

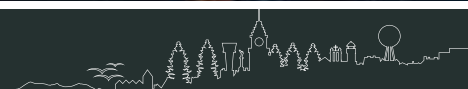
WARRNAMBOOL CITY

2026 COMMONWEALTH
GAMES EVENT READY



www.warrnambool.vic.gov.au

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Letters of Support

Our Vision and Proposal

Our City and Region

Our Track Record

Our Infrastructure and Connections

Our Sustainability and Legacy



Warrnambool City Council and the Warrnambool Commonwealth Games Working Group acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land on which we live and work and pays respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.



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LETTERS OF SUPPORT



12th August 2022

On behalf of the Warrnambool Commonwealth Games Working Group and Warrnambool City Council it is with great excitement and pride that we submit this expression of interest document for our City's participation in the 2026 Commonwealth Games in Victoria ('Victoria 2026').

Warrnambool's proposal to be part of Victoria 2026 includes the vision and concepts to:

- Host Sporting Competition;
- Host Pre-Games Training Camps and Competition by sports and/or countries; and
- Deliver a South West Victoria Festival of Culture and Sport.

Warrnambool is an ideal location for Victoria 2026. The athletes will not only enjoy the magnificent natural beauty of Warrnambool but superb facilities and venues. They will also be supported by a strong volunteer base and the overwhelming enthusiasm of our local community.

As a progressive and growing regional city in Victoria and the regional centre of South West Victoria, our City has the infrastructure, capability, experience and enthusiastic support to play a key partnership role in the delivery of Victoria 2026.

We firmly believe that Warrnambool City can provide the athletes, their friends and supporters and visitors from around the world with a Games experience that they will remember fondly for the rest of their lives.

We look forward to welcoming the athletes of the Commonwealth to our beautiful coastline in 2026.

Yours Sincerely

VICKI JELLIE AM
MAYOR

Civic Centre 25 Liebig Street
Warrnambool Victoria Australia
PO Box 198 Warrnambool VIC 3280

Telephone (03) 5559 4800
Facsimile (03) 5559 4900
Ausdoc DX 28005

Website www.warrnambool.vic.gov.au
ABN 44 594 264 321





Dan Tehan MP
Member for Wannon

House of Representatives - Parliament of Australia

27 July 2022

Mr Peter Schneider
Chief Executive Officer
Warrnambool City Council
PO Box 198
WARRNAMBOOL VIC 3280

To Whom It May Concern,

Re: Warrnambool City Council Expression of Interest Victoria 2026 Commonwealth Games

I write to offer my strong support of Warrnambool City Council's Expression of Interest to host events, training, athletes and support staff in the lead up to and during the Victoria 2026 Commonwealth Games.

Warrnambool is the major sporting, cultural and tourism hub in the state's South West, located at the southern end of the world-renowned Great Ocean Road.

Warrnambool and the South West of Victoria would be the ideal location for a Commonwealth Games marathon. The marathon could be run from the picturesque town of Port Fairy through the historic Aboriginal cultural landscape of Tower Hill and onto Warrnambool, showcasing the magnificent Shipwreck Coast and the Great Ocean Road.

The region's unique and world-famous natural landmarks, including the exceptional coastline and landscapes, the Grampians, Budj Bim National Park, and The Great Ocean Road, are a drawcard for visitors, making it the ideal location to showcase Victoria to a global audience.

Before the coronavirus pandemic, tourism was estimated to be worth \$1.1 billion to the region, with over 3.9 million domestic (overnight and day trip) and international visitors combined.

Significant investment has been made in the region through the Geelong City Deal and the Shipwreck Coast Masterplan; hosting Commonwealth Games events will further assist with the region's recovery post the coronavirus pandemic by encouraging visitation, strengthening the local economy and providing employment opportunities, key objectives of the Geelong City Deal.

Warrnambool furthermore has a range of excellent sporting facilities, including a recently upgraded bowls complex and a recognised road cycling circuit, and upgrades are planned for the Brauerander Park Athletics Track and the hockey complex. These would make ideal locations for teams seeking to acclimatise and train in the lead-up to the Games.

190 Gray Street, Hamilton VIC 3300
Telephone 03 5572 1100
Local call 1300 131 692

73 Kepler Street, Warrnambool VIC 3280
Telephone 03 5561 6405
Email dan.tehan.mp@aph.gov.au

Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600
Telephone 02 6277 7111
Website www.dantehan.com.au





Dan Tehan MP
Member for Wannon

House of Representatives - Parliament of Australia

The region is also renowned for its arts and cultural scene, from the historic Warrnambool Art Gallery to Flagstaff Hill Maritime Museum and Village, which holds Australia's most significant shipwreck artifacts.

