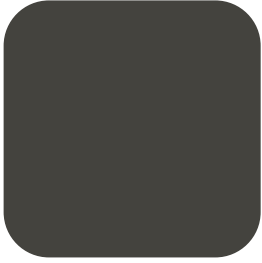




Country Football and Netball Program Half-Time Report



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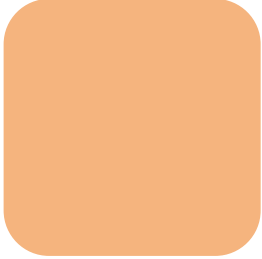
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Minister's Foreword

The Victorian Government's *Country Football and Netball Program (CFNP)* has provided a significant boost to hundreds of local communities in rural and regional Victoria since 2005.

The program was established as a partnership with the Australian Football League (AFL), AFL Victoria, Victorian Country Football League (VCFL) and Netball Victoria.

The CFNP has now passed the half-way mark in its 2005-2010 program and to date has contributed more than \$5 million towards some 150 projects worth more than \$11 million in total.

These projects have not only helped improve and modernise facilities for football and netball clubs, they have also contributed to the sustainability of local sport in many of our country towns which continue to struggle with the far-reaching effects of the ongoing drought.

It is a mark of the importance sport plays in the life of country towns that in addition to CFNP funding, many of these projects have also successfully attracted financial contributions from local councils, as well as backing from local communities through fundraising and in-kind support.

This half-time report measures and reports the overall success of the CFNP to date and includes success stories detailing some of the projects completed so far.

Looking forward, the second half of the CFNP will showcase the impact of many more projects including the outcomes of CFNP AFL Premier Facilities funding. This has recently resulted in Shepparton's Deakin Reserve being able to host an AFL pre-season match between Collingwood and Hawthorn.

The Victorian Government is committed to getting more Victorians to lead healthier, more active lifestyles and we are achieving this through initiatives like the CFNP and campaigns such as *Go for your life*.

Being active in sport and recreation helps people get involved in their local community, as a participant, spectator, volunteer or commercial enterprise. It also helps us in our efforts to turn the tide against the looming epidemics of obesity, diabetes and heart disease.

Country football and netball clubs are vital to local communities. Programs such as the CFNP play an important role in continuing to ensure their ongoing sustainability.




A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Merlino". The signature is fluid and cursive.

James Merlino MP

Minister for Sport, Recreation
and Youth Affairs

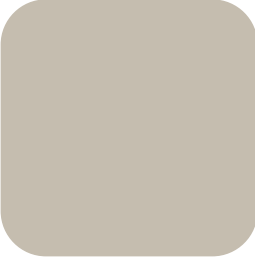
Purpose of the Country Football and Netball Program Half-Time Report




In June 2005, the *Country Football and Netball Program* (CFNP) was created by the Victorian Government in partnership with Australian Football League (AFL), each contributing \$2 million towards the new facilities funding program.




The program was developed in response to the Rural and Regional Services and Development Committee's final report on its Inquiry into Country Football.




The report recommended the provision of greater funding and support to country football programs from both the State Government and major football organisations, such as the AFL, Football Victoria and the Victorian Country Football League.



The State Government then invested a further \$6 million as part of the *Moving Forward – Provincial Victoria Statement*. This additional investment resulted in a total pool of \$10 million to be distributed between the 2005/06 and 2009/10 financial years.



Funding is made available to country football and netball clubs in the 48 eligible rural and regional and nine outer metropolitan councils, with the grants administered by Sport and Recreation Victoria (SRV).



The CFNP assists country football and netball clubs to develop facilities in particular areas of need, with priority given to projects relating to venues where football and netball activities are jointly located as well as projects which demonstrate football and netball clubs operating together and sharing project benefits.

Projects have included:

- The modification of existing football and/or netball club facilities to improve usage and provide access. Projects such as:
 - o Meeting space;
 - o Disability access; and
 - o Change room facilities for players and umpires of both genders;
- Projects that encourage the interaction of all groups including associated facilities for families and carers;
- Development or upgrading football playing fields;
- Development or upgrading netball courts; and
- Development or upgrading of lighting facilities.

Since the launch of the CFNP, there have been significant benefits for local communities, with positive impacts on the sustainability of football and netball clubs.

This report highlights the outcomes of some of the completed projects funded at the mid point of the CFNP.

The report also provides a series of case studies which canvas the variety of projects funded by the program to date, including:

- Upgrade of a netball court;
- Development of a football playing field;
- Kitchen upgrade;
- Development of a multipurpose pavilion; and
- Development of change room facilities for players and umpires.

It is envisaged that clubs and councils planning future football and netball facility projects will benefit from the case studies and completed projects outlined.

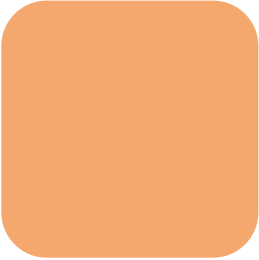
Summary of Funding



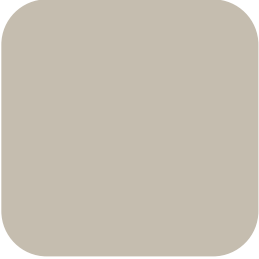
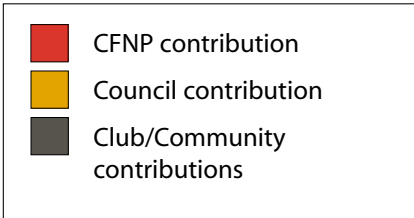
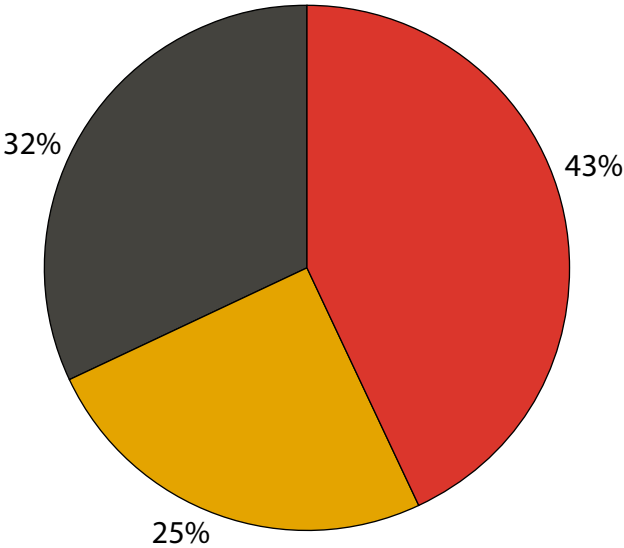
The following section is a summary of the projects funded at the mid point of the *Country Football and Netball Program*.

