



RIVERINA MURRAY

SPORT AND ACTIVE RECREATION PLAN

2018 - 2023





MINISTER'S MESSAGE

The Riverina Murray region with its river and inland environments, varied climate, cross border communities and strong sporting heritage is a great place to play sport and be active.

This is the first comprehensive Sport and Active Recreation Plan for the Riverina Murray. It builds upon a strong base of existing sporting events, sport and active recreation facilities, an active population and Wagga Wagga's self-proclaimed aspiration to be the "City of Good Sports".

During the development of the plan, we heard from a wide cross section of community participants in the sport and active recreation sector who contributed their thoughts on enhancing active participation opportunities, attracting sporting events, designing sporting facilities including regional sporting hubs, and creating integrated performance pathways for talented athletes.

This Sport and Active Recreation Plan is complementary to the Riverina Murray Regional Plan developed by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment. The broader Regional Plan makes reference to expanding transport networks including cycling and walking paths. Active transport facilities are considered in more detail in the active recreation initiatives of this plan. The Sport and Active Recreation Plan takes into account the region's three cities of Albury, Wagga Wagga and Griffith, and its 23 local centres as key places for sporting and active recreation activities to occur, while recognising and addressing the travel and access constraints of those living in rural and isolated areas of the region.

The plan also draws on the concepts being considered in the development of the National Sports Plan by the Australian Sports Commission. The National Sports Plan is built around four pillars of participation, performance, preventive health and integrity, all of which are reflected in this plan. The plan has benefited from input from peak bodies Sport NSW and Outdoors NSW.

This document sets out the vision, outcomes and strategies which will ensure the Riverina Murray region offers increased sport and active recreation opportunities to enhance the lives of its people as members of healthier, more active communities.

I encourage everyone in the Riverina Murray region to get behind this plan and benefit from the opportunities it offers.



Stuart Ayres MP
Minister for Sport

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A NEW WAY OF DELIVERING SPORT AND ACTIVE RECREATION IN REGIONAL NSW

In April 2017, the Office of Sport embarked on a project to review and renew the way that sport and active recreation is planned and delivered in regional NSW.

The project was established to directly contribute to the vision of the Office of Sport:

“A vibrant and valued sport and active recreation sector that enhances the lives of the people of NSW.”

The project started from the view that a new regional sport and active recreation model would take a more “place-based” rather than a “one size fits all” approach. The ten service delivery regions of NSW were used as a starting point to develop a specific plan for each region of NSW.

Initial concept testing was conducted with key partner groups in April, May and June 2017. One of the central concepts tested was a planning and delivery model which consisted of six partner groups collaborating together. The six partner groups are outlined in Figure 1.

In 2017, representatives from the six partner groups gathered in each region to commence the process of creating a customised regionally specific plan for their region.

This document represents the beginning of a collaborative approach across the region to the planning and delivery of sport and active recreation. The Office of Sport will provide the necessary coordination to enable the collaboration demonstrated during the workshop to continue into the future.

The language of many of the strategies attempts to accurately reflect the discussions of the planning workshop. This plan has retained the actual wording presented by workshop participants, so does not use formal planning terminology.

Finally, the six partner groups agreed that this Sport and Active Recreation Plan is not “set and forget”. As the region continues to evolve over the next few years, so will this plan.



Figure 1. Six Partner Group Model



ROLES OF THE SIX PARTNER GROUPS



1. SPORT AND ACTIVE RECREATION ORGANISATIONS

- Providing the sport's "best case" position on an optimised delivery environment for each region
- Contributing to develop the evidence base for sport and active recreation
- Collaborating with Government (Local, State and Commonwealth) to identify sporting infrastructure and program needs
- Contributing to the development of Regional Sport and Active Recreation Plans
- Aligning service delivery with the Regional Sport and Active Recreation Plans
- **Partners include:** State Sporting Organisations (SSO), Regional Sporting Associations, Local Clubs, Sport NSW and Outdoors NSW.



2. LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- Constructing, maintaining and managing sport and active recreation infrastructure and programs in local communities
- Collaborating with the community to identify sporting infrastructure and program needs
- Incorporating sport and active recreation into Community Strategic Plans
- Contributing to the development of Regional Sport and Active Recreation Plans
- Aligning service delivery with the Regional Sport and Active Recreation Plans



3. REGIONAL ACADEMIES OF SPORT

- Delivering pre-elite sport programs across their region
- Collaborating with sports, other key community organisations and high performance system partners to optimise performance pathways



4. STATE AND COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT

- Providing the Office of Sport with relevant specialist advice and expertise
- Integrating sport and active recreation outcomes in agency planning
- **NSW Government partners include:** Departments of Industry, Premier and Cabinet, Health, Education, Family and Community Services, Planning and Environment, Destination NSW, Infrastructure NSW, Treasury, Office of Local Government.
- **Commonwealth Government partners include:** Australian Sports Commission, Department of Health.



