

Media Release

The Hon Ros Spence MP
Minister for Agriculture
Minister for Community Sport
Minister for Carers and Volunteers



Friday, 27 February 2026

HELPING MORE FIRST NATIONS ATHLETES

Labor is making it cheaper and easier for First Nations athletes to participate in the sports they love.

Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence today announced 19 successful applicants will share in more than \$68,000 from the latest round of the *Aboriginal Sport Participation Grant Program* – to help pay for participation in sport carnivals, travel, uniforms and equipment.

Recipients include the Robinvale Manatunga Sports Club, which will receive \$11,000 towards travel costs for their junior boys' and girls' teams to participate in the upcoming VACSAL state wide Basketball Classic this March in Geelong.

The Darebin Netball Association will receive almost \$2,300 toward new uniforms for their First Nations U17 junior girls and open women's senior players.

This grant program is part of the Government's strong support for the Victorian Aboriginal community, alongside the new Victorian Aboriginal Sporting Partnership.

Since 2020, the Aboriginal Sport Participation Grant Program has more than 530 grants to community sport clubs and individuals in Victoria's Indigenous communities.

For more information about the program and the latest successful recipients visit sport.vic.gov.au

Quotes attributable to Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence

"We're proud to support our next generation of First Nations athletes."

"Sport brings communities together like no other. This boost provides even more reason for First Nations athletes to kickstart a career in sport and follow in the footsteps of their sporting heroes."

Quote attributable to Team Manager of Robinvale Manatunga Sports Club Stacey Ingram

"This is a game changer for our teams. They will now be able to compete in the Statewide Aboriginal Carnival in Geelong. This support enables them to participate with pride and feel connected as a community."