

## **Grants open for clubs affected by recent bushfires and other natural disasters**

On behalf of the *Recovery Through Sport Alliance* (The Australian Olympic Committee, Paralympics Australia, Commonwealth Games Australia and the Australian Sports Foundation – “the Alliance”), we now invite applications from community sports clubs and others affected during the recent summer of natural disasters.

Of course, we understand that much of community sport is currently suspended due to the impact of Covid-19, but sooner or later we will all be able to get back on the track or our playing field of choice, and the Alliance wants to help make sure that affected communities and clubs are ready to meet this need when that time arises.

### **Who can apply?**

The Sport Recovery Grants will be focusing on the organisations and community members who have been affected by the recent bushfires – or in different parts of the country, floods or other disasters - and require assistance to resume playing sport in their community.

Suggested grant values are up to \$20,000, and priority will be given to applications from volunteer run organisations.

We know that natural disasters have a huge impact on the mental health and resilience of affected people and communities. We also know that sport plays a significant role in fostering positive mental health and rebuilding community and individual resilience – by bringing people together through a shared interest, and by encouraging healthy physical activity

### **What is considered a Natural Disaster?**

A natural disaster is any catastrophic event that is caused by nature or the natural processes of the earth. Examples include earthquakes, bushfires,

landslides, hurricanes, floods, heat waves, severe hailstorms and droughts. The current Covid-19 pandemic is not a “natural disaster” for these purposes, and a separate response is being planned to address this crisis.

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