

Inquiry into volunteering in Queensland

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Submitter Comments:

I'm currently a Squash Referee and volunteer through Squash Australia. Couple things that stop me from volunteering more or I find hard and onerous: *short on time with balancing work and family commitments *volume of paper work required to be completed *IT systems too complicated to complete learning practices to maintain registration *have to pay my organisation a fee in order to be registered as a referee. *poor recognition from my organisation. *basic covering of costs when asked to travel no opportunities outside so my local area due to funding constraints, equals less opportunities and harder for ongoing development. Im currently a public servant in the QLD government and find the ability to use Special Leave for competitions a big factor in how I can take time off work to referee. I'm also the treasure of the Scarborough Squash Club. I have little time to assist the club in growth and programmes due to work and family commitments and really think that in order for volunteer based organisations there's need to be a form of paid employee to help drive the club. Our club currently has a Deed to rent squash courts at selected times with QLD PCYC out of the Kippa-Ring Facility. These are the last Squash Courts within the Moreton Bay Region. QLD PCYC leases this Facility off the Moreton Bay Regional Council on a peppercorn lease.

Our club find it really difficult having to work within the bounds of a private organisation whose values and priorities differ from our Clubs. For example the centre closes early some evenings (5pm and 6pm) meaning potential squash players cannot utilise the squash courts. I think a good solution for sporting clubs would be to have government run facilities with sporting clubs sitting underneath helping grow and run the sports.