




Speech By  
**Trevor Watts**

**MEMBER FOR TOOWOOMBA NORTH**

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**ADJOURNMENT**

**Toowoomba North, Sporting Groups**

 **Mr WATTS** (Toowoomba North—LNP) (8.42 pm): I wish to bring to the attention of the House the immense benefits that have been delivered to the electorate of Toowoomba North through the Get Playing funding program as well as other sport and recreation programs which fall under the responsibility of the Minister for National Parks, Recreation, Sport and Racing, Steve Dickson. He is doing a fantastic job in his portfolio.

In March this year Northern Brothers Diggers Cricket Club received \$73,000 in funding under the Get Playing program to build cricket nets at Rockville Park. The president, Peter Klein, and the secretary, Elwyn Schefe, have done a great job in putting a fantastic facility together over at Brothers Diggers Cricket Club. This will mean that their 130 members, including all their juniors, can now train in one facility under lights. I am sure that Margie Hamlett will be very pleased to have received the money. It is a wonderful facility.

But wait, there's more, as they say. Highfields District Netball Association received \$100,000 worth of funding which will go towards building some fantastic netball courts for the people of Highfields. They are in desperate need of courts as they unselfishly gave up the area they had so that we could expand the rugby fields for the season. They gave up that area and it was turned into a great oval. It is really pleasing to see them receive this funding so that they can put down a couple of new courts. All of the girls playing netball out at Highfields will be able to take advantage of this. I know that Paul McCusker, the club president, and Jill Stockley, the vice president, would be very pleased with that funding. I know that they have big plans for it.

Probably the single biggest investment in terms of the minister's portfolio is at the Toowoomba Turf Club. It is a great racecourse. It is a famous racecourse. It is one that has been—

**Mr Stevens** interjected.

**Mr WATTS:** Absolutely.

**A government member:** Pat O'Shea would love this.

**Mr WATTS:** Pat O'Shea would certainly love it. The Clifford Park racecourse has had a funding boost of \$7 million to reinstate the turf track. It will be a fantastic track. Everybody involved in the racing industry on the Darling Downs is very excited about getting rid of the cushion track and making sure that we have this wonderful track in place. I know that Bob Frappell and Aaron have been working hard to make sure it works very well. I know that this will secure the future of racing on the Darling Downs. I look forward very much to New Year's Eve when we will be racing again on turf at Clifford Park. I thank the minister very much for all of his investment in sport and recreation facilities in my electorate.