save insight

NZC prioritise understanding of Female Athlete Health

By Jess Davidson - New Zealand Cricket Whanake o te Kōpara case study - Daneka Geaney-Jones

값 Save insight

Leadership

Whanake o te Kōpara case study - Daneka Geaney-Jones

By Merran Brockie-David - Women in Sport Aotearoa <u>Gender Equity in Coaching Webinar</u>

없 Save insight

Leadership

Gender Equity in Coaching Webinar

By Canadian Women & Sport - Canadian Women & Sport Women and Girls Referees: Building a Transformative Infrastructure

☆ Save insight

Leadership

Women and Girls Referees: Building a Transformative Infrastructure

By Sarah Leberman MNZM - Women in Sport Aotearoa One woman, two chairs at top of NZ sport

Leadership

One woman, two chairs at top of NZ sport

2022 IWG: Kirsten Spencer - Gender and variation of experience, background and aspiration on leadership

Leadership

2022 IWG: Kirsten Spencer - Gender and variation of experience, background and aspiration on leadership

<u>Tātāwhāinga - Episode 10: Gender Equity</u>

分 Save insight

Leadership

Tātāwhāinga - Episode 10: Gender Equity

By Erin Roxburgh - Women in Sport Aotearoa <u>Tātāwhāinga - Episode 9: Sport Leadership</u>



Tātāwhāinga - Episode 9: Sport Leadership

By Erin Roxburgh - Women in Sport Aotearoa <u>Tātāwhāinga - Episode 8: Leadership in Action: The Shift Foundation</u> Save insight

Leadership

Tātāwhāinga - Episode 8: Leadership in Action: The Shift Foundation

By Erin Roxburgh - Women in Sport Aotearoa <u>Tātāwhāinga - Episode 4: Athletes: Humans or Commodities Part 1</u> Save insight

Leadership

Tātāwhāinga - Episode 4: Athletes: Humans or Commodities Part 1

By Erin Roxburgh - Women in Sport Aotearoa <u>Tātāwhāinga - Episode 3: Commercial Sports Organisations: a Case Study of the Hurricanes</u> Save insight

Leadership

Tātāwhāinga - Episode 3: Commercial Sports Organisations: a Case Study of the Hurricanes

By Erin Roxburgh - Women in Sport Aotearoa <u>Tātāwhāinga - Episode 2: Sport Governance and Funding with Raelene Castle</u> Save insight

Leadership

Tātāwhāinga - Episode 2: Sport Governance and Funding with Raelene Castle

By Erin Roxburgh - Women in Sport Aotearoa <u>The Aotearoa Legacy</u> Save insight

Leadership

The Aotearoa Legacy

By Peta Forrest - Women in Sport Aotearoa Young Women's Leadership Programme

Save insight

Young Women's Leadership Programme

By Sarah Leberman MNZM - Women in Sport Aotearoa IWG 2022 Progress Report

☆ Save insight

Leadership

IWG 2022 Progress Report

By Robyn Cockburn - LUMIN <u>Women & Girls Action Plan</u> Save insight

Leadership

Women & Girls Action Plan

By Maddi Mclean - Sport New Zealand Ako Wāhine: Journey of Learning

Leadership

Ako Wāhine: Journey of Learning

By Heather Dawson - New Zealand Rugby Gender and Variation of Experience

☆ Save insight

Leadership

Gender and Variation of Experience

By Kirsten Spencer - Auckland University of Technology <u>New Zealand Coach selected for Inaugural FIBA / WABC Female Instructor Course</u> Save insight

Leadership

New Zealand Coach selected for Inaugural FIBA / WABC Female Instructor Course

By Amy McClintock - Basketball New Zealand <u>Most kids are only coached by men in junior sport – women need to be part of the picture, too</u>

分 Save insight

Leadership

Most kids are only coached by men in junior sport – women need to be part of the picture, too

