

Media Release

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



Thursday, 23 June 2022

TEERING UP CASH FOR BETTER REGIONAL GOLF COURSES

Eight regional golf clubs across Victoria are in for major upgrades thanks to the Andrews Labor Government, with courses to be modernised as participation increases.

Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence today announced the Labor Government is investing over \$400,000 towards golf course infrastructure projects from Leongatha to Barwon Valley, through the *Golf Infrastructure Fund*.

Funded projects include more than \$37,000 towards a water saving fairway irrigation system at Mirboo North Golf Club as well as \$124,000 for a new undercover driving range at the Barwon Valley Golf Club.

There's also \$101,000 to help Nagambie Golf Club install an irrigation system to three of its fairways and \$10,000 towards an upgrade of the practice facilities at Leongatha Golf Club.

Golf in Victoria contributes an estimated \$883 million to the state's economy and supports 6900 jobs with more than 300,000 Victorians playing golf at more than 350 courses across the state.

Since 2018, the Fund has invested over \$1.7 million to support 18 golf infrastructure projects and is part of the Government's \$7.46 million *Supporting Growth of Golf Clubs Around Victoria* initiative.

The initiative has also contributed \$15.3 million for the new home of golf in Australia at the Sandringham Golf Course and \$160,000 to support the successful *Golf Scholarship Program*.

Better golf facilities make it easier for players and supporters of all abilities to get involved in the sport and for clubs to stage major tournaments.

Backed by the Government's *Golf Tourism Strategy 2018-23*, Victoria is also getting on with boosting its global reputation as the place for major golf tournaments - recently securing the Presidents Cup in 2028 and 2040 under a new agreement between the Government and the PGA Tour.

For more info about the program including the latest grant recipients visit sport.vic.gov.au.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence

"This program is about supporting the growth of golf and encouraging more people regardless of their age or skill level to play and enjoy the sport."

"It's all about giving our community clubs even stronger foundations so more people can have a swing and the future of the game is even brighter at a local level."

Quote attributable to the President of the Mirboo North Golf Club Inc Robert Clark

"Making our course sustainable and available all year round has been a real game changer for our community. We'd like to thank the Government for this grant."