




Speech By
Hon. Tim Mander

MEMBER FOR EVERTON

Record of Proceedings, 25 June 2025

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Play On! Vouchers

 **Hon. TL MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (Minister for Sport and Racing and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games) (9.53 am): The Queensland budget is delivering a fresh start for Queensland and cost-of-living relief for Queensland families. I know firsthand the power of sport and how it can shape the lives of young people, from learning how to win graciously and how to lose with dignity—

Opposition members interjected.

Mr MANDER: How to lose with dignity is something a few members of the opposition could learn—to learning how to set and achieve goals, how to work as part of a team and also how to develop resilience.

Government members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Members to my right, I cannot hear the minister.

Mr MANDER: I can start again.

Mr SPEAKER: No, you do not need to start again. Please continue.

Mr MANDER: They are skills that will shape the lives of our young people for decades to come. The Crisafulli government is now helping more children to play on and to live healthy and active lives.

Our \$200 Play On! sports vouchers are funded every year and will provide opportunities for children who play both summer and winter sport. Since I stood here yesterday, more than 1,000 additional families have preregistered for the program, with almost 19,000 families registered and ready to Play On!.

Importantly, we will ensure regional and country kids get their fair share. Over the past two months I have been travelling across the state from Cairns and Mackay to Roma and Emerald as part of our recent sports strategy consultation, and I have heard firsthand the struggles of families who live in country towns who have to travel long distances to participate in sport. We will have a specific allocation for children living in different regions across the state to ensure no child is sidelined. We will also have an allocation for children living with a disability and we will be working to attract accessible sport opportunities to this program to make sure activity providers are there when parents and carers sign up.

Yesterday we hosted some of Queensland's leaders in sport here at Parliament House. They were incredibly supportive of this initiative from the Crisafulli government. Cricket Queensland CEO Terry Svenson said—

This program means that more Queensland kids will have an opportunity to play cricket this summer, we thank the Crisafulli government for their investment in grassroots sport and welcome any programs which reduce the costs and barriers for families to participate in sport.

Netball Queensland CEO Kate Davies said—

The Queensland Government's Play On vouchers are making sport more accessible across our netball communities—supporting participation, promoting active lifestyles, and helping clubs thrive right across the state.

I am also pleased to say that 217 new providers have taken this opportunity to jump onboard for our program. That is a whopping 35 per cent increase from the previous programs—another ringing endorsement of our new program. Also, 434 of our providers have told us that they are interested in, or already offer, inclusive activities for children with a disability.

Parents and carers will be able to receive one voucher per financial year per child, with the first round opening up on 4 August. Play On! is a win for families and a clear signal that the Crisafulli government is easing the burden on Queenslanders in this budget. We know budgets are tight for Queenslanders at the moment, but we also know how important it is that our children are active and healthy. That is why, unlike the Labor Party who only provided a one-year sugar hit and did not fund their vouchers beyond 30 June this year, Play On! will be funded every year. We are providing the certainty parents and carers need, and we are delivering for Queenslanders.