

SUPPORTING SAFE AND INCLUSIVE WOMEN'S FOOTBALL

GREAT NORTHERN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

AT A GLANCE

- > \$100,000 invested
- > Upgraded change room facilities for all seven club venues including install of lockable cubicle showers and toilets in all venues
The individual works ranged from around \$14,500 up to \$23,000 per venue.

THE BACKGROUND

READY FOR CHANGE

The Great Northern Football League (GNFL) comprises seven football clubs and all were equipped with old change rooms and facilities, built for the male participant base of years past. As participation numbers increase - particularly in the female competition - there was a need for female-friendly, fully serviced facilities.

THE PROCESS

A COLLABORATIVE APPROACH

The project was led by the Great Northern Football League, with the support of the West Australian Football Commission, and completed with the support of the Community Sport Infrastructure Grant. The GNFL worked with the local government and all affected clubs, ensuring the relevant stakeholders were consulted and the facilities delivered would meet the growing needs of their clubs and communities.

THE RESULT

FACILITATING GROWTH

The upgrade had a significant impact on the seven clubs affected, providing improved amenity including female-friendly change rooms, shower and toilet facilities. The amenities also cater to cricket clubs in the summer season and provide a safe, inclusive and welcoming environment for women to participate. This has supported and will continue to support significant female participation growth within the league, going from 149 participants in 2018 to 247 participants in 2019.

THE FUTURE

EQUIPPED FOR THE FUTURE

The upgraded facilities enable and encourage more women's matches to be played at the grounds in 2020 and beyond, as well as accommodate increased training sessions and programs. The grounds can also be used for other purposes - sporting and non-sporting - providing a versatile and valuable community facility.



The Great Northern Football League's collaborative and proactive approach to upgrading facilities across all 7 clubs will have a positive effect on female participation in the region. The project will ensure a safe and inclusive environment for females to participate in and the WAFC commends the GNFL on the approach it took to upgrade each of the key venues in the GNFL competition. The majority of facility upgrades target individual venues, however, this project demonstrates a blanket upgrade to all key venues, enabling the GNFL to facilitate female competitions in 2020.

Tom Bottrell

Executive Manager - Country Football & Facilities,
West Australian Football Commission



All our clubs' facilities now have high quality shower and toilet partitions suitable specifically for the growing women's football segment in the GNFL.

Colin Cox

President, Great Northern Football League

