

Hi All,

Thank you to everyone who attended the Club Development Forum on Sunday! We hope the day was beneficial and you were able to take something out of both the sponsor trade show and the break out sessions. This weeks Newsletter covers grant opportunities, child safety, some of the wellbeing and AFL Vic initiatives covered at the Forum, and a reintroduction to Good Sports.

CURRENT GRANTS & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- **TELSTRA:** [Footy Country Grants](#)
 - Status: Open. Rd 2 closes April 3rd
 - Plenty of funding remains available
- **CHANGE OUR GAME:** [Community Activation Grants](#)
 - Status: Open. Closes Feb 26th
- **SRV:** [Emergency Sporting Equipment Grant](#)
 - Status: Open. Closing 31/05/2025
- **Others:** [Sports Community Grants page](#)
[OEFN Grants Page](#) - this will be updated periodically!

If you have any questions regarding anything in the newsletter, please contact Brendan (development@outer eastfn.com.au) or 0422 420 929

FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

CHILD SAFETY OFFICERS

Almost all clubs have supplied their CSO details now - if you haven't, or have made a change, please forward the correct details through to me.

At this early stage of the year, there are several things the CSO can do to prepare for the season. The first step, particularly for any new CSO's, is to read through the Child Safety Handbook, Policy and other resources on the [Child Safety](#) section of the OEFN website. This Handbook outlines the responsibilities of the CSO and will give some guidelines to the role.

Information for the Child Safety education session and further responsibilities will be circulated in coming weeks.

CLUB HEALTH CHECKS

Anyone attending the AFL Vic session on Sunday would have heard some information about the [Club Health Check](#). This survey is designed to provide a high level overview of the strengths and areas of opportunity for your club, and allow AFL Vic and OEFN to seek out appropriate support resources to help.

We will be pushing the completion of these checks as a focus from April onward, however we encourage you to complete this prior to the season if you can. It should help to identify any problem areas that need attention, and allows me to see any league-wide trends. The survey should only take about 20 minutes to complete.

CONTAINER DEPOSIT SCHEME PARTNERSHIP

Local football clubs across Victoria will be supported to raise funds and become more sustainable through a new partnership between AFL Victoria and Victoria's Container Deposit Scheme (CDS Vic). CDS Vic provides the opportunity for Victorians to return eligible drink containers for a 10c refund.



Alexandra FNC has led the charge in Victoria winning the inaugural CDS Vic club of the year

For more information: [Click here](#)

WOMEN AND GIRLS CHARTER

It's been great to celebrate some clubs receiving their accreditation recently, and several more have begun the process. We continue to encourage all clubs to submit your EOI [here](#) to receive the templates and documents involved. These are about making a commitment to equity in your club, and laying out some short term plans on how to achieve this.

WELLBEING PARTNERS

I'd like to thank each of our wellbeing partners for their participation in the Club Development Day. I've already received some positive feedback regarding their presentations and engagement at the trade show. If you were interested in initiating something with any of the partners, or missed the Wellbeing presentations, you can find their websites below:

- [Outside The Locker Room](#)
- [SALT](#)
- [Smack Talk](#)
- [Round Table Connections](#)
- [Mental Health and Wellbeing Locals](#)

Between the five partners, we have a great suite of support services and leadership and culture workshops accessible to clubs. I encourage everyone to take a look and see what might be beneficial to your club!

GOOD SPORTS

Good Sports have graciously provided me with a list of accreditation status for OEFN clubs under their [program](#). Encouragingly, most clubs are accredited, including twelve clubs who have reached Gold Accreditation! I will be reaching out over coming weeks to those who have registered but not completed accreditation, as well as those who were previously involved but have been inactive for a few years, to see if any assistance is needed in gaining accreditation. Alex was present for the trade show on Sunday, so hopefully you were able to have a chat to him about the process.