



DISABILITY SPORT
& RECREATION

Disability Sport & Recreation's

Annual Report

2021-22





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Cover and outside image: Ian Spence, and inside cover image: Adam McKay

Our history



ParaVics Sports Club

In 1962, the ParaVics Sports Club was formed to help a group of eight athletes with disability compete in national and international sporting competitions. We are proud to be the birthplace of the Victorian Paralympic movement, with our founders Kevin Coombs OAM and Bruno Moretti.

The organisation grew from the grassroots actions of a small group of athletes who were united by the ambition to compete in paraplegic sporting events at an international level.

The group challenged preconceptions and dispelled societal prejudices toward disability in order to achieve this. The organisation demonstrated the potential for a united group of determined individuals to effect lasting social change.

Wheelchair Sports Victoria

The Club transitioned to Wheelchair Sports Victoria (WSV), where it became the leading provider of sport and recreation for people with physical disability. At this stage, the majority of WSV members were Victorians with spinal cord injury, lower limb amputees, spina bifida, cerebral palsy and other physical conditions affecting mobility.

WSV was the governing body for a range of disability sports including basketball, athletics, swimming, rugby, tennis, hand cycling, lawn bowls and shooting.

In 2010 we made a strategic decision to renew our focus and expand our support to include all types of disability, as well as include recreation to cover all types of physical activity. WSV was rebranded as Disability Sport & Recreation (DSR), as we are known today.

Disability Sport & Recreation

With this change in direction, we encouraged state sporting associations (SSA) to take ownership of inclusive sports and recreation activities in their community of interest.

This allowed us to take on a person-centred approach to programs and service delivery. This included the introduction of a membership structure and services like one-on-one consultations, the adaptive equipment library and camps for children, while still being responsible for wheelchair rugby and supporting AFL Wheelchair.

In 2019, we reviewed our strategic plan and focus to make sure our work, now and into the future, reflects the needs of all Victorians with disability. The time is right to create a movement for change where all individuals and organisations who believe in greater choice, access and participation in sport and recreation for people with disability are on board.

Images on pages 4 and 5 were supplied by Sandra Lucas.

Our vision, mission and values



Our vision

A Victoria where all people with disability can choose and access any sport or active recreation they want to engage with.

Our mission

To provide and promote positive health outcomes for people with disability, through meaningful engagement in sport and active recreation.

Our values

We are friendly, accountable, open, respectful, appreciative and progressive.

CEO and Chair report



Liz Tesone
Chief Executive Officer



Sarah Andersome
Chair

It is with immense pride to reflect on all that Disability Sport and Recreation (DSR) has achieved over the 2021-22 period. Whilst the pandemic once again impacted our operations, this gave us the opportunity to listen to our community and respond to their needs in this critical period. As the State commenced a return to 'normalisation' we saw new challenges facing our community, which again required us to adapt to continue to help achieve our vision of better choice, better access and better participation in sport and active recreation.

Over the past year, DSR emerged from COVID-19 to return to face-to-face delivery of our signature programs, services and events, allowing us to provide key services to our members and the wider community. We saw a significant uptake in our Wheeltalk education program as well as DSR kids' summer and winter camps at capacity.

Wheelchair AFL programs, in partnership with AFL Victoria, returned to deliver competitions and development activities reaching more people in the community including a new junior program.

Wheelchair Rugby returned to full activity with a new strategic plan endorsed. We hosted the Melbourne Invitational event featuring state teams from around the country. Wheelchair Rugby was further strengthened by our leading sponsor 'Protect' having renewed their three-year sponsorship agreement.

The donation of 'Zoe's Chair' a sports wheelchair, by the Tomlin/Morris family in memory and honor of their daughter Zoe Tomlin, has provided the opportunity for juniors to try different sports and activities with confidence. This unique collaboration between many people is building a legacy of pride and practicality while giving hope and access for young people with a physical disability to participate in sport.

It was also wonderful to see the return of in person events as we celebrated the 2021 Victorian DSR Awards at PwC Southbank with record nominations and 80+ attendees. The 2021 DSR Festival was also held at Crown Riverwalk, with 26 organisations exhibited. It was estimated that 7,000 people attended

the festival with many participating in the interactive activity sessions. The support from AFL Victoria in having their disability and inclusion ambassador Joel Selwood attend created considerable mainstream exposure. The event had great feedback with 90% of attendees agreeing that the festival had a positive impact on their sport, recreation or business objectives.

The Tokyo Paralympics took place during the COVID outbreak, giving many an opportunity to witness some incredible achievements and greater insight into disability sports. Victorian athletes were well represented at the Tokyo Paralympics with six out of the twelve athletes competing in the 'Australian Steelers' wheelchair rugby team coming from Victoria. Shae Graham also made her debut as the first female Wheelchair Rugby Paralympian to represent Australia showing the great strength of our local Victorian competition.

