



CASE STUDY:

INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO PROMOTING
AND SUPPORTING SQUASH

MOUNT MAUNGANUI SQUASH CLUB



SQUASH
NEW ZEALAND

OVERVIEW

The new Health and Safety Work Act came into law on the 4th April 2016 and organisations all over the country have become familiar with the changes and are getting up to scratch in the health and safety department. It is all about keeping people safe. Everyone is susceptible to a heart attack and thousands of people die as a result of cardiac arrest each year. Luckily survival rates can be increased by up to 75% using an automated external defibrillator (AED), which is why sports clubs around the country, such as the Mount Maunganui Squash (Sports) Club, are taking it upon themselves to make sure these devices are on hand to look after the members of their community.

CHALLENGES

Cost

The price varies by model but most AEDs generally cost between \$1500 and \$3000, which is still a significant cost for many sports clubs.

Usability

As there are very few AEDs in sports clubs throughout the country, many people have not used one before unless they have been on a first aid course.

Access

Similarly, most first aid kits are stored away in a cupboard that are not easily accessible.

SOLUTIONS

Trust Support

A sponsorship request was made to the Legacy Trust – a charitable organisation in Tauranga who allocate funding from Legacy Funerals.

Training

With the support of St Johns, the club organised an initial training for 20 people on how to use the AED.

Location

The AED is now mounted on the outside of the building so its is accessible to the community. Signage has also been displayed on the club building and the club is listed on the AED finder website for everyone to see.

RESULTS

1

Defibrillator available for the community.

20

People trained as part of the installation of the AED.



Safety conscious community.

CONCLUSION

Health and safety needs to be a regular agenda item, actively and visibly managed by clubs. All clubs should be reviewing their processes and documentation including: policies, risk assessment and management, training requirements, implementation, reporting methods and monitoring periods.

The Mount Maunganui Sports Club have been proactive in ensuring they can look after the members of their community by providing access to an AED, mounted on the club building.

Club member Tania Dawson said “a large thank you to Legacy Trust and the Mount Sports Club for enabling us to have such a vital life saving piece of equipment made accessible to the Mount Maunganui community.”

To find your nearest community defibrillator: <http://aedlocations.co.nz/>