5. NGOs AND OTHER PARTNERS

- Constructing, maintaining and managing sport and active recreation infrastructure and programs in local communities
- Contributing to the evidence base for sport and active recreation
- Providing the Office of Sport with relevant specialist advice and expertise
- Integrating sport and active recreation outcomes in their planning
- **Partners include:** Outdoors NSW, Universities, TAFEs, Charity organisations, ClubsNSW, Volunteering NSW, PCYC, YMCA, Parks and Leisure Australia, parkrun Australia, Fitness Australia, and event organisers.



6. OFFICE OF SPORT

Sport and Recreation Services Group

- Lead implementation and activation of Sport and Active Recreation Plan.
- Facilitating contemporary and relevant services
- Providing opportunities for life long sport and active recreation experiences (from first experience to high performance)
- Leading local coordination
- Fostering new local partnerships
- Optimising Sport and Recreation Centres for sport and active recreation outcomes
- Managing funding programs to support Regional Sport and Active Recreation Plans and their implementation

Sport Infrastructure Group

- Identifying current and future requirements for infrastructure
- Planning of community sport infrastructure
- Master planning processes
- Project feasibility support and advice to government, state and local partners
- Developing standards for facilities planning and development
- Best practice research in land and community development, environmental sustainability and urban design

Sport Development Group

- Capacity building for sport and active recreation organisations, including participation and inclusion strategies for under-represented groups
- Advice and strategies to support integrity in sport, including safeguarding children
- Support for and leveraging major sporting events
- Policy and strategy development, including building the evidence base for the value of sport and active recreation

VISION FOR THE RIVERINA MURRAY REGION*

RIVERINA MURRAY COMMUNITIES
WORKING TOGETHER TO INCREASE
PARTICIPATION IN SPORT and
RECREATION FOR ALL THROUGH
HIGH QUALITY PROGRAMS and
FACILITIES



*This vision was conceived and designed at the Regional Planning Day held on 30 October 2017.



INPUTS INTO THE RIVERINA MURRAY SPORT AND ACTIVE RECREATION PLAN

This plan reflects and builds on the outcomes of the regional planning day by incorporating other inputs as represented in Figure 2 below:



Figure 2. Inputs into plan



OUTCOMES

After a series of consultation sessions in the region, six outcomes have been identified for the Riverina Murray region:



INCREASED PARTICIPATION

of adults and children in regular sport and active recreation.



IMPROVED ACCESS

to sport and active recreation for everyone in the region, regardless of background or ability.



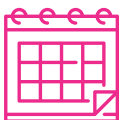
INTEGRATED PERFORMANCE PATHWAYS

for participants in sport.



FIT FOR PURPOSE FACILITIES

in the region.



VALUED REGIONAL SPORTING EVENTS

which are valued by the region.