\$5 million has been allocated to support over 150 projects worth more than \$11 million.

The following graph depicts the various funding sources contributing to successful projects under the *Country Football and Netball Program*.

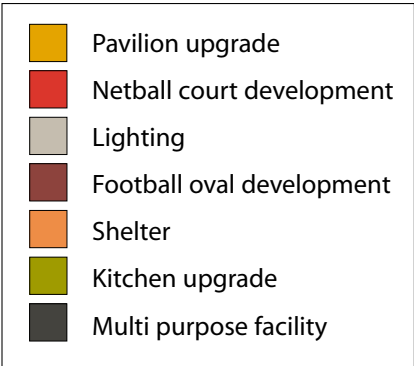
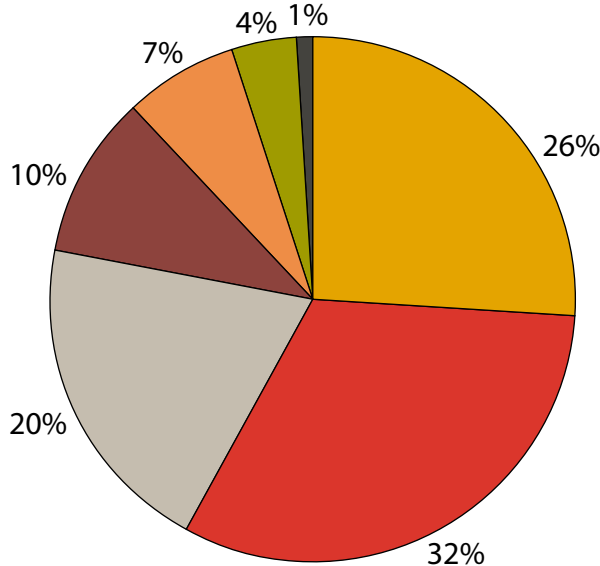


Sources of Project Funding



This graph represents the types of projects funded so far under the *Country Football and Netball Program*.

Funded Project Type



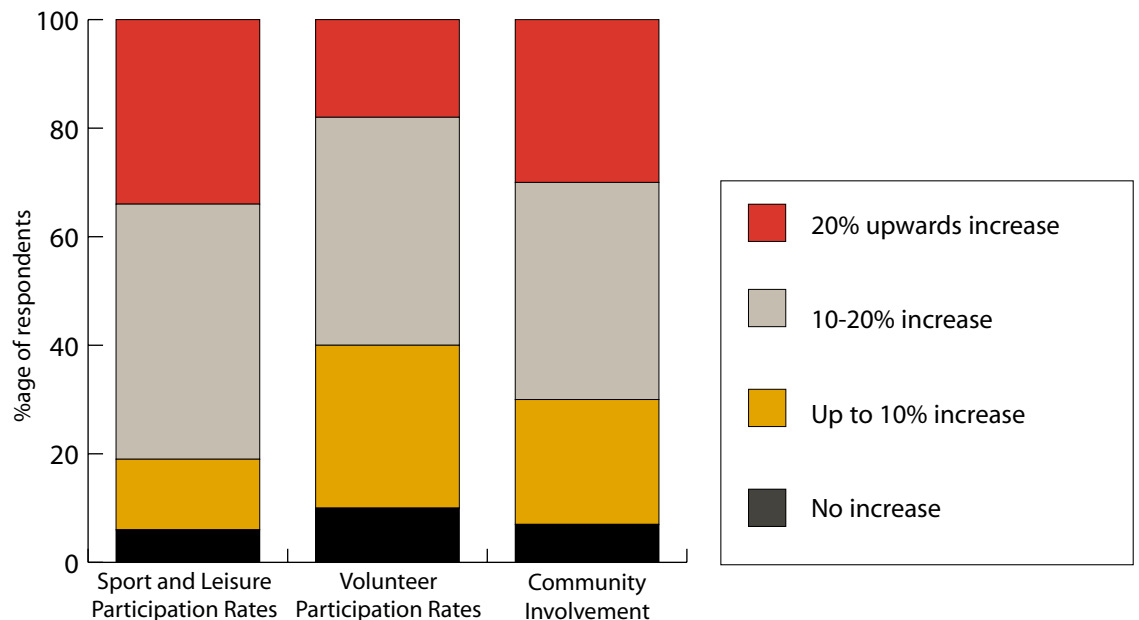
Summary of Funding

Each Council funded under the *Country Football and Netball Program* is required to complete a project outcome report. Information collected from these reports has assisted Sport and Recreation Victoria to assess the impact of the program. Findings from those reports confirmed the following:

- 97% of respondents said the project strengthened the viability of the club
- 95% of respondents said the project increased utilisation of the facility
- 95% of respondents said the project provided a safer environment for people to participate
- 89% of respondents said the project improved access opportunities for people to participate in physical activity
- 66% of respondents said the project delivered local economic benefits
- 53% of respondents said the project reduced demand on club volunteer resources

Based on 40 project responses.

