

Gippsland INDIGENOUS ROUND

INFORMATION & RESOURCE KIT

EDITION 1 - 2017

Why run an Indigenous Round?

Getting the Community involved

What can your club do?

Available Funding

and much more...



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Gippsland INDIGENOUS ROUND

This document is a starting point for sporting clubs considering holding an Indigenous Round event during 2017. It has been developed by GippSport's Deadly Sport Gippsland team from observations, discussions and involvement in events held during 2016.

There is no right and wrong way to do an Indigenous Round and we encourage clubs to start small in their first year and build to a regular calendar event in future years.

Enjoy the process of organising the day and all that it brings! The most important thing is to have a go and to bring people together to celebrate.

Why run an Indigenous Round?

Indigenous Rounds are a great opportunity to highlight the contribution that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people make to sporting clubs and the wider community. They also provide an opportunity to work towards better understanding and reconciliation.

Clubs in 2016 reported many benefits from their Indigenous Round event, including building stronger relationships with the community, cultural awareness, increasing participation and engagement in club activities as well as increased gate, canteen and bar sales.

It is important that your club is clear about why you are participating in an Indigenous Round and make sure you communicate that with the whole club, including players, coaches, members and spectators.

- ◇ Why is it important for your club to hold an Indigenous Round?
 - Cultural awareness & reconciliation
 - Increasing participation and club involvement
 - Recognising contributions from Aboriginal members

Is your club culturally safe?

Most importantly, before you begin, ensure that your club is culturally safe and welcoming to the Indigenous community. This means ensuring people feel comfortable, connected and valued and importantly they are not subject to any racial discrimination.

To help prepare your club, consider a range of cultural awareness activities prior to hosting your Indigenous Round game.

- ◇ Conduct cultural awareness training for players, coaches, officials and committee.
- ◇ Invite an Elder or respected Aboriginal person to talk to players, coaches and committee.
- ◇ Do you have an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flag displayed?
- ◇ Do you have any current Indigenous people involved in the club?
 - If No, why not?
 - If Yes, get them involved with your club event?



Local Artist **Ronald Edwards** designed the Uniforms for Mirboo North Football Netball Club

Get your club involved

Getting your club involved is important to your success and will ensure people know why you are doing the event, why it is important, and how it will benefit the club and the community.

- ◇ Invite key players, coaches, committee, officials & supporters to be part of the planning.
- ◇ Provide good communication to your club so people know what is happening and why.
- ◇ Invite current and past Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander players and/or members, officials and committee to have an active part in the event.
- ◇ Ensure all teams across your club have opportunity to be involved in the celebrations (Juniors & Seniors, Men & Women etc.).

Advise the League and / or Association

It is important to work with your League or Association before getting too far into planning your event to ensure they support the concept and can help you with any logistics.

- ◇ Advise league of all game day activities.
- ◇ Participate in any League wide promotion of an Indigenous Round / games.
- ◇ Invite League Officials to be guests on the day.
- ◇ Advise opposition club of activities and invite them to be active participants; Great opportunity to recognise any Aboriginal players from both clubs and potentially good story for media.

PERMISSION MAY BE REQUIRED FOR:

- ◇ Change of game time: your club may need to allow time for Ceremonies and activities between or before games or to allow all teams to come together in a central location at your venue.
- ◇ Wearing of Aboriginal designed uniforms and / or use of alternative game ball.

Engaging the Aboriginal Community

It is important to liaise with local Indigenous community from the beginning and continue to liaise throughout the planning phase.

- ◇ Identify and invite any local Aboriginal organisations to be involved in planning and running activities on the day.
- ◇ Request input and seek advise on cultural activities and ceremonies.
- ◇ Using local Indigenous talent to showcase, highlight and recognise the contribution of the Aboriginal community, especially dance, arts or cultural groups that could perform or run activities on the day.
- ◇ Identify current and past players and acknowledge their contribution to the club.
- ◇ Invite Aboriginal players and members to be actively involved.

Longwarry
Football Netball
Club included
Junior games in
their Indigenous
Rounds





Be organised

Being organised will help the event run smoothly and for everybody to know what their role is for the day.

- ◇ Consider an action plan for key tasks in the lead up to the game.
- ◇ Develop a running sheet with clear times, designated roles and any impacts on teams, such as game times, warm-up periods and attendance at ceremonies.
- ◇ Circulate to League, Association, Game Officials, Opposition Club and all Coaches / team officials with plenty of notice.

