

Access for All Abilities



Supporting inclusiveness in the sport and recreation sector



Access for All Abilities



Access for All Abilities works to ensure a culture of inclusiveness and participation as well as access to sustainable, quality sport and recreation activities and facilities. It aims to promote positive community culture and values.



Getting involved in sport and recreation activities contributes significantly to our quality of life and leads to stronger and more active communities.

The Victorian Government is committed to creating more opportunities for all Victorians to get involved in physical activity. Through the *Access for All Abilities (AAA) Program*, the Government is building stronger sport and recreation environments which are inclusive of and accessible to people of all abilities.

The *AAA Program* contributes to the Government's approach to community strengthening and its social action plan, *A Fairer Victoria*.

The *AAA Program* aims to build the capacity of the sport and recreation sector to provide increased active participation opportunities for people of all abilities. The program achieves this through:

- A network of community-based organisations – *AAA Program* providers – who work at a local level to make the most of local opportunities;
- A partnership with the Victorian Network on Recreation and Disability (VICNORD). VICNORD actively engage, network and facilitate links and partnerships with the sport, recreation and disability sectors to advocate at a systemic level to increase and improve participation opportunities for people with a disability throughout Victoria; and

- A Round Table on Inclusive Arts, Tourism, Sport and Recreation for People with a Disability. The Round Table brings together representatives from non-government organisations and State and Local Government to work together to improve opportunities in arts, tourism, sport and recreation for people with a disability.

Key objectives of the AAA Program include:

- Promoting awareness of the benefits of active participation;
- Providing support for inclusive sport and recreation environments;
- Influencing the planning and development of accessible and inclusive sport and recreation environments; and
- Fostering and developing partnerships to enhance access and inclusion in the sport and recreation sector.

AAA Program providers

The *AAA Program* supports a network of community-based organisations working at a local level to facilitate and promote inclusive and accessible sport and recreation organisations.

AAA Program providers collaborate with local sports clubs, leisure facilities, recreation providers, state sporting associations and disability organisations to create new partnerships and connect Victorians of all abilities to local sporting and recreation activities.

AAA in action

Some examples of the work that AAA Program providers deliver:

Leisure Link Up and the **City of Casey** have developed an **Access for All Planner** to establish inclusive sport and recreation opportunities. Both organisations now use this tool when working with selected sport and recreation clubs. The plan assists with determining goals and priorities relating to club roles, program activities and club facilities. The inclusion planner can increase participation and membership for people of all abilities in any local sport and recreation club.

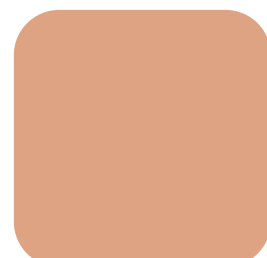
Eastern Recreation and Leisure Services delivered the **Sports Clinic Program** involving children of all abilities aged 9 to 12 years to develop their sporting skills and get involved in local sports clubs. Free sports clinics were held over two days across the Eastern Metropolitan Region in the sports of soccer, cricket, basketball, archery, tennis and swimming. By involving local clubs in the delivery of activities at their sports facilities, the children developed friendships with representatives from local clubs, and some children are now participating in ongoing competition. A representative from a local club stated “the skill level was incredible; we will be encouraging these kids to come back again and star in our under 10's”.

A collaborative **regional lawn bowls initiative** between **Brimbank City Council**, **Melton Shire Council** and **Moonee Valley City Council** was enthusiastically supported by the three Specialist Schools and Lawn Bowls Clubs involved. The project involved a six week learn to bowl program with students from across the region coming together for a finale interschool carnival in Sunshine. The program is now active across the region and the local bowls clubs will continue to run an inclusive lawn bowls program for people with a disability.

Marie Russell, Coach at Melton Bowling Club said “This has been a joint effort between the club, school and the Access for All Abilities program and I would encourage all clubs to think about what they could do to include people with a disability. Not only do the participants benefit, our club benefits greatly too and there is plenty of support available for club’s wanting to take this inclusive path”.