DSR's involvement in The Phoenix Project funded by the State Government 'Working for Victoria' (WfV) program was a wonderful opportunity to develop a stronger voice for people with a disability and improving the accessibility of its communications so that all people with disability can feel included. This project led to a new disability advisory committee, communication protocols, training

products, volunteer frameworks and a clearer pathway to participation. Overall creating significant legacies that will provide ongoing impact for many years to come.

Member engagement continued with a renewed focus on information sharing, collaboration and online services to strengthen our impact and effectiveness. Our membership continued to grow to a total of 3,870 members including 284 organisations from across Victoria.

It was incredibly sad to say farewell during the year to our co-founder Bruno Moretti and Brendan Stroud who has been an integral part of our WheelTalk and Wheelchair AFL programs for many years. You both made extraordinary contributions to our sector and will be sadly missed.

It was pleasing for DSR to continue to be an active contributor to several key working groups including the Get Active Kids Voucher scheme, the Victorian Active Living Alliance and the regular sector COVID-19 briefings. We look forward to continuing our important work together in 2022-23 and beyond.

There is much to look forward to with construction almost complete for our return to Kevin Coombs House in Nov 2022 providing an expanded office and training environment with

spaces for lease delivering important ongoing revenue. In addition, we will expand on our loved Wheeltalk program whilst turning our eye to some exciting new opportunities.

To every volunteer, member, partner, supporter and staff member, thank you for your contributions throughout 2021-22. Because of each of you, Victorians with disability have better choice and access to sport and active recreation.



Liz Tesone
Chief Executive Officer



Sarah Anderson
Chair



Strategic Plan 2020-2025

Creating a vision

Disability Sport and Recreation (DSR) is the peak body for sport and recreation for people with disability in Victoria. Our vision is to create a Victoria where all people with disability can choose and access any sport or active recreation activity they want to engage with.

For 60 years we have worked directly with many stakeholders including community organisations, state sporting associations, local government, state government and partners to achieve our mission.

Leading a movement for change

Much like other movements around important social issues, we want to help create a 'movement' that encourages societal change.

This change will see **better choice and access** for people with disability, which leads to **increased participation** in sport and active recreation.

A voice for people with disability

A core element of our new strategic plan is to focus on understanding the many needs and goals of people with disability and those who care for, or support, them.

We can then support and work with sport and active recreation organisations and providers, and the broader community, to increase choice, access and participation.

Better choice

Our vision is a Victoria where people with disability have more sport and active recreation opportunities to choose from. They

can make decisions, set goals and receive the support they need to meaningfully engage with the sport or active recreation opportunity they choose.

Better participation

Our vision is a Victoria where more people with disability will meaningfully engage with sport and active recreation as a direct result of increased choice and access.

Our primary focus is to increase physical activity, however, we recognise that participation may also include other types of engagement with sport and active recreation that deliver social and mental health benefits.

Better access

Our vision is a Victoria where more sport and active recreation opportunities will be

accessible to people with disability by taking into consideration:

- physical access
- program design
- provider expertise and understanding
- cost
- equipment required
- time
- transport
- communication methods
- ease of finding information about opportunities.



Julie Kambouropoulos

Getting active



Wheelchair Rugby

2022 shaped up to be a massive year for Wheelchair Rugby, not only in Victoria but Nationally and Globally.

Starting in Victoria with the launch of the Wheelchair Rugby National League Melbourne Invitational, where the best local wheelchair rugby teams battle to find out who is the best wheelchair rugby team in Australia. Season One of the 2022 Protect Victoria Wheelchair Rugby Cup commenced in March with four strong local teams competing. The Australian Steelers had a jampacked year with tournaments in USA, Canada, and Italy all culminating in the World Championships in Denmark in early October.

Our donors and contributors have supported DSR for 60 years. We would like to extend our thanks and gratitude to the Tomlin/Morris Family who late last year coordinated the donation of a junior sports chair to our Victorian Wheelchair Rugby Program. This

kind donation has enabled kids to be able to participate and be included in the sport of Wheelchair Rugby.

The chair was named 'Zoe's Chair' so any child using the wheelchair can feel an extra push knowing Zoe is cheering them on.

A special mention to Jason Lees who departed DSR after nearly 7 years as our Wheelchair Rugby Co-ordinator to concentrate on a new role with Paralympics Australia helping the Steelers national team. We wish him all the best and thank him for his commitment and effort in making the sport what it is in Victoria.

Protect Victoria Wheelchair Rugby Cup Season One 2022

Season One of the 2022 Protect Victoria Wheelchair Rugby Cup ran between March and June this year.