Start simple

Events don't need to be huge and in fact a simple ceremony that connects people together may be all that is needed and provides a starting place for future events. It doesn't need to be over complicated or cost a lot for your club to hold an Indigenous Round.

- ◇ Flag raising ceremony at beginning of day.
- ◇ A Welcome to Country by an Elder or an Acknowledgement* by a club official / community member
- ◇ Speech about what the day means to the club and recognise any current or past Aboriginal players, committee, officials or members.

* Anybody can do an Acknowledgement to Country and if a local Elder can not be found or is unavailable, a Club President, Coach, Player may be able to do the following sample Acknowledgement to Country:

*I would like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet today,
and pay my respects to the Elders past, present and in attendance today and future.*

Promote your Day

- ◇ Distribute posters, flyers and invitations prior to the game.
- ◇ Post messages on the clubs website and social media.
- ◇ Notify the media; utilise any opportunities to promote the game, cultural activities and feature any Indigenous players at the club (past or present) or your opposition.
- ◇ Link to other NAIDOC events to help promote game and build a week of celebration within the community.
- ◇ Invites to Elders and any Aboriginal community members and groups.
- ◇ Consider distributing free tickets to key Aboriginal groups.

What more can your club do?

♦ Uniforms & merchandise

- ♦ Local Aboriginal designed uniforms, bibs or socks (check League / Association approval).
- ♦ Cheaper alternative is using Black, Yellow & Red tape for arm bands.
- ♦ Organise polo shirts for Committee and game day officials / organisers.
- ♦ Using local Aboriginal art for raffle prizes.
- ♦ Match ball – can you use an Indigenous designed ball? (Check availability and League approval).
- ♦ Sell polo's to public or make available through a pre-order system.
- ♦ Auction player Uniforms after the game.

♦ Decorations

- ♦ Use of tape, ribbons, balloons, laces and other items to decorate venue (Black, Yellow, Red).
- ♦ Use Banners from local Aboriginal groups / organisations.
- ♦ Cultural Face painting and children's activities / craft.
- ♦ Display Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Flags around club.
- ♦ Exhibit Artwork from local Aboriginal Artists to display.
- ♦ Exhibit cultural items and artefacts in club rooms.
- ♦ Photo display of past Aboriginal players, officials and members from club history.



Heyfield FNC cake

♦ Catering

- ♦ Celebration cake decorated in Aboriginal colours or design.
- ♦ Traditional food on sale or to free to taste.
 - ♦ Emu, Crocodile, Kangaroo sausages
 - ♦ Lemon Myrtle cake

♦ Ceremonies

- ♦ Aboriginal Flag Raising to start the day.
- ♦ Welcome to Country ceremony by Elder, main focus of day.
- ♦ Cultural Dancers (part of Welcome ceremony or at half-time).
- ♦ Smoking Ceremony (can be done multiple times for various grades and locations, eg Netball court and Football Ground; can also invite community to come forward if space and time).
- ♦ Elder (Welcome to Country or guest speaker at Luncheon).
- ♦ Minute silence / clapping to acknowledge Elders past and contributions to club.
- ♦ Use Aboriginal musicians & entertainers during the event.
- ♦ Hold a NAIDOC theme Ball / Celebration after the game with local community.



Woodside FNC

♦ Cultural awareness

- ♦ Place information at the entry about the Indigenous Round to welcome guests.
- ♦ Include information in Game Day programs and handouts – Aboriginal designed cover and information about round, current and past players, NAIDOC week etc.
- ♦ Place Key Information around the venue (near canteen etc.) – Include items such as ‘what is NAIDOC’, ‘significance of jumper designs’ etc.



♦ Game day activities

- ♦ Incorporate other local NAIDOC events or activities on day, such as marches, lunches, meetings, gatherings etc.
- ♦ Invite and/or including local community groups and schools in game day activities.

♦ Awards & shields

- ♦ Issue Aboriginal designed medallions for ‘Best on’ performances.
- ♦ Play for annual Shield (combined from all Netball and Football results) and develop a rivalry with a single club.
- ♦ Develop relationship with same club each year, games could be alternated between clubs.
- ♦ Shield named after significant local Elder.



2016 Indigenous Round Events

Congratulations to all clubs who have held an Indigenous Round event (or more) in the past few years.

Of those events we were aware of in 2016, all were unique. They reflected the commitment of the club and the relationship they had with the local Aboriginal community.

