

Media Release

The Hon Sonya Kilkenny MP
Minister for Planning
Minister for Outdoor Recreation



Wednesday, 6 September 2023

LOCAL FISHING CLUBS REEL IN NEW GRANTS

The Andrews Labor Government has officially announced the opening of the Stronger Fishing Clubs Grant Program, welcoming Victorian angling clubs and associations to apply for grants of up to \$10,000.

Minister for Outdoor Recreation Sonya Kilkenny and Member for Yan Yean Lauren Kathage today visited the Northern Suburbs Fly Fishing Club on the shores of Yarrambat Lake to announce the new \$1.2 million grants program. Grants will be available to help strengthen and increase club membership and promote participation in recreational fishing.

This program delivers on the Andrews Labor Government's election commitment to help fishing clubs attract new members, encouraging more families to take up fishing, and is part of the government's record \$96 million package to improve fishing, boating, piers and aquaculture.

Clubs from all corners of the state, from Mildura to Mallacoota, Warrnambool to Wodonga, can get a helping hand to boost participation in their patch. Applications for round one of the program open today and close on 6 December 2023.

Projects eligible for funding include events that provide recreational fishing tuition for women, multicultural groups, First Nations peoples and all-abilities, alongside open days, training and events, and guest speaker nights.

Projects involving IT upgrades, website development, clubroom improvements, and equipment that will benefit all members are also eligible for funding.

To apply online or learn more visit vfa.vic.gov.au/strongerfishingclubs.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Outdoor Recreation Sonya Kilkenny

"We want to help fishing clubs grow because they support newcomers to the pastime of fishing and share generations of knowledge amongst members."

"Our Stronger Fishing Clubs Grant Program will ensure local clubs can attract local members and support them to enjoy all the benefits that come with spending time on the water with family and friends."

Quote attributable to Member for Yan Yean Lauren Kathage

"Fishing club members have vast knowledge and experience to share, so new anglers who get involved in a club can learn tips and tricks from those who have spent countless hours wetting a line."