



Message from the Deputy Secretary

Welcome to the May edition of *Actively in Touch!*

In this edition we feature information on the work being done to prepare for the resumption of sport and recreation as we recover from COVID-19. There is also a link to the Tasmanian Government's Coronavirus website, for important information and updates.

We also include information about Hobart City Council's *Proposed Mountain Bike Network Survey*, the 2020 Tasmanian Volunteering Awards and grants available for community and sporting organisations under the Australian Government's *Energy Efficient Communities Program*.

There are stories of successes from the Northern Tasmanian Softball Association and Rowing Tasmania. We highlight new programs launched by North Melbourne Football Club's *The Huddle* and the World Badminton Federation.

I look forward to your continued support throughout 2020. Please remember to share your stories for inclusion in the next issue of *Actively in Touch* to sportrec@communities.tas.gov.au.

Kate Kent
Deputy Secretary, Communities, Sport and Recreation



Return to Play - resuming sport and active recreation in a COVID-19 environment

The resumption of sport and recreation will play an important role in Tasmania's recovery from COVID-19 due to its physical and mental health, community and economic benefits. While we are all keen to get back playing sport and being involved in active recreation, it's important to ensure that any resumption of sport and recreation activities does not compromise the health of individuals or the community.



We are preparing for a measured approach to resuming sport and recreation considering a range of factors and different activities such as indoor and outdoor sports, and individual and team sports. The National Cabinet endorsed the National Principles for the Resumption of Sport and Recreation Activities and the Australian Institute of Sport's Framework for Rebooting Sport in a COVID-19 Environment on Friday 1 May 2020.

The Framework and Principles will provide important guidance to the Tasmanian Government as we work towards decisions about the safe resumption of sport and recreation in Tasmania. The Prime Minister's media statement and document can be found at <https://www.pm.gov.au/media/update-coronavirus-measures-1may20>.

States and Territories are responsible for sport and recreation resumption decisions, both at the professional and community level, and will determine progression through the phases outlined in the Australian Institute of Sport Framework, taking account of local epidemiology, risk mitigation strategies and public health capacity.

Individual outdoor activity/exercise is permissible provided the participant(s) abide by Tasmania's COVID-19 restrictions as outlined at www.coronavirus.tas.gov.au. Participants should abide by the two person rule, keep at least 1.5 metres from others and are encouraged to undertake the activity to be in their local area.

Please contact Communities, Sport and Recreation on 1800 252 476 or at www.sportrec@communities.tas.gov.au if you require further information or have any enquiries.

Mother's Day Classic 2020 Goes Virtual

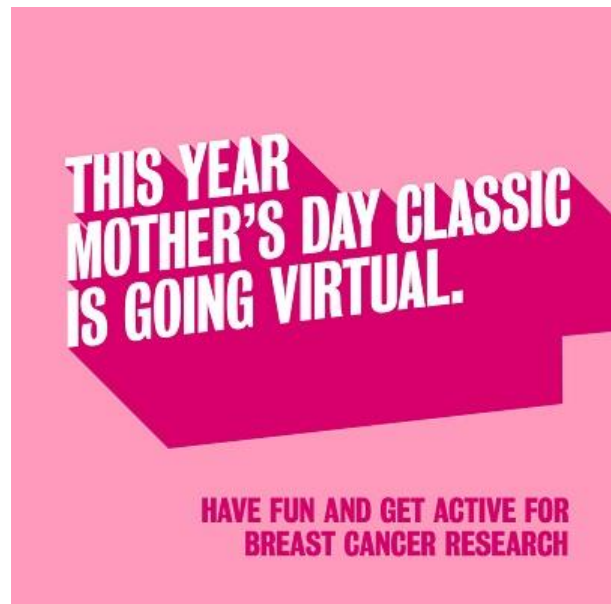
"Unprecedented times require innovative solutions" is the message from the organisers of the Mother's Day Classic 2020.

Social distancing requirements and restrictions on public gatherings in response to coronavirus have challenged organisers of the Mother's Day Classic 2020 to think outside the box to deliver innovative ways for people to participate in this event.

The priority of the organisers is to protect the health of all supporters, participants and those who are vulnerable in the community. The Virtual Mother's Day Classic walk and fun run will encourage participants to keep healthy, stay active, motivated and connected while raising vital funds and awareness for breast cancer research, while maintaining social distancing.

Participants will join an online community with access to fundraising content, fun photo competitions, fitness videos, exclusive wellness tips, Pilates and yoga classes, prizes and a kid's activity zone. Once registered online, participants are encouraged to either walk or run 4 km - anytime, anywhere, either in their living rooms or backyard, at the park or beach - on or before Mother's Day on May 10, 2020.