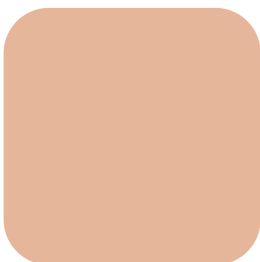
SWaD Squad (Swimmers With a Disability) is a swimming squad for people with a physical disability or chronic illness to improve their fitness and stroke technique as well as have a good time. The program runs from the **City of Yarra's** Fitzroy Swimming Pool and has people with a range of ages and abilities participating. SWaD Squad was developed to assist and encourage people with a disability to become actively involved in the annual 24 Hour MS Mega Swim at the Fitzroy Pool. After being involved in the program, many swimmers felt confident and advanced enough to join in mainstream swim squads.

The **Centre Active Recreation Network (CARN)** in partnership with the **Vikings Rugby League Club (VRLC)** developed the project ‘Tackling Inclusion’ A Model for Sporting Clubs. The project increased opportunities for people of all abilities to actively participate in the club's governance, administration and physical activity programs. A key outcome of the project was the development of the guide: ‘Tackling Inclusion – A guide to expanding your club by including everyone’, a transferable, adaptable guide for use across all sporting and community groups. Due to its welcoming and supportive environment, VRLC experiences increased support and membership from people of all abilities into all areas of their inclusive club.





South West Sports Assembly (SWSA) has assisted in both the communication of resource opportunities available in the South West community and successfully obtaining funding and resource support from both government and private sectors for initiatives that support the development of facilities and services that are accessible. SWSA support has enabled the **Port Fairy Yacht Club** to develop an inclusive sailing program, purchase essential modified equipment and secure funding from Marine Safety Victoria for the development of an accessible floating jetty. These initiatives support the growth of the Active Oceans program which provides accessible water-based sport and recreation opportunities for people with a disability across the South West region of Victoria.



The development of an **Inclusive Regional Basketball Program** has been a significant long-term initiative of the **Sports Focus AAA Program**. Through implementation of a range of capacity building strategies, Sports Focus have engaged and built partnerships between stakeholders to create a sustainable basketball participation and competition pathway inclusive of people with a disability, delivered by local basketball clubs and associations. The project has created key outcomes including training of volunteers in inclusive practices and influencing other local sporting organisations to be inclusive. The program also resulted in Basketball Victoria Country Council hosting an annual AAA State Basketball Tournament and strengthening the sports charter to develop grassroots participation for all.



To get involved in your local community or find out how you can make your club more inclusive contact the AAA Program provider in your local area.

For general information on Access for All Abilities contact:

Community Access Unit
Sport and Recreation Victoria
Department of Planning and Community Development
Tel: (03) 9208 3333
TTY: (03) 9503 8806
Web: www.sport.vic.gov.au
Email: info@sport.vic.gov.au

For broad advice on state-wide issues contact:

Victorian Network on Recreation and Disability
179 High Street
NORTHCOTE VIC 3070
Tel: (03) 9489 2999
TTY: (03) 9489 1179
Web: www.advocacyhouse.org
Email: vicnord@advocacyhouse.org

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AAA contacts



For further information please contact the AAA Program provider in your area:

