



# ANNUAL REVIEW

School sport is now more important than ever!

2023



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- There are also videos and images throughout so please click on them to be redirected to this content and further information.

# CEO REPORT



**benefits for students in playing school sport, to their personal development, health and wellbeing, academic performance and contribution to them enjoying a life-long engagement in sport and physical activity**

**2023** was an **incredible year** with **School Sport Victoria's extensive 2023 School Sport Program** delivered.

School Sport Victoria continued to **focus on the delivery** of the **10-year strategy, School Sport Victoria Strategic Directions 2020 to 2030**, and to **fulfil its role** in enabling students to **play sport**, champion the **value** of school sport, and **connect** school and community sport.

This is best represented with over **600,000 participation opportunities provided** in the interschool sport program, full delivery of the Team Vic representative program with **940 student athletes selected** across **47 teams** and **19 different sports** participating at the School Sport Australia Championships, with SSV Play providing **28,663 participation opportunities** for

students from **173 schools** in SSV Play, and **more than 1,100 Victorian Teachers' Games participants**. The scale and range of School Sport Victoria's program is simply amazing!

I would like to thank the **dedicated team of staff** at School Sport Victoria, **SSV Coordinators, Team Vic officials, volunteers, partners and sponsors** for their strong contribution to the delivery of school sport programs throughout 2023.

For the **fourth consecutive year** School Sport Victoria achieved a record **2,533 school members in 2024** and I would like to thank Victorian schools for their **ongoing support** in enabling their students to participate in the school sport programs. We know the **benefits for students in playing school sport**, to their **personal development, health and**

**wellbeing, academic performance** and contribution to them enjoying a **life-long engagement in sport and physical activity**, so again I'd like to applaud our school members for their support.

I would also like to thank the **School Sport Victoria Advisory Committee** who've been instrumental in **supporting the strategic management** of School Sport Victoria. Thank you to all the committee members for their **contribution** and to the inaugural chair Megan Kerr who finished in March 2023.

School Sport Victoria is well positioned to **continue to drive its purpose**, in **developing young people through school sport** and **supporting schools to maximise opportunities** for all students to play sport into the future.

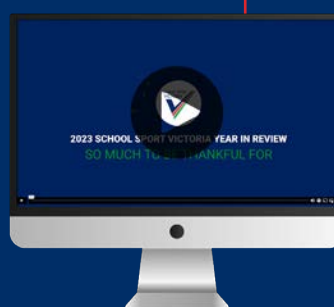
**Maggie Garrard**

**Acting Chief Executive Officer  
SCHOOL SPORT VICTORIA**



# HIGHLIGHTS

- Delivered over **600,000 participation opportunities** across **31 different sports** in the interschool sport program.
- Delivered trials and **selected 940 students** in **47 Team Vic teams** across **19 sports** that competed at the School Sport Australia Championships.
- Team Vic program was exceptional with **73 gold, 60 silver and 70 bronze medals** secured at the School Sport Australia Championships.
- Hosted **three School Sport Australia Championships**, Australian football (Ballarat), football (La Trobe University, Bundoora), and softball (Werribee).
- SSV Play provided **28,764 participation opportunities** to students from **173 schools** across **five programs, circus, diversity dash, downball, school games, and skateboarding**.
- The **Victorian Teachers' Games** was a great success with **1,161 participants** converging on Latrobe City, for the first of a two year hosting agreement, to participate in a range of sporting, recreation, and wellness events ahead of Term 4.
- **96% of survey respondents** believed VTG benefits their **health and wellbeing** and increases the **value** of the role that **sport, recreation or wellness activities** plays in their lives.
- Implementation of the first full year of **rebel's major partnership**, including the **Victorian Teachers' Games**, which included activation spaces and pop-up shops at interschool events.
- School Sport Victoria facilitated the **donation of 1,526 clothing items** from merchandise partner, **DMC Sport**, to the **East Arnhem Regional Council (EARC)**. The donation produced transformative outcomes including **promoting wellbeing** and **increased participation** with children in the EARC encouraged to embrace the **positive impact of sport on their overall health**.
- Delivered the School Sport Victoria **Student Leaders program** for the second year with **11 students involved** who provided **feedback and advice** to School Sport Victoria to help **guide and shape the future of school sport**.
- Achieved a **fourth consecutive school membership record**, with **2,533 school members** in 2023.
- The **Be Fit. Be Well athlete led education program** was delivered to **151 Victorian schools**, with a record **16,225 students engaged**, in **partnership** with the **Victorian Institute of Sport**.
- **Led the Victorian School Sport Network**, which continued to **collaborate** on key areas of **connection, data, equity, place, value, and workforce**.
- Continued to **enhance** our communication to schools, families, and partners through our regular **School Sport Victoria 'Play Value Connect' eNews** and social media engagement. This included **livestreaming** selected State Championships and **continued focus** on creating video content including **highlights packages** with examples provided throughout the Annual Review.
- Delivered **award ceremonies** to celebrate **achievements in school sport**, including the **2022 Victorian School Sports Awards** and **2023 School Sport Victoria Awards**, alongside issuing **307 School Sport Victoria Academic and Sporting Achievement Medals** to schools to recognise their students.
- Delivered successful **Region Forums** and an **annual School Sport Victoria Conference** attended by School Sport Victoria **Coordinators**.





