

ADAPTIVE FOOTBALL DAY ACHIEVES ITS GOALS

On Sunday 28 August 35 young people with a disability had a go at playing football in Lower Hutt which was adapted to meet the needs of all players.

The event was an initiative of Halberg Trust, Sport Wellington and SportZone Football and aimed to introduce football to young people with a physical, sensory or intellectual impairment, between the ages of 13 and 25.

The intention was to develop a regular on-going Adaptive Football Programme to supply increasing demand from local teachers, students, parents and caregivers and this has certainly been shown by the participants at the event and they are eager to continue to play and learn skills together with SportZone providing the ongoing opportunity

This event was all about removing the barriers to participation and providing an opportunity to introduce the young disabled community to the game of football.

Director of SportZone Football, Tony Morrison says adaptive football is a great way for disabled people to keep active and have fun in a safe and enjoyable environment. SportZone has been running local adapted football programmes for adults for about three months and have been “blown away” by how popular and beneficial the game can be for the participants.

Westpac have been the Halberg Trust’s principal sponsor since 2007 and volunteer staff were on hand to assist the ‘Have A Go Day’. Westpac provided T shirts for all participants, refreshments and a BBQ for participants, their parents and caregivers to help celebrate the day’s activities.

Those interested in being involved should contact Tony Morrison directly at Tony@SportZone.org.nz or on 027 5776781

