

Media Release

The Hon Ros Spence MP
Minister for Multicultural Affairs
Minister for Community Sport
Minister for Youth



Wednesday, 18 May 2022

GRANTS BOOSTING GENDER EQUALITY IN COMMUNITY SPORT

The Andrews Labor Government is creating more opportunities for women and girls to get involved in community sport.

Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence today congratulated the 115 successful applicants of the 2021-22 *Change Our Game Community Activation Grants Program* – which backs clubs and organisations with grants to promote gender equality.

The program offers grants of up to \$10,000 for initiatives that increase membership, improve culture and build a safe and welcoming environment for women and girls through community sport.

Successful recipient, Badminton Geelong will use its grant to engage with recent migrants in the community to foster new social connections and boost female participation.

The Program highlights the Labor Government's ongoing commitment to gender equality in community sport and since being established in 2018 more than 350 grants have been provided to hold events like come-and-try days to community forums and educational sessions.

The grants are part of the Government's \$18.8 million investment in the Office for Women in Sport and Recreation and the *Change Our Game* initiative.

The Office is also improving participation in sport and active recreation for women and girls, empowering women to take on leadership positions and supporting clubs to gain relevant skills and knowledge of gender equality practices.

For more information about the Office and its *Change Our Game* programs visit changeourgame.vic.gov.au.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence

"Community sport plays a vital role in driving positive cultural change and breaking down barriers."

"These grants are providing more opportunities for women and girls to reach their full potential both on and off the field."

Quote attributable to Member for Geelong Christine Couzens

"This is the perfect opportunity for clubs to drive change and build a truly equal environment on and off the field, and I look forward to seeing community connections grow at Badminton Geelong."

Quote attributable to Badminton Geelong Treasurer Julie McDonald

"We're looking forward to welcoming women who have recently migrated to Australia, into our badminton community, with this grant to help them learn new skills and make new friends."