# ABOUT SCHOOL SPORT VICTORIA

## CEO

### Chief Executive Officer

Hilary Shelton (April-December 2023)  
Maggie Garrard (from December 2023)

### SSV Play Coordinator

Vanessa Phillips (until December 2023)

### Victorian Teachers' Games

Adam Drinkwell

### Victorian Teachers' Games Administration

Nadzieja Powlett-Jones (July-December 2023)

### Special Projects

Jacqui Chu

## BUSINESS TEAM

### Business & Partnership Manager

Robbie Coyle

### Administration Officer

Giovanna Digiannantonio

### Communications and Marketing Officer

Raff Agostino

### Finance Officer

Mary Wisby

### Finance Officer

Emily Yoke Tee (until April 2023)  
Ella Staric (from May 2023)

### Partnerships & Marketing Officer

Vanessa Laino (maternity leave from September 2023)  
Laura Preston (from December 2023)

## NATIONAL PROGRAMS (Team Vic)

### National Programs Manager

Andrew Comley

### Project Officer

Jeanetta Rodwell

### Administration Officer

Phoenix Lawton

## OPERATIONS

### Operations Manager

Kirsteen Farrance

### Administration Officer

Elize Simpson

### Region School Sport Officer - Eastern Metro, Loddon Mallee, and Northern Metro

Pieter Van Pinxteren

### Region School Sport Officer - Gippsland, Hume and Southern Metro

Ricky Thompson

### Region School Sport Officer - Greater Western and Western Metro

Melanie Camilleri

### State Championships Officer

Howard Louis

# ABOUT SCHOOL SPORT VICTORIA

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Supports the strategic management of School Sport Victoria, including its strategic directions, key programs, and stakeholder partnerships.

The Advisory Committee members brought a diversity of skills and experience, background, sector representation, including extensive experience across education and sport sectors, student health and wellbeing, sponsorship and communications, finance, equity, and inclusion.

In 2023 the Advisory Committee provided advice to inform School Sport Victoria in the areas of: cost and affordability of school sport, trends in school sport participation, interschool sport mix, engagement with specialist schools, membership benefits and fees for Victorian schools, travel requirements for Team Vic, and gender diversity and equality.

## 2023 ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Megan Kerr (until April 2023),  
**A/Director Statewide Services, Department of Education (Chair)**

Tim Argall,  
**Executive Principal, Donvale Christian College - North Eastern school representative (Eastern Metropolitan Region, Hume Region)**

Cam Atkins,  
**Manager, Sport and Recreation, Wyndham City Council - Sport sector - Local Council Representative**

Michelle Barry,  
**CEO, Girls Sport Victoria - Inclusion/Equity/Child Safety representative**

Sarah Burns,  
**Executive Principal, Somerville Secondary College - South Eastern school representative (Gippsland Region, Southern Metropolitan Region)**

Liz Eryurek,  
**Assistant Director, Financial Services Division - Department of Education, Financial representative**

Tania Fountain,  
**Fountain Marketing and Media - Commercial and Communications representative**

Mark McAllion,  
**- South Western school representative (Greater Western Region, Western Metropolitan Region)**

Georgia McCann  
**Executive Director, Community Sport and Recreation Sport, Sport and Recreation Victoria representative**

Jennifer McCrabb,  
**Area Executive Director Central Highlands, South Western Victoria Region, Department of Education**

Elisabeth McGuire,  
**Teacher, Wodonga Primary School - School representative, Education**

Karen Pearce  
**Executive General Manager Growth, Football Victoria - State Sporting Organisation representative**

John O'Shaughnessy,  
**A/Director, Child and Youth Health, Department of Education - Wellbeing Health and Engagement representative**

Wayne Shultz,  
**Teacher, Dallas Brooks Community Primary School - North Western school representative (North Eastern Metropolitan Region, Loddon-Mallee Region)**

Jen Winter,  
**Area Executive Director, Department of Education - School representative, Regional Office**

Hilary Shelton (April-December 2023),  
**A/CEO, School Sport Victoria**



## WHO WE ARE

School Sport Victoria, as part of the Department of Education, delivers an extensive school sport program to primary and secondary students across Victoria.

Through our **interschool sport** program, in partnership with **state sporting organisations**, we provide **opportunities** for students to represent their school across a wide range of individual and team sports.

As a **member of School Sport Australia**, we provide opportunities for students to **represent Victoria**, under the banner of **Team Vic**, across various sports to compete at School Sport Australia Championships.

We deliver the **Victorian Teachers' Games**, a unique annual event that aims to bring the **community of educators together** for multiple days of sport and social activities.

Our **extensive communication and social media channels inform** the school sport community of **participation opportunities, celebrate the achievements in school sport and demonstrate the value of sport** to engaging and developing students and schools.

We work **collaboratively with partners** across community, state, and elite sporting organisations to **support the delivery** of our school sport opportunities, connect school and community sport pathways for students, and provide opportunities for students facing additional barriers to participate. We also work with **sector partners to collaborate** on ways to engage children and young people in physical activity and sport.

## OUR HISTORY

School Sport Victoria was established on **1 January 2010** following the **merger** of the **Victorian Primary Schools' Sports Association (VPSSA)** and the **Victorian Secondary Schools' Sports Association (VSSSA)** that occurred during 2009.

For **over 100 years** these two associations provided an **ongoing interschool sport program** for students in Victorian schools (government and non-government primary schools and government secondary schools).

## OUR FUTURE

School Sport Victoria's **Strategic Directions 2020 to 2030** aims to provide a clear future direction, to address future challenges and opportunities in engaging more Victorian students in school sport.

### Our Purpose

- We develop young people through school sport.
- We support schools to maximise opportunities for all students to play sport.

### Our Goals

**800,000** school sport participation opportunities are provided to Victorian students each year.

**450,000** Victorian students participate in school sport each year.

### Our Objectives



#### EDUCATION

To improve academic performance by engaging students in physical activity through school sport.



#### HEALTH

To instil lifelong habits that lead to healthier lives, including mental, social and physical health.



#### INCLUSION

To create equitable opportunities for anyone to participate in school sport at every skill level.



#### LEADERSHIP

To drive the narrative for the benefits of school sport and embed it within the government's policy intent.



#### TALENT

To support the development of the next generation of athletes.



## OUR ROLE

We enable students to **PLAY** sport.  
We champion the **VALUE** of school sport.  
We **CONNECT** school and community sport.



# OUR POLICY CONTEXT

School Sport Victoria recognises the important contribution school sport can make in delivering on Victorian Government priorities and targets – particularly across education, sport, and health.

[The Education State](#) is about achieving excellence and creating opportunities for Victorian students in all aspects of their education. School sport is integral to supporting the achievement of the Education State targets, in particular happy, healthy and resilient kids and pride and confidence in our schools.

