



NSW Sports Federation
The Voice of Sport

Members' Forum Notes

Wednesday 20th May 2009, 9am-12pm
Ken Brown Rooms, Sports House, 6a Figtree Drive, Sydney Olympic Park
Facilitated by Debbie Kemp (DK), CEO, NSW Sports Federation (NSWSF)
Guest Speaker Carol Mills, Director General, Department of the Arts, Sport and Recreation

Welcome

- DK welcomed all attendees and provided an overview of the Forum schedule.
- DK reminded attendees about the two **Game Plan 2012 projects** being coordinated by the NSW Sports Federation: **The Voice of Sport** and **New models for Funding and Volunteering**. DK urged more people to register for the working groups on these projects. She said "This is your opportunity to make a change for sport. There is an election in 2011 and we need to work as an industry to make sport an issue".
- DK announced that working group meetings for both projects will be held on **Wednesday 24th June 2009**. The schedule will be as follows:

9:30am	Morning Tea
10am-12pm	Meeting: The Voice of Sport
12pm	Lunch
1pm-3pm	Meeting: New Models for Funding and Volunteering
3pm	Afternoon Tea

To get involved please email debbie.kemp@sportnsw.com.au

Presentation by Carol Mills, Director General, Department of the Arts, Sport and Recreation

Notes over the page...

Presentation by Carol Mills, Director General, Department of the Arts, Sport and Recreation

Context of Change

Carol Mills began by explaining that sport and recreation is currently part of a wider context of change. She mentioned the Independent Sport Panel review, the Committees SCORS & SRMC, the NSW State Plan, Events NSW, and the review of NSW Sport and Recreation. She commented that the Premier is committed to achieving the objectives of the State plan – particularly increasing participation.

Findings of the Review... Repositioning NSW Sport and Recreation

There is a clear role for government in Sport and Recreation. The Government will focus on:

- Greatest community benefit
- A developmental role
- Better information on the benefits of participation
- Addressing the barriers

In particular, the Government is committed to increasing participation in sport and recreation at all levels through awareness and image; information; providers and facilities.

Carol then went on to make comments on developing a strong and responsive industry and the role of State Sporting Organisations:

A Strong and Responsive Industry

- Evidence to increase provision and identify the barriers to participation
- Policy on provision and equity
- Resources to increase provision and target services
- Funding to deliver general and targeted programs
- Providing general and targeted programs but only where there is a demonstrated community benefit and no other provider

The role of State Sporting Organisations

- Contribute to a strong and responsive industry
- Increasing opportunities for participation at all levels
- Reducing barriers to participation
- Supporting athlete pathways
- Focus on outcomes – NSW's contribution at all levels
- Building our evidence base – telling the story better - what we do and why

Achieving the Change

Carol explained that in achieving the change, the Department of the Arts, Sport and Recreation will:

- Expand NSW Sport and Recreation's capacity to provide the evidence for policy, funding decisions and service provision
- Redefine the role of S&R regions, to focus solely on assisting local communities identify and respond to their sporting, recreational and cultural needs
- Consider further the way S&R Centres and Olympic Sites will operate

And will work with Peaks and State Sporting Organisations...

- Promoting broad benefits of sport and recreation – social inclusion & stronger communities
- Increasing participation among groups who experience barriers to participation
- Collaborating on issues of common importance e.g. provision of facilities, barriers to participation, ageing population, volunteering

NSW Sport and Recreation Grants

Carol explained that \$16M total is/will be given in NSW Sport and Recreation grants. This funding contributes to:

- Encouraging participation in sport and recreation across the population
- Facilities development – funding leverages 50%
- Sports development – investing in infrastructure
- Athlete development – pathways and infrastructure

Carol explained that the SDP will be allocated through 3 year contracts in the future. There is an intention to streamline applications, as has been achieved in Arts grants.

Carol finished her presentation by highlighting **Directions for Sustainability**:

- Sport and recreation – social inclusion tool/mentoring role
- Participation focus – recognise different & changing needs/circumstances of people and communities (coordinated information & strategies)
- Volunteers – National strategy
- Facilities – better planning (multi-use, better use of existing assets e.g. Universities)

DK invited attendees to ask questions. Questions asked and answers given by Carol, were:

- At the end of this financial year what happens with the SDP?
Carol indicated that current funding would roll over during the transition period.
- Regarding infrastructure changes; how do you envisage local providers and local councils changing?
It will be progressive development; specialist relationships will be maintained.
- Regarding SDP negotiated contracts, will there be an opportunity for sports to have negotiation?
Yes. There will be negotiation from both parties.
- Regarding telling the story; will you be working with sports to do that?
Yes. E.g. In adding additional lights to a field, we need to show the evidence, that more people will be playing sport on that field. Sports will need to share that knowledge.

