

MEDIA RELEASE

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Levelling the playing field with new female-friendly changerooms at the Wynyard Recreation Ground

The new female-friendly changerooms at the Wynyard Recreation Ground were officially opened on September 9 by Minister for Sport and Recreation Jane Howlett.

The Minister was joined by Waratah-Wynyard Council and representatives from local sporting clubs to open the \$524,000 construction project.

The new building includes two sets of changerooms and associated amenities to encourage female participation in sport by reducing some of the barriers for women and girls when playing sports.

"We've found some of our facilities cater for male participants without considering what might be necessary for women and girls," said Waratah-Wynyard Deputy Mayor Mary Duniam.

"We're committed to supporting and encouraging female participation for a healthy community."

The upgrade also includes new public amenities to serve spectators during game days.

"The previous public toilet wasn't really appropriate for use," said Councillor Duniam. "The construction of the changerooms was a great opportunity to fix this problem."

Along with the funds contributed by the Waratah-Wynyard Council (\$150,000), contributions were also received from the State Government's Levelling the Playing Field Grants Program (\$310,000), Australian Government (\$24,000) and AFL Tasmania (\$40,000).

Local contractors and suppliers also donated their time and goods for the construction of the spectator amenities area, which is not owned by the council.

The new changerooms will improve both the safety and quality of the facility and double the number of changerooms available at the recreation ground.

"We're really pleased with the results," Councillor Duniam said.

"More changerooms at the ground improves accessibility for a greater number of sports, gives greater flexibility in rostering games and increases the potential to attract finals."

Authorised for general media distribution by Shane Crawford, General Manager, Waratah-Wynyard Council on Wednesday, September 9.

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