



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **SBS Bank celebrates giving \$250,000 to its community stars**

Just over two years and nearly 150 happy, non-profit groups later, the team at SBS Bank are celebrating giving a quarter of a million dollars back to their communities through their SBS Star banking package.

SBS Bank general manager corporate performance Lana Winders said being able to support SBS Bank's hard working and worthy non-profits with an unexpected windfall through their monthly draws to win one of ten \$1000 prizes was another way they could pass on added benefits to the wider community.

"As New Zealand's only customer-owned bank, we have a genuine passion about the well-being of our members and their communities. That is why we're always eager to come up with innovative ways of providing them with even greater benefits through our products and services.

"The establishment of SBS Star was a way we could reward our hard-working, voluntary organisations and it's fantastic to be able say that since its introduction in 2008, SBS Bank has now been able to share \$250,000 with a wide variety of community groups that bank with us through our SBS Star banking package," Mrs Winders said.

"All non-profit clubs and societies are welcome to join SBS Star – we welcome schools, playcentres, sports clubs, social clubs, charity groups or an arts or performance groups, to come and find out how they can join the 150 non-profit groups that have had a share of \$250,000.

Bowls Southland executive officer Gordon Crombie said Bowls Southland received all of the banking services that they had come to expect with a New Zealand-owned mutual bank and winning more than one of the \$1000 monthly draws was just the icing on the cake.

"Bowls Southland congratulates SBS Bank on returning \$250,000 in prize money to community clubs and organisations.

"The SBS Star package that we have is a real winner for community groups and our latest win will enable us to continue to offer development programmes such as the one we have with the Support Centre at James Hargest College to all members of our community.

"Bowls truly is a sport for people of all ages and abilities – just as SBS Bank is the bank for all people."

2009 Tauranga Arts Festival director Philip Tremewan said they were absolutely delighted with their SBS Star wins.

“This windfall capped off superbly a wonderful relationship with SBS Bank. Their sponsorship of the festival had huge benefits for us all and saw some extraordinary performances from the oddball Kransky Sisters.”

Eastern Southland Hockey Association Inc turf redevelopment committee chairman Vince Aynsley said his organisation wished to thank SBS Bank for the support and commitment they had shown to them.

“Their friendly, helpful service and their long-standing support for all the sports at the Multi Sport Complex in Gore shows they are committed to the community. SBS Bank has provided the association with the means of being able insure their new hockey turf at Wayland Park in Gore was able to be fully completed in one stage, Mr Aynsley said.

“As the lucky winner of \$1000 from SBS Star, the raising of the money for the hockey turf has truly being a community effort which the sport is truly grateful. So thank you to the SBS Bank for the \$1000 and the support they have given towards our project.”

***CAPTION: The team at Bowls Southland work with the James Hargest College Support Centre offering a special bowling experience for students.***

***Email: [Melissa.chilton@sbs.net.nz](mailto:Melissa.chilton@sbs.net.nz) if you would like the above photo or the option of a Star winner from your area?***

**For further information please contact:**

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