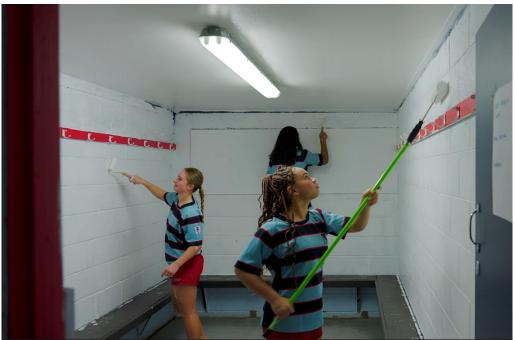
## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### Bunnings Rugby Assist returns for 2025 to support your club



Rugby players at Auckland Marist

2025 marks the fifth year of Bunnings Rugby Assist, an initiative dedicated to helping community rugby clubs upgrade and maintain club facilities that are vital to their operation.

An additional 10 clubs will be selected this year, each to receive \$30,000 to make club improvements, adding to the 50 clubs who have already benefitted from the program since it launched in 2021.

NZR General Manager of Community Rugby, Steve Lancaster said: "With the valued support of Bunnings Rugby Assist, we can further champion the incredible work of rugby clubs throughout the country. These clubs tirelessly serve their communities, shaping young players and providing welcoming environments for all to enjoy our sport."

Over the past four years, Bunnings has worked shoulder-to-shoulder with clubs from across the country who are making a positive difference to their local rugby community.

The 2022 Bunnings Rugby Assist Winning club, Auckland Marist, were acknowledged for their commitment to their women's teams and over the years have continued to see sustained growth and glory within the local competition.

Vania Wolfgramm, Auckland Marist club representative and former Black Fern said, "The access to these funds and hands on support from the Bunnings team have made such a critical difference to Auckland Marist and our abilities to make everyone feel welcome.

"The upgrades we were able to make to changing rooms and showers have allowed our women to feel a deeper sense of belonging as we continue to grow the game for our wāhine toa.





# **MEDIA RELEASE**

"This year, Bunnings will continue to champion grassroots rugby clubs who are making a meaningful impact and are at the heart of their communities."

According to Melissa Haines, General Manager at Bunnings New Zealand: "Grassroots rugby clubs are central to Aotearoa's communities, bringing people together and growing the game. We look forward to another year working alongside the rugby community and encourage clubs to apply, so Bunnings Rugby Assist can empower another ten clubs to achieve even more for their local community."

Grassroots clubs from across the country can apply for the Bunnings Rugby Assist for the chance to receive a share of \$300,000 worth of Bunnings products and materials.

Bunnings Rugby Assist is open for applications from Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025 until Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> June, 11:59pm.

For more information or to nominate your club, please visit: www.provincial.rugby/bunnings-rugby-assist

### ENDS

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#### Notes to the editor

Please see the following recipients from Bunnings Rugby Assist 2024.