School sport is a priority within the [Active Schools Framework](#), which supports schools in adopting a whole school approach to physical activity. This supports a [Joint Ministerial Statement](#) on Physical Activity for Children and Young People, between the Ministers for Education, Community Sport and Health to create active schools, active kids, and active communities.

# OUR MEMBERSHIP TYPES

School Sport Victoria offers **three types of membership** that are available to **Victorian primary and secondary schools**.

## Full Membership

Open to all government schools.

## Associate Membership

Open to non-government schools that wish to participate in the full School Sport Victoria program

## Affiliate Membership

Open to non-government schools that can access a range of benefits including the Team Vic state team selection trials.

Membership fees support the costs associated with **delivering school sport programs** and the **overall administration** of School Sport Victoria. In return, schools have access to a range of benefits to support school sport opportunities for students and staff, see - [School Sport Victoria Membership Benefits](#).

For the fourth consecutive year, School Sport Victoria achieved record school membership with **2,533 school members in 2023** including **1,863 primary** and **670 secondary school members**.



# SCHOOL SPORT VICTORIA

Supports Students

and Schools

School Sport Victoria delivers an extensive school sport program for Victorian primary and secondary students and schools as summarised in the figure below.

SSV member schools access a range of benefits to support school sport opportunities for students and staff.



# 2023 BY THE NUMBERS - PARTICIPATION

## Interschool Sport

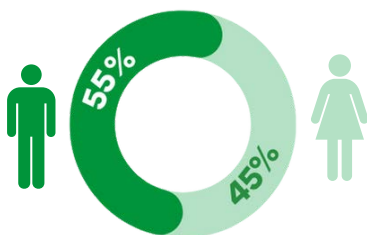
**600,119**

TOTAL STUDENTS



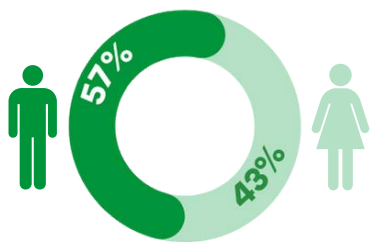
**356,763**

TOTAL PRIMARY STUDENTS



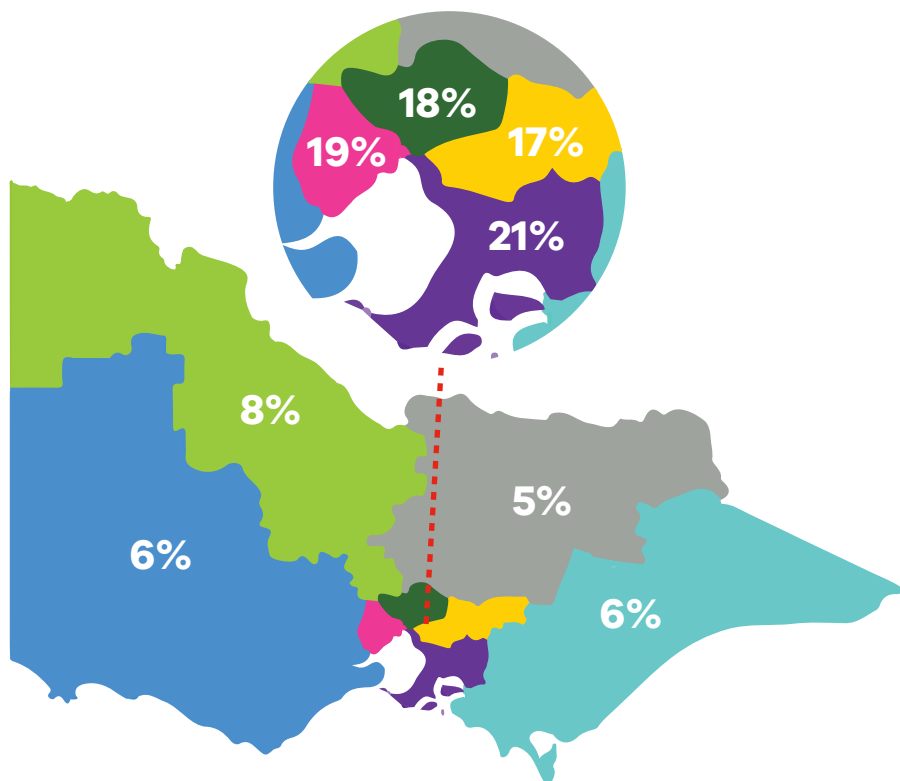
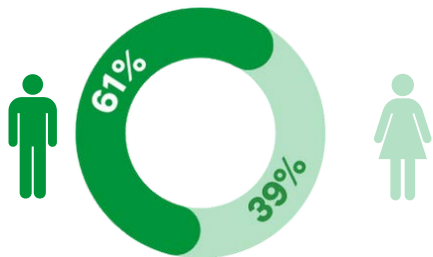
**243,356**

TOTAL SECONDARY STUDENTS



**558**

PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR MULTI-CLASS STUDENTS



- Greater Western Region
- Hume Region
- Loddon Mallee Region
- Gippsland Region
- Western Metro Region
- Northern Metro Region
- Eastern Metro Region
- Southern Metro Region

See SSV 2023 Sports Participation & Performance Infographics



# 2023 BY THE NUMBERS

## MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

School Sport Victoria's marketing and communications work continued to improve evidence by growth across most platforms including **subscriber numbers, website views, and the online community** which has surpassed 100,000.