For some clubs it was the beginning of a new relationship, while for others it was a celebration of the great work already achieved and an opportunity to showcase this to the wider community.

While events were often driven by a key person at the club, most had significant involvement from the local Aboriginal community in planning and running the day.

Events varied in size but all had a great impact on their club and the local community. They recognised the Aboriginal contribution to their club and their willingness to be recognised as welcoming and inclusive clubs. Many events also attracted local media attention.

Most game days were inclusive across the entire club, with the best including juniors and seniors in a huge ceremony during the day.

Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremonies were featured at most games, while other activities included flag raising, cultural dancers, music, traditional foods, entertainment and local art.

Some clubs accessed Grants and Sponsorship, while other clubs utilised internal funds to support their activities on the day.

We hope this document will help encourage other clubs, associations and leagues to consider holding an Indigenous Round in 2017.

To our knowledge, the following clubs participated in an indigenous Round during 2016. These club contacts have expressed willingness to discuss how their club got involved, what the benefits have been, what the challenges were and their plans for 2017. Please feel free to contact them for more information.

Boolarra Pony Club	Gary Mills	gsmills04@gmail.com
Churchill FNC	Sharon Middlemiss	smiddle@bigpond.com
Heyfield FNC	Josh Stubbe	josh.stubbe90@gmail.com
Lakes Entrance FNC	Michelle Baade	bradmichellebaade@gmail.com
Latrobe City Basketball	Rachel Short	energybasketball@gmail.com
Longwarry FNC	Tracey Stephens	stevotd12@bigpond.com
Paynesville FNC	Gemma Radford	paynesvillenetball@outlook.com
Mirboo North FNC	Paul Pratt	paulpratt18@hotmail.com
Sale City FNC	Clare O'Brien	salecityfnc@bigpond.com
Wonthaggi FNC	Brett Tessari	bretttessari@y7.com
Woodside FNC	Megan Barnes	Megan.Barnes@cghs.com.au

Video case studies

Deadly Sport Gippsland will be collating some video stories on the games, including interviews and footage of some of the ceremonies. You can find these on the Deadly Sport Gippsland YouTube channel - www.youtube.com/deadlysport

Aboriginal Contact List

Engaging with your local Aboriginal community is important to making your day an inclusive celebration of culture and community.

The best place to start making contacts is with your current and past players, as they may be able to identify key Aboriginal community members and have direct links with Elders that could be involved in your day.

Below is a list of Aboriginal organisations that you may like to also contact as part of your consultation and planning.

This list is not exhaustive, but provides a starting point for your conversations. More information can also be found on the **Gippsland Black Pages** at <http://www.gphn.org.au/resources/blackpages/>

Gippsland

GlaWac (GunaiKurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation)	(03) 5152 5100
Aboriginal Sport and Recreation Victoria – Peter Mongta	(03) 5177 2590

East Gippsland

Moogji Aboriginal Council (Orbost)	(03) 5154 2133
GEGAC (Gippsland East Gippsland Aboriginal Corporation)	(03) 5150 0700
LEAHA (Lakes Entrance Aboriginal Health Association)	(03) 5155 8465
Djillay Ngalu (East Gippsland Aboriginal Health Consortium)	(03) 5155 1051

Wellington

Ramahyuck and District Aboriginal Corporation (Sale)	(03) 5143 1644
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Latrobe Valley

Ramahyuck and District Aboriginal Corporation (Morwell)	(03) 5136 5148
Budjeri Napan – Laurie Marks	0427 362 855

Baw Baw

Ramahyuck and District Aboriginal Corporation (Drouin)	(03) 5625 6500
Kurnai Nations – Cheryl Drayton	0427 117 211

South Gippsland / Bass Coast

Indigenous Family Violence Regional Action Group	(03) 5136 2463
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Available Grants

- ♦ Deadly Sport Gippsland has small Grants on offer up to \$500 to cover Welcome to Country and cultural activities - closing date 30/4/2017. More information at www.deadlysport.com.au
- ♦ NAIDOC Week Grants are generally up to \$1000 and announced in late March. More information can be found at www.naidoc.org.au and www.dpmc.gov.au

Support

GippSport staff and in particular the Deadly Sport Gippsland team are happy to help and provide support to all clubs looking at holding an Indigenous Round in 2017. Please contact GippSport on (03) 5135 8335 or email info@gippsport.com.au