Warrnambool's strategic advantages include its location, just two hours from two of the designated Games hubs (Geelong and Ballarat); Warrnambool is accessible by road, rail and air; and as a city with a strong visitor economy, the city is accustomed to safely accommodating large influxes of people over summer and for significant events such as the May Racing Carnival.

The Commonwealth Games must be for all Victorians, and events must extend beyond Melbourne and the large regional cities.

South West Victoria stands ready to participate in the 2026 Commonwealth Games, and I do hope that Warrnambool City Council's application will have favourable consideration.

Yours sincerely

Dan Tehan MP
Member for Wannon

190 Gray Street, Hamilton VIC 3300
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Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600
Telephone 02 6277 7111
Website www.dantehan.com.au



Roma BRITNELL MP

MEMBER FOR SOUTH-WEST COAST



27 July 2022

Mr Peter Schneider
Chief Executive Officer,
Warrnambool City Council

Dear Mr Schneider,

I write in support of the Warrnambool City Council's expression of interest in bringing Commonwealth Games events to the South West Coast.

Since it was announced the Games would come to regional Victoria in 2026, I have worked alongside WCC and user-group stakeholders on a local working group on its expression of interest.

I am confident Warrnambool and the south-west more generally is well-placed to play a key role in the 2026 Games.

There is no doubt a marathon that wound its way along the coast from Port Fairy to Warrnambool would make a wonderful spectacle, showcasing the south-west's beautiful, rugged coastline.

In addition, sports such as hockey, shooting and basketball - given proper investment now - would be perfect to host pre-Games training and events. Many of these sports already have support from their peak bodies.

The south-west is also very well placed to celebrate its rich history and culture to the world via the Games.

A Commonwealth Games in regional Victoria is a brilliant concept and should be applauded. However, it is vital that every effort is made to include all corners of the State and not just the four major hubs.

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 RomaBritnell

**WORKING FOR YOU,
WORKING FOR
SOUTH WEST COAST**



Just as the Games will provide legacy infrastructure for Geelong, Ballarat, Bendigo and Gippsland - it must also provide similar long-term economic and social benefits for other regions such as South West Coast.

I would urge the Commonwealth Games steering committee to strongly consider the Warrnambool City Council's expression of interest to bring events to the south-west to ensure our region benefits from the Games.

Yours sincerely,



Roma Britnell MP

Member for South West Coast

Shadow Minister for Ports & Freight

Shadow Minister for Consumer Affairs



25 July 2022

To whom it may concern,

RE: Letter of support: Warrnambool City Council – Victoria 2026

I am writing this letter to support Warrnambool City Council's expression of interest to host events, training camps and activations in preparation for the Victoria 2026 Commonwealth Games.

Our Member, South West Sport, is the Regional Sports Assembly located within the Warrnambool City Council catchment. They support the local community sporting clubs across the South West of Victoria with the provision of ongoing education, club development and volunteers support with a strategic objective to build the capacity and capability of grassroots sporting Clubs to thrive and be sustainable. The collaboration between Warrnambool City Council and South West Sport will enable the benefits of delivering events linked to Victoria 2026 to the grassroots sporting community.

We are supportive of events being held across regional and rural Victoria; and distributed both within and beyond the 'hub' regions. The ability to share the economic benefits and usage of sporting facilities across the regions will no doubt assist to spread the enthusiasm for the Games.

Regional Sport Victoria (in conjunction with our Regional Sports Assemblies) is also providing a submission to Victoria's 2026 expression of interest process. The content of our submission would complement that of Warrnambool City Council's.

Should you wish to discuss this in further detail, please do not hesitate to contact me via meghan@regionalsportvictoria.org.au or 0439 909 878.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Meghan Mayman".

Meghan Mayman

General Manager





15th July 2022

To whom it may concern,

Re: Letter of support. Warrnambool City Council- EOI Commonwealth Games 2026

On behalf of South West Sport, I would like to put forward my support for Warrnambool City Council's expression of interest in regard to the 2026 Commonwealth Games, inclusive of lead up activities and events, training camp activations, and events to be hosted in Warrnambool.

South West Sport is a Regional Sporting Assembly (RSA) that supports local community sporting clubs across the south west of Victoria, providing ongoing education, club development, and volunteer support, with a strategic objective to build the capacity and capability of grassroots sporting clubs to thrive and be sustainable.