<u>Charmaine Smith cherishing opportunity to play international rugby</u>

☆ Save insight

Leadership

Charmaine Smith cherishing opportunity to play international rugby

Professional athletes share the struggle of motherhood and their careers

Leadership

Professional athletes share the struggle of motherhood and their careers

Te Hāpaitanga's role in advancing women in high performance coaching

Leadership

Te Hāpaitanga's role in advancing women in high performance coaching

Keeping our Olympians cool, calm and bug-free

₩ Save insight

Leadership

Keeping our Olympians cool, calm and bug-free

King's Birthday honours

Leadership

King's Birthday honours

Case Study – Annalie Longo - LockerRoom

Leadership

Case Study – Annalie Longo - LockerRoom

LockerRoom Story: Case Study - Rushlee Buchanan

Leadership

LockerRoom Story: Case Study - Rushlee Buchanan

IWG: Mel Johnston - Women in Community Sport Club Leadership

℃ Save insight

Leadership

IWG: Mel Johnston - Women in Community Sport Club Leadership

Te Hāpaitanga: Women breaking boundaries and reshaping sports leadership in New Zealand

Leadership

Te Hāpaitanga: Women breaking boundaries and reshaping sports leadership in New Zealand

Young Women's Leadership Opportunity Provides Huge Value

Leadership

Young Women's Leadership Opportunity Provides Huge Value

Value of your network – Whanake o te Kōpara - Ellie Eastwood

Leadership

Value of your network – Whanake o te Kōpara - Ellie Eastwood

Chiefs create tie to assist women's rugby in New Zealand and Japan

Leadership

Chiefs create tie to assist women's rugby in New Zealand and Japan

Sport NZ announces 2024 Sport And Recreation Award Winners

Save insight

Leadership

Sport NZ announces 2024 Sport And Recreation Award Winners

Women in Sport Recruitment and Retention Guidelines

Leadership

Women in Sport Recruitment and Retention Guidelines

₩ Save insight

Leadership

Pacific Leadership Programme - Impacting Pacific Women & Girls

By Merran Brockie-David - Women in Sport Aotearoa <u>Gender Equity is Good Governance – Lessons from the Sport Sector</u> Save insight

Leadership

Gender Equity is Good Governance – Lessons from the Sport Sector

IWG: Sanna Erdogan - Resilient Pioneers: Top Level Women Coaches in Martial Arts

Leadership

IWG: Sanna Erdogan - Resilient Pioneers: Top Level Women Coaches in Martial Arts

IWG: Emma Evans - Advancing leadership across the Pacific

☆ Save insight

Leadership

IWG: Emma Evans - Advancing leadership across the Pacific

2022 IWG Lightening Talk: Araba Chintoh -Transgender Players and Girls & Women's Sport: How Your Sport Can Make the Most Informed Decision.

☆ Save insight

Leadership

2022 IWG Lightening Talk: Araba Chintoh -Transgender Players and Girls & Women's Sport: How Your Sport Can Make the Most Informed Decision.

Ricky Henry given green light to continue leading Kiwi Ferns while also coaching Cowboys

♀ Save insight

Leadership

Ricky Henry given green light to continue leading Kiwi Ferns while also coaching Cowboys

Strategies that Male Allies Use to Advance Women in the Workplace

Save insight

☆ Save insight

Leadership

Trailblazing basketballer making history in All Blacks management

REPORT: ANALYSIS OF CAREER PATHWAYS OF BRITISH POSTHOLDERS IN INTERNATIONAL SPORT GOVERNANCE

Leadership

REPORT: ANALYSIS OF CAREER PATHWAYS OF BRITISH POSTHOLDERS IN INTERNATIONAL SPORT GOVERNANCE

By Sarah Leberman MNZM - Women in Sport Aotearoa Kiwi breaks the grass ceiling

Save insight

Leadership

Kiwi breaks the grass ceiling

Grief, recriminations, then gold: How the wheel has turned for Cycling NZ

Leadership

Grief, recriminations, then gold: How the wheel has turned for Cycling NZ

Pacific Women's Leadership Programme - Host organisation impact

Leadership

Pacific Women's Leadership Programme - Host organisation impact

By Merran Brockie-David - Women in Sport Aotearoa Women, Sport & Governance

Save insight

Leadership

Women, Sport & Governance

Ann Downey: Great female coaches are there, they just need to be asked

☆ Save insight

Ann Downey: Great female coaches are there, they just need to be asked

The Reykjavík Index for Leadership

Save insight

Leadership

The Reykjavík Index for Leadership

<u>'I'm saying this for the first time': AB's manager's road to the top</u>

3 Save insight

Leadership

'I'm saying this for the first time': AB's manager's road to the top

Megan Compain: NZ's First Pro Basketball Player in the USA & All Blacks' New Commercial Manager