All teams faced ongoing challenges with player availability throughout the season due to the continued impact of COVID-19 and flu infections, amongst other factors. It was great to see the way teams worked together to overcome this and complete another successful season.

For the first time, the Grand final and semi-finals were played at Boroondara Sports Complex. It was great to bring the sport to the new community and home of the Disability Sports Hub.

Melbourne Unicorns took home the trophy with a 41-23 victory over Box Hill. In the play-off for third, Power House defeated Harlequins 29-18.

Shae Graham from Melbourne was awarded MVP of the season.

James McQuillan from Power House won Best New Talent.

Wheelchair Rugby Melbourne Invitational 2022

25-27 February, Cobblebank Stadium, Melton, VIC

Wheelchair Rugby Australia came to fruition this year with a new nationwide format - Wheelchair Rugby National League.

We were fortunate to host the first round of the three-weekend competition. Our Melbourne Invitational hosted six wheelchair rugby teams. The structure followed the Protect Victoria Wheelchair Rugby Cup format with all teams aligned with Rugby Union clubs around Australia.

In total, over 50 athletes from six states competed at the Melbourne Invitational for the three-day event. This event was live streamed across the world using the DSR TV / My Sport Live platform, which enabled us to showcase this great sport and athletes to a wider audience.

University of Queensland Wheelchair Rugby team were undefeated at the Melbourne Invitational. They remained strong throughout, winning the inaugural competition. Melbourne Unicorns finished in second place.

The team at DSR put in a lot of hard work to make the event a huge success. We

received great feedback from attendees and stakeholders alike, setting the tone for the following weekends.

National Championships

24-26 June Gold Coast Sports & Leisure Centre, QLD

For the second year running the National Championships was held in Queensland at the Gold Coast Sports & Leisure Centre.

The competition was again broadcast live on Kayo and Fox Sports into households right across Australia. This unprecedented coverage of Para Sport is a tribute to the rising popularity of Wheelchair Rugby in Australia.

Victoria Protect Thunder performed at a very high level narrowly going down by 1 point in a nail-biting semi-final to Queensland.

In the bronze medal play off Victoria Protect Thunder out played the New Zealand Wheelblacks 55-40 to take home the Bronze medal.

In Division 2 Melbourne Unicorns had a challenging weekend but were able to trial new line-ups and combinations which will only improve our depth going forward. In a heartbreaking fourth quarter fade, Melbourne



Joep Buijs

lost their final game 41-44 to finish the weekend in fourth place.

With the 3 days of intense competition over it was great for our two Victorian teams to celebrate their achievements and spend some time socialising with their interstate and international comrades at the final function held in Surfers Paradise.



85 players took part in our wheelchair rugby program

Community Engagement

2022 is starting to see the return of a more 'normal' landscape when it comes to community engagement for Wheelchair Rugby.

Some programs and initiatives that have occurred in 2022 are as follows:

1. Royal Talbot Rehabilitation Development program with 6 new participants
2. Geelong All Abilities Come @ Try day at GMHBA Stadium
3. Echuca regional development program recommenced
4. A Second Paralympics Australia Multi Sports day held at Melbourne Sport and Aquatic Centre (MSAC)
5. Supporting the activation of 3 SOLVE Inclusive Sports days held in Geelong, Ballarat, and the Mornington Peninsula
6. Wheelchair rugby at Lord Sommers Camp for teenagers
7. Wheelchair rugby activation for students at Bannockburn P12 College
8. Wheelchair rugby @ City of Melton School holidays program at Cobblebank Stadium

Thank you to Protect, ETU, Rugby Vic and the Victorian Government for their generous support of wheelchair rugby in Victoria.

Victorian Wheelchair Football League

The 2022 Robert Rose Foundation Victorian Wheelchair Football League and Development League competition recommenced delivery of in-person competition in April, after an extended hiatus due to COVID-19. It's great to see the sport of Wheelchair AFL re-emerge and continue to grow with its most extensive season yet with 13 home-and-away rounds as well as a finals series. Over 70 players now take part in the exciting competition.

DSR continue to support AFL Victoria with the governance, operations and promotion of the sport.

A huge thank you to everyone involved in making this season happen, including AFL Victoria, the Robert Rose Foundation, Richmond FC, Hawthorn FC, Collingwood FC, St Kilda FC, Essendon FC, Boroondara Sports Complex and YMCA Victoria.



70+ players took part in our AFL Wheelchair competition



Nerissa Byrne

DSR Kids



DSR Kids is all about creating opportunities for kids with disability to help them grow in independence, develop social skills and to make life-long friends.