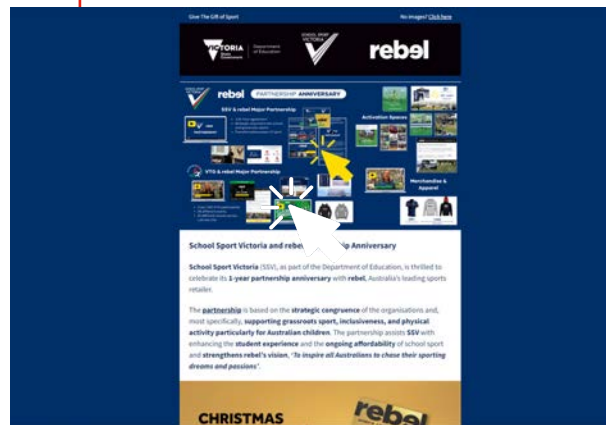
**2,597,692**  
TOTAL WEBPAGE VIEWS

	<b>28,815</b> 13% INCREASE		<b>18,177</b> 13% INCREASE		<b>4,181</b> 12% INCREASE		<b>2,175</b> 14% INCREASE
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**103,220**

TOTAL ONLINE COMMUNITY IN 2023

	<b>49,872</b> SUBSCRIBERS 10% INCREASE	<b>18</b> EDMS SENT	<b>51%</b> AVERAGE OPEN RATE
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**School Sport Victoria Play** provides participation opportunities that aim to **engage less active students** and those **not currently participating in interschool sport**. SSV Play includes activities in a **social, and non-competitive format** to engage students with a focus on participation.

SSV Play was again **supported by the Positive Start** initiative in Term 1 and 2 with SSV self-funding in Terms 3 and 4. In total **173 schools** were involved in SSV Play with **28,674 student participation opportunities** provided in 2023, including:

- **Diversity Dash** which encouraged students to get outside and get active as part of a fun, social, and inclusive event using Holi powder. Students could run, skip, dance or walk their way through a fun course that incorporated fun activities like treasure hunts, obstacles, and activities.
- **School Games** delivered in partnership with Reclink Australia included delivering old school yard favourite activities with a modern twist which were fun, engaging, and interactive for students of all fitness levels and abilities.
- **Skateboarding** was delivered in partnership with YMCA Action Sports and the Victorian Skateboarding Association as incursions.
- **Downball**, a schoolyard staple and new SSV Play initiative in 2023, was delivered as a school incursion by Downball Australia.
- **Circus** was a new SSV Play initiative delivered as incursions in Terms 3 and 4 by Ruccis Circus.



**28,674**  
STUDENT PARTICIPATION  
OPPORTUNITIES



**173**  
SCHOOLS  
REACHED



**86**  
METRO  
SCHOOLS



**87**  
REGIONAL  
SCHOOLS

**Government vs Non-government Schools**



**Metro vs Regional Schools**



**128**



PRIMARY

**29**



SECONDARY

**16**



SPECIALIST

**SCHOOL  
BREAKDOWN**



**19,918**  
STUDENTS



**1,750**  
STUDENTS



**2,050**  
STUDENTS



**1,964**  
STUDENTS



**2,992**  
STUDENTS



# INTERSCHOOL SPORT AND

# INCLUSION REPORT

School Sport Victoria, with support from State Sporting Organisations, provides an extensive interschool sport program with more than 31 different interschool sports available to Victorian students, from Year 4 to Year 12, to participate in 2023.

School Sport Victoria continues to provide opportunities and pathways for multi-class students within Victorian mainstream and specialist schools including in cross country, swimming and track and field.

School Sport Victoria is committed to providing more participation opportunities for multi-class students, girls, students from low socio-economic backgrounds, and culturally and linguistically diverse students.

School Sport Victoria delivered a free 'Futsal in Schools' webinar featuring Nomes Langham (Futsal Development Coordinator, Football Victoria) to support the ongoing futsal pilot delivered by Football Victoria. School Sport Victoria will continue to work closely with its sports partners, the education community, and other stakeholders to facilitate more inclusion opportunities for Victorian students.



[SSV 2023 Interschool Sport Results](#)

[SSV 2023 School Sport Program](#)



# SSV COORDINATORS

As School Sport Victoria's biggest program, interschool sport continues to be supported by the wonderful network of **355 School Sport Victoria Coordinators**:

- 8 Primary and 8 Secondary Region Coordinators
- 54 Primary and 53 Secondary Division Coordinators
- 232 Primary District Coordinators

The **'Meet Your Coordinators' initiative** was established in 2023 to **profile and celebrate the wonderful contributions** of the School Sport Victoria Coordinators.

In 2023, School Sport Victoria **met with the Region and Division Coordinators** on two occasions with the **August online forum** featuring presentations from **AFL Victoria, Golf Australia (Victoria), and Squash and Racquetball Victoria**.

The **December Conference**, including the School Sport Victoria 2023 Awards, was held at the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre with approximately 50 Coordinators in attendance with highlights including:

- **SSV in Review - 2023**
- **Partnership Update** including the first full year delivery of the rebel partnership
- **Boosting teachers' mental health and happiness** by Dr. Jodi Richardson
- **Mamuch Chul's, NextGen Unite's, inspirational journey**
- Practical **9v9 Australian Football session** delivered by AFL Victoria
- **Life Members update** which was the first time School Sport Victoria had met with the Life Members since 2019.

School Sport Victoria would like to **thank the coordinators** for their **ongoing commitment and investment** in delivering school sport to Victorian students.



**Jabyn Hogarth**

SOUTHERN METRO PRIMARY COORDINATOR



**Chloe Dew**

REGION COORDINATOR FOR GREATER WESTERN REGION (AND SOVEREIGN AND EUREKA DIVISION COORDINATOR)





School Sport Victoria's Team Vic state team program provides a development platform for Victoria's emerging student athletes to compete at the School Sport Australia Championships. Team Vic is recognised for its ability to identify and assist with the development of future state, national, world, Olympic and Paralympic champions.

In 2023, Team Vic participated in the **full School Sport Australia calendar**. We saw a significant increase in the total number of trialists vying for the honour to represent their state, with **7,691 students** taking part in the selection trials delivered by the wider School Sport Victoria community. This represents an **18% growth** in the number of trialists from 2022.



