

## **PARTICIPATION WORKING GROUP MEMORANDUM**

**(Following the 12<sup>th</sup> of August 2019 Participation Working Group Meeting)**

**Memorandum prepared by Meredith Hodson (Sporting Schools Coordinator)**

Date of meeting: 12/08/2019

Attendees: Richard Vaughan, Meredith Hodson, Mark Mclatchey, George Clinton, Leanna Davey, Jordan Till

### **1. Squash Girls Can**



Squash Australia was successful in receiving participation funding from Sport Aus as part of the Move it AUS initiative. The Squash Australia team is now working to roll-out pilots of the program at universities in Australia. The main aim of Squash Girls Can is to increase female participation in squash at universities, by providing a 6-week introductory program. It is noted that there is a significant drop off in female participation in physical activity between high school and further education. Check out the program website here: <https://squashgirlscan.com.au/>

Since receiving notification of the funding in March 2019, the Squash Australia team has been working to roll-out pilots at 7 locations. We will evaluate the program towards the end of November 2019 and use this evidence in the full roll-out set for February 2020. Pilot locations include the University of Melbourne, University of Adelaide, University of Sydney, Griffith University, Bond University, University of Queensland, University of Canberra and University of Tasmania – 2 more than originally planned. Branding and promotion of the program is under way, with social media channels set up by Chris Yeend. The program has a Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/squashgirlscan/>) and Instagram page ([https://www.instagram.com/squash\\_girls\\_can/](https://www.instagram.com/squash_girls_can/))

The Squash Australia University Advisory Group has been key in guiding the direction of Squash Girls Can. We thank all members and look forward to continuing our collaboration.

## 2. Sporting Schools



Opportunity for us to apply for the Secondary School grant section within Sporting Schools. Meredith has engaged with Sporting Schools to discuss application, viability and timelines. In order for Squash Australia to be seen as a viable addition to the Secondary School grant, we will need to prove a strong track record within the Primary School grant (current OzSquash program). Feedback from state/territory staff members is being collated to help advise the direction for OzSquash, and work with schools in QLD surrounding Carrara is also helping to bolster the program.

Sporting Schools website: <https://www.sportaus.gov.au/schools>

OzSquash information: <http://www.squash.org.au/w/participation/programmes/ozsquash>

## 3. Review of Participation Ops Plan

In light of discussion at the State Conference all strategic areas are being reviewed. The strategic areas are:

- i. Ensure high quality, accessible competitive pathways are available for participants of all ages and stages.
- ii. Ensure key participation segments and insights in to future trends is understood, applied and communicated.
- iii. Improve the reach of the squash delivery system into education institutions at all levels.
- iv. Build the reach and sustainability of the collective squash delivery system

The items that have been put forward to be a key focus, and we believe will help us to keep building on the key areas listed above are:

- i. Sporting Schools Program for OzSquash
- ii. Squash Girls Can
- iii. Cardio Squash
- iv. Play Move Learn
- v. Collection of State market insights / best practice

Cardio Squash and Play Move Learn are currently being piloted, with updates provided at AGM.

Next Participation Working Group meeting is set for: Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019.