

Media Release

Ms Ros Spence MP
Minister for Multicultural Affairs
Minister for Community Sport
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HELPING LOCAL SPORTING COMPETITIONS GET THROUGH THE PANDEMIC

The Victorian Government will support hundreds of local sporting leagues and associations across Victoria to survive the coronavirus pandemic.

Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence today announced 200 local leagues and associations across the state will share in \$1.4 million in grants through the *Community Sport Sector Short-term COVID-19 Survival Package*.

The grants of up to \$15,000 each will help these leagues and associations meet fixed costs to ensure they can remain operationally viable and provide a valuable boost for their clubs and membership.

It will also help them safely operate and reactivate at the other side of the coronavirus pandemic.

Since the start of the coronavirus pandemic, the community sport and active recreation sector has suffered significant revenue losses – putting sporting associations, leagues and clubs at financial risk.

The \$40 million *Community Sport Sector COVID-19 Survival Package* is rolling out grants of up to \$15,000 for associations and leagues, and grants of \$1,000 for individual clubs.

Under the scheme, associations and leagues were eligible to apply for grants of up to \$15,000 each, and are part of the Government's strong investment in supporting community sport and active recreation in these challenging times.

The Government is also investing \$68 million in shovel-ready community sport and active recreation infrastructure projects across the state, to stimulate jobs and economic activity, and deliver fantastic new projects to local communities as part of the new \$2.7 billion *Building Works* package.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence

"Our local clubs and leagues are the heart and soul of local communities and that's why we're backing them as we look towards a safe return to play."

"Ensuring community sport and active recreation organisations survive this crisis and come back stronger than ever is critical to our economic and social recovery, and to our community's physical and mental wellbeing."

"These grants will help these leagues and associations survive and keep their eyes towards a return to play."