

Havelock North High School team wins SPARC Get2Go Challenge 2007

After several days of outdoor action and team adventure, eight students from Havelock North High School are celebrating their victory at the 2007 SPARC Get2Go Challenge.

The SPARC Get2Go Challenge grand final event took place at the Sir Edmund Hillary Outdoor Pursuits Centre (OPC) on Great Barrier Island last week. The top teams from the SPARC Get2Go regional challenges held throughout the North Island earlier this year battled it out in a series of outdoor adventure sports and activities.

Whangarei Girls' High School finished in second place, followed by Western Heights High School in third place. The teams were put through their paces in a variety of physical and mental challenges including kayaking, orienteering, sailing and raft building.

SPARC Sports Ambassador and three times World Ironman Champion, Cory Hutchings, spent some time at Great Barrier Island last week to encourage and support the students taking part in the Get2Go Challenge grand final.

“The Get2Go Challenge is an awesome opportunity for the kids to learn more about outdoor sports and it introduces them to a healthier lifestyle.”

Hutchings shared his experiences of competing in Ironman competitions with the students. The students also had an opportunity to chat with Hutchings about keeping motivated and reaching their sporting goals.

The Get2Go Challenge is run by OPC and sponsored by SPARC. It is a team adventure challenge for Year 9 and 10 students, designed to encourage them to get active in New Zealand's great outdoors.

This is the second year the Get2Go Challenge has been run. After it was successfully piloted in four regions last year, the Get2Go challenge was expanded throughout the North Island.

With around 850 students participating in the Get2Go Challenge regional events, SPARC Chief Executive Nick Hill is pleased with the success of the 2007 SPARC Get2Go Challenge.

“Get2Go has provided many Year 9 and 10 students in the North Island an opportunity to have a go at a variety of outdoor sports and activities, and learn some new skills. I hope the experience has given the students the confidence to continue exploring New Zealand’s great outdoors.”

SPARC is the Crown Entity charged with promoting, encouraging and supporting sport and physical recreation in New Zealand. For more information, visit www.sparc.org.nz.

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Editor’s note

Schools that attended the 2007 SPARC Get2Go Challenge grand final