



Australian Government
Australian Sports Commission

Active After-school Communities

Helping kids and communities get active



AASC Term 4, 2011 STATE NEWSLETTER – VICTORIA

From the field

Term 4 programs for the Australian Government's Active After-school Communities (AASC) program are about to come to an end. A number of sports have been implementing special initiatives to encourage participants to join their local club having now enjoyed almost seven weeks of the AASC program. While these strategies are occurring at the local level, there is also a great deal of work occurring at a state and national level to develop sports participation strategies and our localised events are often a direct result of this planning.

Hockey Victoria has been proactive this term in providing correspondence to clubs and associations involved in the delivery of the AASC program. These local clubs and associations have been encouraged to become involved in an effort to increase participation numbers in programs like HookIn2Hockey. This is a simple and fantastic example of a sport taking advantage of the opportunities that the AASC program presents.

2011 has been another successful year for the AASC program with thousands of primary school children being able to access many great sports and physical activities each term. I would like to take this opportunity to wish all the fantastic and dedicated community coaches, site coordinators, site supervisors, delivery organisations and other important community groups a safe and happy Christmas. I look forward to your continued contributions in 2012.

Darren Harris—AASC Victorian State Manager



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Calendar of Events

What: Term 4 AASC program ends

Date: 9 December 2011

What: Term 1, 2012 AASC commences

Date: 13 February 2012

Murray River in glory

Up in the far north of the state, the mighty Murray is back to its full glory, offering perfect conditions for canoeing and kayaking.

A group of likeminded individuals from various community organisations are being put through their paces by Canoe Victoria on a mission to gain their Level 1 Flat Water Instructors Award. One of the group members is Chris McGinty, AASC Regional Coordinator for the area covering Mildura and the Riverland.

“The intent of the project is to train individuals in the area that can create and support the wider community to develop self confidence, personal safety, teamwork and the opportunity to have fun whilst being active through canoeing and kayaking,” McGinty said.

The AASC program is looking to engage primary school-aged children, many of whom have never had the opportunity to step into a boat before, let alone be in control of its speed and steering. To provide these opportunities, McGinty is collaborating with Canoe Victoria, Mildura Canoe Club, The Koorie Justice Department, Victorian Police, Operation Support Members, the Local Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (LAECG) and Parental and Community Engagement (PaCE) on a pilot project. The seven-week pilot will introduce kids to canoeing/kayaking in Term 1, 2012 and will utilise the districts indoor swimming pools. The plan is to develop a practical AASC program that can be delivered and enjoyed throughout Victoria and Australia.



Kids Inline with AASC



Over 50 children from Moe Albert St Primary school and Newborough East Primary school have rolled their way into a more active lifestyle thanks to the AASC program.

Local Inline Hockey facility, Stadium 34, is located within walking distance or a short drive to both schools. The facility has hosted AASC sessions and provided coaching for the program which has been a huge success.

Community Coach Matt Beatson has been looking at ways of tapping into local schools to recruit players for the under represented sport.

“As well as being a fun activity to participate in, Inline Hockey is a great game to watch and offers each child the opportunity to get involved and learn skills for life. The AASC program is giving us a great pathway into local schools so that we can engage more children,” said Beatson.

Playing for Life picture gallery



Mildura team gearing up for a canoe/kayak session on the Murray.



Students get a taste of Inline Hockey at Stadium 34.



Chris McGinty with local Mildura and Riverland supporters for the Canoe/Kayak project.

2011 Victorian Super Site winner

Bairnsdale Primary School is the Victorian Super Site winner for 2011. The school and its 200 children have been involved in the AASC program for the past six years. Over 70 children attend the program in over three sessions per week. The school does an outstanding job of engaging children who will most benefit from participating in the program. They establish strong links with local clubs and work to encourage children to participate in sport and physical activity outside the AASC program.

Bairnsdale's AASC program has a theme each term and engages at least one local club to showcase its sport. In the last session of each term, the school provides a BBQ for parents and children involved in the program and encourage them to participate in family activities together.