To register online visit www.mothersdayclassic.com.au



SLST supporting clubs and members during COVID-19

The need to stay connected, continue to function and engage with members was a focus of Surf Life Saving Tasmania (SLST) in the early weeks of coronavirus social distancing. With this hitting at the end of the patrolling and competition season, SLST's members quickly adapted and embraced the new normal to continue to provide rescue services for Tasmania Police activations.



**SURF LIFE SAVING
TASMANIA**

SLST expanded its Microsoft Teams platform by making accounts for each surf life saving club and volunteer marine rescue unit committee, enabling them to continue to have monthly committee meetings, share documents and chat. Zoom has been used for virtual AGM's and end of Season Presentations. The state office team stepped up to engage members on a range of online training and professional development activities that could be undertaken from home. This provided a perfect opportunity for members to complete online components of surf life saving awards or reaccreditation through Sport Australia's and Surf Life Saving's eLearning platforms. Members are able to participate in daily live workouts with some of the sports athletes or relax tuning into Around the Cans podcasts.

SLST's Youth Working Group engaged with club members to provide feedback and ideas for running virtual awards nights and connecting members. The group has focussed on clubs' social media presences, preparations for the 2020-21 season and creating isolation challenge videos to engage all clubs.

SLST's Tony Van Den Enden said "whilst the impact of COVID-19 has been significant and tragic for many, with sorrow on those lives lost: it has seen rapid change that will reshape organisations and ways to engage with more members, support clubs and deliver services". SLST is a positive example of a sporting organisation quickly adapting to stay connected virtually during social distancing, standing it in good stead for the coronavirus recovery phase.

Volunteers needed to help COVID-19 crisis

Tasmanians are being urged to register to volunteer as part of a coordinated response to COVID-19 to deliver a range of essential services in Tasmanian communities.



As part of the Economic and Support Package, the Tasmanian Government has provided \$130,000 to mobilise volunteers through EVCREW (emergency volunteers crew) as well as engagement with local councils. So far, another 300 volunteers have responded to the call to mobilise Tasmania's very own volunteer army for the pandemic response, on top of more than 12,000 emergency volunteers who had already registered to respond to natural disasters.

Volunteers can be tasked with delivering a range of essential services such as community transport, meal delivery, social connection, and shopping. They may also help with food packaging, shopping, dropping off food and medical supplies.

Importantly, volunteers will be briefed on ways to protect their health and safety while working in this environment.

With many of Tasmania's volunteers over 65 years old and much more vulnerable to the virus, Tasmania needs more volunteers to put their hands up to ensure all Tasmanians get the help they need during the pandemic. COVID-19 is presenting challenges we have never dealt with before, but overwhelmingly Tasmanians have taken the responsibility of physical distancing seriously, allowing us to work through the challenges.

The Tasmanian Government would like to express its gratitude for the rapid response and hard work that many community sector organisations and volunteers have delivered to support the entire Tasmanian community, especially those who would have found this situation far tougher without it.

Tasmanians who wish to volunteer can register for EVCREW at:

<https://www.volunteeringtas.org.au/for-volunteers/emergency-volunteering/>

Tassie Scoops Softball Awards

After the disappointment of the last round of softball games and the grand finals being cancelled, members of the Northern Tasmanian Softball Association (NTSA) have had some exciting news. Softball Australia announced that the NTSA has been awarded Homeplate status in the national Homeplate Ladder Program.



Saints Softball Club finished on top of the National Homeplate Ladder while the NTSA was third nationwide. The NTSA and Saints Softball Club were up against clubs and associations from all over Australia in gaining this fantastic achievement.

The Homeplate Ladder Program recognises clubs and associations implementing best practices in governance, management, membership growth and retention. As points are awarded in recognition of achievements, the clubs and associations move around the bases of a softball diamond to reach Homeplate status.

Saints Softball Club and NTSA have revised governance processes to help new committee members fulfil their roles and enjoy their experience. Saints Softball Club increased its membership from 40 members to 53 in the 2019-20 season, a 32 percent increase. The increase allowed the Club to field two women's teams and build a strong junior contingent which will be a great foundation for future years.

The NTSA saw an increase of 15 percent, with an overall membership of 109 including casual registrations. NTSA received Homeplate points for the completion of objectives achieved by Saints. NTSA President Brenda Hanlon said she was thrilled with the results given the club and association were up against much larger clubs and associations nationally and she congratulated all those involved and for their hard work in achieving such a wonderful result.

Photo: Saints Softball Club

NMFC The Huddle

North Melbourne Football Club has been working hard to keep engaging with community and young people during coronavirus restrictions. *The Huddle* has recently been expanded to include several new programs.

The Huddle was established in 2010 by the Club to engage, support and empower young people to build on their strength, increase their ability to participate in society and contribute to more socially inclusive communities through sport.