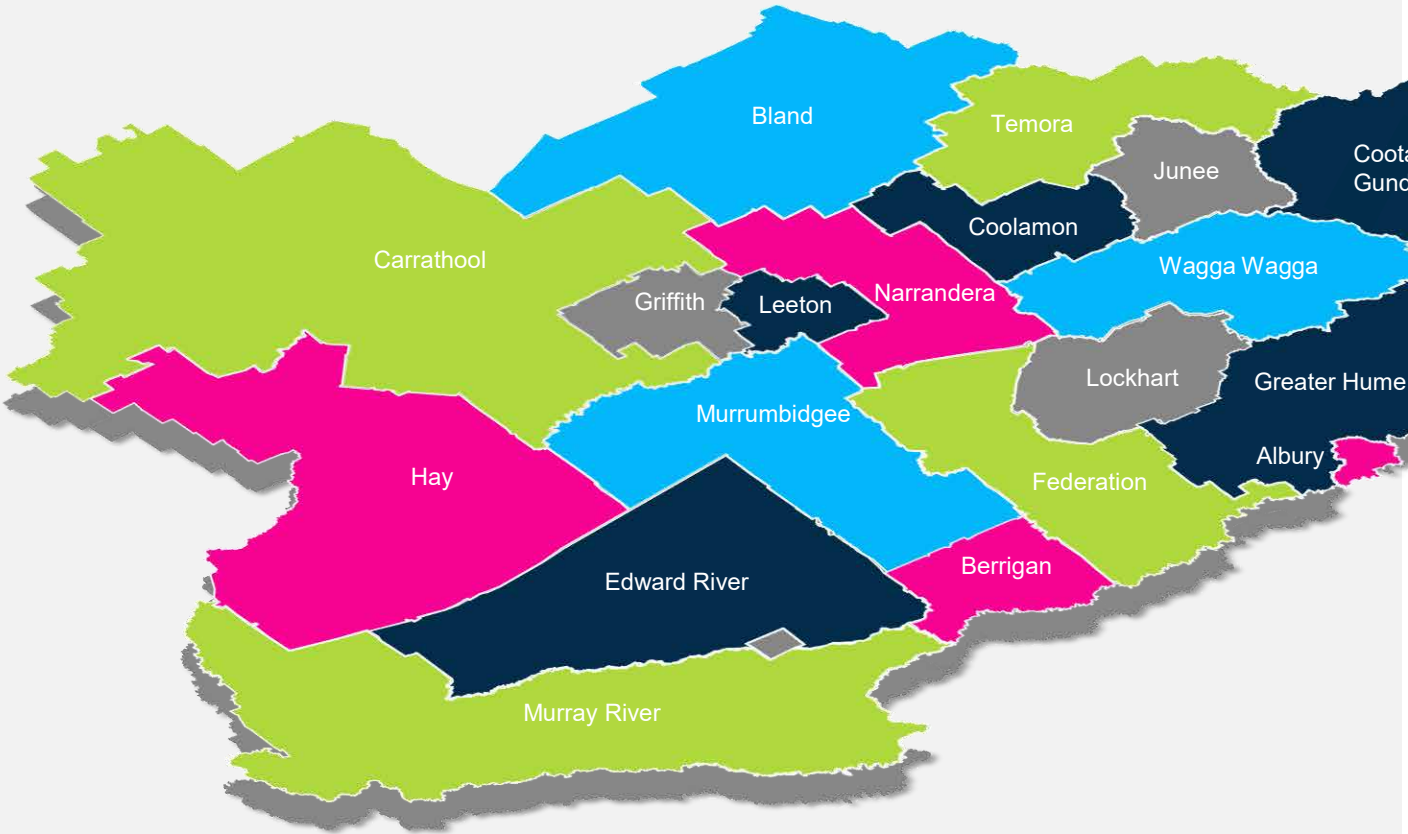


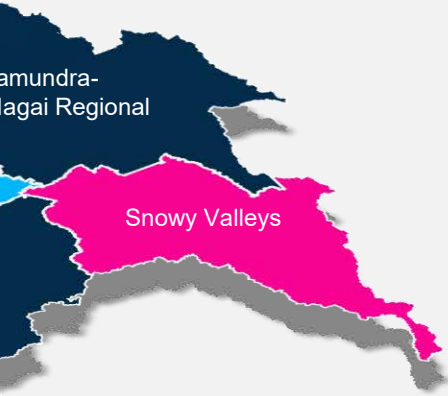
EFFECTIVE COLLABORATION

within the sport and active recreation sector.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS

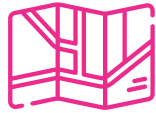




FEATURES OF THE RIVERINA MURRAY REGION



19 Local Government Areas,
3 Regional Cities and
23 local centres.



A **long border with Victoria**, hosting **7** cross border communities



The Murray River –
Australia's longest river



Wagga Wagga –
NSW's largest inland city



10 National Parks including the ancient landscapes of Mungo



Birthplace and home to a large number of sporting champions.



OUTCOME 1

INCREASED PARTICIPATION

In order to achieve an increase in participation rates for adults and children in sport and active recreation, the following strategies will be explored.

Actions to support each strategy will be developed by working groups comprised of relevant stakeholders from the region.

Strategies suggested at regional planning day workshop

Strategy 1.1 – Increase promotion of sport and active recreation

Concepts to consider

- Develop awareness campaigns to illustrate the benefits of all varieties of sport and active recreation aimed at people of all ages, further supported by active recreation events and programs.
- The strategy could help to educate parents on the options of sport and active recreation available to children of all ages.

PARTICIPATION CASE STUDY

Title: Child Safe Sporting Environments

Description: Development of a regional network for the delivery of a Safe Sporting Environment including, Member Protection Information Officer (MPIO), Harassment Free and Child Protection training. MPIO and Safe Sporting Environment training has been identified through consultation and community requests as a need across the region. The initiative involves the establishment of a network of personnel from regional and local sport who after being trained implement local training programs to ensure all local sporting organisations have the people and capacity to implement policies and procedures in relation to safe sporting environments. The regional MPIO network allows members to share and solve local issues as well as improve training and connections with sport.

Partners: Regional and State sporting organisation personnel have committed to partner in the project including, AFL, Rugby Union, Rugby League, Netball, Football, Basketball, Athletics, Cricket, Swimming and Gymnastics.

Outcomes: Safer sporting environments across sporting codes. The roll out of a series of training programs relating to safe sporting environments. The formation of a network group to support the provision of safe sport. The adoption and implementation of policies and procedures within sport and active recreation organisations.

Innovation: Use of online training and networking platforms such as skype.



Strategy 1.2 – Establish “Come and try” opportunities

Concepts to consider

- To establish sports carnivals within Local Government Areas (LGAs) to promote sports specific to their location, creating opportunities to develop relationships between local clubs and communities (e.g. NRL Gala days).
- Use the Sport and Recreation Centre at Borambola as a base for come and try programs for activities such as BMX, high ropes and archery.
- Identify and increase public awareness of festivals or Come and Try opportunities where significant occasions such as: International Women’s Day, Harmony Day, National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) week, International Day of People with Disability can be supported.

Strategy 1.3 – Develop a Regional Sports Pass

Concepts to consider

- Create a regional Sports Pass that enables common registration for all participating sports (similar to the YMCA’s multiple facilities membership).
- This initiative will look to increase participation in local sports, providing individuals with the opportunity to try a variety of different sports, to find out which sport is most suitable/enjoyable for them.

