

MEDIA RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 24, 2019

‘Refill And Refresh’ At Kardinia Park With New Water Station Initiative

Ten new state of the art drinking stations have been installed throughout GMHBA Stadium as part of a joint initiative between the Kardinia Park Stadium Trust, VicHealth and Barwon Water.

Each water station allows patrons to ‘re-fill’ their drink bottles with cool drinking water or ‘re-fresh’ with the attached water fountain. The stations are wheelchair and disability accessible, children friendly and can be accessed from all stands and entry gates around the Stadium.

Kardinia Park Stadium Trust Interim CEO, Natalie Valentine welcomed the initiative. “We are excited to champion the cause of encouraging Stadium guests to drink more water and contribute to the reduction of single use bottles, it is a huge positive for the Stadium and our community”. “We delivered our first sugar free event, the Festival of Sport in October last year, this partnership with VicHealth and Barwon Water was the natural next step to encouraging healthy practices for our community”

VicHealth Manager of Physical Activity and Healthy Eating Melanie Chisholm said VicHealth hoped the water fountains would see more sports fans drinking water at the Stadium.

“We are thrilled Geelong locals will be able to access free drinking fountains at GMHBA Stadium and would encourage supporters to come down, bring your drink bottle and fill it up from one of our water fountains,” Ms Chisholm said.

“VicHealth is proud to help make free water easily available at GMHBA Stadium so sports fans can drink more water instead of sugary drinks while, reducing their impact on the environment.”

Jo Murdoch, Barwon Water General Manager Customer and Community also welcomed the initiative.

“Tap water is always the best choice for your health and the environment. We’re passionate about tackling single-use plastic waste by helping to provide a free source of clean, fresh drinking water in public places”.

The bright blue colour makes the stations hard to miss, so make sure you re-fill and re-fresh next time you visit GMHBA Stadium, Kardinia Park.

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MEDIA CONTACT: Ryan Peel – General Manager Marketing & Communications
ryan.peel@kardiniapark.vic.gov.au 0427 333 508

The Kardinia Park Stadium Trust is a statutory authority established under the *Kardinia Park Stadium Act 2016*. The Trust has been established to administer, promote and manage the Kardinia Park Stadium Trust Land, with an overarching objective of contributing to the economic, community and liveability benefits to Geelong, that arise from the use of the stadium.

www.kardiniapark.vic.gov.au