National Sports Plan

Through a National Sports Plan the Government seeks to set out Australia’s expectations of the sports sector, including our shared goals for high performance sport; sporting participation; cultural and public health outcomes and levels of investment.

The health, cultural and economic contribution sport makes to our country is significant. The National Sports Plan is intended to guide future priorities and approaches, to position Australian sport for the long term. It will examine and seek input from individuals, community groups, sporting organisations, businesses and governments.

The development of the National Sports Plan is intended to be a system wide examination of sport in Australia to strategically position sport into the future. This will be delivered around four key, interrelated pillars of participation, performance, preventive health through physical activity, and integrity.

Development of the Plan is about laying out a vision where each Australian can dream and each Australian can do. They can be a part of sport, they can play sport, and they can be engaged in healthy living. Through the participation pillar we seek to identify how to maximise the participation of Australians in sport and to identify and reduce barriers to participation.

The Plan is about enabling Australians to be their best selves, and for our best athletes (individuals and teams) we want to provide the right support. Through examining performance we seek to identify high performance Olympic, Paralympic, Commonwealth Games and non-Olympic sports objectives.

Sport plays a central role in keeping people active and healthy and can be the conduit to a long, healthy life. Through examining prevention we seek to identify how to use sport to achieve population health goals and reduce the burden of chronic disease in Australia, drawing from the wealth of expertise in this sector.

The Plan is about maintaining vigilance to keep unwanted elements out of Australian sport. Through examining integrity we seek to identify how best to protect Australian sport from integrity threats, such as doping, match-fixing and illicit drugs.

Developing the plan is a priority for the Government and we seek to hear the views of a broad range of interested Australians. As part of the consultation process the Australian community and interested governments, organisations, community groups and individuals are invited to make submissions. The questions below are a guide that can be used to address the key issues set out above.
Questions

Participation
- How should sporting organisations evolve the way their games are played or the products/variations they offer to ensure we get and keep more Australians active?
- How do we make sport and physical activity part of everyone’s daily routine?
- How can sports better reach under-represented groups?
- What is the role of non-traditional sport providers in helping to increase participation in sport?
- How do we increase sport participation in the schooling years to maximise physical literacy and establish good habits for life?

Prevention through physical activity
- How do we ensure that the key benefits of sport and physical activity such as physical and mental health, personal wellbeing and community cohesion are promoted by governments and the community?
- How should we raise awareness of the benefits of sport to the Australian public?
- How do we use the reach and influence of sport to get more people active – especially people with sedentary lifestyles?
- How do we ensure sport delivery bodies (e.g. Australian Sports Commission, State Departments of Sport and Recreation, National Sporting Organisations etc) and health promotion organisations work together as effectively as possible to improve population health?

Performance
- Should we be focusing on investment for maximum medal tally success or spreading our spend in support of more high performance athletes in a broader range of sports?
- How can the AIS and state-based institutes of sport better support high performance athletes?

Integrity
- What are the best arrangements for the Australian Government’s sports integrity capability to ensure Australian sport is effectively protected against integrity threats.

Major Sporting Events
- Should governments financially support major sporting events to ensure their viability and delivery and provide opportunities to Australian sports and athletes?
- How do we maximise the value of investment in major domestic and international sporting events?
- How should governments prioritise investment in major sporting events?
- Should governments invest funding to attract major international sporting events to Australia?

Governance
- What should be the respective roles for national, state/territory and community sporting organisations to grow Australian sport?
- How can sporting organisations (national, state/territory, community) better play a role in getting more Australians active?

Sporting Infrastructure
- How can we better develop, utilise and maintain sporting infrastructure to support major events and participation growth?

Sources of funding, including a national good causes lottery
- Given governments have limited budgets how should they allocate funding across high performance and community sport?
- Do you support the introduction of a national good causes lottery to increase the funding available for Australian athletes and to increase participation in sport?
- What other forms of non-government revenue could be used to help Australian athletes and increase participation in sport?

To make your submission and share your thoughts and comments please visit ausport.gov.au/nationalsportsplan