Strategies suggested from other inputs

Strategy 1.4 – Promote Active Kids program

- The Active Kids program provides a voucher of up to \$100 for parents / guardians / carers to contribute to the cost of their children’s membership fees in approved sport and active recreation activities.

The program:

- supports increased participation of school-enrolled children in sport and active recreation
- contributes to the delivery of the Premier’s Priority to

reduce childhood overweight and obesity by increasing physical activity levels in children

- aims to help change the physical activity behaviours of children and young people in NSW.

Strategy 1.5 – Plan for and promote child safe and child friendly environments

Concepts to consider

- Provide child safe training for coaches, official and leaders of sport clubs and active recreation organisations and promote ways to actively seek feedback from children.
- Provide education and awareness to parents, carers and children on what to expect from activity leaders.



Strategy 1.6 – Support Councils to include and strengthen reference to sport and active recreation in their Community Strategic Plans (CSPs)

Concepts to consider

- Convene a forum for Councils to share and compare their sport and active recreation strategies in CSPs.
- Consider initiatives which cross Local Government Area (LGA) borders to gain economies of scale.

Strategy 1.7 – Support State Sporting Organisations (SSOs) to develop a regional participation strategy

Concepts to consider

- Convene a forum for the five sports with highest participation to develop specific regional strategies.
- Engage with other SSOs with regional strategies and learn from the experiences of those sports.

Strategy 1.8 – Attract and retain new volunteers

Concepts to consider

- Establish a partnership with the regional branch of Volunteering NSW.
- Create a new style of volunteer incentive program based on loyalty points.
- Establish a partnership with Duke of Edinburgh Award units in the region to access award candidates as volunteers in sport and active recreation.

OUTCOME 2

IMPROVED ACCESS

In order to improve people's access to sport and active recreation in the Riverina Murray, regardless of their background or ability, the following strategies will be explored.

Actions to support each strategy will be developed by working groups comprised of relevant stakeholders from the region.

Strategies suggested at regional planning day workshop

Strategy 2.1 – Improve coordination with schools

Concepts to consider

- Seek opportunities to improve engagement with schools on the sports curriculum and development of fundamental movement skills.
- Improve coordination with schools regarding access to their facilities and infrastructure, to provide additional points of access for participants.

Strategy 2.2 – Develop a mobile phone application to foster sport and active recreation participation

Concepts to consider

- Commission the development of a mobile phone application to assist identifying participation opportunities.
- This would be applicable to all sport and active recreation activities, providing an accessible database of facilities, clubs and organisations.
- Enable booking of casual use facilities.
- Identify groups or individuals regionally who are able to fill knowledge gaps and expertise.





Strategy 2.3 – Alter traditional format of sports to improve access for all participants

Concepts to consider

- Coordinate multiple sports at the one facility and provide modified participation formats (e.g. AFL 9's, Fast Four, Cardio Tennis) to maximise participation.
- This could include changes to the traditional formatting of sports scheduling (weekend vs. mid-week) to enable participation of those who would otherwise be excluded (e.g. shift workers, care providers).

Strategy 2.4 – Improve education and training for different roles in the sport and active recreation sector

Concepts to consider

- Assess current services that provide education and training to stakeholders in the region and identify potential opportunities to improve training and education.
- Consider introducing a mentoring program such as “Big Sister/Brother Brother” to increase skills.

Strategies suggested from other inputs

Strategy 2.5 – Explore options for shared transport to sport and active recreation opportunities

Concepts to consider

- Seek engagement with local transport providers to consider alternative services.
- Formalise car pooling arrangements through clubs and organisations.

groups to access sport and active recreation opportunities

Concepts to consider

- Determine which groups are significantly under represented within the region and identify organisations who can adequately represent the needs of Indigenous, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) groups.
- Modify facilities and programs to enable access for people with disabilities, seniors and other under-represented groups.
- Consider the priorities referred to in the Office of Sport’s 2018-2022 Women in Sport Strategy as a guide for supporting under-represented groups.



Strategy 2.7 – Develop a central information hub / clearinghouse / database / portal for all sporting organisations and participants

Concepts to consider

- Seek expressions of interest from regional Information Technology providers to develop the hub.

Strategy 2.8 – Support sport and active recreation clubs to attract new participants

Concepts to consider

- Provide training and skill development in marketing and promotion.
- Conduct cross-sport member attraction programs for sports with complementary winter and summer seasons.

Strategy 2.9 – Focus on people not currently participating in any form of sport and active recreation

Concepts to consider

- Develop a regional communication strategy on the benefits of physical activity.
- Engage local sporting heroes as ambassadors of sport and recreation activities.

- Develop a “first-timers” incentive award scheme for individuals and sporting organisations.

Strategy 2.10 – Enhance and promote Borambola Sport and Recreation Centre as a place for children and adults to experience sport and active recreation activities

Concepts to consider

- Encourage sport and active recreation providers to use Borambola as a venue for introducing new participants to their sport or activity.
- Ensure all local schools are aware of opportunities for organised school activities at the centre.