The Huddle's new programs can be used for learning at home and include:



#HuddleUp with Boomer - Club legend and games record holder Brent Harvey hosts a series of video workouts with his family, encouraging participants and their families to stay active.

True North Portal - The Portal is an interactive online tool to assist young people to find their internal compass and help them discover who they are. True North features the club's sporting stars, sharing their personal stories of self-discovery, while encouraging others to do the same.

The Huddle's ongoing programs include:

The Huddle Playbook - A fun workbook packed full of activities that can be printed off and completed at home.

GOAL! - Aligned to the Australian curriculum, GOAL! is a FREE online portal with resources including films designed to strengthen student's knowledge and use of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics.

For more information contact huddle@nmfc.com.au or visit <https://www.nmfc.com.au/huddle>

2020 Indoor Rowing Interstate Regatta

Tasmania has achieved outstanding results in Rowing Australia's 2020 Indoor Rowing Regatta that was held over the month of April.

Rowing Australia launched the event in response to the coronavirus social distancing measures to encourage members to continue rowing. Rowing Tasmania was pleased with the responses and efforts of #TeamTasmania, which came together on short notice to participate.



Tasmania placed second in metres by participant and third for overall distance, knocking over some states with larger populations and member bases.

#TeamTasmania had over 225 rowers from masters, elite athletes, board members, club and school members, family and friends, both old and new. It was great way to get people involved and reconnected with the sport. Rowing Tasmania said it received strong feedback from participants and engaged Tasmanians locally as well Tasmanians currently in the USA, UK and Belgium.

Results are below:

OUTRIGHT METRES:

- Gold - Queensland - 22,483,408 metres
- Silver - Victoria - 14,521,913 metres
- Bronze - Tasmania - 12,747,667 metres

METRES BY PARTICIPANTS:

- Gold - Northern Territory - 96,335 metres
- Silver - Tasmania - 59,683 metres
- Bronze - Victoria - 48,119 metres

Most Metres (1x) Tasmania:

- Mollie McCausland - 294,656 metres
- Wilson Mure - 380,147 metres

Team Tasmania logged over 12 million metres! Congratulations to everyone involved. To see all results from the event, click [here](#).

BWF Reveal New Ambassadors for "I Am Badminton" Campaign

The Badminton World Federation (BWF) has revealed the Ambassadors for the "I am Badminton" campaign.

Eight players have signed up to support the project which aims to communicate the BWF's approach to integrity.

The Ambassadors include India's reigning women's world champion Pusarla V Sindhu and Germany's Marc Zwiebler, the chairman of the BWF Athletes' Commission.



They are joined by Canada's Michelle Li, China's Zheng Si Wei and Huang Ya Qiong, England's Jack Shephard, Germany's Valeska Knoblach and Hong Kong's Chan Ho Yuen Daniel.

The campaign provides a platform where players can express their love and respect for badminton by advocating and committing to clean and honest play.

"This message starts with one voice," said Sindhu, who won her maiden world title in Basel in 2019. "If we as ambassadors can highlight this, then I think this will spread to more players. You are playing the sport for yourself. You need to be happy about it. You have to play it very clean and that is very important to me." said Sindhu.

Four-times Pan American Games champion Li, who won Commonwealth Games Gold in 2014, added, "sport provides a great experience and opportunity for the younger generation because you can learn so much and it provides you with a lot of life lessons. When we're on court, we are all working really hard and trying to go for the same goals, so we all want to be starting from the same starting line."

"Therefore, it is important to be clean and honest as it is true representation of your ability."

The new ambassadors will continue the work of the existing group which includes BWF President Poul-Erik Hoyer and reigning men's Olympic champion Chen Long of China, who have fronted the project since 2016.

"Every player has the right to compete in clean and fair sport." said Hoyer.

"Match-fixing, match manipulation and doping are contrary to the spirit of badminton. As ambassadors, we all play an important role in safeguarding the future of badminton."

"Our youth and Para-badminton players are perceived to be at greater risk of match manipulation and doping due to their lack of exposure on the international circuit."

"The idea of the 'I am badminton' campaign is for us as role models to share our experience with these target groups, so they have a heightened level of awareness on the importance of anti-match manipulation and anti-doping."

More information can be found at www.bwfbadminton.com

Riding the Mountain: Proposed Mountain Bike Network Survey

Hobart City Council has developed a Riding the Mountain plan - the proposed expansion of mountain bike tracks on *kunanyi* / Mount Wellington. The plan includes 47 kilometres of new mountain tracks providing a greater riding experience for local and visiting riders.



The plan is based on work by leading mountain bike consultants Dirt Art and follows consultation with key stakeholders, including mountain bike riding, walking and trail runner groups.

