DEVONPORT OVAL CHANGE ROOM DEVELOPMENT

Club: Devonport Football Club
Council: Devonport City Council
Venue: Devonport Oval

Funding Partners	Contribution
Australian Football Facilities Fund	$40,000
Federal - FF Water Safety Stream Program	$420,000
Devonport City Council	$50,000
Devonport Football Club	$1000
Communities, Sport and Recreation Grant	$307,000
TOTAL	$962,510

OVERVIEW

Existing under grandstand changerooms and storage spaces stripped out, reinforced beam work added for grandstand support to allow foundation pile removal, full design and reconfiguration for the allowance of split changerooms for home and visitor teams, full construction fit out with addition of three outside compliant public toilets.

These upgrades have ensured the venue is able to best cater for male and female athletes, providing the north west region with an outstanding venue capable of hosting football at all levels, as demonstrated by the Hillcrest Tribute game that was played in 2022 between Hawthorn and Richmond.

Previous hours of use	16 hours	Previous SFA score	121
Current hours of use	20 hours	New SFA score	135
Combined Male Participation	189	Combined Female Participation	85

OUTCOMES

- The Devonport Football Club had clearly identified a need to upgrade these facilities.
- The club's facilities were amongst the poorest in the region, with nothing suitable for female participants. Both the club and the council identified the need to upgrade the facility to ensure the club and its participants had a space that was welcoming, accessible and of an extraordinary standard for players (home and away) and umpires.
- The project scope was to replace two old change rooms with four new change rooms for male and female players. It required two variations to extend the completion date due to delays in obtaining materials for the work.
- Innovation was shown, particularly through design and building methods, with the unique structure of the changerooms being underneath the historic grandstand.
- This project has assisted the Devonport Football Club to better cater for increased female participation, as well as catering for its existing participation base.
- The finalisation of this project also helped demonstrate the power of the game and sport to a national level, with the venue able to host the 'Healing for Hillcrest' AFL pre-season match due to these changerooms being finalised. The previous changerooms may have prevented such an event from taking place at the facility.





"The upgraded change facilities that this redevelopment has provided for our community are fantastic. The first people to use the rooms were athletes and cyclists (male and female) for the Devonport Athletic Carnival. This was followed by Hawthorn FC and Richmond FC who played in the Hillcrest Primary School Tribute game. Given Devonport Oval has rarely hosted a game of such profile and capacity, we were delighted to receive nothing but high praise from AFL and AFL club officials about the changerooms. Our club has a focus on being 'one club' that welcomes all of our players and teams. These changeroom upgrades have ensured our female players have a safe, private environment with exclusive access to one set of our changerooms on training nights. These changerooms allowed our club to host senior NWFL finals for the first time in a decade, with a Semi Final and Preliminary Final played at the venue. This project has provided Devonport Oval with current and modern facilities that both the City and Club can be proud of. We now have a space that is comfortable and attractive for all athletes."

Devonport Football Club

DEVONPORT FOOTBALL CLUB

"The project has provided users of the Devonport Oval facilities with modern facilities suitable for all users. In doing so, the Devonport Oval is now an example of best-practice design in the region and will be able to be at the centre of the community."

Devonport City Council

