

WE'RE

ALL

ON THE

SAME

TEAM



SPORTS  
WITHOUT BORDERS

“...PEOPLE BORN OUTSIDE THE MAIN ENGLISH SPEAKING COUNTRIES ARE TWO THIRDS LESS LIKELY TO PARTICIPATE IN ORGANISED SPORT.”

(THE SURVEY OF INVOLVEMENT IN SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY - ABS, 2005)

## SPORTS WITHOUT BORDERS (SWB)

**SWB was established to assist newly arrived migrant and refugee young people to access sporting opportunities within their local communities. SWB is a not for profit organisation which is dedicated to providing support for young people from migrant and refugee backgrounds who are involved or want to get involved in sport.**



The Sports Without Borders Foundation was formed in 2005 out of an agreement between Swinburne University of Technology, the Hellenic Sports Association (ATHLOS) and the Victorian Multicultural Commission. The Australian Multicultural Foundation (AMF) auspices SWB and provides an office, with high levels of administrative support and access to a broad range of social, cultural and community networks.

Participation in sports provides a great number of benefits to everyone, but particularly young people. Sport not only contributes to physical wellbeing it also widens an individual's social and other networks, assists community integration, teaches strong values like teamwork and fairness and increases self-esteem. The positive flow-on effects local sport can have on our society cannot be overstated as its ultimate benefit is Social Cohesion; a balanced and socially well-adjusted society

## WHAT DOES SPORTS WITHOUT BORDERS DO?

SWB provides direct grants to individuals and teams of young people. There are a range of barriers that influence the capacity of newly arrived migrant and refugee young people to participate in community sport and recreation activities. The key factors include cost, cultural appropriateness, transport, language, and a lack of familiarity with systems and structures.

SWB works with networks of SSA's, service providers and community sporting clubs and organisation to provide funds and support that directly assists young people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

The SWB approach enables local leadership to identify issues and then address them through targeted support.

SWB enhances the skills of local leaders and community participants in working with and meeting the needs of newly arrived migrant and refugee young people participating community sport.



## WE'RE ALL ON THE SAME TEAM

For Sports Without Borders, this statement represents our core philosophy. It reinforces our ideals of co-operation, team work, equal access, connectedness, cultural integration and social cohesion. It's a harmonious position, a positive counter statement in a world where negatives are all too often the focus of attention. At Sports Without Borders we believe there are no barriers that are too challenging to overcome when we're all playing on the same team.

## MAJOR PROJECTS

### HUME AND MOONEE VALLEY

SWB has initiated major projects in the City of Hume and City of Moonee Valley with grants from the Victorian Government through the provision of a Victorian Community Support Grant from the Community Support Fund and the Scanlon Foundation.

This work has focused on the provision of direct grants to young refugees and newly arrived migrants within these two municipalities. In the City of Hume SWB is working with the local Council and the Centre for Multicultural Youth to identify and develop young leaders. These young leaders will organise a sporting event for young refugees and newly arrived migrants. This event will create links between local sporting clubs, State Sporting Associations and local young people.

In the City of Moonee Valley, SWB is working in partnership with the City of Moonee Valley to target specific groups of young refugees and newly arrived migrants and providing funds to assist in project development and implementation.

SWB is now working with the Municipal Association of Victoria to introduce these programs to 20 Councils around Victoria where there are significant newly arrived populations. There is an application before The Department of Planning and Community Development ("DPCD") to expand SWB's existing program with the DPCD and 20 councils .

### YOUTH ACTION

Youth Action is an ambitious plan to take Australia's school children for the very first time through an organised technology driven sports activity process. The Youth Action program aims to involve kids in physical activity regardless of skill or fitness level - participation is the main goal. Using high tech - Fusion Sport technology, the program has the ability to measure 'sporting health'. Youth Action is developed to provide positive feedback about performance with a focus on self improvement and empowerment.



### OUR WEBSITE

SWB direct grant forms are found at our site in seven community languages - Arabic, Chinese, Somali, Turkish, Vietnamese, Dari and Lebanese. They are simply downloaded, filled out and then submitted to our committee for review. After this, funds are allocated to the successful applicants.

But that's not all. Along with this key purpose our site has several other functions.

#### News

Articles relevant to sports and multiculturalism are both gathered and written, filmed and photographed by Sports Without Borders and then presented in a simple format on the homepage, making our site a great reference for this type of content.

#### StarCoach

An area of the site where anyone can go to watch videos of our SWB Sports Stars in small two minute chapters demonstrating the basic skills of their sport.

These videos, across our five key sports of Cricket, Netball, AFL, Soccer and Basketball will be regularly uploaded to the site over time and will be available for download to email or mobile.

#### Home Ground Forum

A safe place for the kids to come and have a chat, brag about their win or even organize their own comp. At pre-designated times the forum will also allow the kids to interact with top sports stars and our Sports Without Borders Ambassadors such as Timas Harik (800m and 1500m Athletics champion), Ringo Mawien (Cricket), the Brunswick Zebras (Soccer), and Monique Cilione (Javelin champion) who will make live 'appearances'.

There is plenty more to our new site and we urge you to check it out:

[sportswithoutborders.org](http://sportswithoutborders.org)



## OUR CHEER-SQUAD

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Since it was formed SWB has enjoyed the enthusiastic and energetic support of several large organizations with similar philosophical viewpoints. The Victorian Multicultural Commission has been one such supporter through monetary and other assistance from day one. Similarly The Scanlon Foundation, through Chairman Peter Scanlon has provided their many resources and ongoing direct financial assistance. Sports Without Borders would like to thank these two very important key supporters as well as the many other individuals and organizations who have contributed to the success of our model to date.

We welcome all supporters, big and small. To become part of our vitally important team and make a significant positive difference in the lives of many young Aussies, we would love to hear from you:

### James Demetriou

Executive Chairman

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## PARTNERS

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