2021/22 presented a few challenges for DSR Kids with the transition from COVID-19 shut down to the return of face-to-face delivery with restrictions. We feel very fortunate to have been able to run both our camps and look forward to reintroducing the Hospital Program in 2023.

Winter Camp

This year's Winter Camp was a big success with 7 participants joining our dedicated volunteers and staff for an experience of a lifetime at Howmans Gap Falls Creek from 2-5 July.

There were many happy faces for some as they had their first experience in the snow. Our partners at Disabled Wintersport Australia were able to deliver some outstanding guidance on the runs that

created massive improvements in skill and many more smiling faces.

Thank you very much to our donors and supporters who all contributed to ensuring the camp could be provided to deliver life changing outcomes for the participants.

Summer Camp

In February 2022, we took nine children with disability, aged between 8 and 17, to YMCA's all accessible venue Camp Manyung. We were thrilled to be able to continue to deliver our amazing program once again.

Some of the kids' favourite activities included the tree rolling, card games, archery and the big swing. The facilities at Camp Manyung are amazing and include special adaptive equipment to ensure every kid feels included and has equal access.

The DSR Kids camps wouldn't be possible without the support of our very generous donors. Their support enables us to provide

opportunities for kids to attend the camps at hugely subsidised costs.

We would like to take the opportunity to say THANK YOU to the experienced nurses, allied health and support workers who graciously volunteer their time and go above and beyond to make sure each child has a life changing experience.



Tommy had a fantastic time and the couple of days skiing gave him a great head start to go skiing with his school

Parent

Tom had a great time. He feels very grown up and independent going to camp. A great break for the rest of the family.



Parent



A Disability Sport & Recreation Initiative

Hospital Program

COVID-19 has had a significant impact on all areas of the health system. The amazing staff have worked tremendously hard over the last two years. As such, our Hospital Program has been on hiatus. We continue to work with the Victorian Paediatric Rehabilitation Team at the Royal Children's Hospital to explore new ways of delivering the program in 2023 including a 'school holiday program' in partnership with Paralympics Australia.



16 kids went on our summer and winter camps



Education

WheelTalk

WheelTalk is an interactive program that encourages students to think about diversity, acceptance and disability - with a primary focus on inclusion. WheelTalk offers a creative avenue to meet the competencies within Victorian Curriculum. WheelTalks unique presentations are facilitated by Victorians with disability who are actively involved in sport or recreation.

In 2022, we were unable to deliver at school for the first few months of the year due to school incursion restrictions, however, pleasingly our WheelTalk program delivered over 320 sessions to 7,000+ students from 170 schools across Victoria once restrictions were lifted.

Both primary and secondary schools often book numerous sessions throughout

the year, and we have developed strong relationships with many schools who now view WheelTalk as part of their annual programming.



Peter was super engaging and the students in my class were drawn to his story and his overall self immediately. He was incredibly supportive and was very open to answering questions that students had - even showed my class how he drove his car and gave them more information about his story.

My students still speak about the incursion today and explained that Peter coming to our school was the highlight of the year.

Teacher: Alanna - Mount Scopus Memorial College

I just wanted to send our feedback from the program yesterday with Peter at Aspendale PS. We couldn't be happier, it was absolutely amazing. I have been a teacher for over 10 years

and it's by far the best incursion I have ever done!

Peter was inspiring, so great with the kids and so easy to work with. The way he told his story was truly amazing and everyone got so much out of it. The kids absolutely loved it too and we have had so many parents email us and tell us how much their children loved meeting Peter.



Teacher: Jessie - Aspendale Primary School



Working in the sector



The Phoenix Project

The purpose of the Phoenix Project funded by the Victorian state government initiative Working For Victoria (WFV) was to help revitalise the disability sport and recreation sector in a 'COVID-normal' world. Ensuring people with disability are not left behind and feel confident and safe when they return to sport and active recreation. This was to be achieved through these three pillars:

Celebrate: Create greater awareness of DSR's work and our programs through storytelling and disability accessible content.

Educate: Develop improved training resources and methods to enhance knowledge in the sector for employees and volunteers, facilitating program delivery to people with disability.

Collaborate: Working with partners to form a new disability sport and recreation alliance as a unified representation of the sector. Building capacity and providing support where possible. Consult and connect with the sector and community.

This was to be achieved through the delivery of a range of initiatives consisting of experiences, resources and activities focusing on:

- Development of compliant COVID-19 Return to Play plans
- Improved social connection for the community
- Collecting data and gaining insights from a Sector Survey
- Initiating a Victorian Disability Sport and Recreation Alliance (VDSRA)

- Building volunteers confidence and to create a shared pool of volunteers
- Improve the accessible quality of content in training and support resources to be fully available across DSR platforms
- Establishment of a Disability Advisory Committee (DAC) to have community led co-design, intersectionality and diverse representation from our disability community

Project Outcomes

The Phoenix Project gave DSR the capacity to build on areas such as training, volunteering, communications, programs, inclusion and accessibility. The project team developed a project roadmap outlining 188 tasks. Out of these tasks 129 have been completed and the remainder remain in progress as ongoing activities.

