

Why Take Part in Positive Vibes Only (Me pai te wairua)?

Every weekend across the Bay of Plenty, thousands of people shape the hākinakina (sporting) experience — often without realising just how much impact they have.

Positive Vibes Only (Me pai te wairua) invites everyone involved in hākinakina to play their part in creating environments where tamariki and rangatahi can enjoy the game, feel supported and stay involved for longer.

For Parents and Whānau

Your voice matters. What you say from the sideline — and how you say it — has a huge influence on how sport feels for young players.

Positive encouragement helps tamariki and rangatahi build confidence, resilience and enjoyment. PVO supports parents and whānau to model behaviour that keeps sport fun and focused on effort, learning and enjoyment — not just the result.

For Coaches

Coaches set the tone. The way players are spoken to, supported and challenged shapes not only performance, but experience.

PVO reinforces coaching environments where learning, respect and positivity are the foundation. When players feel safe to make mistakes and keep trying, they stay engaged and develop faster — as athletes and as people. This supports the growth of both the player and their hauora (wellbeing).

For Officials

Referees and umpires are essential to hākinakina, yet often feel the greatest pressure — particularly young and developing officials.

Positive Vibes Only (Me pai te wairua) reminds everyone that officials are human, learning and doing their best. Positive environments mean officials feel supported, confident and more likely to stay involved in the game — strengthening the wider hapori (community).

For Players

Sport should be fun, challenging and social. PVO supports environments where players can focus on trying new skills, backing their teammates and enjoying being part of a team — without fear of blame, abuse or embarrassment.

When positivity and strong wairua leads, players are more likely to keep playing, stay active and love their sport.

For Supporters

Supporters help create the atmosphere. Encouragement, respect and understanding of the game all contribute to a better experience for everyone on and off the field.

Positive Vibes Only simply asks supporters to be aware of the impact they have — and to help make sport something people want to come back to each week.

Why it matters

When sporting environments are positive, everyone benefits:

Tamariki and rangatahi stay in sport longer

Coaches and officials feel valued (ka rongō i te manaakitanga)

Volunteers remain engaged

Communities (hapori) grow stronger

Positive Vibes Only (Me pai te wairua) is about lifting the standard together — across sports, across spaces — so the Bay of Plenty continues to be a place where hākinakina is enjoyed by all.

He waka eke noa

We are all in this together