

Inquiry into volunteering in Queensland

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Volunteer run sport is a broken system. We ask too much of volunteers while simultaneously giving them too much power over the sports pathways in this country. As volunteer numbers drop and are projected to continue into a significant shortfall (proven by ASC data), our capacity to effectively find, develop and support young athletes into elite sport will also fail. Aside from that, we have boards run entirely by volunteers that, especially in the smaller sports, do not have the experience or knowledge on sports governance to effectively manage a sport. Entire state bodies have been nearly bankrupted by volunteer mismanagement. Sports facilities lie falling into decrepitude because the committees are unable to plan for the funds needed to keep them maintained. Child safety and effective governance are in the hands of overworked, inexperienced individuals who often mismanage the process. With the projected shortfall of volunteers that will exist by 2032, it's time to rethink how we manage sports in this country.