



Media Release

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## **Selwyn District Council comes out on top for Recreation Aotearoa Award**

Selwyn District Council has been crowned with the 'Active Park/Sportsground of the Year' Award 2024' for Foster Park, at the Recreation Aotearoa Awards evening held on 30 May at Te Pae, the Christchurch Convention Centre.

Representatives from Selwyn District Council, RSL Consultancy and MCL Contracting accepted the award on stage on behalf of the many Council staff, sports clubs, consultants and contracting companies who have made Foster Park the premier sport and recreation park it is today in the Selwyn District.

Phil Millar, Major Projects Manager at Selwyn District Council, says "It is a real honour for Selwyn to receive this award and it is a recognition of the vision and hard work of many people over the past 15 years to create Foster Park the excellent destination it is today. It has been a real team effort to create an award-winning park which is greatly appreciated by the community for sport, recreation, and play activities."

At many stages throughout the project, the community has had their input into the Foster Park project:

- 2009: the community started giving their input into the Rolleston Structure Plan
- 2012: the Needs Assessment Report
- 2013: the Draft Foster Park Management Plan
- 2016: the Foster Park Steering Group and school consultation regarding the destination of playground
- 2017: the Selwyn Sports Centre Needs Assessment and User Engagement

Phil says, "the community and sports clubs have helped shaped the development of Foster Park, and that is why I believe it has been such a success."

Selwyn District Council especially wants to acknowledge the great work of consultants: Boffa Miskell, RSL Consultancy (previously Global Leisure Group), Warren & Mahoney Architects and Incite Planners.

We would also like to acknowledge the excellent work of contractors: MCL Contracting, Corde, Grounds and Services Ltd, Polytan, Armitage Williams, Naylor Love, Watts and Hughes, Apollo Projects, Nor West Contracting, Downer, WaterForce, Arnold Jensen Electrical and Connetics.

We also want to acknowledge the late John F. Reid's vision and excellence in leading the Foster Park Project for five years while he was Major Projects Manager at Selwyn District Council. John led the development of Foster Park through many of its critical early stages and had the vision and drive to bring about the development of the Selwyn Sport Centre, of which the sprung courts is named after him. The Council dedicates this award to the memory of John.

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