

# The Liberals' Sport and Recreation Policy

*Building sport and recreation from grass roots to  
elite levels*



MAKING DECISIONS  
GETTING THINGS DONE  
SECURING WA'S FUTURE



## Policy Summary

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Western Australian culture is built around our love of sport at both a local and professional level. No other Government in the history of Western Australia has provided so much support from a grassroots level, up to the elite standards.

From helping 13,000 disadvantaged kids into sport through the KidSport program, to the commitment to a new world-class major stadium, the achievements are unparalleled.

The Liberals in Government have also committed to the construction of a new high performance netball centre, begun the construction of new community netball courts in partnership with the City of Cambridge, spent \$95.14 million overhauling NiB stadium for elite level soccer and rugby matches, more than doubled the Community Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund (CSRFF) to \$20 million per annum, allocated \$31 million for a new WA Institute of Sport facility and completed the Perth Arena project.

There is no doubt that WA needs, and deserves, a new world-class major stadium, and yet the Labor Party oppose the stadium project on the Burswood Peninsula.

Only a Liberal Government will deliver a new, state of the art major stadium in this decade.

If re-elected the Liberals will:

- Commence construction on a new, world-class 60,000 seat major stadium at Burswood
- Invest in our local communities through the development and upgrade of significant local sport and recreation facilities, including for football, soccer, netball, basketball and rugby
- Maintain CSRFF at \$20 million per annum
- Provide an additional \$280,000 over four years to the Seniors Recreation Council to help seniors keep fit and active.

## New Major Stadium

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If re-elected the Liberals will:

- Commence construction on a new, world-class 60,000-seat major stadium at Burswood.

Western Australia needs and deserves a new world-class major stadium. The only party committed to delivering a new major stadium in this decade is the Liberal Party.

The Liberal-led Government made the decision and got on with the job of actually delivering the new stadium. The Labor Party is opposed to this progress and want to go back to Subiaco – which would guarantee that WA will not see a new major stadium in this decade.

The Liberals' plan means WA will get a 60,000-seat capacity stadium with scope to expand to 70,000 and possibly 80,000 into the future, with \$375 million allocated for the project in the out years.

The new Stadium will enable Western Australia to attract a range of sporting and entertainment events and enjoy the social and economic benefits they offer; and the dynamic facility will provide WA with a high profile way to promote ourselves regionally and internationally.

The stadium will act as a magnet for further development of the precinct on the Burswood Peninsula. The vision is of a vibrant entertainment and sports precinct on the eastern edge of Perth, which will link to the new Riverside and Perth Waterfront developments as well as the Perth Link, the Cultural Centre, and the Perth Arena.

Work is also progressing on vehicle and pedestrian access, including a footbridge connecting East Perth and the Burswood Peninsula.

The Labor Party is against a new stadium at Burswood - and therefore against a new stadium this decade.

## Local Sports Facilities

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If re-elected the Liberals will:

- Invest in our local communities through the development and upgrade of significant community sport and recreation facilities.

The Liberal Party policy of more than doubling the Community Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund (CSRFF) to \$20 million per annum has seen new community facilities established across the State and existing facilities upgraded to meet local needs.

However, some local governments are not able to afford the matching funding that the CSRFF program requires. To ensure that there is not a growing divide between the local government areas, the Liberal Party has committed to a range of significant community sport and recreation projects that either require majority or full State funding.

Projects committed to include:

- \$16 million towards the expansion of Arena Joondalup, including a new home for the Wanneroo Basketball Association, new clubrooms for West Perth Football Club, additional netball courts and a new pitch for the Joondalup Brothers Rugby Union Club
- An additional \$8.75 million on top of the 2008 election commitment of \$8million towards stage three of the Centennial Park Precinct development in Albany. Works will include numerous new soccer, football and cricket ovals, a new grandstand and community centre, a centrepiece football oval, lighting, drainage, bike paths, community gardens and children's playgrounds
- \$7 million towards the Ellenbrook Recreation Hub to ensure a new 50-metre pool and aquatic centre is included in the complex, as well as new indoor basketball courts, a gymnasium and community centre
- \$3 million to construct a new pavilion and associated facilities at Eaton Oval
- \$500,000 to overhaul the Northern Redbacks Women's Soccer Club facilities in Balga.

