

WOMEN IN SPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. BACKGROUND

The Australian Sports Commission has set up a Women in Sport Working Group in 2015, which has identified four priority areas to improve women's and girls' participation in sport and active recreation:

- 1) Facilitating the participation of all women and girls in sport and active recreation at all levels
- 2) Encouraging strong gender balanced leadership in sport and recreation to enable real change
- 3) Promoting women's and girls' involvement in sport and active recreation at all levels, and
- 4) Encouraging safe, comfortable and culturally appropriate sport and active recreation places and spaces.

The NT Government is strongly supportive of, and committed to working on a national approach to gender equality in sport and recreation. The NT Government intends to retain flexibility in meeting the needs of their communities and respond to local priorities while working towards an agreed common goal.

In March 2017 the Northern Territory Minister for Tourism, Sport and Culture, the Hon. Lauren Moss announced the formation of a Committee to provide advice and information from the grassroots of Northern Territory sport surrounding women in sport.

The intention of the Women in Sport Advisory Committee is to provide a community voice for those who have previously participated or currently participate in sport in the NT as a player, coach, official or volunteer. Information and suggestions from the Women in Sport Advisory Committee will be forwarded to the Minister for Tourism and Culture for consideration and further discussion.

2. PURPOSE

The Women in Sport Advisory Committee was established to provide confidential, strategic and practical advice to inform the Department of Tourism and Culture's consideration of strategies and practises to improve the delivery, recognition, promotion and development of participation and leadership opportunities for women in sport in the NT.

The Women in Sport Advisory Committee will:

- Serve to represent the sporting community at the grass roots level, to 'take the pulse' of community sentiment in women's participation in sport in the NT
- Help to raise the profile of NT women in sport and explore the issue of gender equality in sport and recreation in the NT
- Provide advice and information and to be an additional voice to monitor whether the policies and strategies of the Department are meeting community need, and where changes are necessary

- Advise the Minister for Tourism and Culture on practical actions for the sport and active recreation sector to enhance participation by women and girls and to increase their engagement in leadership and governance roles in sport

3. FUNCTION

The Women in Sport Advisory Committee will provide input, ideas and advice on emergent and existing issues affecting the growth of women's participation, leadership and ability to provide influence in sport in the Northern Territory.

The Women in Sport Advisory Committee is to discuss and put forward suggestions around:

- What is going well for women in sport;
- What the current challenges are; and
- Where the Department should target initiatives and/or investment for improvement

The aim of the Women in Sport Advisory Committee is to provide recommendations and actions that are bold and practical, and will deliver changes in thinking, behaviour and the way sport and recreation operate in a one to five year time frame.

4. MEMBERSHIP

The Women in Sport Advisory Committee is to have members with a combination of any of the following knowledge/skills:

- Sport in the Northern Territory and/or Nationally
- The sport and recreation landscape in Northern Territory (grass roots to elite)
- Club Management and Operations
- Volunteer Management
- Sport and/or Business Management

The Women in Sport Advisory Committee is made up of 10 members in total. Members will be sourced through an Expression of Interest process, with applications assessed by Sport and Recreation NT.

In finalising membership, consideration will be given to ensuring a balance of a wide spectrum of sports being represented, as well as a range of experiences and skills.

The Minister for Tourism, Sport and Culture will endorse and officially appoint the final membership of the Women in Sport Advisory Committee.

These members will be appointed for a duration of one (1) year.

Casual vacancies occurring in the membership of the Women in Sport Advisory Committee will be filled from individuals identified by the Department of Tourism, Sport and Culture, through Sport and Recreation NT and current members and must be ratified by the Minister for Tourism, Sport and Culture.

Other members may be invited with the approval of the Minister for Tourism, Sport and Culture to assist with particular expertise in a subject matter under discussion.

5. ROLE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM, SPORT AND CULTURE

The role of the Department of Tourism, Sport and Culture, through Sport and Recreation NT will be in performing the role of secretary of the Women in Sport Advisory Committee. Their responsibilities shall include:

- Prepare agendas, scheduling meetings and notify members
- Circulate reports, supporting information prior to each meeting
- The preparation of any committee meeting documentation
- Take notes or minutes of the meeting
- Facilitate communications and engagement with the sector.

6. MEETINGS

Meetings will be held not less than four (4) times, and not more than six (6) times each calendar year, unless otherwise agreed by the Women in Sport Advisory Committee membership.

The first meeting of the Committee will be convened no later than 3 months from the date of establishment, with meeting dates for the year to be set at this first meeting.

A minimum of five (5) members will be required to make quorum.

7. REPORTING

The outcomes of the Women in Sport Advisory Committee's discussions are to be reported to and considered by the Department of Tourism, Sport and Culture, through Sport and Recreation NT for further action and dissemination to Sport and Recreation NT Senior Management and the Minister for Sport as appropriate.

8. ACCOUNTABILITY

The Women in Sport Advisory Committee is a non-statutory body. The role and functions of the Women in Sport Advisory Committee are advisory in nature. It is not a decision-making forum and does not consider issues or outcomes of operational matters.

9. REVIEW OF TERMS OF REFERENCE

Sport and Recreation NT will periodically consult with members about the adequacy of these Terms of Reference and satisfaction with the Women in Sport Advisory Committee – its membership and its impact.