

# Media Release

21 June 2017

## FUNDING BOOST HITS THE MARK FOR LOCAL SPORTS CLUBS

Hundreds of sporting clubs across Victoria will share in more than \$500,000 in funding in the latest round of health promotion foundation VicHealth's Active Club Grants, an initiative to encourage more Victorians to get physically active.

The funding will help local sport clubs across Victoria deliver more opportunities for women and girls to get involved in sport, and provide more social, flexible and accessible sport programs. The grants will also provide more opportunities for people from disadvantaged communities to take part in sport.

VicHealth will be supporting many new football, soccer, netball and cricket teams for women and girls including a new soccer program for female refugees, and also new social sports including a nippers program for young people with disabilities and SwingFit golf, a fun way for women to learn and develop golf skills.

Minister for Health Jill Hennessy said the Active Club Grants program would help more Victorians become involved in community sports.

"We want everyone to get active and embrace a healthy lifestyle, no matter what age, gender or ability," Minister Hennessy said.

"These grants are fantastic because they encourage more sport activities, reaching new audiences by adapting programs to suit changing needs, and providing the real sense of community that comes from being part of a local sport club.

"This funding will support our grassroots clubs to get more people moving and involved in new and fun social ways of playing sport."

VicHealth CEO Jerril Rechter said the grants will help more Victorians to make physical activity part of their day-to-day life.

"This program is about supporting Victoria's grassroots sport clubs to provide a wider range of opportunities for everyone to get involved in, including people who wouldn't normally have the chance to play sport," Ms Rechter said.

"Sport clubs across Victoria will be able to use these grants to respond to growing numbers of women and girls wanting to play sport.

"Non-traditional, social and modified sports are also becoming an increasingly popular choice, and some of the successful clubs will deliver creative and flexible sports programs to help locals fit exercise into their busy daily routines.

"I encourage Victorians to get involved in their local sports clubs – it's a fun way to keep active while connecting with like-minded people in your local community."

As part of VicHealth's long-term plan to get more Victorians living healthier and happier lives, this round of Active Club Grants is providing funding of up to \$10,000 to 173 community sport clubs throughout Victoria.

For more information on VicHealth's Active Club Grants, or to see the full list of local clubs that have received a grant, please visit [www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/activeclub](http://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/activeclub)

---

### Media Contact

Rachel Murphy Senior Media Advisor on 03 9667 1319 /0435 761 732 [rmurphy@vichealth.vic.gov.au](mailto:rmurphy@vichealth.vic.gov.au)