LOCAL CLUB LEVEL

GENDER NEUTRAL CHANGEROOM UPGRADES

WARATAH SPORTS GROUND, ORANGE

TOTAL PROJECT COST
$31,955

CLUB
Orange Tigers Australian Rules Football Club

PROJECT COMPLETION
June 2026

OVERVIEW

This project involved the installation of lockable shower cubicles across the Home and Away changerooms at Waratah Sports Ground, Orange, converting existing open shower configurations to gender-neutral, privacy-compliant facilities. The upgrade was identified through the open, competitive NSW Football Facilities Fund application process.

The project was required to meet AFL's Preferred Facility Guidelines for gender-neutral changerooms and supports AFL's Towards 2030 National Facility Priorities strategy, specifically Goal 1, building the capacity of community football, by improving facilities to provide greater access and opportunity for a diverse football community.

The club has fielded Youth Girls teams from U12s to U17s and a Senior Women's team since 2015, yet female players and officials had consistently avoided using changeroom facilities due to the absence of private showering options. A relatively straightforward infrastructure upgrade, replacing open showers with lockable cubicles, delivered immediate and lasting results.

The outcome benefits all players, officials, and visiting clubs at Waratah Sports Ground by providing safe, gender-neutral changing facilities that meet AFL standards. For the local community, the upgrade strengthens the club's ability to retain existing female members and attract new participants, with modern, inclusive facilities that reflect the growing and diverse nature of Australian football at the grassroots level.



"This project is a perfect example of how targeted AFL investment can quickly and cost-effectively bring existing infrastructure up to a gender-neutral standard, delivering meaningful outcomes for all players and the broader community without the need for a major redevelopment."
Tom Queenan, Facilities & Grants Administration Coordinator - AFL NSW/ACT

Outcomes

- **Female players and officials** now have access to safe, private changeroom facilities for the first time since the club's women's program began in 2015.
- **All changerooms** at Waratah Sports Ground now meet AFL's Preferred Facility Guidelines for gender-neutral facilities.
- The club is better positioned to **retain existing female members and attract new participants** through modern, inclusive infrastructure.
- Visiting clubs and officials benefit from **upgraded, gender-neutral facilities** when competing at Waratah Sports Ground.

Staged and shared investment is the key to success, and we know that when we invest, significant projects and outcomes are delivered. To find out more, visit
Facility Management - Play AFL