

Media Release

The Hon Ros Spence MP
Minister for Prevention of Family Violence
Minister for Community Sport
Minister for Suburban Development



Wednesday, 13 September 2023

GREENHILL RESERVE UPGRADES A WIN FOR LOCALS

New upgrades at Greenhill Reserve have provided the Wallan community a safer and smoother sports oval, with support from the Andrews Labor Government.

Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence today joined Mitchell Shire Council Mayor, Cr Fiona Stevens and local sport and community representatives to officially open the upgraded oval, backed by more than \$106,000 from the Labor Government's *Country Football and Netball Program*.

Greenhill Reserve is a popular community sports hub – used by more than 700 participants from the Wallan Magpies Football Netball Club, the Wallan Kookaburras District Cricket Club, and Wallan Secondary College's sporting programs.

The Labor Government's funding has enabled the reshaping of the main oval to remove low spots and installation of drainage in key sections of the sports fields to eliminate water ponding caused by heavy rainfall.

Thanks to the new upgrades, the resident clubs, Wallan Secondary College and the wider community will be able to access the two full-sized ovals year-round, now boasting a smoother and weatherproof surface.

Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence acknowledged Mitchell Shire Council for its financial contribution of more than \$150,000 and Cricket Victoria for its financial contribution of \$20,000.

Applications for the latest round of the *Country Football and Netball Program* close on 9 October.

The *Victorian Budget 2023/24* is providing more funding to deliver new and improve community sports infrastructure and support initiatives that boost participation and inclusion in local sports clubs and organisations.

For more information visit sport.vic.gov.au.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence

"Greenhill Reserve is a valued home for so many talented clubs and athletes – I'm very pleased to see even more people in Wallan can now access appropriate facilities year-round."

"These upgrades mean the Magpies and Kookaburras can expand their programs and welcome more people, particularly our young people, onto the grounds and into community sport."

Quote attributable to Mayor Cr Fiona Stevens

"We are grateful to Minister Spence and the Victorian Government for their continued support as we work to enhance services and facilities for our residents. These projects will help to cater for the rapidly expanding population in the south of our Shire."