**7,691**

TRIALISTS

**940**

STUDENTS  
SELECTED



**73**

**47**

TEAMS  
SELECTED



**60**

**19**

SPORTS  
OFFERED



**70**





The rigorous selection trial process led to the selection and announcement of **940 student athletes across 47 teams**, in addition to the **138 Team Vic Officials** supporting Victoria's emerging student athletes. We saw a **significant increase** in the numbers of **multi-class students** across **swimming, aquathlon, and triathlon**, and we continue to support School Sport Australia's ambitions to continue to provide multi-class student opportunities. School Sport Victoria were proud to support the introduction of the **12 Years & Under Boys Netball Championship**, with our selected team proving Team Vic will be stiff competition for other states across the next few years, with a strong 2nd place result in their first year.

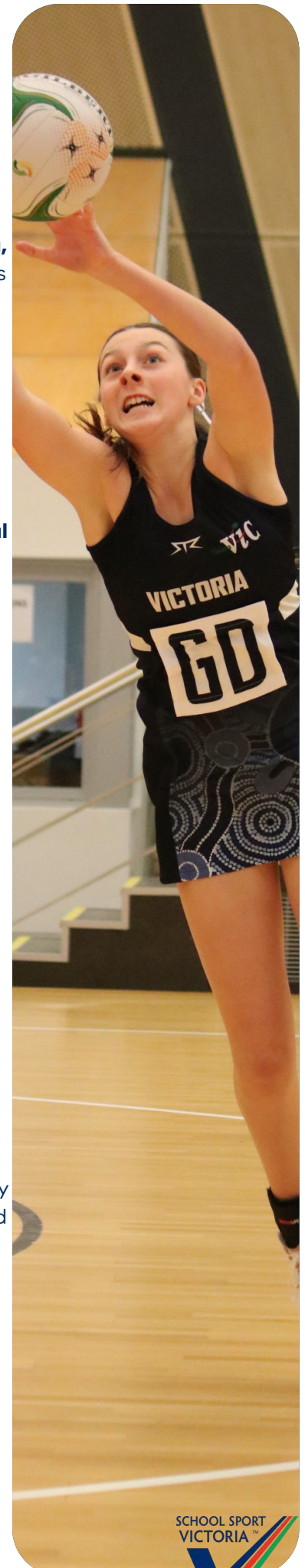
With strong performances across the year, Team Vic students accumulated a grand total of **73 gold, 60 silver and 70 bronze medals**. In the Championships for students aged 13 to 19 years, we saw recognition for outstanding **individual performances of 36 students**, chosen as members of the All-Australian team for their respective sports.

Whilst difficult to highlight specific individuals (in honesty, they would go off the page), from a team perspective, we need to take the time to acknowledge our 2023 School Sport Australian Championship winning teams:

- 12 Years & Under Girls Australian Football
- 12 Years & Under Boys Australian Football
- 15 Years & Under Girls Australian Football
- 15 Years & Under Boys Australian Football
- 12 Years & Under Girls Basketball
- 12 Years & Under Boys Basketball
- 12 Years & Under Boys Football (Soccer)
- 12 Years & Under Girls Netball
- 15 Years & Under Girls Netball
- 15 Years & Under Girls Volleyball

Whilst the **fundamental purpose** of the Team Vic state team program is to **provide opportunities** for student athletes, it could not occur without the contribution of our **Team Vic Officials**. Their assistance and leadership in the development of the Team Vic program enhances the experience of our student athletes and is strongly supported by the results achieved at the School Sport Australia Championships. 2023 also saw an acknowledgement by School Sport Australia of some of our **long serving officials**, who each received a **Service Award for their 10+ years of commitment to school sport**. Our 2023 officials who were recognised in this way were:

- Craig Kelly - Australian Football
- Leeann Gill - Australian Football
- Lisa Rolfe - Basketball
- Sam Amos - Basketball
- Elizabeth Howard - Diving
- Laura Ellis - Football (Soccer)
- Todd Canobie - Golf
- Janelle Graham - Netball and Softball
- Kristy Wood - Tennis
- Joshua Pratt - Swimming



# Team **vic** CONTINUED

School Sport Victoria **hosted three successful School Sport Australia Championships** including the 18 Years & Under Softball at the Werribee Softball Association in Werribee, the 15 Years & Under Australian Football in its 100th year in the City of Ballarat, and the 12 Years & Under Football (Soccer) at the recently opened Home of the Matildas and Victorian State Football Centre at La Trobe University, Bundoora. We would like to **acknowledge the support** provided by the respective **state sporting organisations**, in **Softball Victoria, AFL Victoria and Football Victoria**, as well as our local Council partners the **City of Wyndham and the City of Ballarat** for their support in delivering these events.

As in previous years, Team Vic’s state team program provided a range of **‘value add’ opportunities** for students including **additional training sessions and athlete education sessions** delivered by the Victorian Institute of Sport and the Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation.

Acknowledging the **increasing costs of sport**, School Sport Victoria provides a range of initiatives to support students to achieve their sporting goals. To reduce the barrier to participation and assist with the affordability of the Team Vic program, Team Vic athletes again had the opportunity to establish an **Australian Sports Foundation fundraising project** and were able to raise a total of over **\$16,000 to support their participation** in the School Sport Australia Championships. In 2024, School Sport Victoria will place an increased level of focus on working to promote the Australian Sports Foundation as an option to minimise the financial burden on families. In addition, **35 eligible students** benefited from the **Sports Excellence Scholarship Fund (SESF)**, with \$1,000 provided to each successful application. We thank the SESF for their ongoing support of the Team Vic program and Victorian students.

School Sport Victoria would like to **thank the network of teachers, coordinators, Team Vic Officials and key sports partners** for their ongoing support and dedication to the Team Vic state team program. We are optimistically looking ahead in an Olympic and Paralympic year to further strong performances by both our next generation of Team Vic students, as well as by our long list of Team Vic alumni. **Go Team Vic!**



TEAM VIC  
FOOTBALL TEAM  
ANNOUNCEMENT LIVE STREAM



TEAM VIC  
TEAM ANNOUNCEMENT  
LIVE STREAM



TEAM VIC  
FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS



TEAM VIC  
SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS





Team Vic alumni continued to shine on the international and national sporting stage with notable achievements including 10 AFL draftees across the men’s and women’s leagues. This included the **first pick** in the 2023 Men’s National Draft, **Harley Reid**.