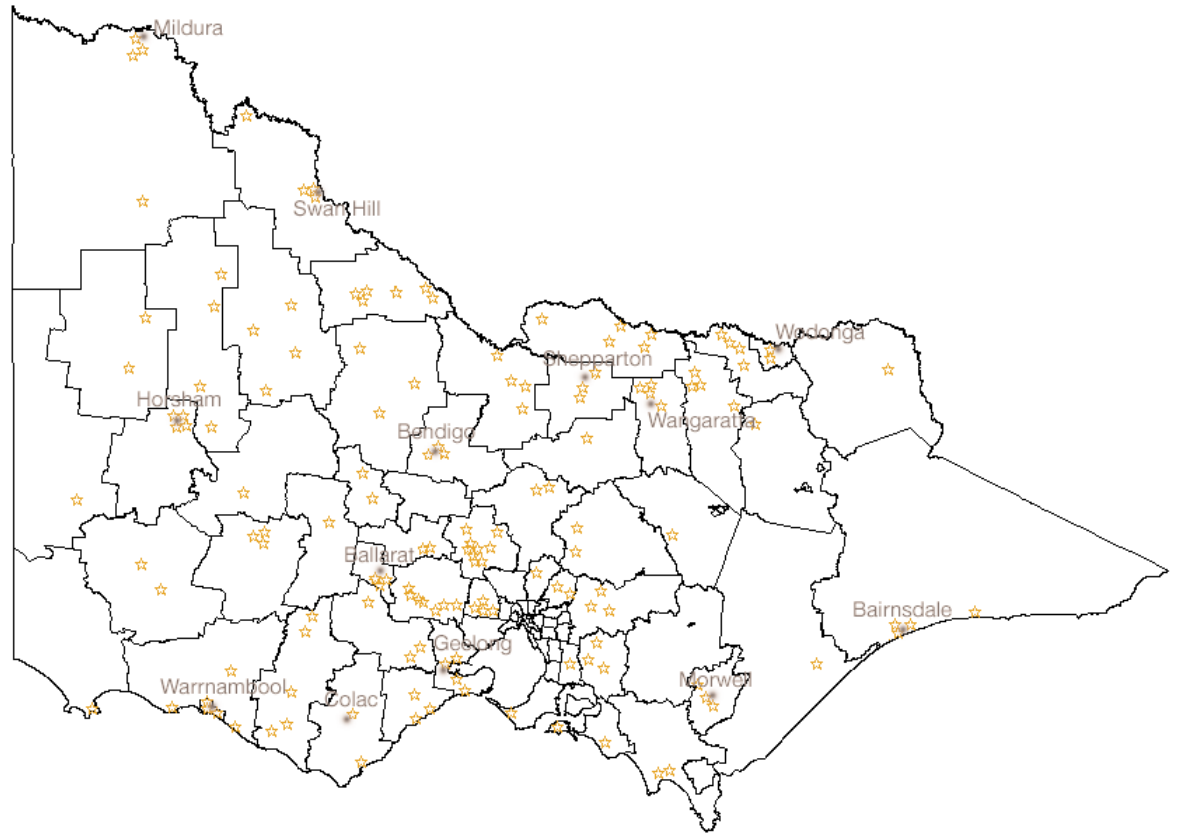
Over 90% of completed projects reported that the facility development had a positive impact on sport and leisure participation rates and community involvement.



81% of projects reported a 10% (or more) increase in sport and leisure participation as a result of the facility development. 34% of projects reported an increase of 20% (or more) in sport and leisure participation.

Summary of Funding

The map below represents the locations of projects funded across the state.



Dalyston Football Netball Club Netball Court Redevelopment



Club | Dalyston Football Netball Club
Project Name | Dalyston Football Netball Club Netball Court Redevelopment
Project Category | Netball Court Redevelopment
CFNP Grant | \$50,000
Project Total | \$82,000

On Saturday 5 May 2007, the Dalyston Football Netball Club celebrated the opening of their redeveloped netball courts in grand style. The club played host to Netball Victoria's *WorkSafe Country Netball Game of the Month* which saw Dalyston face off against Korumburra-Bena. The new netball surface was given a thorough workout as the teams battled it out in front of a considerable crowd.

The *WorkSafe Country Netball Game of the Month* highlights the quality and excitement of Netball in Country Victoria. The event also promotes work safety throughout Victoria.

"The WorkSafe message reached many families and businesses in the local area and the attendance of former Melbourne Phoenix Captain and Australian representative, Liz Boniello, meant that the local netball community were able to participate in the junior coaching clinic and hear Liz's inspirational story at the luncheon" says Susan Crow, Chief Executive of Netball Victoria.

The event provided the perfect opportunity for the people of Dalyston to show off their redeveloped netball facility. Mr Hans Kamphuis, Secretary/Treasurer of the Dalyston Recreation Reserve Committee, says that "on this particular day netball took centre stage, which was terrific. Seeing the smile on the girls' faces is a pretty special feeling, they now have a facility they can be proud of".

The netball court project addressed safety and risk management issues associated with the court's dimensions, surface and lighting. "It means the girls now play netball on a court approved by Netball Victoria", says Mr Kamphuis. The netball courts were revamped during the 2007 off-season.

The project involved constructing a second netball court, resurfacing the existing court and installing competition standard lighting. As a result, the players now have a safer playing area.

The Recreation Reserve is the only public facility in Dalyston and is used extensively by the local community. As such, "the benefit to the community is enormous" says Mr Kamphuis. In addition, the improved netball courts will help bring the football and netball club together. Mr Kamphuis explains that "The netballers can now train all season through, which allows the two sports teams to closely interact".

The Victorian Government provided \$50,000 towards the project in 2006/07, through the *Country Football Netball Program*. The club contributed \$4,500 in funding but it was the club's in-kind support of more than \$14,000 that made the project a success.

"The in-kind stuff was well and truly above and beyond" says Mr Kamphuis, "the countless hours of volunteering was astounding". Fittingly, it was these volunteers who were out in force at the official opening, cheering their netball team to an amazing one point win!



