

Media Release

The Hon Ros Spence MP
Minister for Agriculture
Minister for Community Sport
Minister for Carers and Volunteers



Thursday, 24 February 2025

BIG SCORE FOR COUNTRY FOOTY AND NETBALL IN 2025

The Allan Labor Government is getting behind regional footy and netball clubs ahead of the new season, with grants to make sure more Victorians get the chance to play the sport they love close to home.

Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence and Member for Frankston Paul Edbrooke today announced seven new projects will share in more than \$1.4 million from the *Country Football and Netball Program* – as well as announcing a new round of grants has opened.

Developed in partnership with the AFL, AFL Victoria and Netball Victoria, the program has invested more than \$40 million and delivered more than 580 projects since 2005.

Frankston's Ballam East Oval is set to receive \$250,000 to redevelop the playing surface including drainage, irrigation, new concrete wicket, and synthetic turf to improve the playing conditions for local clubs.

Wonthaggi Recreation Reserve Oval – home of the Wonthaggi Power Football Netball Club – has scored \$250,000 to make ground improvements including new drainage, drought resistant grass and upgraded irrigation, giving the club a quality home-ground.

Other successful grants include \$99,000 towards resurfacing five netball courts at Rochester Recreation reserve – home of the Rochester Netball Association – so the community can keep playing netball and hosting competitions for years to come.

Applications for the new round of grants close on Monday, 7 July 2025. Regional and outer metropolitan councils can apply for grants of up to \$250,000 for sports infrastructure developments including court lighting upgrades, changeroom overhauls, new pavilions and more.

For the latest information and successful grant recipients visit sport.vic.gov.au.

Quote attributable to Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence

"Nothing brings regional communities together like country footy and netball. Through this program we're supporting hundreds of clubs by giving them facilities the whole community can enjoy and get around."

Quote attributable to Member for Frankston Paul Edbrooke

"Better facilities mean the Frankston community can continue playing footy and netball in their local community for years to come."

Quote attributable to the Head of AFL Victoria Greg Madigan

"Since 2005, the funding support provided through the Country Football and Netball Program has had a significant impact on local communities and sporting clubs across the state."

Quote attributable to CEO of Netball Victoria Andrea Pearman

"We're proud to partner with the Victorian Government on the Country Football and Netball Program, which contributes so much to netball communities across the state every year."

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