- Engage with local sporting clubs to offer training camps and outdoor activities for their members.
- Promote the range of active recreation opportunities to regional community groups.
- Raise awareness amongst community groups about the facilities at Borambola.

OUTCOME 3

INTEGRATED PERFORMANCE PATHWAYS

In order to build and maintain integrated performance pathways for participants in sport and active recreation the following strategies will be explored.

Actions to support each strategy will be developed by working groups comprised of relevant stakeholders from the region.

Strategies suggested at regional planning day workshop

Strategy 3.1 – Establish a Centre of Excellence

Concepts to consider

- Establish a Centre of Excellence to provide various structured sports camps and services catering to the “talent” level of the Foundation, Talent, Elite and Mastery (FTEM) model (e.g. regional teams, Paralympic teams).

Strategy 3.2 – Refocus school sport and active recreation

Concepts to consider

- Evaluate what is currently available in schools with respect to developing fundamental movement skills and what works well or what is hampering participation.
- Align a regional pathway

program to ensure that high potential children are able to access the highest quality infrastructure and to ensure they are competing alongside those of a similar ability.

Strategies suggested from other inputs

Strategy 3.3 – Strengthen links between the Southern Sports Academy and other sector partners

Concepts to consider

- Facilitate athlete pathway planning sessions to maximise the collaboration between sports, system partners and providers of services in the region.

Strategy 3.4 – Embed the Foundation, Talent, Elite and Mastery (FTEM) pathway model in the region

Concepts to consider

- Promote the Australian Sport Commission’s FTEM model of athlete development to athletes, parents, coaches and the wider community to assist athletes in the Riverina Murray achieve their sporting goals.

Strategy 3.5 – Develop Borambola Sport and Recreation Centre

Concepts to consider

- Establish Borambola as a regional Centre of Excellence for field sports.
- Encourage sports to use Borambola for residential, fully catered training camps.

Strategy 3.6 – Improve coaching and officiating standards in the Riverina Murray

Concepts to consider

- Improving the quality of coaching and officiating will positively impact participation and high performance in the region. While each sport owns its own accreditation programs an action plan to develop coaches and officials in the Region should be developed. It will involve consultation between the Office of Sport, the Regional Academy of Sport and State Sporting Organisations to ensure the plan best suits the region, has maximum impact and avoids duplication and date conflicts.

PATHWAYS CASE STUDY

Title: Partnership with Southern Sports Academy

Description: The formalised partnership between the Office of Sport and the Southern Sports Academy (SSA) strengthens the academy's sport programs which are offered in conjunction with State Sporting Organisations and align with each sport's athlete development pathway.

The Academy provides athletes with holistic development opportunities that build their sport skills, sport knowledge and a range of personal skills that may assist in sport and life. The Borambola Centre is well placed to add value these programs and the partnership enables academy programs to be held at Borambola on a number of occasions throughout the year.

The partnership also links the Academy with the Regional Office and Borambola for coordination of programs that develop local coaches, officials and administrators that are so important to the delivery of community sport in the region.

Partners: Key partners in the program are the SSA, the Office of Sport and all sports groups with links to the academy programs. These include basketball, netball, softball, golf, individual athletes and athlete with a disability as well as Brumbies Rugby and AFL girl's development squads.

Outcomes: Regional athletes progressing to the next level of achievement and gaining valuable sport and life skills. Better coordination of programs aimed to develop coaches, officials and sport administrators. Increased utilisation of Borambola and greater use of the skills of Office of Sport staff.

Innovation: Promote the wide range of available online training programs to athletes, coaches and sport administrators to assist overcome tyranny of distance issues.





OUTCOME 4 FIT FOR PURPOSE FACILITIES

In order to provide contemporary, fit for purpose facilities in the region, the following strategies will be explored.

Actions to support each strategy will be developed by working groups comprised of relevant stakeholders from the region.

Strategies suggested at regional planning day workshop

Strategy 4.1 – Establish Regional Sporting Hub in Wagga Wagga and explore locations for regional sub-hubs

Concepts to consider

- Create multi-purpose facilities for sport and community purposes that will be accessible for the whole region.
- The location of the hubs should be determined by a collaborative approach and considered in the context of other community facilities and growth corridors.

Strategy 4.2 – Maintain and enhance regionally significant sports facilities

Concepts to consider

- Maintain Lavington Sports Ground as a regionally significant sports facility.
- Explore other locations for regionally significant sports facilities.

Strategy 4.3 – Develop a strategic infrastructure plan

Concepts to consider

- Provide a range of sport and active recreation facilities that meet current and future demand and the needs of traditional and new sports. The types of facilities would be expected to meet the needs of sports and Councils i.e. a range of national/state, regional, district/local and neighbourhood level facilities.
- Consider cycleways and walking paths as active transport options in cities and regional centres.

Strategy 4.4 – Plan and create passive and active recreation places

Concepts to consider

- Create networks and opportunities for active and passive recreation outcomes, including non-structured physical activities. The initiative gets people active in a safe environment, improves health outcomes and is based in the local community.