Dalyston netballers in action

Dalyston Football Netball Club Netball Court Redevelopment



Before: The netball courts at Dalyston



After: Worksafe Game of the Month –
Dalyston V Korumburra-Bena (2007)

Tips for Netball Court Developments:

- Ensure the court dimensions, including run-offs, comply with Netball Victoria's standards. For more information see: www.netballvic.com.au.
- Investigate various surface types to enable you to pick one that best suits your needs.
- Consider drainage and soil conditions in your planning and site selection.

Torquay Football Netball Club Kitchen Project



Club | Torquay Football Netball Club
Project Name | Torquay Football Netball Club
Complying Kitchen Project
Project Category | Development of Multipurpose Pavilion
CFNP Grant | \$20,000
Project Total | \$39,215

Patrons of the Torquay Football and Netball Club have satisfied appetites thanks to a major upgrade to the club's kitchen. The Victorian Government provided \$20,000 in funding towards the project in 2005/06, through the *Country Football and Netball Program*.

The kitchen upgrade includes an enlarged and refurbished kitchen area and the creation of a food storage area. The kitchen is also decked out with up-to-date cooking equipment allowing volunteers to supply hot food to the hungry masses.

Food sold on match day provides a valuable source of revenue for the club. The new kitchen successfully satisfied hundreds of hungry spectators when the club hosted three Bellarine Football League grand final matches in 2007. Yet, the kitchen refurbishment also has implications for the wider Torquay and Jan Juc community.

The Torquay Football and Netball Club is the sporting and social hub of the town. Club Treasurer, Brian Canning, says "Locals get involved with the club through actively participating in sport, volunteering at the local canteen, fundraising events or attending as a spectator". The new kitchen helps enhance the club's sense of community spirit.

Beneficiaries of the new kitchen include football and netball participants and supporters, including junior players and Auskick and Netta participants. Cricket players, the Life Activities Club for older adults and other community groups also have their needs catered for.

Additionally, the Torquay and Jan Juc community have a functional venue for dinner meetings and social activities. "We need to constantly look at ways of improving our facilities to ensure the club remains a place the greater community wants to be involved in". Mr Canning said. The kitchen upgrade will help sustain this community relationship into the future.



Torquay Football Netball Club players

Tips for Club Kitchen Projects:

- Ensure relevant food handling requirements are met in terms of the kitchen layout and design. You can check these requirements with your local Council's health department.

St Arnaud Netball Club Clubrooms



Club | St Arnaud Football Netball Club
Project Name | St Arnaud Netball Club Clubrooms
Project Category | Development of Multipurpose Pavilion
CFNP Grant | \$18,022
Project Total | \$27,530

Country football and netball are full of enthusiasts, but there could be few more enthusiastic hosts than Brett Douglas, a St Arnaud Football Club committee member and the chairman of St Arnaud's Lord Nelson Park Committee of Management.

Douglas says the Lord Nelson sporting precinct is so called because it was built over the old Lord Nelson gold mine.

Part of the precinct is the netball courts, where St Arnaud netball president Geraldine Cornwell revealed herself to have enthusiasm to rival, and perhaps even shade, that of Douglas.

Cornwell, who is a nurse, has been the netball club president for two years. As she reels off the successes of the netball club in improving its facilities and increasing its numbers of players, it's hard to imagine they've been inactive years.

In 2004, the St Arnaud Netball club had 65 players for its seven teams. In 2007 it had 94 players.

The town of St Arnaud has a population of 2900 and is the biggest in North Central Victoria. Even so, the effort of the town's netball club in raising its playing stocks by 50 per cent is a rare feat.

"We have to rotate the players so they all get a chance to play," Cornwell said.

Besides sound administration, the netball club has grown stronger because of its improved facilities. Until 2005, the netballers played on courts that were marked out on the car park behind the football dressing rooms.

Two courts were then built using the latest materials and set aside for the specific purpose of netball; no cars were to be parked on them. The erection of lights around the courts enabled the netballers to train and play in an environment that rival clubs envy.

While the courts were top-class, until 2007 the netballers changed in a chook shed that had a tin roof and a dirt floor. The wire cages that housed the chickens during the annual show in October were thrown out of the shed and lined up against the wall outside. A curtain separated the two teams, which froze in winter.

During the visit – late in the 2007 season – dirty old wire cages were still piled against the shed wall, while a peek through a door at the back half of the shed revealed row after row of further cages.

But the interview was conducted in a comfortable room with a carpeted floor and a view over the courts. Earlier in 2007, the front third of the shed had been renovated into the netball club's social rooms using a grant of \$18,000 from the Victorian Government under the CFNP.

"This was a chook shed," said Douglas, beaming at the overhaul.



Players making use of the club rooms

St Arnaud Netball Club Clubrooms

The room is elevated slightly above the two netball courts and offers a perfect view. It is planned that a veranda will be built over a tiered concrete area in front of the room, offering another under-cover viewing area. The project has improved access opportunities and strengthened the viability of the club. Umpire training courses are now conducted at the venue.

The eight- to 11-year-olds go through paces in one of the regular matches that the club puts on to introduce girls to netball. The club's official teams are A, B and C grades in the senior divisions, as well as two under-16 teams and two under-13 teams.

The North Central football and netball leagues are unique in Victoria in that they are accompanied every Saturday by hockey competitions.

Between the hockey pitch and footy oval was a light tower. Under a separate \$48,000 grant from the Victorian Government, the Lord Nelson committee is relocating this tower away from the middle of the grassed area and on to the other side of the fence. It's also erecting three new light towers.

When added to the existing light tower that shines across the finish line of the old trotting track and on to the footy oval, that will make five light towers. Douglas said the wattage beaming from the five light towers should be strong enough for St Arnaud to hold night footy and night hockey during the 2008 winter sporting seasons.



St Arnaud players in action

The only problem with the tour and the day was the thrashing that the St Arnaud senior footballers received from Birchip-Watchem, a club that wears a big anchor on its guernsey despite being based 400 kilometres inland.