Industry Updates

Confederation of Australian Sport (CAS) meeting

DK explained that CAS held a Special General Meeting on 16th March. Constitutional changes were approved that saw the Board cease operations such as advocacy and representation of National Sporting Organisations. CAS will continue to exist only for the Australian Masters Games and the Australian Sport Awards.

The Australian State Sports Federations Alliance has tried to support partnering that will help NSOs but representation at this level is not the role of ASSFA because the issues are different. The CAS website is www.sportforall.com.au

Independent Sport Panel (ISP)

The ISP is a 5 person panel headed by David Crawford and appointed by Minister Kate Ellis to review sport in Australia, from grass roots to elite. The Australian State Sports Federation Alliance made a submission to this panel and followed up by meeting with David Crawford, late in 2008. This year the Panel held Community Sport Forums. DK reported that the Sydney Forum had poor attendance but the discussion included all the important issues.

ASSFA has submitted a second paper and is expecting to meet with the Alliance again soon. The ISP's website is www.sportpanel.org.au

Australia: The Healthiest Country by 2020

This is a Discussion Paper prepared by the National Preventative Health Taskforce. Feedback Forums were conducted across Australia, one of which DK attended. The paper is written from a broad health perspective and addresses Overweight and Obesity, Tobacco, and Alcohol. The Taskforce is expected to provide recommendations to the Government in June this year. The paper and more information is available at www.preventativehealth.org.au

Australia's Future Tax System Review Panel

DK reported that the Australia's Future Tax System Review is currently underway. Submissions closed recently and VicSport (of ASSFA) submitted a paper on relevant issues affecting sports. More information is available at www.taxreview.treasury.gov.au.

Productivity Commission

The Productivity Commission is the Australian Government's independent research and advisory body. The Commission is undertaking a commissioned study on the contributions of the not for profit sector. It will take much of 2009 and ASSFA will make a submission when appropriate.

Award Modernisation

Please see over...

Award Modernisation

DK explained that the Australian Industrial Relations Commission (AIRC) is undertaking Award Modernisation, as required under the Workplace Relations Act 1996. This process sees some 740 federal awards and some former State Awards (NAPSAs) replaced by a much smaller number of 'modern awards' that will apply to employers generally in the industry. As part of this process, a new, national 'Sport Award' is being developed. This has major implications for sport, and it is important that we take appropriate actions to represent and protect our organisations and industry.

The Exposure Draft of the new Award will be released on 22nd May 2009, and submissions are due to the AIRC by 12th June 2009. It is important that you prioritise reading and responding to this draft. More information is available at www.airc.gov.au.

NSWSF Updates

Calendar of NSW sporting events

DK explained that the NSW Sports Federation is now hosting a calendar of NSW sporting events on our website. This will be promoted to all contacts, to the media, etc. We intend that this will help promote all sports, so please let us know when your events are so that they can be added. Event details can be emailed to info@sportnsw.com.au.

2009 courses

NSWSF 2009 courses are available on our website – www.sportnsw.com.au. Please note that Julie Stafford can deliver a wide range of topics, is willing to travel, and that the NSWSF is offering a discounted group rate if sports are willing to coordinate the course.

eBlues News

DK reported that our e-newsletters are now being sent more frequently so that we can keep information regular and brief. eBlues News, our industry newsletter, will continue to be sent fortnightly on a Friday. Additionally, an Education Update will be sent every second Tuesday and an Events Calendar will be sent every alternate Tuesday.

Officials Recognition Scheme

There will be a change to the previously known 'Official of the Month Awards'. This will now become the 'Officials Recognition Scheme' and will Award Officials in 4 categories on 2 occasions each year; following the summer and winter seasons. DK explained more detail which is all available at www.sportnsw.com.au

Other Updates

On behalf of the NSW Sporting Injuries Committee, DK distributed information on the Sporting Injuries Insurance Scheme and the NSW Sports Safety Award Scheme. The closing date for 2009 nominations is 7th September 2009. The awards will be celebrated at a luncheon on 13th November 2009.

DK also announced that the 5th World Conference of Women and Sport would be held 20th-23rd May 2010, and made a brochure available for interested persons.