

G RAE SPORTS GROUND

Club: Hinterland Blues Australian Football Club

Council: Sunshine Coast Council

Venue: Grahame Rae Sports Ground

Funding Partners	Contribution
AFL Queensland Grand Final Facilities Fund	\$150,000
Sunshine Coast Council	\$710,000
Queensland Government W4Q	\$500,000
Queensland Cricket	\$100,000
TOTAL	\$1,460,000

OVERVIEW

The redevelopment included a new club house, gender neutral player and umpire changerooms, public amenities, first aid room, social / meeting space, kitchen/ bar area and storage for user groups. The new facility was built above the Q100 flood level to better protect the asset and reduce volunteer impact. The two large, unisex changerooms can be divided into four through the use of operable walls.

During the planning of the project a key decision was made to raise the structures above the Q100 Flood Line. This was immediately beneficial in the event of the early 2022 floods where the new facilities sat above the surrounding precinct that was predominantly underwater. Previously the former clubhouse was susceptible to flooding events resulting in costs and time impacts for Council and Volunteer committee members.

Previous hours of use	20 hours	Previous SFA score	60.5
Current hours of use	25 hours	New SFA score	67.5
Combined Male Participation	172	Combined Female Participation	65

OUTCOMES

- » Improved standard of facilities and compliance with preferred facilities guidelines
- » Improved all abilities access to the unisex facilities.
- » Improved flood resilience significantly and reduced risk of related financial impact and volunteer burden.
- » Project was delivered by Sunshine Coast Regional Council in collaboration with the stakeholder group from ALF Queensland, State Government and Queensland Cricket. Demolition of previous facilities was completed in February 2020 and the facilities were made available to AFL users for the commencement of Season 2022.
- » Maintained participation particularly in females who are less likely to leave the club because of poor facilities.
- » Significantly reduced risk of flooding related damage, financial impact and impost on volunteers.
- » Brings facilities in line with Preferred Facilities Guidelines.





"Sunshine Coast Council was excited to work in partnership with the Queensland Government and AFLQ to deliver a new \$1.46M clubhouse for the growing Palmwoods community. Importantly, the modern and compliant clubhouse has been raised above Q100 flood levels to avoid ongoing flooding issues at the site which adversely impacted club volunteers. This was tested soon after completion with the clubhouse standing high and dry! The clubhouse is a great asset for members, players and spectators providing large canteen and meeting space; four female-friendly change rooms; ancillary spaces and raised viewing opportunities for improved spectator experience."

Wendy Guthrie
A/Team Leader Sport Planning &
Development, Sunshine Coast Regional
Council

"This modern, inclusive clubhouse includes four female-friendly change rooms, umpire facilities, a new canteen, meeting room, storage area, first-aid room and an improved spectator embankment." Importantly, the building has been raised above the Q100 flood level to avoid flooding issues which have happened in the past. I'm delighted to see our new partnership with the AFL through the \$8 million 2020 AFL Grand Final Facilities Fund start kicking some goals by helping projects like this get off the ground."

Stirling Hinchliffe
Minister for Tourism, Innovation and Sport and
Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics and
Paralympics Sport and Engagement

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