Strategy 4.5 – Plan for female friendly sporting facilities

Concepts to consider

- Seek input from female members of clubs and organisations about their needs and wishes.
- Include female friendly toilets and change rooms in every new sporting facility.

Strategy 4.6 – Gain access to school facilities

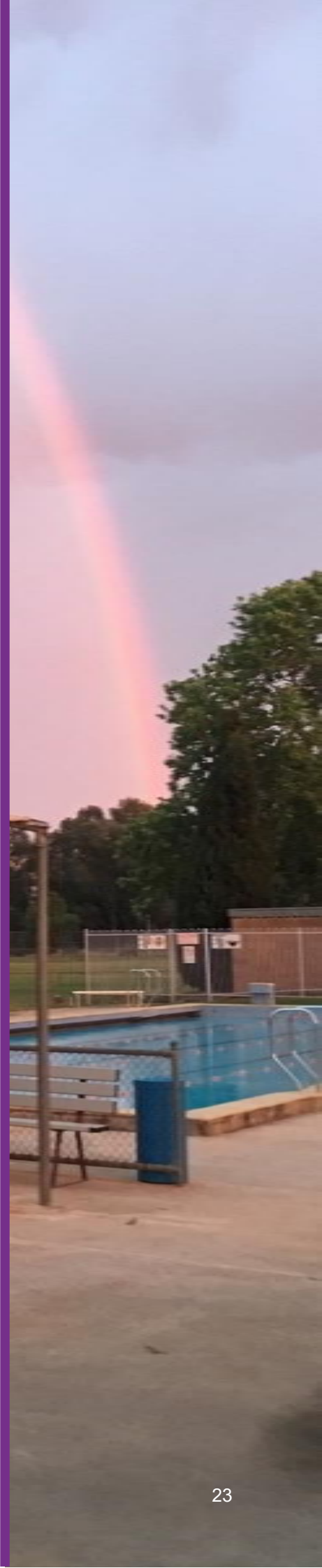
Concepts to consider

- Convene an information session for primary and secondary school principals to discuss and agree on access possibilities.

Strategy 4.7 – Modernise and Optimise Borambola Sport and Recreation Centre

Concepts to consider

- Additional fields and amenities to create a sub-hub for field sports.
- Invest in accommodation and facilities to attract a wider range of sporting and community groups.
- Invest in the modernisation of Borambola's active recreation and education facilities to ensure ongoing relevance to school and community groups.





HUBS – OVERVIEW

At a regional strategic level, the Office of Sport is proposing a sustainable network of regional level sport and recreation facilities that meet the needs of stakeholders and communities. This includes a model for regional sport hubs and/or regionally significant sport facilities (see Figure 3).

The planning for sport hubs supports local Councils and the sport sector aligning their objectives and priorities for a common purpose and vision. The planning also encourages stakeholders to identify priorities that focus on increasing participation, make a contribution to regional and economic growth, deliver sustainable assets that are well used and the design of 'facilities for all'.



HUBS – FEATURES OF HUBS. A REGIONAL SPORT HUB MAY INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING FEATURES:

- a multi-sport facility, which may include a sport administration centre (e.g. Sports House) that supports participation at the community and pre-elite level.
- the capacity to host national, state and regional championships. The location of regional sport hubs may complement already established regionally significant sport facilities; that is, venues that are listed as Tier 3 facilities under the NSW Stadia Strategy (2012). There are 27 such facilities in NSW, with 11 in regional NSW.
- could include broader community facilities such as aquatic and fitness facilities and other types of development such as a school or tertiary institution
- a main site incorporating core sporting facilities and services, as well as supporting facilities and services.
- transport options to connect sporting facilities with town amenities



HUBS – SUPPORT FACILITIES

Support facilities that could be connected to the core facilities (on-site or nearby) include:

- Health and fitness facilities/services
- General health and fitness
- Sports science
- Other allied health services
- Education and training facilities/services
- Aquatic facilities
- Additional administration for all sport and other partners.



SNAPSHOT OF THE 2017 RIVERINA MURRAY FUTURE NEEDS OF SPORT INFRASTRUCTURE STUDY

8 of 20 Councils participated in the Future Needs of Sport Infrastructure Study 2017

91 facility projects were submitted by the 8 Councils

- 69 sport facility projects
- 22 active recreation facility projects

Of the 91 facility projects:

- 8 were for national/state level facilities
- 48 were for regional level facilities
- 33 were for local level facilities
- 2 were for neighbourhood type facilities

In addition, 15 State sporting organisations submitted 18 sport facility projects.



REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT SPORTS FACILITIES

A project is considered “regionally significant” if it meets the following broad facility criteria:

- is a sport or recreation facility of regional level significance to a State sporting organisation
- meets the standards required to host major regional, state or national level competitions, events and/or training
- provides a range of participation outcomes (community, competitions, events and talent development)
- caters for a broad catchment across multiple local government boundaries, and
- delivers flexibility of use, high quality amenity, management and service levels.



Figure 3 – Regional Sports HUB Model

OUTCOME 5

VALUED REGIONAL EVENTS

Hosting sports events can provide a broad range of economic, promotional and community benefits to a region.