Douglas, whose 19-year-old son Jesse played in defence for St Arnaud against Birchip-Watchem, didn't appear too concerned by the result. It was as if he had bigger things on his mind.

"This will be a unique country sporting facility," he said.



Before: the chook shed



After: the new facility

Tips for Netball Pavilion Projects:

- Consider the needs of all participants involved including players, spectators, and umpires.
- Consider environmentally sustainable design principles. For more information see www.sustainability.vic.gov.au.

Inverleigh Sporting Complex Oval Two Development



Club		Inverleigh Football Netball Club
Project Name		Inverleigh Sporting Complex Oval Two Development
Project Category		Development or upgrading of football playing field
CFNP Grant		\$50,000
Project Total		\$75,000

In 1992, the Leigh Districts Football Club represented the towns of Inverleigh, Teesdale and Shelford, which are just west of Geelong. The club won that season's Geelong and District Football League division-two premiership with a team that included several players from powerful Geelong Football League club North Shore.

Before long the North Shore players left and the club dropped down the ladder. Leigh Districts struggled to field seniors and reserves teams. In 1995, just three years after winning a flag, the club had so few players and officials that the club went into recession.

In country football, if a club folds it's generally never heard from again. But in late 2001 a handful of former Leigh Districts players worked together to reform the club under the name of Inverleigh, where the Leigh Districts Hawks had been based. Mick Fiolet was one of those former players.

Fiolet had taken up football in 1985, at the age of 26, after moving into the area from the Geelong suburb of Corio. During an interview in the social rooms of Inverleigh's J.F. Bath Pavilion, he said joining the football club was his way of getting to know people in the area.

Fiolet grew quickly to love the club and the game. In 1992 he became possibly the only footballer to win a most-improved award at the age of 33. He also played at centre half-back in that year's premiership team.

Despite these honours, Fiolet said during his interview that his biggest achievement in football was helping to get the club back on the field for the 2002 season after seven years out of action.

"We reformed the club," said Fiolet, who is the maintenance manager at a plastics company in Altona. "That, I must say, is something that's pretty special."

One of the keys was signing a coach, full-forward Wayne Tyquin. Inverleigh also had strong backing from Geelong businessman Rob Brudnell. But under strict criteria set by the Geelong and District league, the Hawks had to have 70 players registered before the season, enough to field seniors, reserves and under-18 teams.

Inverleigh not only fulfilled the criteria set by the competition's football officials, it formed a netball club for the first time — despite having no netball courts. The Inverleigh netballers played their first two seasons, in 2003 and 2004, on the courts of rival club Bannockburn.

Goalkeeper Andrea McMaster, a computer programmer from the Geelong suburb of Highton, said there was no unity in the early netball teams. Rather than drive back to Inverleigh after their games to watch the footballers, they would disperse.

"You didn't get to know the players," said McMaster, who survived those early years to win the club's A-grade best-and-fairest awards in 2005 and '06.



An Inverleigh volunteer and player

Inverleigh Sporting Complex Oval Two Development

Both the football and netball clubs struggled after the renaissance of 2002, but hope remained because of the town's growth. Like Mick Fiolet and his family a decade earlier, families were moving out from Geelong because they wanted a bit of space. New estates were springing up on the edge of Inverleigh, pushing the town's population to about 1000.

The under-18 footballers team failed to win a game in 2005 and 2006, but in 2007 the teenagers made the elimination final. The under-16 footballers, who play in the Geelong region's six-division junior competition, finished second while the under-14 footballers also made the finals.

In 2008 the club's caterers will be flat out on the gala days that are being planned. A grant of \$50,000 under the Victorian Government's *Country Football and Netball Program* has enabled Inverleigh to build a second footy oval for its junior teams. On one or two Saturdays in 2008, the club's three senior footy teams as well as its three junior teams will all play at Inverleigh.

The turf on the second oval is a mixture of couch grass, which is resistant to drought and lies dormant in winter, and rye grass, which comes to life in winter. A piping fence surrounds the oval and an irrigation system gives the turf its best chance to prosper. The irrigation system uses water from a dam that has been enlarged using \$8,000 from the Victorian Government's *Stage 2 Country Football Grounds Assistance Program*.



Inverleigh: back on the field

The development of the oval can only make it easier to accommodate Inverleigh's growing number of junior footballers. It should be a platform in the club's continued improvement.



Before: the second oval at Inverleigh



After: the new playing surface

Tips for Oval Development Projects:

- Consider using warm season grasses, such as couch and kikuyu, which are more drought tolerant.
- Consider alternative water sources for irrigation, such as storm water harvesting.
- For more information, see the *Country Football Grounds Assistance Program Outcomes Report* at www.sport.vic.gov.au

Tallygaroopna Football Netball Club Construction of change rooms



Club | Tallygaroopna Football Netball Club
Project Name | Tallygaroopna Football Netball Club
Construction of change rooms
Project Category | Development of change room facilities
CFNP Grant | \$50,000
Project Total | \$402,402

Tallygaroopna footy club legend Neville “Diamond” Hosie was serving behind the bar during the lunch before the opening game of the 2007 season, as he has during every lunch at the footy club for many years, when he got the shock of his life. Club president Dennis Patterson announced that the new change-rooms would be named the Neville Hosie Rooms.

“I couldn’t believe it,” Hosie said. “I think I stood there with my mouth open for a while.”

Patterson said later that Tallygaroopna people had managed to keep the news from Hosie for 12 months despite his involvement in the footy and crickets clubs as well as the Tallygaroopna grounds committee. Hosie’s home is across the road from the recreation reserve but his habit of turning up last to meetings meant that any talk about naming the new rooms could be finished before his arrival.

“Lucky he’s a bit slow,” Patterson said.

The Hosie Rooms were opened before Tallygaroopna’s game against Kyabram District Football League rival Nagambie. Kaye Darveniza MP, Member for Northern Victoria and Shepparton Mayor Jenny Houlihan were at Tallygaroopna, which is about 20 kilometres north of Shepparton, for the gala event. Kyabram District league president Sev Cortese was also there.

