

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TUESDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 2026



Boccia athletes celebrate national championship success

New Zealand's top boccia athletes gathered at the Pulman Arena in Takanini over the weekend for the 2026 NZ National Boccia Championships, with medals awarded across individual, pairs and team divisions following four days of intense and exciting competition.

Marking 10 years since the national championships were held in Auckland, this event brought together athletes from across the country, with new players experiencing their first nationals. Many are returning athletes continuing to develop their skills, their friendly rivalries and determination to get a medal.

Boccia New Zealand General Manager Scott Martin says the national championship is the pinnacle of our domestic calendar. "The 2026 NZ National Boccia Championships has been a fantastic celebration of boccia, headlined by quality matches on court and the crowning of three new national champions in the individual competition. Just as importantly, the championships provided a great opportunity to strengthen friendships, build new connections and bring our boccia community together off the court."

The results from the 2026 NZ National Boccia Championships are as follows:

Key Results & Highlights

Pairs & Teams Divisions

(BC6/7 Pairs)

Gold – Arthur Murfitt + Karen Callendar (Waikato)

Silver – Connor Fa'asega (Otago) + Lilian Exton (Canterbury)

Bronze – Jeffrey Kerr + Matthew Henderson (Wellington)

(BC3 Pairs)

Gold - Georjah Cooper (Auckland) + Greig Jackson (Manawatu)

Silver – Max Wymer (Auckland) + Troy Robertson (Northland)

(BC1/2/4/5 Teams)

Gold – Colin Frude (Wellington) + Vishal Chandra (Waikato) + Matthew Whiting (Canterbury)

Silver – Maurice Toon (Waikato) + Rossey Stevenson (Auckland) + Cassie Brown (Australia)

Bronze – Maxine Morgan (Auckland) + Andrew Shea (Auckland) + Chloe Sturt (Canterbury)

Individual Divisions

(BC1/2/4/5)

Gold – Maurice Toon (Waikato)

Silver – Vishal Chandra (Waikato)

Bronze – Chloe Sturt (Canterbury)

(BC6/7)

Gold – Arthur Murfitt (Waikato)

Silver – Lilian Exton (Canterbury)

Bronze – Connor Fa’asega (Otago)

(BC3)

Gold - Troy Robertson (Northland)

Silver – Greig Jackson (Manawatu)

Bronze – Georjah Cooper (Auckland)

Special Trophies & Annual Awards

In addition to the court action, Boccia New Zealand recognised outstanding individual contributions to the sport:

Emerging Player of the Year – Arthur Murfitt (Waikato)

Volunteer of the Year – Peter Green (Canterbury)

Services to Refereeing – Daniel Henderson (Auckland)

Player of the Year – Troy Robertson (Northland)

Boccia New Zealand extends its gratitude to all match officials, volunteers, ramp operators, performance staff, and event sponsors whose support made the championship possible.

With Canberra, Australia set to host a World Boccia Challenger event in 2027, this year’s national championships provided an early opportunity for aspiring athletes to showcase their skills and put themselves in contention for international selection heading into the 2027 season.

— ENDS —

ABOUT BOCCIA NEW ZEALAND

Boccia New Zealand supports the growth and development of the sport across New Zealand, providing opportunities for people with physical disabilities to participate, compete at all levels and represent their region or country.

Our purpose is to foster belonging and sporting competition for physically disabled people from recreation to high performance.

Our vision is to transform the lives of physically disabled people through Boccia.

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