**Liz Watson** captained the Australian Diamonds to their 11th Netball World Cup, leading the team to success in Cape Town, South Africa.

**Dante Exum, Josh Giddey, and Dyson Daniels** represented the Australian Boomers at the FIBA World Cup.

At the World Athletics Cross Country Championships, held in Bathurst, Australia, distance runner **Abbey Caldwell** contributed to the bronze medal winning team, our first team medal at the championships in several years. Another young distance runner, **Sophie O’Sullivan** represented the Republic of Ireland at the 2023 World Athletics Championships over 1500m.

In Cricket, **Todd Murphy** made a successful Test debut and **Jake Fraser-McGurk** forced his way into the Australian One-Day International team.

We recently also saw the retirement of Olympic Gold Medallist, **Mack Horton**, who has been a longstanding supporter SSV and school sport.

School Sport Victoria **congratulates these athletes** whose performances continue to consolidate the importance of the Team Vic program in terms of the Australian and Victorian athlete development framework.





The **2023 Victoria Teachers' Games** headed to **Latrobe City** for the first time in over 20 years with **1,161 participants** attending the annual multi-sport multi-day event. Events across the sporting, wellness and social streams were held across the region with facilities and venues located in **Traralgon, Morwell, Moe, Churchill, and Glengarry**.



**1,161**  
PARTICIPANTS



**87**  
SESSIONS  
PLANNED



**36**  
UNIQUE  
EVENTS



# CONTINUED

Beautiful weather greeted participants throughout the event as they participated in over **30 different activities** including new events like **Bocce, Salti, Nerf Battle, Pickleball and Fun at the Arcade**. Favourites such as **Barefoot Bowls, Netball, Dodgeball, Trivia with a Twist and the Amazing Race** once again proved popular with our audience and it was great to see all the medals (and wooden spoons) being displayed by participants throughout the event.

- VTG held from **Sunday 17 to Wednesday 20 September 2023**
- **1,161 registered participants** representing **199 schools** in Victoria
- **3,111 event entries** across **36 different sporting/recreation, wellness and social events**
- **47% of participants** registered for an **event for the first time**
- An injection of **\$1million into the local economy** with 82% of participants travelling to the region from outside of Gippsland
- In 2023, VTG welcomed **rebel as a major partner** with other partnerships including the **Australian Education Union, S-Trend, and Football Victoria**.

The 2023 marketing slogan of **“Be Energised”** linked the **history of the Latrobe Valley** and their **supply of power** throughout Victoria to VTG’s core aims of participate, connect and inspire. The Games provide an opportunity for Victorian education staff to **connect with peers across the state, relax, take part in a variety of competitive and social sporting activities** and be inspired to **make physical activity a part of their lives**. VTG returns to Latrobe City in 2024 and SSV looks forward to delivering another engaging event program for educators to experience and enjoy.



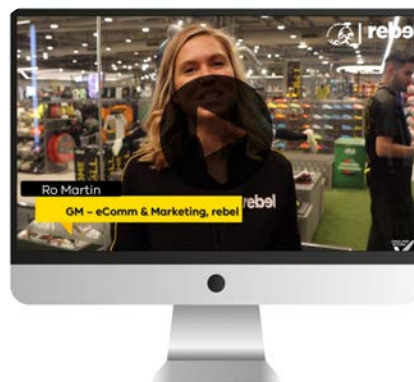
**VTG DAY 1 HIGHLIGHTS**



**VTG DAY 2 HIGHLIGHTS**



**VTG DAY 3 HIGHLIGHTS**



*96% of surveyed participants believed VTG benefits their health and wellbeing and increases the value of the role that sport, recreation or wellness activities plays in their lives.*

# PARTNERS

Headlining School Sport Victoria's partnership work in 2023, was the **successful implementation of the rebel partnership** including celebrating the 1-year anniversary of the partnership.

The rebel partnerships includes a **focus on enhancing the student experience** whilst **supporting the ongoing affordability of school sport**. Highlights in 2023 included **activation sites and pop-up shops at various interschool sport events**, supporting the **2022 Victorian School Sports Awards** and the **2023 SSV Awards** including voucher awards to Schools of the Year, major partner of the **Victorian Teachers' Games**, **branding** on SSV merchandise and SSV apparel, with **vouchers provided to more than 1,000 Victorian students**.

SSV was delighted to facilitate the donation of **1,526 clothing items by merchandise partner, DMC Sport**, to the **East Arnhem Regional Council** and its 9 communities. It was also pleasing to see a further **13% growth on merchandise sales** following the 69% growth the previous year.

School Sport Victoria continued to work closely with **Football Victoria** regarding the **ongoing futsal pilot** whilst also working with **AFL Victoria** regarding the implementation of the **Australian Football 9v9 primary school pilot** which was delivered in the 8 SSV regions.

School Sport Victoria looks forward to the continued implementation of its partnership strategy including new agreements with State Sporting Organisations who are so pivotal to supporting its work.



MAJOR PARTNER



MAJOR SPORT SPONSORS



SPORT PARTNERS



MERCHANDISE PARTNER



Team **vic** PARTNERS



PARTNERS

COMMUNITY PARTNERS



VICTORIAN SCHOOL SPORT NETWORK



# VICTORIAN SCHOOL

# SPORT NETWORK

The **Victorian School Sport Network (VSSN)** is a **collaboration of key partners** supporting **physical activity and sport participation** amongst children and young people, across school and community settings.

The network is coordinated by School Sport Victoria and includes representation from education, sport, and government.

Throughout the year the **VSSN revised the key areas for collaboration with the focus for the period 2023 to 2025:**



# BE FIT. BE WELL.



The **'Be Fit. Be Well'** program delivered in **partnership** with the **Victorian Institute of Sport (VIS)** sees **VIS athletes share their stories** of overcoming adversity, building resilience and, ultimately, athletic and personal triumph. The quality of the **31 athlete speakers** was outstanding with 55% being World Championship representatives.

