

Question on Notice
No. 875
Asked on 16 June 2023

Mr S Knuth asked Premier and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games (Hon. A Palaszczuk)—

QUESTION:

With reference to Go for Gold providing funding for school sport infrastructure, while rural and regional sporting clubs are excluded from Olympic related funding, and with \$7b being spent on the Olympics in Brisbane—

Will the Premier implement a specific Olympic funding program for rural and regional sporting clubs to upgrade their facilities?

ANSWER:

I can advise \$7 billion is not being spent on Olympic venues just in Brisbane. Those 16 new or upgraded venues are throughout Queensland including Toowoomba and Cairns.

Further, I can also advise rural and regional sporting clubs are not excluded from Olympic related funding. Under Round 2 of the \$100 million Go for Gold fund, Queensland sporting clubs can partner with schools to access up to \$5 million in funding for sporting infrastructure. Furthermore, the infrastructure does not have to be built on school grounds or even owned or managed by a school. But the school must be able to use the infrastructure during school hours.

The fund is aimed at providing sports infrastructure and equipment to increase participation and inspire young Queenslanders to aim for Brisbane 2032. Under Round 1 of the program, 683 schools were awarded approximately \$2.5 million worth of sporting equipment. This includes everything from bats, balls, hoops and nets to kayaks, high jump mats, rowing machines, electronic starting equipment, gym and athletics equipment.

Sports clubs can also source funding for sporting infrastructure through other programs including:

- Round Two of the Minor Infrastructure Program
- the new \$10 million inclusive facilities fund for female and disability friendly change rooms
- the \$200 million Works For Queensland program.

Ninety-one (91) clubs recently received \$16.4 million out of the Minor Infrastructure Fund, for new and improved sports facilities. For example, the electorate of Hill scored \$356,490 worth of upgrades for cricket, football and rugby, including:

- Innisfail United Football Club – field lighting upgrades worth \$192,471
- Brothers Rugby League Football Club in Innisfail – field lighting upgrades worth \$104,023
- Tully District Cricket Association – replacement practice nets and synthetic wickets worth \$59,996.

Regional sporting clubs are also frequent recipients of the Gambling Community Benefit Fund. Recipients from the electorate of Hill in 2022 included:

- Atherton Bowls Club – kitchen upgrade worth \$12,179

- Atherton Rugby League Football Club – canteen upgrade and appliances worth \$31,955
- Atherton Tennis Club – fencing worth \$21,340.

Statewide recipients of the Gambling Community Benefit Fund include:

- Alligator Creek Pony Club
- Aspley Little Athletics
- Cannonvale Cannon Swim Club
- Gladstone Tennis and Squash association
- South Cairns Gymnastics Club.

The Resource Community Infrastructure Fund has also recently funded regional sporting clubs in five regional local government areas.

Our Government is also currently working with the Local Government Association of Queensland to compile a list of sporting facilities to encourage national and international sports to train across Queensland ahead of 2032.