Leadership

Megan Compain: NZ's First Pro Basketball Player in the USA & All Blacks' New Commercial Manager

Lisa O'Keefe: Uniting women's sport across the world (Podcast)

Leadership

Lisa O'Keefe: Uniting women's sport across the world (Podcast)

Sports Management Training Programme empowering women in Africa

Leadership

Sports Management Training Programme empowering women in Africa

Bringing Gender in Tool

Leadership

Bringing Gender in Tool

Celebrating Champions of Change: Helene Wilson

公 Save insight

Celebrating Champions of Change: Helene Wilson

How can we best support women with family or caregiving responsibilities to excel as a high-performance coach?

℃ Save insight

Leadership

How can we best support women with family or caregiving responsibilities to excel as a high-performance coach?

Celebrating Champions of Change: Rebecca Rolls Save insight

Leadership

Celebrating Champions of Change: Rebecca Rolls

Pacific Women's Leadership impact: Pualele Craig ₩ Save insight

Leadership

Pacific Women's Leadership impact: Pualele Craig

By Merran Brockie-David - Women in Sport Aotearoa 54321 Paris: Luuka Jones ₩ Save insight

Leadership

54321 Paris: Luuka Jones

Whanake o te Kōpara impact - 2023 Alumnae Kylie Heihei 分 Save insight

Leadership

Whanake o te Kōpara impact - 2023 Alumnae Kylie Heihei

IWG: Fran McEwen - Whanake o te Kopara: co-designing a leadership programme for young women Save insight

Leadership

IWG: Fran McEwen - Whanake o te Kōpara: co-designing a leadership programme for young women

Launch of Basketball New Zealand Emerging Leaders Programme!

₩ Save insight

Launch of Basketball New Zealand Emerging Leaders Programme!

Wonder Women: Women Who Lead initiative launched

☆ Save insight

Leadership

Wonder Women: Women Who Lead initiative launched

IWG: Michelle DeHighden - Developing our NextGEN Female Coaches

Leadership

IWG: Michelle DeHighden - Developing our NextGEN Female Coaches

Kiwi Yarns podcast: Kiwi rower Emma Twigg on what it takes to be an Olympic champion

Leadership

Kiwi Yarns podcast: Kiwi rower Emma Twigg on what it takes to be an Olympic champion

Black Ferns leader's momentous rugby deal

Leadership

Black Ferns leader's momentous rugby deal

Supporting good governance through board gender diversity

Leadership

Supporting good governance through board gender diversity

Super Rugby Aupiki: Return to rugby daunting proposition for new mum, former Black Fern Chelsea Semple

Leadership

Super Rugby Aupiki: Return to rugby daunting proposition for new mum, former Black Fern Chelsea Semple

New research reveals how sports clubs manage integrity issues - AUT

New research reveals how sports clubs manage integrity issues - AUT

Shaping attitudes: Exposure to women coaches and officials influences children and parent perceptions

分 Save insight

Leadership

Shaping attitudes: Exposure to women coaches and officials influences children and parent perceptions

Shaping Attitudes: Exposure to Women Coaches and Officials Influences Children and Parent Perceptions

Leadership

Shaping Attitudes: Exposure to Women Coaches and Officials Influences Children and Parent Perceptions

IWG: Helene Wilson - What happens when you create space in the system - Women in HP Sport Pilot

Leadership

IWG: Helene Wilson - What happens when you create space in the system - Women in HP Sport Pilot

Enhancing Participation Pathways for Women Coaches in Community Sport

Leadership

Enhancing Participation Pathways for Women Coaches in Community Sport

A development experience to remember

G Save insight

Leadership

Leadership

A development experience to remember

A development experience to remember

Leadership

A development experience to remember

Parents Guide to getting young women and girls physically active

Leadership

Parents Guide to getting young women and girls physically active

By Briana irving - Aktive - Auckland Sport & Recreation <u>HERA Coaching Young Women and Girls Toolkit</u>

Save insight

Leadership

HERA Coaching Young Women and Girls Toolkit

By Briana irving - Aktive - Auckland Sport & Recreation <u>IWG: Alexia Lopes - "No tits in the pits!": An exploratory research of female leaders in motorsports</u> Save insight

Leadership

IWG: Alexia Lopes - "No tits in the pits!": An exploratory research of female leaders in motorsports

 IWG: Vaidehi Vaidya, Women in Sport India - Mentoring the future leaders of women's sports

 Save insight

Leadership

IWG: Vaidehi Vaidya, Women in Sport India - Mentoring the future leaders of women's sports

IWG: Tania Cassidy & Jessica Fuller - Building capability in NZ female football coaches: The journey of a mentor and mentee.

