



Speech By  
**Margaret Nightingale**


**MEMBER FOR INALA**

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Record of Proceedings, 20 May 2025

**ADJOURNMENT**

**FairPlay Vouchers**

 **Mrs NIGHTINGALE** (Inala—ALP) (11.05 pm): I rise today to voice a growing concern shared by families and clubs across my electorate that the LNP government may cut Labor's expanded FairPlay voucher program. This is a program Labor strengthened by expanding eligibility, increasing the number of vouchers and lifting their value to \$200. That is because Labor understands that FairPlay vouchers are investments in physical health, mental wellbeing and community connection.

Sport teaches teamwork, discipline and resilience. It keeps kids active and engaged with a sense of belonging. All of that is now at risk under the LNP. We call it FairPlay for a reason, but if these vouchers are cut what is left will be anything but fair. Families will feel it, and the ones who will feel it most are low-income families. FairPlay is what makes sport possible for thousands of families already doing it tough, families living week to week juggling rent, groceries and school costs with barely enough left for essentials, let alone sports registration. Yesterday was the world's first Fair Play Day, so I jumped online keen to promote the next round of vouchers—but the FairPlay website simply says the vouchers are exhausted. There was no next round, no explanation and no answer for concerned parents, who are taking to Queensland Sport and Recreation's post on Facebook to ask questions. All they get is a response saying, 'There's no update.'

I ask the government: what is the plan? What are you doing for the kids in Inala and in communities just like it right across Queensland? Right now it seems that the answer is 'nothing'. Today I am calling on this government to continue Labor's funding for FairPlay because for many kids it is the only chance they have to play sport, to wear a uniform and to belong to a team. Sport can be the only thing keeping a young person on track.

What I cannot reconcile is that we are marching toward the 2032 Brisbane Olympics, a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. We talk about inspiration and legacy, but how can we build a legacy while tearing up the very foundations? Where does the government think Olympians come from? They come from local clubs and hardworking parents in places like Logan, Inala, Ipswich and Townsville—places where FairPlay vouchers made all the difference. Sadly, knowing this government they will probably spend more on designing the gold medals than helping our kids win them. If they are serious, they will fund and invest in grassroots sport now.