The Tallygaroopna footballers jogged out from the rooms and proceeded to enjoy a sizeable victory. It was a satisfying on-field culmination to years of work off the field.

The idea for the rooms was first conceived when Patterson returned to the Tallygaroopna Football Club in 2003 because he wanted to put something back into the club that had nurtured him.

The Redlegs had set about improving their facilities for several years and Patterson wanted to help the process along.

The footballers’ change-rooms had been built in 1958, when there was only one football team and no netball teams. The single field umpire changed in a little room to the side.

By 1978, there were three football teams – seniors, reserves and under-17s. In 1979 the Tallygaroopna Netball Club was formed. But the footballers’ changing facilities remained unchanged and the four netball teams had no designated changing facilities at all.

The netballers finally gained a small changing area when the social rooms – called the community rooms – were built in 1987 from the proceeds of carting hay. The rooms sat between the football ground and the netball courts. Players and supporters of the football, tennis and cricket clubs also used the community rooms.

During Patterson’s first committee meeting at the football club, the Redlegs sacked their coach. Club stalwart Neville Montgomery was appointed playing coach and a period of stability ensued.



Players warm up before the match

Tallygaroopna Football/Netball Club Construction of change rooms

Patterson, meanwhile, approached the City of Greater Shepparton, which provided a grant of \$10,000 to help the Tallygaroopna grounds committee draw up a master plan for the Tallygaroopna Recreation Reserve. Football and cricket change-rooms were a priority in the plan because of the poor condition of the 1958 rooms.

Greater Shepparton City Council's Leisure Services Department provided advice on what to consider for the proposed new rooms, such as ease of cleaning, the best surfaces to use, and optimum room sizes.

The rooms were designed to let in plenty of light. A grant of \$50,000 from the Victorian Government's *Country Football and Netball Program* contributed towards monies raised locally, totalling more than \$250,000.

When entering the Hosie Rooms, it's striking to see how much light streams into the newer building. Proud president Dennis Patterson explained that the windows had been inserted at such an angle that they receive the winter sun. But in summer, the sun is too high to stream through the windows. The effect of the heat is therefore lessened.

After leaving the players to complete their warm-up for their match against Ardmona, we saw the secretary's room and the umpires' rooms, which must be among the best umpires' rooms in country Victoria, if only because they feature separate facilities for men and women.

The three boundary umpires, Erica Ryan (15), Katrina Maskell (15) and Blaise Kirwan (14), appreciated the separate toilets and showers.



Umpires in the new change rooms

In the Tallygaroopna rooms, ruckman and coach Robert Osborne addressed the players while Dennis Patterson looked on with the widest smile in the Goulburn Valley. Not only did his club boast excellent facilities, it was in with a chance to add to its 2005 premiership. "What a win," he said.

After the naming of the new rooms, Hosie was struck by the number of comments he received. He was also struck by the rooms' contribution towards a stronger club.

Patterson was pleased that his initial vision for better facilities would contribute to stability and, hopefully, success. "The better the facilities you have, the longer people hang around," he said.



Neville Hosie in front of the new rooms

Tips for Change Room Projects:

- Consider the needs of all users, including footballers, netballers, umpires and spectators.
- Consider environmentally sustainable design initiatives, such as making the most of natural light.
- Consider optimal room sizes and the potential for multi-use.

Summary of Outcomes

The outcomes of a sample of the funded projects under CFNP have been summarised and sorted in project types.

Development or upgrading football playing fields including drought initiatives

Council name	Project name	Grant amount	Total project cost	Project description	Outcomes
Golden Plains Shire Council	Inverleigh Sporting Complex Oval Two Development	\$50,000	\$75,000	Develop a second oval. The project involves: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shaping the land; • Surface preparation; • Surface top dressing (including top soil, turf and fertilizer); • The installation of fencing around the perimeter of the ground; and • An above-ground irrigation system. 	The development provides a safer playing surface and caters for the growing football participation numbers of Inverleigh and the surrounding area, enabling different games/training sessions to occur concurrently.
Horsham Rural City Council	Pimpinio FNC	\$26,253	\$76,290	Rejuvenate the playing surface by installing an automatic irrigation system and children's playground.	The project has addressed all safety concerns and provided the community with a much improved sporting facility.
Mildura Rural City Council	Walpeup-Underbool FNC	\$19,174	\$28,761	Install an automatic watering system to the Underbool Oval and to the lawn area in front of the club rooms.	The project provides a safe playable surface regardless of water restrictions. The project has also greatly reduced the demand on club volunteers.
Mitchell Shire Council	Seymour FNC	\$4,879	\$7,318	Purchase and install removable goal posts for the renovated oval at Kings Park. Existing goal posts will be re-located to the new second oval also at Kings Park.	The project has eased playing pressure on the main oval allowing the adjacent facility to cater for junior training and competition.
Mitchell Shire Council	Wallan FNC – Greenhill Reserve Committee of Management	\$50,000	\$135,000	Renovate the main oval; replace the turf with drought resistant grass and installation of an irrigation system.	The oval is now more drought resistant and safer for players. The new irrigation system helps keep the ground in good condition year round.

Summary of Outcomes

Development or upgrading football playing fields including drought initiatives (cont.)