Training and volunteering

- Review and elevate the overarching DSR volunteering processes
- Build and grow the capacity of sector staff and volunteers through the development of training products

Programs

- Grow participation in sport and recreation throughout the sector
- Identify and attract support from new stakeholders and grow DSR partnerships

Communications

- Ensure consistent content accessibility standards are implemented, promoted and encouraged throughout the sector

Inclusion and Accessibility

- The formation of the Disability Advisory Committee (DAC) comprising of nine people with a diverse range of disability, intersections and experiences.
- Creating the foundation for a Victorian Disability Sport & Recreation Alliance (VDSRA).

Vaccination Community Engagement Program #ItsNotTooLateToVaccinate

DSR partnered with the Victorian Department of Health, Victorian Government and other disability organisations to develop resources to support young people with disability to be better informed about being vaccinated against COVID-19.

DSR launched a social media campaign consisting of short videos showcasing Michael Prapas, Mia Treadwell and Andrew Negrelli journey to becoming vaccinated and how COVID-19 impacted their ability to play the sport they love. Resources were also created and made accessible with specific assistance available for people with disability as well as easy English guides.





#dsrf

2021 Victorian Disability Sport and Recreation Festival

The 2021 Victorian Disability Sport and Recreation Festival was held on Friday 3 December at Crown Riverwalk with 26 different partners and associates involved as exhibitors or delivering inclusive activities.

With limited attendance expected due to the post COVID-19 changes, overall a healthy crowd participated through the day.

However, the aim to offer Victorians with, and without disability the opportunity to explore and experience inclusive, adaptive sport and recreation through experiential activities, capacity building and information sharing was achieved.

An encouraging sign of the increased relevance for the Festival can be claimed from Joel Selwood attending as the AFL Ambassador, who was only expected to be

available for a short period yet was actively involved in all aspects of the Festival for the entire duration.

The Law Enforcement Torch Run, where more than 200 police officers and Special Olympics Athletes carried a torch from the Victoria Police Centre to the Festival with the Flame of Hope.





VICTORIAN DISABILITY
SPORT & RECREATION
FESTIVAL

2021 Victorian Disability Sport and Recreation Awards

This year marks the twelfth anniversary of the Victorian Disability Sport and Recreation Awards (VDSR Awards) - a celebration of the achievements of sportspeople with disability, the coaches, organisations, officials and volunteers who support them and the inclusive sport and recreation sector across Victoria.

On Tuesday 23 November, in front of 80 people at PwC Southbank, the Victorian disability sporting community celebrated the achievements of our homegrown sporting heroes and legends and all those who work hard behind the scenes to help them get there.

The VDSR Awards are an opportunity to discover unsung heroes and rising stars and celebrate what's truly great about accessible and inclusive sport.

"Last night's event was a fantastic way to reflect on the incredible talent, initiatives and individuals that contribute to an inclusive sport and recreation sector in Victoria. These achievements support greater choice, access and ultimately participation for people with disability. This was particularly important as we look forward to the upcoming International Day of People with Disability on 3 December and further opening up of restrictions. After an online version of the awards in 2020, and many activities and programs hindered by lockdowns during 2021, it was wonderful to return to a face-to-face celebration," said Disability Sport & Recreation then CEO, Richard Amon.

This year the Awards also paid tribute to the life of Bruno Moretti, who passed away recently and was a co-founder of Disability Sport & Recreation nearly 60 years ago.

Entrants in the Awards are nominated by state sporting associations, regional sport assemblies, local government, teammates, club members, coaches or

their local community in recognition of their outstanding contribution to inclusive sport and recreation. This year's event also focused on many initiatives that allowed the community to remain active and connected over the past 18 months.

"The outstanding nominations received always makes selecting the finalists a difficult decision. With so many high calibre nominations this year, it doesn't matter whether you received an award or not - you're all winners in our eyes." said Amon.