Events have the ability to provide participation opportunities for local residents, showcase regional communities, increase or develop civic pride, enhance high performance pathways, maximise utilisation of local sporting and cultural infrastructure and drive overnight visitation, delivering an economic boost to local businesses and community organisations. Local, state and national sporting organisations, councils, sponsors and the NSW Government and event management companies are all involved in the attraction and delivery of events to a region.

To ensure the benefits and legacy of hosting sports events are maximised, a collaborative approach should be employed, ensuring roles and responsibilities are clearly articulated and measures for success identified.

In order to attract and host valued events to the region, the following strategies will be explored.

Actions to support each strategy will be developed by working groups comprised of relevant stakeholders from the region.

Strategies suggested at regional planning day workshop

Strategy 5.1 - Develop a unified sport and active recreation major event calendar

Concepts to consider

- Develop a single major event calendar for the region that identifies key events and programs offered in the Riverina Murray region. This could reduce clashes and 'bidding wars' for events and enable more efficient use of infrastructure by increasing utilisation and preventing duplication of facilities.
- Promotion of the calendar could have positive economic benefits of driving visitation to the region, while whole of sport exposure across the region may help drive advocacy and participation.

Strategies suggested from other inputs

Strategy 5.2 - Maintain and enhance existing successful sporting events

Events to consider include:

- Junior state carnivals
- AFL, NRL and cricket pre-season tours
- Sport and active recreation festivals (e.g. Gears and Beers)
- Active recreation events for golf and water skiing etc.

Strategy 5.3 - Work with key stakeholders on events activation and legacy planning

Concepts to consider

- Identify additional mass participation events which may be hosted by the region.
- Identify and bid for additional high profile (national or world championship) events that may be hosted by the region.
- Establish a regional partnership with the Riverina Murray Destination Network.

EVENT CASE STUDY

Title: Australian Country Junior Basketball Cup (ACJBC)

First held in 1985, the ACJBC is an annual development tournament for aspiring basketball athletes, attracting representatives from regional NSW, Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania and New Zealand. Due to the size of the tournament, matches are held in both Albury and Wodonga, providing benefit to the region as a whole.

Event Highlights

- More than 60 teams
- More than 700 players, coaches and officials
- Approximately 1,500 visiting family and friends
- Over the course of the tournament, more than 90 players who have participated have gone on to National representation honours

The referee program conducted during the tournament aligns with the state and national development pathways.



OUTCOME 6

EFFECTIVE COLLABORATION

In order to facilitate collaboration within the sport and active recreation sector, the following strategies will be explored.

Actions to support each strategy will be developed by working groups comprised of relevant stakeholders from the region.

Strategies suggested at regional planning day workshop

Strategy 6.1 - Establish a Riverina Murray Sport Forum

Concepts to consider

- The forum could help to foster collaboration across the sport and active recreation sector throughout the region.
- The forum could form a number of working groups and taskforces to address particular subjects. Its Board would comprise representation from the Office of Sport, Local and State Government, SSOs, NGOs, community and pathways.

Strategy 6.2 - Develop a communication software tool

Concepts to consider

- Create a regional approach for all sports to use

technology, which would offer significant benefits to all participants and stakeholders. Good examples of similar technologies being employed elsewhere include education apps and “DATA Sport” in Germany.

- Technology and data could be used to, for example, simplify the volunteering and registration on-boarding process, increase access, allow for the remote monitoring of athletes, access specialised services, for example coaching, distribute information or advice on regional issues and events.

Strategy 6.3 - Explore insurance arrangements for sport participation

Concepts to consider

- Seek advice from local insurance brokers on alternative means of insurance coverage in the region.
- Contribute to a state-wide working group exploring more effective insurance options.

REGIONAL PLANNING DAY SNAPSHOT

On 30 October 2017, 45 leaders from the community, sport and active recreation organisations and groups, NSW Government, and local Councils from the Riverina Murray region came together at the Mercure Hotel, Wagga Wagga with the purpose of developing a first draft of sport and active recreation priorities for the region.

The day began with participants thinking about the unique character of the Riverina Murray region, and its community, and to then work together to identify the opportunities and challenges for sport and active recreation from a number of perspectives.

The ideas discussed at the concluding event form the basis for this Sport and Active Recreation Plan. NSW Office of Sport will work closely with community leaders to continue and refine the plan and deliver on the suggested outcomes.



SUMMARY OF OUTCOMES AND STRATEGIES

It is not possible to address all of these strategies in five years. They provide a list of possibilities which can be prioritised by the Sport and Active Recreation Steering Group over the life of the plan.