2023 was another record breaking year with **151 schools** and **16,224 students** engaged in the program which eclipsed the previous record set in 2022 by 2,426 students.

The teacher and student survey responses, up 43% and 52% respectively in 2023, was impressive with:

- 91% of the teacher respondents answering that the athlete(s) delivered a clear message about how physical activity is linked to mental wellbeing
- 98% of the teacher respondents said the athlete covered the topic requested
- 4.66 out of 5 was the average rating for the value of the program for their students.

SSV and the VIS look forward to building on the program in 2024 including celebrating the 30th anniversary of 'Be Fit. Be Well' program.

 **16,224**  
STUDENTS ENGAGED

 **17%**  
FROM 2022

 **31**  
ATHLETE  
SPEAKERS

 **151**  
SCHOOLS  
PARTICIPATED

## ACADEMIC & SPORTING

## ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL



**307**  
MEDALS ISSUED

The **Academic and Sporting Achievement Medal** is an accolade that acknowledges the most exceptional students (1 female & 1 male) within a school who has demonstrated academic and sporting excellence.

This prestigious award recognizes individuals who have achieved **outstanding results in their academic pursuits** while also **excelling in sporting activities**, showcasing a remarkable balance of dedication, discipline, and talent in both areas. It serves as a testament to the recipient's well-rounded abilities and serves to inspire others to strive for excellence in both academics and athletics.

**Congratulations to the 307 students who received the Academic and Sporting Achievement Medal, and rebel voucher, in 2023.**



# SCHOOL SPORT

# VICTORIA AWARDS

The **School Sport Victoria Awards**, held in conjunction with the annual School Sport Victoria Coordinators Conference, **recognise the outstanding achievements of School Sport Victoria Coordinators, schools, teachers, and volunteers in delivering school sport. The Awards also include the annual Service Awards, Recognition Awards, and Life Member Awards.**

School Sport Victoria values the **important contribution** of **personnel** who go **above and beyond** for **Victorian students in providing interschool and interstate school sport**. These awards were established as one way of recognising this important contribution.

School Sport Victoria would like to congratulate the **28 award recipients including Craig Cornwell (St. Arnaud Secondary College) for gaining SSV Life Membership, and Bellbridge Primary School and Wyndham Central College, joint winners of the 'Sports School of the Year' category, with both schools receiving a \$500 rebel voucher.**

AWARD	AWARD RECIPIENT
Sports School of the Year (Primary)	Bellbridge Primary School
Sports School of the Year (Secondary)	Wyndham Central College
Region Coordinator of the Year (Primary)	Daniel Thomas
District Coordinator of the Year (Primary)	Julian Bowring
School Sport Coordinator of the Year (Secondary)	Kirralee Radford
Team Vic Team of the Year	Volleyball 15 Years & Under
Team Vic Coach of the Year	Bernard McInerney
Team Vic Manager of the Year	Nicolle Korp
Team Vic Volunteer of the Year	Tony Hanegraaf
Life Member	Craig Cornwell
Recognition Award	Murray Knight
Recognition Award	Marg MacLean
Recognition Award	Sandy Newman
Recognition Award	Rebecca Sandlant
Service Award, 10 Years	Chris Adams
Service Award, 10 Years	Lara Atkinson
Service Award, 10 Years	Michael Baker
Service Award, 10 Years	Nicole Cumming
Service Award, 10 Years	Jenny James
Service Award, 10 Years	Matthew Stella
Service Award, 10 Years	Claire Williams
Service Award, 10 Years	Jason Maxwell
Service Award, 10 Years	Nikki Little
Service Award, 20 Years	Hilary Morris
Service Award, 20 Years	Jeremy Taylor
Service Award, 20 Years	Nadja Wood
Service Award, 20 Years	Paul Carter





## VICTORIAN SCHOOL

## SPORTS AWARDS

The **2023 Victorian School Sports Awards (VSSA)** celebrated the outstanding sporting achievement of Victorian Government school students, teachers, and schools at the Melbourne Cricket Club Members Dining Room, Wednesday 27 March 2024 which was made even more special as the **awards celebrated its 30th anniversary**.

Special guests in attendance included **Darren Cheeseman**, Parliamentary Secretary for Education, **Phil Grillo**, Victorian State Manager, rebel, **Matt Cameron**, Manager – Build Neighbourhood and Built Systems, VicHealth, Victorian School Sports Awards alumni, **Jack Howell**, an international para triathlete, **Becky Webster**, Geelong AFLW player with Champion Australian marathon runner and Commonwealth Games gold medallist, **Steve Moneghetti AM**, facilitating the awards ceremony attended by 220 guests.

A **total of 41 awards** - including 34 Sporting Blue Awards - were presented to recognise government school students who excelled in their chosen sport, and to teachers who made an outstanding contribution to school sport in 2023.

Among the 41 award recipients were **Bodhi Evans from Sandringham East Primary School who was selected to represent Australia in the 2023 Under 12 Baseball World Cup in Taiwan**, and **Jamie Cefai from Maribyrnong College who competed in the 2023 Taekwondo World Cup Team Championships in Korea**. Both were presented with Outstanding Sporting Achievement Awards for their exceptional commitment to their sporting pursuits in 2023.

**Arlo Styant-Browne from Brunswick South West Primary School received the Lindsay Gaze Outstanding Sports Leadership Award** for his exceptional contribution to sport as a role model to his young peers. Arlo has coached, captained, and played in several school and community basketball and football teams; supporting and inspiring teammates and leading his teams to significant success at competition level.

**Trafalgar Primary School and Wyndham Central College** were joint recipients of the prestigious **School and Community Partnership Award**, with **both schools receiving a \$500 rebel voucher**, for providing students with opportunities to participate in a diverse range of activities through strong connections to local sporting groups.

**School Sport Victoria would like to thank VicHealth** for their valued sponsorship of the awards, **SSV major partner rebel** who provided vouchers to all student winners along with schools, and **DMC Sport** who provided the VSSA hoodies to all student award winners.