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Ballarat	Central Highlands Sports Assembly	5331 6966
Banyule	Banyule City Council	9457 9941
Bass Coast	GippSport	5135 8335
Baw Baw	GippSport	5135 8335
Bayside	Joint Councils Access for All Abilities	9209 6552
Benalla	The Centre for Continuing Education	5762 4311
Bendigo (City of Greater)	Sports Focus	5442 3101
Boroondara	Eastern Recreation and Leisure Services	9855 9977
Brimbank	Brimbank City Council	9249 4854
Buloke	Mallee Sports Assembly	5493 7796
Campaspe	Sports Focus	5442 3101
Cardinia	Cardinia Shire Council	5945 0410
Casey	Casey City Council	9705 5349
Central Goldfields	Sports Focus	5442 3101
Colac-Otway	Leisure Networks	5222 3911
Corangamite	South West Sports Assembly	5561 1689
Dandenong (City of Greater)	Leisure Link Up	8558 7934
Darebin	Darebin City Council	8470 8306
East Gippsland	GippSport	5153 1745
Frankston	Leisure Link Up	8558 7934
Gannawarra	Mallee Sports Assembly	5493 7796
Geelong (City of Greater)	Leisure Networks	5222 3911
Glen Eira	Access Unlimited	8290 1185
Glenelg	South West Sports Assembly	5561 1689
Golden Plains	Central Highlands Sports Assembly	5331 6966
Hepburn	Central Highlands Sports Assembly	5331 6966
Hindmarsh	Wimmera Regional Sports Assembly	5382 4599
Hobsons Bay	Hobsons Bay City Council	9932 1280
Horsham	Wimmera Regional Sports Assembly	5382 4599
Hume	Hume City Council	9205 2510
Indigo	The Centre for Continuing Education	5721 0231
Kingston	Leisure Link Up	8558 7934
Knox	Eastern Recreation and Leisure Services	9720 5944
Latrobe City	GippSport	5135 8335
Loddon	Sports Focus	5442 3101
Macedon Ranges	Sports Focus	5442 3101
Manningham	Eastern Recreation and Leisure Services	9855 9977

AAA contacts



Mansfield	The Centre for Continuing Education	5721 0231
Maribyrnong	Maribyrnong City Council	9688 0330
Maroondah	Eastern Recreation and Leisure Services	9720 5944
Melbourne	YMCA Victoria	9347 3600
Melton	Melton Shire Council	9747 7332
Mildura	Mallee Sports Assembly	5021 3464
Mitchell	The Centre for Continuing Education	5762 4311
Moira	The Centre for Continuing Education	5721 0231
Monash	Eastern Recreation and Leisure Services	9877 9333
Moonee Valley	Moonee Valley City Council	9243 8808
Moorabool	Central Highlands Sports Assembly	5331 6966
Moreland	Moreland City Council	9240 2261
Mornington Peninsula	Leisure Link Up	8558 7934
Mount Alexander	Sports Focus	5442 3101
Moyne	South West Sports Assembly	5561 1689
Murrindindi	The Centre for Continuing Education	5762 4311
Nillumbik	Nillumbik Shire Council	9433 3136
Northern Grampians	Wimmera Regional Sports Assembly	5382 4599
Port Phillip	Joint Councils Access for All Abilities	9209 6552
Pyrenees	Central Highlands Sports Assembly	5331 6966
Queenscliffe	Leisure Networks	5222 3911
Shepparton (City of Greater)	The Centre for Continuing Education	5762 4311
South Gippsland	GippSport	5135 8335
Southern Grampians	South West Sports Assembly	5561 1689
Stonnington	Access Unlimited	8290 1185
Strathbogie	The Centre for Continuing Education	5762 4311
Surf Coast	Leisure Networks	5222 3911
Swan Hill	Mallee Sports Assembly	5033 2008
Towong	The Centre for Continuing Education	5721 0231
Wangaratta	The Centre for Continuing Education	5721 0231
Warrnambool	South West Sports Assembly	5561 1689
Wellington	GippSport	5153 1745
West Wimmera	Wimmera Regional Sports Assembly	5382 4599
Whitehorse	Eastern Recreation and Leisure Services	9877 9333
Whittlesea	Whittlesea City Council	9217 2370
Wodonga	The Centre for Continuing Education	5721 0231
Wyndham	YMCA Victoria	9742 5630
Yarra	Yarra City Council	9205 5756
Yarra Ranges	YMCA Victoria	9725 9411
Yarriambiack	Wimmera Regional Sports Assembly	5382 4599