2021 Award winners

Everyday Independence Lifetime Achievement Award

Kaye Speed OAM - Blind Sport and Recreation Victoria

My Sport Live Sportsperson of the Year

Ben Fawcett - wheelchair rugby

Marg Angel Junior Sportsperson of the Year

Kirra Wright - athletics

Masters Sportsperson of the Year

Jason Lees - wheelchair rugby

Administrator of the Year

Tim Marchinton - SOLVE Disability Solutions

Carbine Club Coach of the Year

Ian Bridge - Para-Badminton

PwC Volunteer of the Year

Samir Mahir - Blind Sport and Recreation Victoria

VicHealth Initiative of the Year - Sport

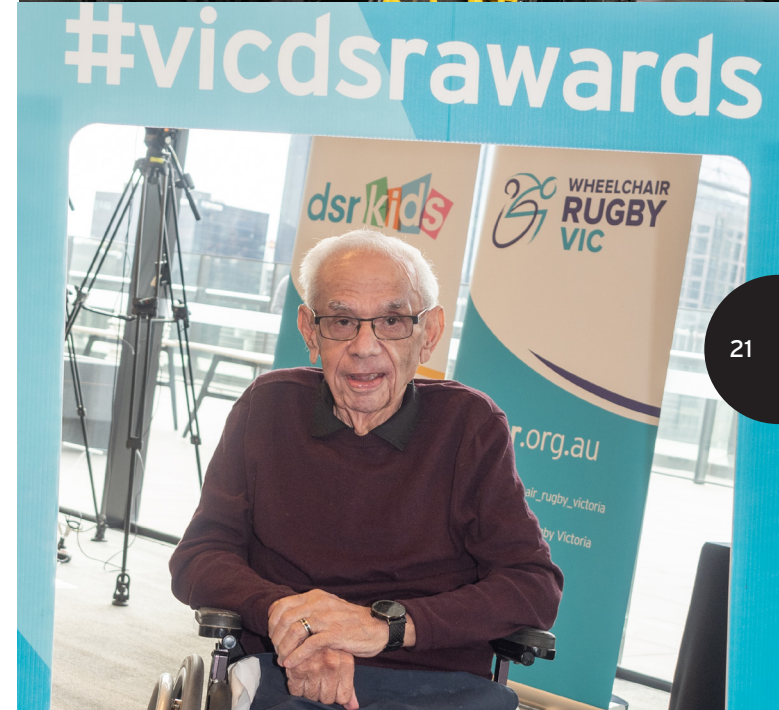
Creating a Positive Experience for Athletes with Autism in Gymnastics workshop - Gymnastics Victoria

VicHealth Initiative of the Year - Active Recreation

All Abilities Physical Activity Challenge - GippSport

Polytan Inclusive Sport, Recreation or Open Space Infrastructure

SOLVE Disability Solutions - building development



Our supporters

For over 60 years, we've been able to help Victorians with disability get active thanks to the generous donations and support of the Victorian community.

Thank you to our partners, sponsors, individual and business donors for sharing our vision of a community where there is improved choice, access and participation for people with disability who want to take part in sport and recreation.

We especially thank our major donors:

- The Steel Club of Victoria
- Mainfreight Distribution
- Meredith Evans
- Charlie Nguyen

Our members

We have begun a process of reviewing and improving our member communication processes and look forward to engaging with members in a more meaningful way over the coming year.



Membership was expected to increase during the period due to the greater awareness of activity in the community to support strategic membership initiatives, collaboration with the Alliance and the ability to deliver DSR events and camps post COVID-19 disruption.

Volunteers are at a level expected given that it was only towards the latter end that events

requiring resources could be planned and delivered post COVID-19 restrictions.

However, given the work completed and progress in place, we are optimistic that an increase over 2022 should be experienced here as well and this is becoming evident through early phases of planning and support from our academic partners in making DSR information available to their students.



Our staff

Richard Amon
Chief Executive Officer (outgoing)

Liz Tesone
Chief Executive Officer (incoming)

Kris Paproth
Fundraising, Marketing & Communications
Manager

Ayden Shaw
Programs & Events Manager (outgoing)

Marshall James
Programs & Events Manager (incoming)

Andrew Walton
Project Coordinator

Sophie Milton
Programs & Participation Coordinator

Michelle Ryan*
Sports Accounting Australia

Kate Wells*
Sports Accounting Australia

Jason Lees
Wheelchair Rugby Coordinator

*Contractor

Our WheelTalk presenters

Peter Ogunyemi

Our Fundraising team

Bruce Ellwood
Team Leader

Tina Pangallo
Senior Supervisor

Laurette Corteling

Barbara Dixon

David Nixon

Trevor Warne

Our Board

We thank the DSR Board of Directors for their commitment and support.

Sarah Anderson
Chairperson - Appointed 2019

Sheri Johnston
Treasurer - Appointed 2018



Shaun Whittaker
Secretary - Appointed 2017

Madeleine Hogan
Director - Appointed 2018

Liz Tesone
Director - Appointed 2019-2022

Stuart Ewin
Director - Appointed 2013

Our volunteers

Our exceptional volunteers, who connect with us through our university partners, are an integral part of DSR in the ability to deliver high quality events and programs to the community. It also enables our organisation to offer a pathway to meaningful employment from allocating roles to the volunteers aligned to their development of professional skills.