# AWARD WINNERS

## Primary

AWARD	AWARD RECIPIENT	SCHOOL NAME	SPORT
Sporting Blue Award	Ethan Splatt	Williamstown Primary School	Athletics (Track & Field)
Sporting Blue Award	Heidi Kuppler	Greenhills Primary School	Athletics (Track & Field)
Sporting Blue Award	Emily Iredell	Hamilton (Gray Street) Primary School	Basketball
Sporting Blue Award	Trevor (TJ) Nosedo	Serpell Primary School	Basketball
Sporting Blue Award	Eliza Scott	Mount Waverly Primary School	Diving
Sporting Blue Award	Hugo Devine	Williamstown Primary School	Diving
Sporting Blue Award	Miklos Miliás	Valkstone Primary School	Football (Soccer)
Sporting Blue Award	Ivana Ferrer	Strathmore North Primary School	Football (Soccer)
Sporting Blue Award	Alexis Crotty	Yarra Road Primary School	Netball
Sporting Blue Award	Lachlan Bull	Parkdale Primary School	Swimming
Sporting Blue Award	Jumanah Fahmy	Greythorn Primary School	Swimming
Sporting Blue Award	Ayush Salunkhe	Laburnum Primary School	Tennis

## Secondary

AWARD	AWARD RECIPIENT	SCHOOL NAME	SPORT
Sporting Blue Award	Sophie Zarafa	Koonung Secondary College	Athletics (Track & Field)
Sporting Blue Award	Maddox Wilson	Buckley Park College	Athletics (Track & Field)
Sporting Blue Award	Piper Dixon	Maribyrnong College	Australian Rules Football
Sporting Blue Award	Jordan Croft	Maribyrnong College	Australian Rules Football
Sporting Blue Award	Sai Tanvi Mushini	Maribyrnong College	Badminton
Sporting Blue Award	Shih-yuan Lim	East Doncaster Secondary College	Badminton
Sporting Blue Award	Declan Spiers	Maribyrnong College	Baseball
Sporting Blue Award	Nyapath Machot	Western Heights Secondary College	Basketball
Sporting Blue Award	Roor Akhwar	Western Heights Secondary College	Basketball
Sporting Blue Award	Bailey Tosland	Maribyrnong College	Cricket
Sporting Blue Award	Georgia Schwartz	Maribyrnong College	Golf
Sporting Blue Award	Charlie Roylance	Maribyrnong College	Golf
Sporting Blue Award	Kryshant Jiwa Mohan	East Doncaster Secondary College	Hockey
Sporting Blue Award	Annabelle Sakurai	Mckinnon Secondary College	Netball

AWARD	AWARD RECIPIENT	SCHOOL NAME	SPORT
Sporting Blue Award	Lourdez Sakaria	Melton Secondary College	Rugby League
Sporting Blue Award	Parish Hunt	Melton Secondary College	Rugby League
Sporting Blue Award	James Logan	Grovedale College	Swimming
Sporting Blue Award	Gabrielle (Gabby) Villegas	Maribyrnong College	Tennis
Sporting Blue Award	Sakura Nakadi	Maribyrnong College	Volleyball (Indoor)
Sporting Blue Award	Lucas Maticewski	Maribyrnong College	Volleyball (Indoor)
Sporting Blue Award	Rosie Bilszta	Maribyrnong College	Swimming
Sporting Blue Award	Jin Woodman	Maribyrnong College	Swimming

Outstanding Teacher Contribution	Lola Hughes	Serpell Primary School	Teacher Award
Outstanding Teacher Contribution	Rebecca Sandlant	Wyndham Central College	Teacher Award
Outstanding Sporting Achievement Award	Bodhi Evans	Sandringham East Primary School	Baseball
Outstanding Sporting Achievement Award	Jamie Cefai	Maribyrnong College	Taekwondo
Lindsay Gaze Outstanding Sports Leadership Award	Arlo Styant-Browne	Brunswick South West Primary School	
Outstanding School & Community Partnership		Trafalgar Primary School	
Outstanding School & Community Partnership		Wyndham Central College	





# STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

## PLAY

Providing inclusive and accessible participative and competitive opportunities in school sport to involve a wider range of Victorian students.

## VALUE

Enhancing the role of school sport as part of a whole school approach to physical activity and physical literacy of all students.

## CONNECT

Facilitating partnerships between schools and communities through school sport to support life long participation in physical activity.

### OUR BENEFITS

- Enhance student and school experience
- Increase participation
- Deliver clear value through school sport programs
- Embed being 'active for life'
- A strong voice representing school sport
- Improve connectivity with the sports system
- Efficient and financially sustainable delivery

### OUR PRINCIPLES

- Active for life
- Inclusive and diverse
- Affordability
- Student centred
- Enable principals
- System stewardship
- Integrated pathways
- Connected and coordinated

### OUR VALUES

- Responsiveness
- Integrity
- Impartiality
- Accountability
- Respect
- Leadership
- Human Rights

### OUR PURPOSE

- We develop young people through school sport.
- We support schools to maximise opportunities for all students to play sport.

### OUR GOALS

**By 2030:**

- **800,000** School sport participation opportunities are provided to Victorian students each year, by 2030.
- **450,000** Victorian students participate in school sport each year.

## OUR OBJECTIVES



**EDUCATION**

To improve academic performance by engaging students in physical activity through school sport.



**HEALTH**

To instil lifelong habits that lead to healthier lives, including mental, social and physical health.




**INCLUSION**

To create equitable opportunities for anyone to participate in school sport at every skill level.



**LEADERSHIP**

To drive the narrative for the benefits of school sport and embed it within the government's policy intent.



**TALENT**

To support the development of the next generation of athletes.



## SCHOOL SPORT VICTORIA

(03) 9084 9001  
[www.ssv.vic.edu.au](http://www.ssv.vic.edu.au)



More Victorian students, playing more school sport, more often



Department  
of Education

**rebel**

