

# 5 Squadron Formal Dinner

The annual Formal Dinner event for 5 Squadron Air Cadets is a formal and significant occasion held once a year, typically in August or September. This event offers cadets and their families a structured and ceremonial dining experience, reinforcing the values of discipline, respect, and camaraderie central to the Air Cadet program. The event is hosted at the Ellerslie Racecourse, located at 100 Ascot Avenue, Remuera, Auckland 1051, with the start time set for 5:00 PM and estimated to conclude before 9pm on 8-September.

The evening features a formal three-course dinner, providing a refined dining experience for cadets and their families. Speeches delivered by VIP guests and senior officers are a central component, focusing on themes such as leadership, service, and the values of the Air Cadets. The event is well-attended, with cadets accompanied by their parents or guardians; last year, the event saw 236 cadets and parents in attendance.

The "Dine In" is rich in traditions, including formal toasts, ceremonial procedures, and adherence to specific etiquette and protocols, all of which instill a sense of heritage and discipline within the cadets. Planning and organization of the event are handled by the Unit Support Committee, which has established a subcommittee specifically for this purpose, working in collaboration with the Operations Team to ensure the event's success.

The target cost for attending the event is set at \$57.50 for cadets and their first parent, with an additional charge of \$65 for the optional second parent. The Unit Support Committee (USC) through fundraisers will provide a subsidy for the event to keep the target costs. The Unit Support Committee and Operations Team will be organizing this event and will need to arrive early at 3pm to setup the room and stay later to pack up the decorations. The USC is looking for additional Parent helpers to volunteer with setup and pack down.

This well-organized event, set in the prestigious Ellerslie Racecourse, promises an evening of formal dining, inspiring speeches, and cherished traditions, offering a valuable and memorable experience for all attendees.

