

A MULTI-SPORTS STADIUM FOR DAREBIN

THE GREENS' PLAN FOR BETTER WOMEN'S SPORT FACILITIES IN DAREBIN

Women deserve the same high-quality sporting facilities as men. Despite the huge demand for women's and girl's sport, female sportspeople only get a fraction of the resources of their male counterparts. The Greens will support community-level women's sport by building a Multi-Sport Stadium at John Cain Memorial Park.

Sport is such a great way for people to learn skills, keep active, and build links in their community, and for too long women sportspeople at all levels haven't been given the same opportunities or facilities as their male counterparts.

While there is a huge demand for facilities, research shows women's sporting facilities in the Darebin local government area are well below the standard and availability of men's facilities. There is no all-weather venue for court sports such as netball and few women's change facilities. Young women bear the brunt of this inequality.

OUR PLAN

The Greens will invest \$25 million to build the Multi-Sports Stadium, a key piece of sporting infrastructure at John Cain Memorial park, as an active sports and community hub. The facility will include:

- **Six indoor sport courts suitable for netball, basketball, volleyball, futsal, table tennis and badminton, accommodating a combined future membership of 5,000 people.**
- **A 300-seat show court.**

- **Four all-weather synthetic outdoor courts primarily for netball, but available for competition and training by a range of sports.**
- **Multipurpose spaces that can be used for meetings, education and skills training staff administration area.**
- **Dedicated change rooms for women.**

The stadium would benefit 5000 women and girls.

Investing in women's community-level sport has a fantastic impact on the local community. It encourages more women and girls to take part in sport as players, referees and spectators, staying active and building links within their community.

WOMEN SPORTS FACILITIES

A lack of proper all-weather courts in the area means that despite the huge local demand, netball players in this area are being forced to travel to other parts of the city to train and compete.

According to a 2014 Netball Victoria report, lack of proper netball facilities has seen participation rates in Darebin less than one third of the state average. While the government has made some recent commitments to more netball courts, (particularly by making small upgrades at schools), the most important investment required to enhance women's participation, particularly

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in the evenings and over Winter, is the proposal for the new Multi Sports Stadium at John Cain Memorial Park in Thornbury.

Additionally, many female athletes in our area, and across Victoria, lack the proper clubrooms, changing rooms and toilet facilities of their male counterparts. For example, Football Federation Victoria estimates that only 16% of soccer venues in the state have female change rooms.

This stadium will be an important step in bringing greater equity to community sports.

In 2014, the Darebin Council conducted a feasibility study and in 2015 announced plans for a Multi-Sports Stadium at John Cain Memorial Park, committing \$6.5 million to the project. The Greens will match that local funding with \$25 million in state funding.

You can read more about The Greens broader commitment to community and women's sports [here](#).