

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



Wednesday, 4 August 2021

NEW GRANTS PUT SCORE ON BOARD FOR COMMUNITY CRICKET

The Andrews Labor Government is backing community cricket with more grants to develop and upgrade cricket facilities across the state.

Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence today announced applications are now open for the third round of the Labor Government's \$13.5 million *Community Cricket Program.*

This round of the program delivers \$1.4 million for clubs and councils to develop or redevelop local cricket infrastructure, from training nets through to female friendly and accessible change rooms.

Players at Diggers Rest Recreation Reserve, Doug Dean Recreation Reserve in Delacombe and Linton Recreation Reserve are previous beneficiaries from grants for new nets made under the second round of the program.

The program has also stumped up a new three lane cricket net training facility at AJ Freeman Reserve in Paynesville, refurbished cricket nets at JK Grant Reserve in Altona to include six synthetic cricket pitches and repair works on the oval at St Leonards Lake Reserve in St Leonards.

By helping clubs modernise their facilities, communities have the opportunity to cater for even more people keen to get involved in sports like cricket.

The *Community Cricket Program* is part of the Labor Government's investment of more than \$1.1 billion in community sport and active recreation infrastructure since 2014.

Since 2019, the *Community Cricket Program* has invested more than \$2.8 million in 30 cricket infrastructure projects across Victoria. For more information about the program, visit <u>sport.vic.gov.au/grants-and-funding</u>.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence

"With more and more young Victorians keen to get involved in cricket we're getting on with helping clubs and councils build the facilities they need."

"It's a winner on many levels, including for clubs in their ability to attract new players and volunteers to get involved and enjoy the benefits of a healthy lifestyle."

Quote attributable to Linton Cricket Club President Kirk McDonald

"The Linton Cricket Club eagerly await construction of the new training facility which will support current and future cricketers moving forward."

Quotes attributable to Interim CEO of Cricket Victoria Nick Cummins

"Cricket is part of the fabric of the Victorian community and these projects will inspire even more locals to pick up a bat and ball and join their local club."

"We thank the Government for its ongoing support for grassroots cricket facilities across the state."