More than 10 regular volunteers were engaged in meaningful and valued roles over the past year to help make our events a success! They have also supported us in important program areas like our DSR Kids camps.

Our volunteers range from team leaders to nurses and carers, event operations, to social media support, content creation and photographers. Without our volunteers we would not be able to take our athletes interstate or provide an inclusive standard for the event operations.

Our community

Community engagement is an important way for our organisation to reach new audiences and increase awareness around disability and inclusion.

Over the past year, we have taken part in different 'come and try' events and demonstrations, and taken our core programs into different spaces.



10+ volunteers were engaged in roles across our organisation

Throughout the year our community sports activations included demonstrations or come and try activities at:

- Paralympic Australia- Multisport Get Involved Day
- Wyndham City AFL Wheelchair Event
- Glen Eira City Council's Paralympic Sport day
- Hawthorn AFL Wheelchair 'Come and Try'



Fundraising

DSR would like to extend our appreciation to our wonderful donors for their generosity and support over the last 12 months. Whilst the impact of COVID was still being felt this financial year it did not dampen our supporter's determination to help DSR re-establish many of our valuable face to face programs as soon as lockdown ended.

It was through the support of our donors which allowed us to:

- Relaunch our hugely popular DSR Kids Autumn and Winter Camps
- Show thousands of Victorians with disability that getting physically active is for everyone at our annual VDSR Festival
- Take the WheelTalk program out to over 170 schools and present to over 7,000 students

- A return to full activity for our Wheelchair Rugby League which included sending our state team to both NSW and QLD to compete

Direct Mail

In December DSR launched its second annual Christmas Appeal which went out to donors seeking support which would allow us to re-establish our DSR Kids Camps in 21/22 after multiple COVID-19 impacted years.

The campaign shared Sage's story on the impact that DSR Kids Camps have had on her life and how much she enjoys the opportunity to have a weekend away, whether it be at the snow or the beach with other children living with disability and the lifelong friendships she's made from this program.

Sage also spoke of the impact that lockdowns had on her and not being able to see her friends that she normally gets away with and how excited she was at the opportunity of camps returning this year.

'The hardest thing about lockdown was not seeing anyone, not being able to go to camp with my friends. I was so disappointed when mum told me I wasn't able to go to winter camp this year, especially because I'm so good at skiing now!'

The response we received from our loyal donors was overwhelming as always and allowed DSR to successfully relaunch our DSR Kids Camps post COVID, taking children aged between 7-17 with disability to our hugely popular Summer and Winter Camps

Regular Giving

A significant pillar in DSR's fundraising strategy is Regular Giving, this allows to have a sustainable income channel whilst keeping fundraising costs at a minimum.

In the second year since its implementation the program experienced pleasing growth of over 15%.

DSR's Regular Giving program represents over 16% of fundraisings annual income.



#vicsrawards



“

I love making a monthly contribution to DSR, it cuts out the calls and marketing material and allows me to support a cause close to my heart whilst reducing the charities overheads

”

Chris E (RG Donor)

Single Gift

Single gift income continued to remain at a strong level despite the impact of COVID-19 affecting households and businesses for a second successive year.

We also saw many of our lapsed donors rally behind DSR and return to making regular contributions which was a fantastic show of support. There were also many of our donors who increased their average gift value to allow DSR to resume our programs straight out of lockdown.



