

SPORT VOLUNTEER COALITION COMMUNIQUE

Meeting #3 of the Sport Volunteer Coalition

Tuesday 19th April 2022

Members of the Sport Volunteer Coalition gathered for their first face-to-face meeting in Canberra on Tuesday 19th April to accelerate development of the Coalition's plan. A facilitated workshop supported the Coalition to determine the focus and priorities of the Coalition Plan. Additionally, the Coalition discussed challenges and opportunities in sport volunteering with Sport Australia's new Chief Executive Officer, Kieren Perkins OAM.

The workshop provided an opportunity to discuss in detail the current state of sport volunteering including current strengths and opportunities for improvement. The Coalition also reaffirmed the long-term vision of Sport Australia's Sport Volunteering National Plan and discussed the values which need to underpin the Coalition's 4-year plan.

In considering the desired future state of sport volunteering, themes such as 'making it easy' to volunteer emerged in the discussion, along with a focus on inclusion and community connection, and reward and recognition. It was noted that a broader focus on the unique value of sport volunteering (over and above the recognised economic value) would support the achievement of the desired state.

The workshop also provided an opportunity to discuss how the Coalition may stimulate collaboration and innovation across sectors to advance sport volunteering, noting the growing role of technology in supporting sport volunteers.

In moving towards the development of a Coalition plan that is action-oriented, outcome-focused and tangible, the workshop was concluded with a discussion on specific initiatives that should be prioritised in the Coalition Plan to further the recruitment, growth, and reward of sport volunteers.

Utilising the insights and content developed in the workshop, Sport Australia will support the Sport Volunteer Coalition to draft a 4-year Coalition Plan for release in July 2022.

Sport Volunteer Coalition Members

- Dr Lindsey Reece – Sport Australia (Chair)
- Sarah Wilson – Volunteering Australia*
- David Brett – NSW Government
- Jessica Cook – QLD Government
- Adam Weir – Surf Lifesaving Australia
- Lisa Hasker – Vicsport*
- Jamie Parsons – Badminton Australia
- Megan Carr – Golf Australia
- Scott Tutton – Cricket Australia
- Molina Asthana – Multicultural Women in Sport
- Garry West-Bail – Australian Sporting Alliance for People with Disability

*Mark Pearce, CEO Volunteering Australia joined the workshop as proxy for Sarah Wilson, and Lisa Hasker was unable to attend.