Council name	Project name	Grant amount	Total project cost	Project description	Outcomes
Nillumbik Shire Council	Research Football Club - warm season grass trial	\$9,323	\$15,538	Introduce Santa Ana couch onto Research Park to decrease water use and minimise wear during both the summer and winter seasons.	The Santa Ana Couch at Research Park has resulted in a safer year-round playing surface for both football and cricket.
Wodonga City Council	Wodonga Football and Sports Club	\$60,000	\$100,000	Upgrading the playing surface and drainage of the No.1 oval at Martin Park. Works include installation of subsoil drainage, installing drought resistant turf.	Safety of the ground has been improved. The oval is now able to maintain a high standard of quality. Volunteer demands have been greatly reduced.
Yarriambiack Shire Council	Warrack Eagles Football & Netball Club. Anzac Park Major Facilities Upgrade	\$11,257	\$74,457	Completely renovate the playing oval's aged and inadequate sprinkler system at Anzac Park, Warracknabeal.	The new sprinkler system has improved the playing surface and the success of the project can be attributed to high levels of community support.
Yarriambiack Shire Council	Beulah FNC – Storm Water Recycle Project	\$12,874	\$19,311	Purchase and install a 94,618 litre colour bond tank. Connect tank to town storm water storage dam.	The project was driven by community interests and enthusiasm. It allowed the playing surface to remain at a playable standard, improving accessibility and safety of the facility.

Summary of Outcomes

Development or upgrading netball courts

Council name	Project name	Grant amount	Total project cost	Project description	Outcomes
Bass Coast Shire Council	Dalyston FNC - Netball Court Redevelopment	\$50,000	\$82,005	Netball court redevelopment.	The project has delivered a much safer playing facility that can be used all year round.
Buloke Shire Council	Birchip-Watchem FNC - Court & Facilities Safety Upgrade	\$39,445	\$59,168	Construct coaches boxes, provide drinking water, electricity access to perimeter of football oval, resurface two netball courts, construct retaining wall, fencing, reposition lighting and provide spectator access.	The project has provided a safer playing surface and greater opportunities for netballers in the North Central Region.
Buloke Shire Council	Wycheproof-Narraport Netball Club - Court Extension & Facilities Upgrade	\$10,590	\$15,885	Remove existing fence and unsafe coaching boxes, extend netball court run off, replace fence and construct courtside coaching and scores facility for officials and spectators.	The court is now safer for participants. It has also increased access and opportunities use.
Campaspe Shire Council	Mt Pleasant FNC - New Netball Court	\$20,000	\$35,000	Construct a new netball court that meets the safety and risk management requirements as per Netball Victoria Guidelines.	The project delivered a safer playing surface and provides a greater opportunity for people to participate in physical activity.
Casey City Council	Hampton Park Netball Club & Doveton FNC - Court Redevelopment and Resurfacing	\$20,000	\$65,650	Redevelop and resurface the netball courts at Robert Booth Reserve (Hampton Park FNC) and Robinson Reserve (Doveton FNC).	Improved court quality has seen an increase in scheduled activities at the facility. The project also links well with neighbourhood renewal efforts.

Summary of Outcomes

Development or upgrading netball courts (cont.)

Council name	Project name	Grant amount	Total project cost	Project description	Outcomes
Colac Otway Shire Council	Apollo Bay Netball Court Redevelopment	\$29,915	\$59,495	Redevelop the netball court to ensure compliance to local league and State netball requirements.	The project has resulted in an increase in netball participation levels as well as greater formal and informal utilisation of the facility.
Greater Bendigo City Council	White Hills FNC – Redevelopment of netball courts	\$20,000	\$76,400	Construct two netball courts.	On top of improved player safety, relocation of the courts has also improved access, as well as creating a buffer zone between young spectators and traffic on nearby roads.
Greater Shepparton City Council	Congupna FNC – Court surface/upgrade	\$20,000	\$37,100	Resurface an unsafe second netball court to meet Netball Victoria standards.	The new playing surface is much safer for players and umpires and will help facilitate continued club growth and junior development.
Indigo Shire Council	Chiltern FNC	\$50,000	\$75,808	Re-surface the netball court and irrigation to the main football oval.	The project has delivered a safer facility that will increase future participation rates.
Moira Shire Council	Yarrawonga Football Netball Club – New Netball Court	\$45,655	\$68,498	Construct a new netball court at the JC Lowe Oval, adjacent to the players change rooms.	A new court and lighting infrastructure have expanded recreation opportunities and improved the safety of the playing surface. The location of the new court has improved access which will promote increased utilisation of the reserve by all members within the community.
Moyne Shire Council	Nirranda Recreation Reserve - Netball Court Upgrade	\$20,000	\$31,980	Enlargement and resurfacing of the netball playing surface. The project includes the realignment of the fence line and the provision of new spectator/player shelter.	Improvements to player safety have been achieved. Access and utilisation of the facility has also been improved.

Summary of Outcomes

Development or upgrading netball courts (cont.)

Council name	Project name	Grant amount	Total project cost	Project description	Outcomes
Northern Grampians	Stawell Football Club/Netball court safety project	\$20,000	\$38,000	Lay a new court surface in designated position. Construct suitable shelters for officials, coaches, players and supporters adjacent to the court.	The project has increased safety for players as well as improved the viewing experience for officials and spectators through the installation of shelters.
South Gippsland Shire Council	Tarwin FNC – Construct two dual netball courts	\$37,950	\$61,050	Construction of two netball courts.	This project has provided the community with access to safe and compliant netball courts.
Strathbogrie Shire Council	Euroa FNC - Facilities Upgrade	\$50,000	\$75,940	Upgrade the oval lighting and poles and resurface the existing netball court.	The project has delivered a safer facility for both football and netball participants by improving occupational health and safety standards.
Yarriambiack Shire Council	Minyip-Murtoa FNC – Netball Court Extension	\$11,234	\$16,851	Re-locate the netball court 1.4m away from the existing club house to comply with Netball Victoria run-off requirements.	The netball courts are now much safer for participants, umpires, officials and spectators. It has also strengthened the local community.