Leadership

IWG: Tania Cassidy & Jessica Fuller - Building capability in NZ female football coaches: The journey of a mentor and mentee.

Hera principles

Leadership

Hera principles

By Briana irving - Aktive - Auckland Sport & Recreation IWG: Sari Tuunainen - Coach Like a Woman in Combat Sports

Leadership

IWG: Sari Tuunainen - Coach Like a Woman in Combat Sports

IWG: Hanna Huumonen - Bye bye, binary! Introducing intersectionality in sports instructing

IWG: Hanna Huumonen - Bye bye, binary! Introducing intersectionality in sports instructing

IWG: Akane Mikura - JBA progress of developing women coach

Leadership

IWG: Akane Mikura - JBA progress of developing women coach

<u>Te Whāriki Hou- Te Mana o te Wahine</u>

Save insight

💦 Te Whāriki Hou

Leadership

Te Whāriki Hou- Te Mana o te Wahine

By Amy McClintock - Basketball New Zealand <u>IWG: Dr Lana McCarthy There's No One Way To Coach: Practitioner' Perspectives On Team Leadership And Culture</u> Save insight

Leadership

IWG: Dr Lana McCarthy There's No One Way To Coach: Practitioner' Perspectives On Team Leadership And Culture

Cycling great dodges potholes in life after sport

Save insight

Leadership

Cycling great dodges potholes in life after sport

Fern juggles player and coach roles

Leadership

Fern juggles player and coach roles

Podcast: Raelene Castle: Leadership Lessons as CEO of Rugby Australia, Bulldogs, Sport New Zealand and more!

Leadership

Podcast: Raelene Castle: Leadership Lessons as CEO of Rugby Australia, Bulldogs, Sport New Zealand and more!

Women and Girls Strategy in Sport and Active Recreation - Sport NZ Commitment Progress Report

Women and Girls Strategy in Sport and Active Recreation - Sport NZ Commitment Progress Report

By Rachel Howells - Sport New Zealand <u>Improving Women's Experiences of Mentorship in Canadian Coaching</u> Save insight

Leadership

Improving Women's Experiences of Mentorship in Canadian Coaching

Playing Sports May Be The Secret To Women's Career Success

Leadership

Playing Sports May Be The Secret To Women's Career Success

Nuku Ora W&G Week Collaboration Session

Leadership

Nuku Ora W&G Week Collaboration Session

By Lily Joiner - Nuku Ora <u>Whanake o te Kōpara - Impacting young wāhine</u> Save insight

Leadership

Whanake o te Kōpara - Impacting young wāhine

By Merran Brockie-David - Women in Sport Aotearoa

Our Partners

- 📄 Sport NZ Sport NZ
- 🕞 US Embassy NZ US Embassy NZ

Women in Sport Aotearoa Insight Hub | Ngā Wāhine Hākinakina o Aotearoa



- <u>Twitter</u>
- <u>Contact</u>

- FAQs
- <u>Privacy policy</u>
- <u>Terms of use</u>

© 2024 Women in Sport Aotearoa

Subscribe to our newsletter

Receive the latest news, events and insights as we publish them.

Name:		
Email:		
Subscribe	<u>></u>	
\times		
	Close panel	💦 Women in Sport Aotearoa Insight Hub Ngā Wāhine Hākinakina o Aotearoa

Subscribe to our newsletter

Our weekly email delivering the latest insights as we publish them, tailored to your tastes.



Preferences

Select those that apply to you to help us customise your Insight Hub experience.

Insight Themes

- 🗹 All
- Leadership
- 🗹
- Social Change
- 🗹
 - Active Lives
- 🗹
- High Performance
- 🗹

Visibility and Voice

Insight Content Types

- All
- Research
- Case studies
- News stories
- 🔽
 - Toolkits

