

7 September 2017



Dear Members

I hope this finds you well.

I want to take this opportunity to update you on two important NSW State Government initiatives that provide significant opportunities to your players and clubs.

Active Sport Voucher Program

As you are probably aware, in the State budget that was handed down in June of this year, the NSW Government announced that from 1 January 2018, parents will be able to claim up to \$100 per school child, per calendar year, to reduce the cost of sport registration or membership fees. This initiative is aimed at encouraging children to be more active, reduce obesity levels and other health related diseases.

As the state's largest participant sport, Football NSW obviously welcomes this initiative, and by our analysis, our sport has approximately 150,000 players within the eligible age range who may benefit from such a scheme.

Since the announcement, we have been working closely with the NSW Office of Sport and the Minister's Office to understand the process by which the voucher can be obtained and then redeemed by parents for their \$100 per child. We are also in contact with the FFA to determine how we can limit the impact the voucher system will have on clubs and their volunteers through required upgrades to the MyFootballClub registration system recognising the digital transformation project that they are undertaking in preparation for season 2018.

These discussions are ongoing and I am committed to continually updating you as we receive further clarity on the process and how clubs/associations are affected and the role that you can play.

Local Sport Grant Program

This past Monday 4 September 2017, the NSW Government also announced that local clubs and organisations can apply for NSW Government grants of up to \$20,000 under the Local Sport Grant Program. These grants cover initiatives such as new sport programs, community and nationwide events, facility upgrades or projects that improve overall participation in sport.

We encourage you to learn more about this opportunity and apply by visiting the following:

<https://sport.nsw.gov.au/clubs/grants/localsport>

Football NSW is keen to ensure that our sport makes full use of such grant opportunities and as such, we are ready to support you with your applications. Please contact Daniel Ristic, our Facilities Funding and Delivery Coordinator on danielr@footballfacilities.com.au or on (02) 8814 4451 to discuss how we can help you in both formulating your application and other means of assistance. The deadline for submissions is Friday 6 October 2017.

To associations - we encourage you to share this update with your clubs.



Finally, a big thank you to the many people who have helped me settle in to this exciting role. As recently flagged by our Chairman Anter Isaac, we are keen to work with you so that together we can achieve strategic alignment and to assist you in achieving our collective objective of promoting and developing this wonderful game. I will shortly be in touch with you to make arrangements in this regard.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stuart Hodge".

Stuart Hodge
Chief Executive Officer