## Continuing CSRFF at \$20 million per annum

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If re-elected the Liberals will:

- Maintain funding to the Community Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund at \$20 million per annum.

The Liberal Party at the 2008 State Election committed to increase the CSRFF program from \$9 million per annum to \$20 million per annum for four years – a policy that was implemented in Government and has seen of communities all across the State benefit through new and improved sport and recreation facilities.

A re-elected Liberal Government will retain the CSRFF program at \$20 million per annum and continue to partner with local governments and sporting clubs across Western Australia to deliver better sport and recreation facilities for local communities.

Projects assisted by the Liberal-led Government's policy to increase the CSRFF program to \$20 million per year include:

- \$2.5 million for the redevelopment of the Mandurah Aquatic and Recreation Centre
- \$1.5 million for the development of playing fields at Kalgoorlie-Boulder's Ray Finlayson Sporting Complex, including lighting, storage, cricket nets and furniture
- \$2.5 million to redevelop Beatty Park Leisure Centre
- \$650,000 for the construction of the Dalyellup Sports Pavilion including change rooms, kiosk, meeting room, umpires' room, storage, toilets and undercover viewing areas
- \$800,000 for the redevelopment of Geraldton's Eadon Clarke Reserve, including reticulation, lighting, fencing, aquifer storage and ablutions.

## Support for Seniors' Fitness

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If re-elected, the Liberals' will:

- Provide an additional \$280,000 over four years to the Seniors Recreation Council to help seniors keep fit and active.

Remaining healthy and having access to stimulating recreational activities are vital for the quality of life of our seniors. Additionally, keeping active improves health outcomes and reduces pressure on Western Australia's health system.

A re-elected Liberal Government will increase funding to the Seniors Recreation Council to support its Healthy Ageing through Activity programs by \$70,000 per annum, taking the total investment over four years to nearly \$530,000. This will enable the council to provide its important active recreation programs to more seniors.

Activities run by the council include pole walking (walking with ski-type poles), exercise classes, adapted games in a community recreation facility, and Have a Go Day, a free event that offers sporting and recreation activities to encourage people to join a sport or recreation club.

## Our Record

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The Liberals have a strong record in Government of having:

- Committed to building a new State Netball Centre at the Matthews netball centre site in Wembley. More than \$26 million has been allocated to build a new four-court indoor facility, resurfacing of existing courts, a new building for the Perth Netball Association, increased car parking and improved transport arrangements
- Undertaken a \$95 million redevelopment of NiB Oval to provide a dedicated high quality venue for elite soccer and rugby matches. The development has seen the construction of a permanent eastern stand, improved lighting, new audio visual score boards, a better pitch surface, improved hospitality amenities and better training facilities
- Completed the new State Basketball Centre which opened in January 2010 and includes eight courts, including the two show courts with seating for up to 2,000 spectators
- Established a new headquarters for rugby in Western Australia, which was completed in April 2011
- Committed \$31 million for a new Western Australian Institute of Sport facility in order to ensure Western Australia keeps pace with national and international elite sport
- Delivered on the 2008 Liberal Party election commitment to more than double the Community Sport and Recreation Fund, from \$9million to \$20 million a year over the past three years, after Labor failed to increase it in seven years of government
- Introduced the successful \$10 million KidSport program, which has allowed 13,000 children to join a sporting club who would not have otherwise been able to, by paying up to \$200 towards their clubs fees and/or associated costs
- The KidSport initiative is part of a wider program, 'Sports for All', to which the Liberal-led Government allocated \$20 million in total in order to help clubs attract and retain volunteers, and better use communications technology. \$2 million of this was provided for Nature Play, a program to encourage children to play outdoors

- Provided more than \$5 million to the Clontarf Foundation to establish eight new football academies in regional Western Australia
- Worked with not-for-profit groups and local governments to establish a highly successful Midnight Basketball program for young people in the cities of Swan and Armadale. This policy contributed to a 50 per cent reduction in the number of youths detained in Northbridge on Friday and Saturday nights.