There are 10 students with a disability that participate in the AASC program at Bairnsdale Primary School. Twelve months ago, none of these students participated in AASC or sport at school or in the community. The Site Coordinator, Michelle Freer targeted and encouraged these students to give AASC a try by providing activities that appealed to them. Slowly, over the course of a year, the students began participating in the program one night per week. Now, all 10 students attend the three sessions each week. Teachers and parents have noticed a distinct improvement in behavior, social interaction and academics since participating in the AASC.

Michelle and the team at the school see great benefits from being involved in the AASC program. They look forward to continuing their success in getting all kids active in a quality program that supports pathways to local community clubs.

Richard Evans, AASC Regional Coordinator for East Gippsland commented on Michelle's enthusiasm that has had a significant impact on the success of the program. "Michelle is amazing, her focus is always on the kids and what can be done to provide a positive experience for them."

Nominated sites for 2011 Super Site award included:

Lismore Primary School	Edenhope College	Sacred Heart PS OSHC, St Albans
Loch Primary School	Forrest Primary School	Chairo Christian College, Drouin
Coimadai Primary School	Casterton Primary School	Canadian Lead Primary School
Milawa Primary School	Lancaster Primary School	Mount Waverley Primary School OSHC
Kialla Central Primary School	Highvale Primary School	Ivanhoe East Primary School OSHC
Syndal South Primary School	Woori Yallock Primary School	Spring Gully Primary School OSHC
Tootgarook Primary School	St Martin De Porres, Laverton	St Columba's Primary School, Elwood
Bannockburn Primary School	Monbulk Primary school OSHC	St Joseph's Primary School, Red Cliffs
St Francis Xavier, Corio	Kalinda Primary School	California Gully Primary School
Reservoir East Primary		Yarrambat Primary School OSHC
Australian International Academy, Coburg North		School of the Good Shepherd OSHC, Gladstone Park

Super Site Bairnsdale PS



Bairnsdale Primary students rejoice in their Super Site status.



Bairnsdale Primary proudly announce their Super Site Award to the wider community.

North Melbourne FC in Ballarat

AASC Regional Coordinator for Ballarat recently facilitated a football specific Community Coach Training Program (CCTP) for coaches participating in the North Melbourne Football Clubs (NMFC) 'Huddle' schools program. The 'Huddle' program is delivered by the North Melbourne Football Club to primary schools in the Ballarat region as part of North Melbourne's education and community arm.

Coaches are sourced through the University of Ballarat and deliver sessions within the Ballarat community.

The Huddle program aims to:

- promote physical activities
- explore motor skills and movement patterns
- provide a fun and safe football experience
- celebrate diversity
- maximise participation

Nine coaches completed the CCTP, three of whom have gone on to deliver in AASC programs in Term 4, 2011.

The program targets students in grades three and four and consists of four one-hour practical lessons. The lessons are based around physical activity and the development of basic fundamental motor skills. Five schools that are currently delivering the AASC program participated in 'Huddles' in Term 4, 2011.

NMFC is delighted with the success of the partnership with AASC and the University of Ballarat. In addition to delivering CCTP to its coaches, the program has received significant media attention. The AASC program played an integral part in delivering this opportunity to schools in the Ballarat region.

Revolution Taekwondo

Since 2009, coaches from Revolution Taekwondo club in East Bentleigh have introduced taekwondo to over 500 children at 11 different schools through the AASC program. As a result, over 50 children have decided to continue with the sport and join the club.

Over the years, the club has provided more opportunities for children and families in the local community to get active by making taekwondo club sessions more accessible. Oakleigh Primary School and St James Primary School in Gardenvale are now proud Revolution Taekwondo Club training venues. Training sessions at the schools cater for children and families who wish to continue with taekwondo but are not able to attend training sessions at the club. Both new venues stemmed from partnerships developed between the school and the club through the AASC program.

Sophia Heares, Director of Revolution Taekwondo Club said "The AASC program has helped our club by giving us the opportunity to create partnerships with local primary schools and it is great that so many children have joined the club as a result."



Children from Clarinda PS enjoy kicking and punching skills with Dave Bourguignon from Revolution Taekwondo.