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Policy Statement – Sport and Recreation

The Canberra Party is committed to:

- Funding an Economic Impact Study into the Sport and Recreation industry.
- Restoring sports Operational Assistance to \$1.3 million and introducing a CPI increase of tri-annual funding agreements.
- Providing greater financial assistance for coaches, officials and administrators to undertake accreditation training.
- Supporting the development of a published long-term strategic facility maintenance plan to ensure that sports facilities are well maintained.
- Recognising the enormous contribution of volunteers to sport and recreation and the wider ACT community.

Fund an Economic Impact Study into the Sport and Recreation industry.

Sport plays a vital role in the ACT community. High levels of participation in organised sport and recreation help to take the pressure off the health system.

Conducting an Economic Impact Study (EIS) into the Sport and Recreation industry is a vital first step to providing sensible planning and security for the industry.

The Canberra Party believes that an EIS, conducted with the cooperation of all sectors, will allow the industry and government to analyse trends and provide strategic targeting assistance to sport and recreation.

Restore sports Operational Assistance to \$1.3 million and introduce a CPI increase of tri-annual funding agreements.

Given the vital role that sport and recreation plays in the ACT community it is appropriate that it receives adequate government funding.

The Canberra Party believes that, although some costs should be passed to members and participants, a level of funding must be maintained to prevent these costs from becoming prohibitive.

Increasing tri-annual funding according to the CPI recognises the rising cost of providing a services to the ACT. Without increasing funding each year the amount received by organisations actually

decreases in real terms and they are forced to allocate more resources to day-to-day administrative expenses.

Provide greater financial assistance for coaches, officials and administrators to undertake accreditation training.

Affording coaches, officials and administrators the opportunity to undertake accreditation training improves the standard of competition that is offered to participants.

The Canberra Party believes that providing greater financial assistance also recognises the effort and contribution of a largely volunteer workforce by allowing them to access training that will make their roles easier and more enjoyable.

We support rewarding the devoted efforts of so many Canberra residents with increased funding for accreditation training.

Support the development of a published long-term strategic facility maintenance plan to ensure that sports facilities are well maintained.

Investment in, and maintenance of, sporting infrastructure and facilities is vital to ensuring continued high levels of participation in sport.

The Canberra Party supports the development of a published long-term strategic facility maintenance plan and will press for continued and increased investment in sporting facilities for the benefit of the Canberra community.

Recognising the enormous contribution of volunteers to sport and recreation and the wider ACT community.

There would not be such a high level of participation in sport and recreation without the efforts of thousands of volunteers.

The Canberra Party supports the 'Thanks' program, which encourages recognition of coaches, officials and participants.

We also recognise that underpinning the work of so many volunteers is a growing industry of trained administrators. We would support providing a measure of financial assistance to associations that take on traineeship programs as recognition of the investment that they are making into the future of sport and recreation in the ACT.

The Canberra Party will work to:

- Fund an Economic Impact Study into the Sport and Recreation industry.
- Increase operational assistance.

- Provide funding for coaches, officials and administrators to receive accreditation.
- Develop a master plan for the maintenance of facilities and invest in new infrastructure.
- Recognise the contribution of volunteers.