<p>OUTCOME 1 Increased Participation</p>	<p>OUTCOME 2 Improved Access</p>	<p>OUTCOME 3 Integrated Performance Pathways</p>
<p>Strategy 1.1 - Increase promotion of sport and active recreation</p>	<p>Strategy 2.1 - Improve coordination with schools</p>	<p>Strategy 3.1 - Establish a Centre of Excellence</p>
<p>Strategy 1.2 - Establish “Come and try” opportunities</p>	<p>Strategy 2.2 - Develop a mobile phone application to foster sport and active recreation participation</p>	<p>Strategy 3.2 - Refocus school sport and active recreation</p>
<p>Strategy 1.3 - Develop a Regional Sports Pass</p>	<p>Strategy 2.3 - Alter traditional format of sports to improve access for all participants</p>	<p>Strategy 3.3 - Strengthen links between the Southern Sports Academy and other sector partners</p>
<p>Strategy 1.4 - Promote Active Kids program</p>	<p>Strategy 2.4 - Improve education and training for different roles in the sport and active recreation sector</p>	<p>Strategy 3.4 - Embed the Foundation, Talent, Elite and Mastery (FTEM) pathway model in the region</p>
<p>Strategy 1.5 Plan for and promote child safe and child friendly environments</p>	<p>Strategy 2.5 - Explore options for shared transport to sport and active recreation activities</p>	<p>Strategy 3.5 - Develop Borambola Sport and Recreation Centre</p>
<p>Strategy 1.6 - Support Councils to include and strengthen reference to sport and active recreation in their Community Strategic Plans (CSPs)</p>	<p>Strategy 2.6 - Provide support to under-represented groups to access sport and active recreation opportunities</p>	<p>Strategy 3.6 - Improve coaching and officiating standards in the Riverina Murray</p>
<p>Strategy 1.7 - Support State Sporting Organisations to develop a regional participation strategy</p>	<p>Strategy 2.7 - Develop a central information hub / clearinghouse / database / portal for all sporting organisations and participants</p>	
<p>Strategy 1.8 - Attract and retain new volunteers</p>	<p>Strategy 2.8 - Support sport and active recreation clubs to attract new participants</p>	
	<p>Strategy 2.9 - Focus on people not currently participating in any form of sport and active recreation.</p>	
	<p>Strategy 2.10 - Enhance and promote Borambola Sport and Recreation Centre as a place for children and adults to experience sport and active recreation activities</p>	

OUTCOME 4
**Fit for
Purpose
Facilities**

[Strategy 4.1](#) - Establish Regional Sporting Hub in Wagga Wagga and explore locations for regional sub-hubs

[Strategy 4.2](#) - Maintain and enhance regionally significant sports facilities

[Strategy 4.3](#) - Develop a strategic infrastructure plan

[Strategy 4.4](#) - Plan and create passive and active recreation places

[Strategy 4.5](#) - Plan for female friendly sporting facilities

[Strategy 4.6](#) - Gain access to school facilities

[Strategy 4.7](#) - Modernise and Optimise Borambola Sport and Recreation Centre

OUTCOME 5
**Valued
Regional
Events**

[Strategy 5.1](#) - Develop a unified sport and active recreation major event calendar

[Strategy 5.2](#) - Maintain and enhance existing successful sporting events

[Strategy 5.3](#) - Work with key stakeholders on events activation and legacy planning

OUTCOME 6
**Effective
Collaboration**

[Strategy 6.1](#) - Establish a Riverina Murray Sport Forum

[Strategy 6.2](#) - Develop a communication software tool

[Strategy 6.3](#) - Explore insurance arrangements for sport participation



DELIVERING THE PLAN

As this is the first Sport and Active Recreation Plan, it is anticipated that responsibilities for driving and delivering the plan will evolve over time.

As a starting point, a **Sport and Active Recreation Steering Group** will be convened by the Office of Sport. It is envisaged that the Group will consist of the following members:

Chair: Regional Director, Southern Regions (Office of Sport)

Members: Director, Riverina Murray Region, Department of Premier and Cabinet
Executive Officer, Riverina and Murray Regional Organisation of Councils (RAMROC)
Executive Officer, Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC)
Executive Officer, Southern Sports Academy (or nominated delegate)
CEO Sport NSW (or nominated sport representative),
Destination NSW representative
Regional Manager, Riverina Murray (Office of Sport)

Secretariat: Office of Sport

Working groups will be established to pursue outcomes for specific strategies outlined in this plan.

An Evaluation Process and Reporting Framework will be considered during the first year of this plan.



REVIEWING THE PLAN

The plan will be reviewed annually by the Sport and Active Recreation Steering Group through an Annual Report.

A revised plan for 2019 will be developed following the review of the 2018 plan.

The 2018 Report and 2019 Plan will be provided to the NSW Minister for Sport, CE of the Office of Sport and Chair of the Regional Executive Leadership Group convened by the Department of Premier and Cabinet.





ADDITIONAL RESOURCES


Resources


- NSW Office of Sport's 2017-2022 Disability Inclusion Plan
- NSW Office of Sport's 2018-2022 Women in Sport Strategy
- NSW Office of Sport's 2018-2022 Multicultural Inclusion Plan
- Multicultural NSW's Community Profiles
- Transport Roads and Maritime Walking Regularly Programs
- NSW Department of Planning and Environment Riverina Murray Regional Plan






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The Office of Sport would like to acknowledge and thank all sector partners and members of the community that provided input into the development of this sport and active recreation plan.