



Welcoming Sport
Welcoming Clubs

The power of sport to bring people together.

Welcoming Clubs recognises the power of sport to bring people together. We are a growing network of sports and recreation clubs who are committed to building communities where people of all backgrounds have equal opportunity to participate and belong.

Our Challenge

Sports and recreation clubs make a significant contribution to economic and social capital, and they have traditionally held a unique position in the community as a gathering and facilitation point for physical and community activity.

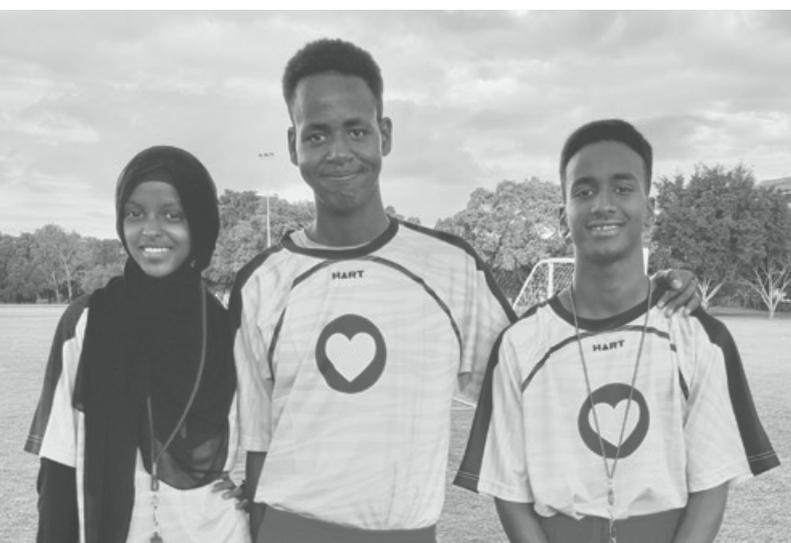
However, while sports and recreation are a defining characteristic of the Australian identity, modern clubs face complex challenges and they require resources and support to continue to be places where community connection can thrive and grow.

Our Opportunity

In the face of global challenges and uncertainty, sporting codes and clubs have been forced to reassess their value, role and operating models. This presents an opportunity for clubs to define their leadership role in communities and embed inclusive practices in everything they do.

What is required is a coordinated framework and approach that:

- Provides sports and recreation clubs with the know-how, framework and resources to cultivate a culture of welcome and embrace diversity and inclusion practices;



- Benchmarks policies and practices against clearly defined standards that encourage and support ongoing learning, development and success; and,
- Enables people from all backgrounds - including recently arrived migrants, refugees and people seeking asylum - to access the support that is often required to participate in sports and recreational opportunities and broader community life.

How We Help

Welcoming Clubs focuses on four key areas:



Standard and Accreditation

Setting the Standard for cultural diversity and inclusion policy and practice in sports and recreation.



Knowledge Sharing

Supporting sporting codes and clubs to access evidence-based research, policies, case studies and leading practice.



Partnership Brokering

Facilitating cross-sector collaboration and brokering multi-sector partnerships to maximise learning, reach and impact.



Celebrating Success

Sharing good news stories and recognising the existing efforts of sporting codes and clubs that demonstrate leading practice and innovation in welcoming efforts.

The Welcoming Clubs Standard

Numerous campaigns and initiatives exist to encourage welcoming and inclusion efforts in sporting organisations, however, this goodwill and intent needs to be underpinned by a systemic approach.

The *Welcoming Clubs Standard* establishes the framework for sports and recreation clubs to:

- Grow a positive and welcoming reputation;
- Benchmark and enhance the impact of cultural diversity and inclusion initiatives across the organization and into the community
- Plan, learn and improve; and
- Assess progress over time.

Key Outcomes

- Increased understanding of, engagement and connection with, culturally and linguistically diverse communities
- Increased intercultural competency
- Increasing membership, and diversity of members to be reflective of the local community
- Implementation of strategies, policies and practices to advance organisational change
- More inclusive and harmonious sporting environments and communities
- Initiation and implementation of projects to address issues and barriers to inclusion for underrepresented groups

Get Involved

Join a network of sports and recreation clubs committed to leveraging the ideas and innovation that come from being welcoming and inclusive.

Maia Tua-Davidson

Manager, Welcoming Sport
+61 415 524 428

clubs@welcoming.org.au



Welcoming Clubs is a program of Welcoming Sport - an initiative of Welcoming Australia supported by the Scanlon Foundation.