Ian Spence

Our reach



2,064
Previous: 2,055
9 new Twitter followers



2,692
Previous: 2,213
479 new Instagram followers



6,969
Previous: 6,550
419 new Facebook followers



2,612
Previous: 1,975
637 new LinkedIn followers



8k
people subscribe to our e-newsletter Vortex

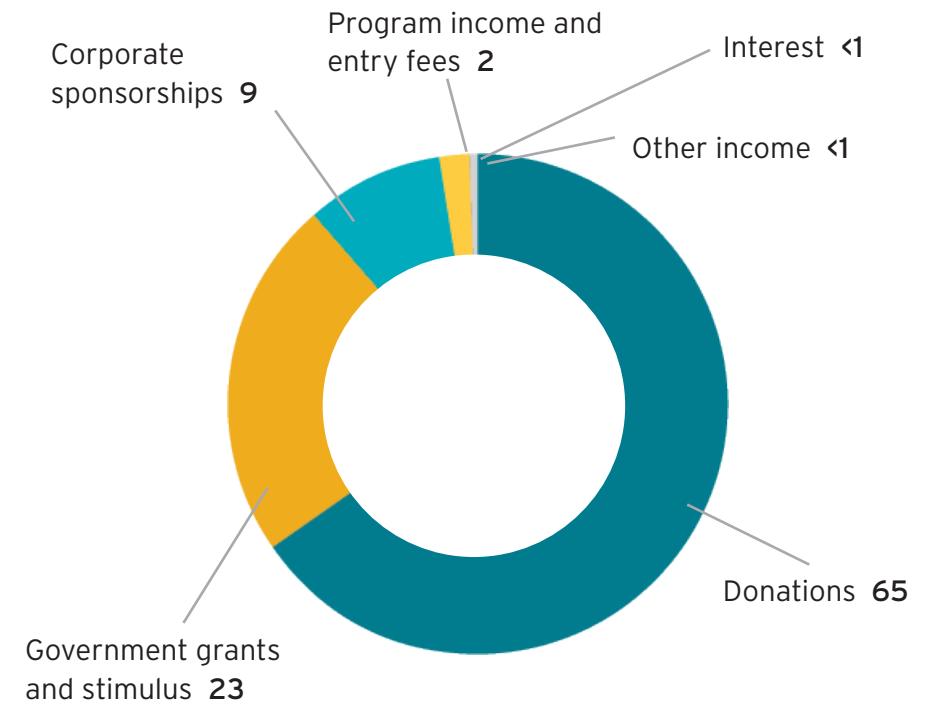
Financial Position

as at 30 June 2022

Assets	\$
Current assets	399,725
Property, plant and equipment *	6,363,921
Total assets	6,763,646
<hr/>	
Liabilities	
Payables	190,605
Provisions	50,185
Non-current liabilities	18,041
Total liabilities	258,831
<hr/>	
Net assets	6,504,815

* Assets recognise George St development, level one and two evaluation.

Sources of income % 2021-22



Income

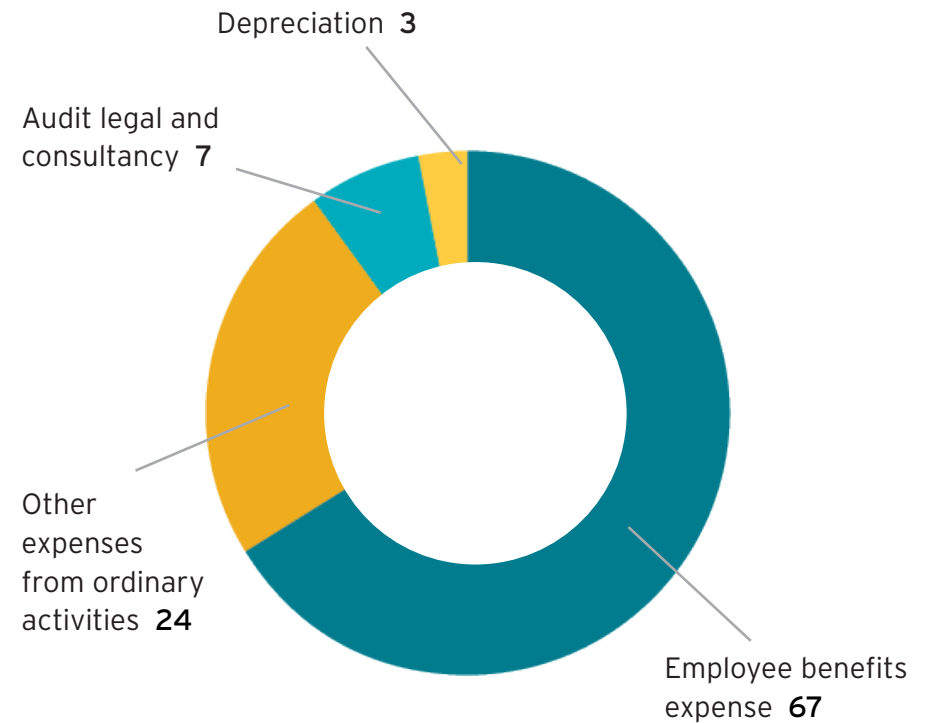
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Donations/Bequests	963,853
Corporate sponsorships/partnership	132,848
Government grants and subsidies	333,666
Government stimulus	20,000
Program income and entry fees	36,455
Interest	85
Other income	5,136
Building development project income	-
Total income	1,492,043

Expenditure

Audit legal and consultancy	94,837
Depreciation	37,859
Employee benefits expense	956,711
Other expenses from ordinary activities	336,794
Building development project expenses	-
Total expenditure	1,426,201
Net profit	65,840

Expenditure % 2021-22



Our key partners



CITY OF MELBOURNE



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DISABILITY SPORT
& RECREATION

Disability Sport & Recreation

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