

Media Release

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



Thursday, 24 June 2021

BOOST FOR SPORT VENUES FROM BAIRNSDALE TO NEWSTEAD

The Victorian Government is continuing to help more people play the sports they love at improved facilities and female friendly change rooms through new grants.

Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence today announced 73 projects from junior tennis to lawn bowls will share in \$22 million from the Government's *2021 Local Sports Infrastructure Fund*.

With overwhelming demand for improved local sport and active recreation infrastructure across Victoria, the fund supports projects across five categories – including Better Indoor Stadiums, Female Friendly Facilities, Community Sports Lighting, Facilities for Active Seniors, and Scoreboards and Fixed Equipment.

The 73 projects funded include \$200,000 to install accessibility ramps and safety features at the Deer Park Bocce Social Club to make it easier for seniors and all abilities competitors. The new safety upgrades include opening the courts to more training, social and competitive bocce activities.

Other projects to receive funding include \$2 million towards two new courts at the Yarrowonga Multisport Stadium, \$500,000 for new female friendly change rooms at Bairnsdale City Oval as well as upgrades to nearby Peppercorn Park in Bairnsdale, and \$250,000 for LED lighting at John Coburn Oval at Frankston's Jubilee Park.

These investments will create more than \$60 million of new infrastructure across Victoria and construction across all projects will begin by the end of 2021.

Minister Spence also announced that the next round of the Local Sports Infrastructure Fund will open later this year, with up to \$27 million available including \$10 million for female friendly facilities.

The Government has invested more than \$1.1 billion in community sport and recreation infrastructure since 2014. This includes the recent budget boost towards community sports infrastructure investments featuring \$55 million for facility developments.

For more information about the program and successful projects go to sport.vic.gov.au.

Quotes attributed to Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence

"Congratulations to the latest recipients of the Local Sports Infrastructure Fund – with grassroots sports back in full swing, clubs and community need quality accessible facilities they can depend on."

"By working with local councils, communities and clubs we're making sport and active recreation more welcoming and inclusive for more Victorians."

"These projects will also deliver local jobs while delivering top-notch facilities for our passionate sports communities."