

The Hon Ros Spence MP Minister for Multicultural Affairs Minister for Community Sport Minister for Youth



Wednesday, 2 September 2020

BACKING GRASSROOTS SPORTING CLUBS ACROSS VICTORIA

The Victorian Government is ramping up support for sporting clubs, leagues and state associations doing it tough during the coronavirus pandemic.

Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence today announced that applications were now open for a second round of grants through the *Community Sport Sector COVID-19 Survival Package*.

More than \$19 million has already been invested in clubs, leagues, state associations and other organisations from the Government's \$40 million package for community sport and active recreation.

Clubs that received a \$1,000 boost in the first round of the package will automatically receive an additional \$500 while leagues and associations funded in the first round will receive a further \$1,000. No additional application is required and payment will be made over the next two weeks.

State sporting associations and sporting bodies can apply for a second round of support to shore up their operational viability, with applications considered on a case by case basis.

The first round of funding supported more than 5,000 clubs with \$1,000 grants each, while 200 leagues and associations secured a share in \$1.4 million and almost 70 state sporting associations, regional academies and sport bodies were allocated more than \$12.7 million.

This round is taking the support to another level so clubs and associations that are doing it tough not only survive but are ready to return to play when the time is right.

It will help organisations operate safely, support their members and athletes and assist with the development of plans to return to play.

For further information on the *Community Sport Sector COVID-19 Survival Package*, visit <u>sport.vic.gov.au/grants-and-funding</u>.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Community Sport, Ros Spence

"These Community Sport Sector COVID-19 Survival Package grants will provide a major boost to sporting clubs and major state sports organisations to keep their heads above water and roll out a return to play."

"Our state sporting associations, state sport and recreation bodies and their clubs and leagues are the backbone of many local communities – they bring people together and that has never been more important than now."