

## Strategic Focus Area: Strong. Healthy. Safe.

There are six eligible projects in this area.

### Longwood Football Netball Club - shelters

**Cost: \$50,000**

**Note: Funding will prioritise shelters and seating area – dependent on cost. This project may need to be a staged approach, with further external funding required.**

**Problem or opportunity:** Longwood have spent lots of time and energy in the last several years to achieve our two netball courts to support the increase in interest in the junior community to play. Now we have to continue to support the upgrades of our court by providing a boundary fence, shelters and seating for our netball courts to ensure our girls have a place to store the bags, rest during breaks and allow the trainers to carry out their duties in a sheltered environment. This has especially been a problem during hot and cold weather events where players and coaches currently have no adequate space. Currently we are also experiencing a risk where our courts are not fenced and back onto high traffic areas where the balls are constantly entering driveways and parking areas.

**How does it affect or impact the community?** Currently our club caters to a league of 14 teams who bring all their team members across 3 senior grades and up to 4 junior grades of netball onto our premises who are all rotating across two courts throughout the day. Currently our facilities do not allow that volume of people to be seated or shaded in a way that allows a safe and responsible environment for each team to play and rest without being over exposed to inclement weather. We would like to create a safe and welcoming space for both home and away teams to come together and enjoy the experience of our community by being provided important facilities such as seating and shading. Currently we are not encouraging the health and wellbeing of all individuals who play and support our great sport with best practice facilities.

**What is your idea and what difference would it make?** Firstly if we setup appropriate shelters and seating for our home and away teams, then all players and coaches are provided equal facilities away from the weather in order to protect them from the risks of heat and storm events and maintain sun protection throughout the year. Secondly a boundary fence around the courts will ensure no adults or children are required to run after stray balls into the carpark and driveway areas putting themselves at risk.

**Further information:** As a club we have been listening to the needs of our community, and learning from the way other communities do things, to plan ideas and strive for best practice to keep our members and guests safe and enjoying what our community has to offer. We have partnered with our community in many projects to enhance our facilities and have big plans to continue to do so in the future to provide an inclusive environment for all.