Summary of Outcomes

Development or upgrading of lighting facilities

Council name	Project name	Grant amount	Total project cost	Project description	Outcomes
Cardinia Shire Council	Bunyip Showground Reserve Committee - Upgrade of Lighting Facilities	\$48,000	\$80,000	Upgrade the standard of lighting at the main arena by the installation of new cabling, six new steel 20m poles and associated lights.	Upgrading of lighting has encouraged greater participation and provided new training opportunities in a facility which plays host to a number of sports and community events.
Greater Geelong City Council	North Shore Sports & Community Club - Netball Court Facility Development	\$50,000	\$155,000	Construct lighting, players' bench, scorers shelter and safety fences to the two netball courts built at Windsor Park.	The project has provided greater flexibility to increase usage of the facility.
Latrobe City Council	Moe FNC - Electrical & Lighting Upgrade	\$50,000	\$147,400	Provide a single underground supply to meet current and future needs, upgrade lighting on both football ground and netball courts.	Senior and Junior football and netball teams now have a first class venue that can be used day or night for local sport and community events.
Macedon Ranges Shire Council	Gisborne FNC/Gisborne Rookies JFC - Gardiner Reserve Lighting Project	\$10,000	\$20,000	Upgrade the existing Sports Ground lighting at Gardiner Reserve and the adjacent Netball Court inside the Gardiner Reserve precinct.	The project has reduced the wear and tear on the ground as training can be distributed evenly across the playing surface.
Moira Shire Council	Cobram FNC - Replacement Old Light towers	\$18,396	\$27,595	Erect two light towers on the pavilion side of the playing arena. Add additional lights to the two existing towers on the opposite side of the ground.	The facility is now safer to use and has encouraged more players to participate because of the better lighting.
Wodonga City Council	Emerald Oval Lighting	\$39,600	\$59,400	Construct suitable lighting facilities to illuminate Emerald Oval for training purposes to cater for junior football training and rural club training sessions.	The project has enabled a number of football clubs to relocate to Emerald Oval to spread traffic over two ovals, reducing the wear and tear on other ovals.

Summary of Outcomes

Development of a multi-purpose pavilion

Council name	Project name	Grant amount	Total project cost	Project description	Outcomes
Ballarat City Council	East Ballarat JFC	\$29,336	\$48,892	Improve facilities by erecting a cover way type shelter for spectators incorporating two new coaches boxes and constructing a timekeeper/scoreboard box at the club's home ground.	Improved facilities have provided a safer and more comfortable environment for volunteers and spectators alike.
Buloke Shire Council	Donald FNC - Kiosk Upgrade	\$14,251	\$21,377	Remove existing cupboards, tiles and floor coverings and replace with open shelved benches, servery tops, roller doors, lami panel walls, non-slip flooring and power supply.	The project provided a safer environment for volunteers to work in and has strengthened the viability of the club.
Moira Shire Council	Picola United FNC - Men's/Disabled Toilet	\$20,000	\$38,700	Construction of new men's and multi-sex disabled toilet facility.	The development has provided a facility for the whole community to access and has ensured the retention of league finals.
Northern Grampians Shire Council	St Arnaud Netball Club - Clubrooms	\$18,022	\$27,530	Convert an existing agricultural building into clubrooms and changing facilities for St Arnaud Netball Club, visiting teams and umpires.	The project has improved access opportunities and strengthened the viability of the club. Umpire training courses are now run at the venue.
South Gippsland Shire Council	Stony Creek FNC – Multipurpose toilet block	\$20,000	\$70,288	Design and construction of a multi-purpose amenities block including showers, change rooms and toilets.	New amenities will help attract and retain participants.

Summary of Outcomes

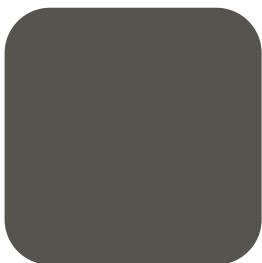
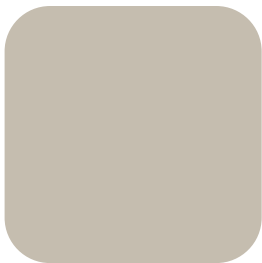
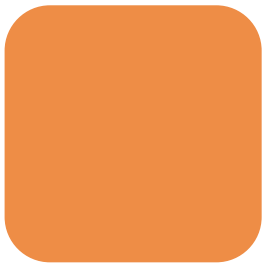
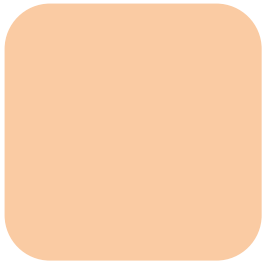
Development of a multipurpose pavilion (cont.)

Council name	Project name	Grant amount	Total project cost	Project description	Outcomes
Surf Coast Shire Council	Torquay FNC - Complying Kitchen Project	\$20,000	\$39,215	Refurbish, enlarge and provide up-to-date equipment in the kitchen and provide a food preparation area to enable the club to store and prepare food.	The standard of the kitchen was upgraded to a commercial level which improved the quality of the meals on site which has strengthened the viability of the club.
Surf Coast Shire Council	Anglesea FNC - Better Food Premises Project	\$20,000	\$58,164	Extend, renovate and refurbish the kitchen/canteen in the social/ dressing rooms to enable the club to store, prepare and serve food.	The club continues to be a sustainable part of the community. Feedback from volunteers staffing the kitchen has been terrific.
Swan Hill Rural City Council	Tyntynder NC	\$9,000	\$13,500	Have a large shelter erected at the netball complex to provide an undercover area for spectator comfort.	Newly erected shelter provides an improved facility to protect netballers and spectators from weather conditions.

Summary of Outcomes

Development of change room facilities

Council name	Project name	Grant amount	Total project cost	Project description	Outcomes
Greater Shepparton City Council	Tallygaroopna Football Netball Club - Construction of Change rooms	\$50,000	\$402,402	The replacement of very degraded existing change rooms to support the growth of user bodies on the reserve, which is well beyond its serviceable life.	The project provides the basis for the ongoing growth and development of the Club and its affiliate junior club.
Swan Hill Rural City Council	Swan Hill Football/Netball Club - Multi Purpose Change rooms	\$50,000	\$107,490	Build onto existing Grandstand incorporating male/female team and umpire change, medical and administration facility.	The project has strengthened the club's viability, and there is a stronger contribution from volunteers. The project has been good for the club.



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