



Speech By  
**Shane King**


**MEMBER FOR KURWONGBAH**

---

Record of Proceedings, 17 March 2020

## ADJOURNMENT

### Pine Rivers Junior Rugby Leagues Club

 **Mr KING** (Kurwongbah—ALP) (2.15 pm): Today I will give an update on one of my great local clubs, the mighty Pine Rivers Bears Junior Leagues Club, which celebrated 50 years last year. I am particularly proud at the moment as they once again took out the Pine Cup against Dayboro last Saturday night. Well done! My colleague Nikki Boyd, the member for Pine Rivers, will be disappointed as she represents Samford, Dayboro and Pine Rivers, the three teams we beat. As a long-time local I have a long association with the Bears. My son, Ben, played his junior footy there before moving to the Redcliffe Dolphins. Since my election to parliament over five years ago, I have been a proud club sponsor.

I was absolutely chuffed to announce \$387,000 for the mighty Bears in last year's budget to install a new amenities block at their home ground in Petrie. This money was to assist with new change rooms to help grow participation of women in league in the area and now will be even more beneficial as the Bears have been named as a senior affiliate partner to the Redcliffe Dolphins.

The changes to the Brisbane Rugby League competition will see the Dolphins reserve grade cup squad, or BRL team, play for either the Pine Rivers Bears or the other senior affiliate partner, the Brighton Roosters. These new facilities, which will include change rooms, an officials room, toilets, showers and a multipurpose room to help support female participation and touch football, will be an even greater and timely asset to the club.

I want to put on the record that with the redistribution of council boundaries coming into effect at the election this month the Bears have gained another big fan and advocate in division 8 councillor Mick Gillam. In the relatively short time that Councillor Gillam has been involved, council has now agreed to add to our funding to make the rooms an even greater asset for the club. Once again it is always good when state and council work together. We achieve so much more for our communities. The facilities are scheduled for completion next month. Last month I was also pleased to announce another \$2,000 for the Bears under our government's Active Clubs program. These funds can be used for physical equipment and training and I am looking forward to seeing them put to good use down at the club.

On a disappointing note, recently the club was vandalised. Some copper was stripped off a couple of light poles which meant that no training could occur for several nights. This selfish act, probably to make a quick buck, left the club with a significant damage bill, a cost that will ultimately have to be absorbed by the players and supporters. The Pine Rivers Bears rocked the preseason and I cannot wait to get out there again cheering them on in whatever way I can in this new coronavirus era we have entered into. However it plays out, let the games begin!