




Speech by

Darren Grimwade

MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD

Hansard Thursday, 15 November 2012

GET IN THE GAME

 **Mr GRIMWADE** (Morayfield—LNP) (2.45 pm): I rise to talk about the Newman government's fantastic Get in the Game initiative. I am determined to get more kids in our community active and involved in sporting and recreational opportunities. Sports and recreation is the heart of our local communities. It not only strengthens our communities but also fosters great friendships and promotes a healthier lifestyle. Those who know me well know that I have a long history of supporting grassroots sports and being involved in our local communities. I am currently a life member of a junior sports club in which I have held executive and volunteer positions, and I have been one of the many parents who has been a committee member, first aid officer, coach, team manager, boundary umpire, ground marshal and even the fruit supplier for the half-time huddle.

Throughout my experience in these many roles, it has taught me that there are many children who miss out on the opportunity to join a local club due to financial situations at home. While I was the treasurer at the Narangba Australian Football Club, I saw firsthand just how tough some mums and dads were doing it and how difficult they found it to afford the registration fees, game day fees and cost of shorts, socks, shirts et cetera. Parents would tell me that they would sooner support government providing assistance with the cost of registration before seeing governments grandstanding with million-dollar projects and photo opportunities.

Get in the Game addresses the situation and provides all kids with an opportunity to have a go. It gives all kids the opportunity to shoot some hoops, to kick a footy or to whack a ball. It is also part of the Newman government's plan to lower the cost of living for families and comes on top of other cost-of-living policies we have already delivered including freezing tariff 11 electricity, the \$80 water rebate, the reduction in public transport fare increases and weekly discounts, the freezing of motor vehicle registrations and the reintroduction of the stamp duty concession when the family purchases a new home, saving the average buyer around \$7,000.

Get in the Game is a three-year, \$18 million initiative that is separated into three sections and supports grassroots sports participation. Get Started will provide vouchers up to \$150 to assist kids in joining a sport or recreational club. Get Started will provide more than 40,000 vouchers of up to \$150 to help with the cost of registration fees. Get Going will see \$10,000 grants paid directly to the local sports club to help them grow through the purchase of new sporting equipment or promoting new membership initiatives. The Get Playing program will provide \$100,000 grants for the clubs to upgrade or replace existing facilities and their infrastructure. I recently held a public forum at the Caboolture Hub, where sports clubs were invited to attend and find out more details.

The forum was a huge success with many sports clubs in my electorate attending and supporting this initiative. I encourage all sports and recreation clubs in my electorate to get on board and participate in this great program. I look forward to working with clubs in my electorate to nurture and develop our sporting heroes and those sporting champions whom we will see in Queensland for years to come.