The plan comprises three beginner tracks, 10 intermediate tracks, two advanced tracks and three shared use tracks

Hobart's *kunanyi* / Mount Wellington is home to almost 80 km of walking tracks, but just 3 km of purpose-built mountain bike only tracks. A survey of track users revealed that 83 per cent support new mountain bike tracks on the mountain.

Hobart City Council is continuing the engagement process on this project, to create great new facilities on *kunanyi* / Mount Wellington that can be enjoyed by the community, once physical distancing measures are lifted.

To take part in the survey, visit the [Hobart City Council](#) website.

2020 Tasmania Volunteering Awards

The fifth Annual Tasmanian Volunteering Awards are the only state-wide awards program recognising excellence in volunteering and showcasing inspiring stories of individual and organisational giving across Tasmania. By recognising the amazing work volunteers, Volunteering Tasmania promotes the importance of volunteering sending a powerful message about the value of volunteering and the important contribution that over 297 000 volunteers make to help build strong and healthy communities.



The awards are Volunteer Tasmania's opportunity to thank, recognise, and acknowledge the efforts that volunteers, volunteer managers, volunteer-involving organisations and business that are making positive contributions to the state of Tasmania.

Nominations for this award have been extended to 18 May 2020.

To nominate a volunteer, visit the [Volunteer Tasmania website](#).

Energy Efficient Communities & Solar Grants Program 2020

Grant applications are open for the Australian Government Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resource's Energy Efficient Communities Program. Eligible community organisations (including community sporting clubs) can apply for funding of up to \$12,500, with co-contribution required, for solar energy systems, LED lighting, solar hot water and energy audits.



There is an estimated \$3.8 million available for this grant opportunity. A maximum of two projects per electorate will be funded, and the first two eligible projects will receive a grant. Applications are still being accepted for the **Braddon** and **Clark** electorates in Tasmania

While only the first two eligible applications will be funded (based on submission time and date of receipt and distribution across federal electoral divisions), up to six applications per electorate may be funded if any projects are ineligible. The number of applications received from each

electorate will be monitored, and electorates will be 'closed' once six applications have been received.

An eligible application will not automatically be approved because it is expected that a high level of interest will mean that this grant program will be oversubscribed. Guidelines include a mechanism to help ensure grants are distributed equitably across Australia. The objective of the grant program is to support incorporated, not-for-profit, community organisations across Australia to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve energy efficient practices and increase use of energy efficient technologies.

For more information or to apply visit www.business.gov.au/Grants-and-Programs/Community-Energy-Efficiency-and-Solar-Grants-2020

Stay in touch through Art and Culture

Staying connected and in touch with your community is a big part of life in Tasmania. This has been more of a challenge during the current restrictions to slow the spread of coronavirus but is extremely important for mental health and wellbeing. We have been pleased to see how community sport and recreation clubs have responded with creative and innovative ways to stay connected with their members.



This hasn't only been happening in the sporting community. Tasmania's creative community is also finding ways to stay connected locally and internationally by sharing content for free online. Why not take a virtual adventure into the online community of art and culture?

Art Galleries & Museums

Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery (TMAG) Virtual Visit

www.tmag.tas.gov.au/whats_on/newsselect/2020articles/tmag_at_home

Contemporary Art Tasmania <https://contemporaryarttasmania.org/>

Clarence Arts and Events virtual tour www.clarenceartsandevents.net/

National Portrait Gallery www.portrait.gov.au/portraits/

Google Arts and Culture www.artsandculture.google.com

MONA www.mona.net.au/museum

Writing

TasWriters online workshop programme www.taswriters.wildapricot.org/Events-and-workshops

Huon Valley Arts - Rerun of the 2019 Terror Australis Readers and Writers Festival
www.terroraustralisfestival.com/taf2020/3/22/blog-post-1

Storytelling

Huon Beings digital stories and interviews with people who call the Huon Valley home [Huon Valley Council](#)

Film

Tasmanian Branch of Fresh Air (BOFA) Film Festival www.breath-of-fresh-air.com.au/log-on-details/

Movie Night with the Tasmanian Land Conservancy www.tasland.org.au/blog/movie-night-with-the-tlc/

Dance

At Home with Ballet TV www.australianballet.com.au/the-ballets/digital-season

Random Acts of Kindness

Mental Health UK www.mentalhealth.org.uk/coronavirus/random-acts-kindness

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) website

The Tasmanian Government website provides up to date details and information about the coronavirus restrictions and the latest news for all Tasmanians from the Tasmanian Government.

On the website you can find information about:

- coronavirus facts,
- keeping yourself and your family safe,
- businesses and employees,
- travel advice,
- stimulus and support programs.

You can access the website at
www.coronavirus.tas.gov.au



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