

The Rugby Network

Camaraderie – Networking – Support – Advice



The New Zealand Rugby Players' Association and Pacific Rugby Players are building a network for retired professional rugby players called 'The Rugby Network'. The Rugby Network has been created to provide support and advice for past players who have played rugby in New Zealand and the Pacific Islands.

The Rugby Network team are available to assist retired players with their ongoing personal and professional development, including:

- career planning,
- education/ study,
- finance and insurance,
- medical support,
- mental health and wellbeing advice and services.

All retired professional players are encouraged to use the services of The Rugby Network team and any of the Personal Development Managers across New Zealand and the Pacific Islands.

The Rugby Network holds a number of events around the country. They are a great opportunity to connect and re-establish the camaraderie that our great game offers. All retired players are encouraged to attend any Rugby Network events, in any region that suits them.

For information on events or to get any assistance please email contact@nzsra.co.nz or phone 0800 PLAYER.

"The Rugby Network event showed just how important it is to stay in touch with the peers you played with or against for many years. We all have our own story, but it's awesome to be able to share with the brothers who are able to connect with you as they understand." **Pita Alatini, Former All Black, Super Rugby and provincial union player**

"The Rugby Network is a great initiative. Rugby produces some great friendships and The Rugby Network offers the environment to reconnect with people you have not seen in a while and to share stories of where people are at and the success and challenges we experience." **Richie McCaw, double Rugby World Cup winning All Black captain**

Introducing The Rugby Network team



Mark Ranby – NZRPA
The Rugby Network Manager

Mark Ranby is a former Waikato, Manawatu, Chiefs, Hurricanes and All Blacks player who completed an English degree at Massey University. He played in Japan prior to going to Cambridge University where he studied theology. Upon his return to New Zealand, he taught in high schools and has spent over a decade as a Personal Development Manager for Canterbury, the Crusaders and the Highlanders.



Hale T-Pole – CEO Pacific Rugby Players

Founding Chairman and now CEO of Pacific Rugby Players Hale T Pole was born in Longolongo, Tonga and moved to New Zealand for his final two years of secondary school where he attended Wesley College. He has played for Tonga including in a Rugby World Cup and for the Pacific Islanders, Highlanders, Otago, Southland, Northland, Suntory Sungoliath, Ricoh Black Rams, and Ospreys. Hale was the former director of rugby of Singapore-based Asia Pacific Dragons team, providing opportunities for Pacific Island players. He is a tireless advocate for the Pacific Island rugby space and hugely passionate about helping people of Pacific decent thrive.



Fiona Brading – NZRPA
Relationship Manager (Career Specialist)

Fiona Brading spent time working with youth and in the travel industry before studying sports science and psychology at the University of Auckland. After travelling and working in the recruitment industry in both the United Kingdom and New Zealand, she furthered her studies in career development at AUT before setting up her own career coaching practice. She is also a former North Harbour Personal Development Manager.



Kylie Devlin Sousa – NZRPA
Communications Manager

Kylie Devlin Sousa has spent nearly two decades serving rugby players in New Zealand. She is the long-standing Personal Development Manager for Counties Manukau Rugby and has worked as the Chiefs' Media Manager and Counties Manukau's Communications Manager. She started her own advertising company after working for INL and STUFF and is well travelled. Kylie studied media, communications and public relations at Massey University and is a qualified Pasifika Suicide Prevention Facilitator.