



Australian Government
Australian Sports Commission

Active After-school Communities

Helping kids and communities get active



AASC TERM 3, 2011 NEWSLETTER – VICTORIA

From the Field

Sporting clubs continue to be a key focus for the Australian Government's Active After-school Communities (AASC) program with a number of strategies being implemented nationally and locally to demonstrate the program's value to sport. In Victoria, the program is currently working with the Dandenong Basketball Association in a Basketball Australia pilot which will see the local association track the transition of children from AASC basketball programs into club sport. The pilot will measure the effectiveness of various engagement strategies used to encourage children to join their local club. The pilot is taking place in three other states and will be a great way to refine the ways in which we work with sports clubs to encourage children to take up sport on a regular basis.

I would like to extend a huge thank you to all sites, coaches and organisations following changes to the coach cost structure recently. As Term 3 draws to a close, attention now turns towards bookings for Term 4, 2011 and grant applications for Semester 1, 2012. Once again the application of the coaching guidelines will continue to be a high priority. As communicated earlier this year, in order for the AASC program to continue to achieve prescribed outcomes efficiently and effectively, it is essential that community coach costs align with what is appropriate given the community nature of the program.

Term 3 has also been especially busy for a number of schools and OSHCS that have been involved in the AASC Children's Diary research conducted by Newspoll. This task requires some additional work for selected sites to ensure the children keep an accurate account of their activities. Thank you to those sites and staff that have assisted in this process. The findings of these research processes will help to monitor the effectiveness of the AASC program and outline how it is helping children around Victoria and the country. In Term 4, program research will focus on community coaches.

Darren Harris– VIC State Manager



AASC Contact

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Calendar of Events

Term 4 AASC commences
Date: 24 October

Term 4 Grant payments
Date: Week beginning 10 October

Program Feedback Forms
Date: Sent out week of 31 October

AASC Term 4 ends
Date: 9 December

Frankston and District netball

It has been over six years since the first meeting was held with Frankston and District Netball Association (FDNA) and the AASC program. Since then, a strong partnership has been developed that has seen netball introduced to hundreds of children in schools across the Frankston region.

Two highly enthusiastic coaches from the FDNA, Sharni Freeman and Raeleen Darcy, have been the main drivers in making this happen. 'It has been a really positive opportunity for us to partner with schools and work with children we normally would not be able to access. As a result, we have been able to introduce netball to a lot of kids. Many have enjoyed it so much that they are now becoming involved with our clubs in the area. It's a beneficial partnership for all,' said Freeman.

Gavin Mahony, AASC Regional Coordinator from Southern region said, 'Both coaches display a great understanding of the Playing for Life philosophy with the fun and excitement of their sessions always being in high demand from schools.'

In recognition of the long term partnership between FDNA and AASC and to thank the association for its continued enthusiasm and commitment to the program, Gavin Mahony along with the AASC mascot Pablo Participation recently presented a certificate of appreciation to Raeleen at a local participating AASC school, Bayside Christian College.

The team at the Frankston and District Netball Association are about to launch their new introductory netball program *Net, Set, Go* off the back of their involvement with the AASC program. Further information about the FDNA's *Net, Set, Go* program is available by contacting either Sharni or Raeleen on 9776 5155.

Playing for Life picture gallery



Sam Muscatello , AASC Regional Coordinator and Pablo Participation enjoy the festivities at the Fun for Kids Festival In Warrambool in July



Prime Minister Julia Gillard joins in at Werribee Football Club's half time Playing for Life activities which included some St Alban's PS students

Bentleigh Lakers

Former Melbourne Tigers NBL star Marcus Timmons has been helping kids across the Southern region to have fun and learn new skills as part of the Active After-school Communities (AASC) program.

Children from the South Oakleigh, Coatesville and Caulfield primary schools were all excited to shoot some hoops with Marcus Timmons.

David Meredith, President of Bentleigh Lakers Basketball Club organised the visits in conjunction with McKinnon Basketball Association to promote basketball in the region and encourage children to join local basketball clubs.

Exciting developments have happened as a result of the partnership between Bentleigh Lakers Basketball Club and the AASC program with the formation of a new club in the association called Oakleigh Raptors. Basketball coaches will be working in the AASC program in schools across the Clarinda and Oakleigh regions over coming terms to re-cruit more children for the Oakleigh Raptors.

Playing for Life picture gallery



Marcus Timmons working with junior players at Oakleigh South PS.



Karate action is always a popular activity in term 3 due to the weather



Pablo gets a workout at Fun for Kids event

Stand Up Paddle Boarding

AASC Regional Coordinators recently took to the water at Eastern Beach, Geelong with Stand Up Paddle Boarding. The weather (still quite chilly) proved a challenge for some whilst others braved the water to experience an activity that will hopefully be incorporated as part of the AASC program.

The stand up paddle board instructors provided regional coordinators with the opportunity to experience the activity and understand how children can learn through a variety of fun, games-based sessions.

After being given the opportunity to try this new sport, regional coordinators will now be able to assist future coaches when undertaking the Community Coach Training Program. They can also help coaches to build the program's Playing for Life philosophy into their sessions.

Current water activities in the AASC program include water polo, surfing, triathlon and sailing. Stand up paddle boarding would further compliment the many water activities that are available to schools through the program.

Taking to the water



Alison Kooloos receives instruction from WSUP, Stand up Paddle Board instructor



AASC Regional Coordinators take to the water



Safely back on Terra Firma