

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 14

asked on Wednesday, 13 February 2013

MR COSTIGAN ASKED THE MINISTER FOR NATIONAL PARKS, RECREATION, SPORT AND RACING (MR DICKSON)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise the House how sporting and recreational bodies in the Mackay-Whitsunday region have reacted to the government's Get in the Game initiative?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the Question.

The Government's Get in the Game comprises three new funding programs under its \$18 million grassroots sport and recreation initiative. The three programs — *Get Started*, *Get Going* and *Get Playing* — are designed to get more people, especially children and young people, playing sport and involved in recreation activities.

Get Started is designed to help kids who can least afford, or would otherwise benefit from getting involved in sport or recreation, with vouchers of up to \$150 to help pay for membership and/or participation fees at a registered club. *Get Going* provides grants of up to \$10,000 to local sport and recreation clubs to help them grow through initiatives such as promotional activities, equipment and membership drives. *Get Playing* provides grants of up to \$100,000 for clubs to upgrade existing facilities and develop new minor facilities to support increased club membership.

These grassroots sport and recreation initiatives are another way the Queensland Government is helping to ease the cost of living for Queensland families, and ensuring Queenslanders have access to sport and recreation opportunities and facilities wherever they live.

Get Started provides vouchers valued up to \$150 that can be used for membership and participation fees. It has been very well received with 2,668 clubs registered for the program. In the Mackay electorate, 47 clubs have registered for the program. In the Whitsunday electorate there are 32 clubs registered.

Round 1 of *Get Started* opened on 15 January 2013. There was a high demand for the available vouchers, with all vouchers issued within three weeks of the program opening. In the Mackay electorate, 42 vouchers were issued to children and young people in the community. In the Whitsunday electorate, 36 vouchers were issued to children and young people in the community.

Get Going provides grants of up to \$10,000 to local sport and recreation organisations for projects, such as promotional activities, equipment and membership drives, to encourage more people to become members of local sport and recreation

clubs. Eighteen *Get Going* applications have been received from organisations in the Mackay electorate and seven from organisations in the Whitsunday electorate.

Get Playing provides grants of up to \$100,000 for clubs to upgrade and develop new minor facilities. This program supports clubs with the development of sport and recreation facilities to meet current and future community demand. One organisation based in the Mackay electorate has been approved funding. The Mackay Cricket Association Inc. has been approved \$100,000. No clubs in the Whitsunday electorate were approved funding under this round of the program. The next round of the program will open later this year.