

## NEW SOUTH WALES - COMMUNITY CHANGE ROOM UPGRADE

# HJ MAHONEY RESERVE

<b>Facility Hierarchy:</b>	Local Club Level
<b>Total Project Cost:</b>	\$851,278
<b>Council:</b>	Inner West Council
<b>Club:</b>	Newtown Breakaways Football Club
<b>Project Timeframe:</b>	September 2023 - April 2024

## OVERVIEW

HJ Mahoney Sporting Ground had predominantly been used by the Newtown Breakaways women's teams; however, the aging facilities didn't meet their needs. The existing facilities included seven open showers and one toilet in each of the change rooms, which were deemed neither accessible nor welcoming for participants, particularly by women and girls.

The upgrades at HJ Mahoney Reserve, funded through the AFL's Australian Football Facilities Fund (AFFF), the NSW Government, and the Inner West Council, included the development of brand-new player and umpire change rooms, as well as upgraded amenities, including a new kiosk and club storage space. These works also featured the installation of extra security lighting on the outside of the rooms, creating a safer and more inclusive space at night.

This project has transitioned an aging, male focused design, into an all abilities, all gender, modern facility, suitable for community level sport for a diverse range of participants. The new facility has created a more welcoming and accessible space for the Newtown Breakaways and their opponents.

## Project Outcomes

- New gender neutral facilities providing a more welcoming, inclusive and safe space for all participants.
- Supports the AFFF's aim of providing well positioned, welcoming, accessible, fit for purpose football facilities that support our growing game's strategic priorities.
- More desirable facilities that caters for the growing participation numbers within the Inner West, particularly amongst women and girls.



“It was great to partner with such an invested club in the Newtown Breakaways and also the AFL. This project delivered a significant upgrade to the amenities, lighting, and playing surface, which will be enjoyed by the Inner West community for many years to come.”

**Aaron Callaghan, Parks Planning and Ecology Manager – Inner West Council**