



ANNUAL REPORT

2019/20





Our vision:

To build active local communities

**Healthy clubs,
healthy people**

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Organisation details:

120 Numurkah Road, Shepparton VIC 3630
PO Box 1361, Shepparton VIC 3630

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www.valleysport.net.au

CHAIRPERSONS REPORT

What a year Valley Sport has had. From welcoming new staff and saying farewell to some of our strongest contributors. Continuing our lobbying for a Sports Academy, seeking to improve Gender Equality in Sport and Recreation clubs across the Goulburn Valley and supporting community sport and recreation to navigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, it has been a busy, yet productive year for Valley Sport.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow board members for their contributions over the past 12 months, you have all provided excellent strategic direction and support to the organisation over a very challenging period. I look forward to continuing working with you all to lead the recovery and assist the local community sport and recreation sector navigate its way through the current environment.

Valley Sport's growth during the past year has meant we have welcomed some new faces to the team; Lucy Marino who is our Project Officer in charge of the Gender Equality Pilot Project, Hannah Symes a new Project Officer to support our funded work within Moira and Strathbogie Shires and we welcomed back Nattalie Joinbee as Program Manager who returned from maternity leave in March, Valley Sport also said goodbye to our Project Officer Nadia Bevan, Project Officer Jarryd Cutler and Interim Program Manager Nicole Dalle Nogare. We thank all the resigning staff members for their contributions to our organisation and wish them well in their future endeavours.

March 2020 served up community sport and recreation the biggest challenge it has faced in its history, with the forced closure of most operations for all sport and recreation organisations in Victoria due to the threat of COVID-19. Immediately halting competitions, training, and all other associated activities that we have become accustomed to in community sport. We will not know the full impact COVID-19 has had on community sport and recreation for years to come but for now we have

a real opportunity to support the community to come back in a better position than they were at the beginning of 2020. The Valley Sport team looks forward to this challenge to support local sport and recreation to thrive again.

Despite the end of the financial year operations being affected Valley Sport were still able to maintain a strong financial position at years end. Revenue fell by \$25,457 in line with business investments and less staff, expenses also fell \$55,326 from the previous year. This saw a net profit invested back into the business of \$111,514.

The coming year will see Valley Sport investing significant time and effort to support the local sport and recreation sector to get back on its feet. To ensure that local sport and recreation can thrive and provide all the benefits to the local community for many years to come. Valley Sport will also continue its lobbying for the establishment of a Sports Academy for the region, providing greater levels of support to our clubs and increasing physical activity across the region.

Healthy Clubs, Healthy People.

Natalie Irvine
Chairperson



STATISTICS

on our programs,
events and workshops



3 CLUBS
engaged in
Gender Equality
Pilot Program

10 Physical Activity Programs delivered
438 Active participants



175 PEOPLE with a disability linked to a club

930 all abilities participants



12 Local Women in Sport Ambassador profiles published

5 Club Development Workshops
102 PARTICIPANTS Club Development Workshops



9 Responsible Service of Alcohol Courses delivered



143 Club volunteers trained

SCHOOL SPORTS PROGRAMS



5,092 School Sports Program Participants

15 CLUBS involved in School Programs



230,456 People reached through our online platforms

70 Guided Conversations with clubs during COVID shutdown

159

Clubs Provided with one-on-one club support

4 Funding Agreements with Stakeholders

RONALDO

7



OUR ORGANISATION

Board Members

Natalie Goodall
Chairperson

Jo Breen
Board Member

Colin Gleeson
Vice Chairperson

Belinda Conna
Board Member

David Booth
Executive Member

Staff Members

David Quinn
Executive Officer

Nattalie Joinbee
Program Manager

Nicole Dalle Nogare
(Resigned May 2020)
Program Manager

Kayla Ryan
Project Officer

Nadia Bevan
(Resigned Dec 2019)
Project Officer

Lucy Marino
(Commenced Feb 2020)
Project Officer

Jarryd Cutler
(Resigned Sep 2019)
Project Officer

Hannah Symes
(Commenced Oct 2019)
Project Officer

Michael Dann
Project Officer

Emma McQueen
(Commenced Nov 2019)
Project Support Officer

Kate Nichols
School Sport Coordinator

Sheree Brown
Finance/Bookkeeper

Isa Graham
Finance/Bookkeeper

CASE STUDY

Valley Sport guides local sporting clubs through conversations to unpack COVID-19 challenges

Background

Given the circumstances in which most of Australia found themselves in from late March 2020 with increasing restrictions on movement and gatherings, followed by lockdowns. This had an enormous effect on the sport and recreation industry across Australia. Eventually the local sport and recreation industry was completely shutdown in April and so the network of Regional Sports Assemblies decided they needed to offer as much one on one support as possible to their sport and recreation volunteers.

Approach/Delivery

Valley Sport, along with its other Regional Sporting Assembly counterparts, embarked on a data collection and volunteer welfare project as a collective to gain insights directly from local sport and recreation volunteers their perspectives on, challenges and issues facing regional community sport in Victoria during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Throughout the months of April, May, June and July, Regional Sports Assemblies (RSAs) undertook one on one 'guided conversations' with their local sporting clubs, associations, and leagues, and this data was recorded systematically across the network.

Results of this comprehensive data set demonstrate that while concerns for respondents changed over time, throughout the entire period one thing remained constant - that the physical, social, and mental wellbeing of members and communities was of paramount importance to regional Victorians.

It is important to note that this data is primarily qualitative in nature, and that the rich conversations which have taken place provide deep insights into the state of community sport in regional Victoria and should be analysed in conjunction with complimentary

quantitative data sets.

From April 30th 2020, all RSAs were undertaking one to one guided conversations with those clubs, associations and leagues which fell within their catchment areas.

These conversations took anywhere from 15 minutes, to up to an hour.

Outcomes

As of July 12th 2020:

- 511 conversations had taken place
- All 48 regional LGAs were represented
- 41 different sports and physical activities were represented amongst the data set (see appendix of sports listed)
- 78% of conversations took place with either the President or Secretary
- 51% of the clubs surveyed had at least 100 members (based on 2019 club numbers)
- 18% of the clubs surveyed had more than 300 members (based on 2019 club numbers)

Thus far, Valley Sport have contributed 70 guided conversations with clubs from across our catchment area from all 7 Local Government Areas.

Valley Sport aim to continue to rollout club guided conversations periodically over the next 12 to 18 months as we look to support the recovery of local sport and recreation in the community from the industry closures due to pandemic response restrictions.

The next step for Valley Sport is evaluating the local data from these rich conversations to provide evidence informed response to the needs of the local sport and recreation community to address their challenges and issues facing clubs, leagues and associations in 2020.

Goulburn Valley Sports Assembly Inc. trading as:



Valley Sport is proudly supported by:



Valley Sport supports the following local Governments:



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