As an organisation committed to the sustainability of community sport within the region, we are committed to supporting the legacy benefits for community sport from the 2026 Commonwealth Games as part of a collective and co-ordinated approach that is being positioned by Regional Sport Victoria, the peak body of the nine Regional Sporting Assembly's across regional Victoria.

South West Sport would look to support Warrnambool City Council's submission in a multilayered approach to build the capacity of community sport in the lead up to the Games, that would lead to a sustainable legacy within grassroots community sport beyond the Games.

We would look to do this through the following actions:

- **Supporting Facility Activation Planning** - Supporting newly constructed or refurbished facilities, in the participation planning and facility use, planning process to ensure maximum benefit to community through ongoing use, by multiple user groups.
- **Club Development** – Volunteer recruitment and retention training for clubs.
- **Volunteer Coordination** – Volunteer recruitment and training. We would look to develop position descriptions, recruit and upskill volunteers to support lead up events, events within the games, as well as for training camp activations. Building a broader volunteer group that could be connected with community sporting clubs following the Games, creating a pathway for sustainable volunteer opportunities from the Games through to grassroots community sport.
- **Increasing Participation** – Support clubs engaged in lead up events and clubs looking to grow participation to develop participation programs, and support in developing welcoming and inclusive club environments. This would support an increase in participation and is likely to lead to an increase in memberships or ongoing participation within clubs involved.



P.O BOX 679, WARRNAMBOOL VIC 3280



(03) 5561 1689



WWW.SOUTHWESTSPORT.COM.AU



/SOUTHWESTSPORTVIC



/SOUTHWESTSPORTVIC



www.warrnambool.vic.gov.au

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Our organisation is excited and enthusiastic about the prospect of playing a supporting role in such a significant sporting event for Regional Victoria. This presents a unique opportunity for a lasting legacy in grassroots community sport in Warrnambool. We will work closely with Warrnambool City Council in any successful bids to support efforts to contribute to the long-term sustainability of community sport, increased facility usage, and volunteer opportunities, as a legacy from the 2026 Commonwealth Games, contributing to a thriving and sustainable grassroots community sporting future in Warrnambool.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at marc@southwestsport.com.au or (03) 5561 1689.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to read "Marc Tims".

Marc Tims
Executive Officer
South West Sport

P.O. BOX 679, WARRNAMBOOL VIC 3280

(03) 5561 1689

WWW.SOUTHWESTSPORT.COM.AU

/SOUTHWESTSPORTVIC

/SOUTHWESTSPORTVIC





28 July 2022

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of the South West Academy of Sport, I write to support the Warrnambool City Council application to form an integral location to the 2026 Regional Victoria Commonwealth Games.

South West Academy of Sport (SWAS) is the official sporting pathway program for the south west Victoria region. SWAS supports approximately 100 young talented and emerging athletes in their individual sporting pathway annually. These athletes represent a vast array of sports, who have demonstrable talent, aptitude, and commitment to pursue higher level of competition. In addition to sport specific training and coaching, our athletes are provided with access to sport science, sports medicine, and holistic education; the cornerstone to developing the “whole of athlete”.

Warrnambool has a very proud history of sporting achievement, both through events and athletes. Many elite athletes that herald from Warrnambool, return in later years to share their experiences to inform and inspire the next generation. SWAS sees a once in a lifetime opportunity for our young athletes to witness elite training and practice matches, and possibly access coaches and players, without the requirement and burden of travel which so many of our athletes are familiar with.

The infrastructure legacy from a successful Warrnambool City Council application to host Commonwealth Games related activity that is of international standard, will assist in addressing the needs of the aspiring athletes in SWAS. Many sports face a competitive and developmental disadvantage due to existing infrastructure that is far below the level of standard accepted and seen in Melbourne and major centres within an hour from the metropolitan boundary. The scope of Warrnambool City Council’s application has far reaching benefits to the wider region due to the unique geographical location of Warrnambool within the south west of Victoria.

We are fully supportive of the Warrnambool City Council’s application as they strive to serve the community both now, and into the future.

Best Regards,

Andrew Sloane
Chief Executive Officer
South West Academy of Sport

PO BOX 26
BUILDING A, DEAKIN UNIVERSITY,
AITKEN DRIVE
WARRNAMBOOL VIC 3280

SWAS.ORG.AU
CEO@SWAS.ORG.AU



www.warrnambool.vic.gov.au

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28 July 2022

Mr Peter Schneider
Chief Executive Officer
Warrnambool City Council
P.O Box 198 Warrnambool 3280

Re: Victorian Commonwealth Games 2026

Dear Peter,

I am writing to support the Warrnambool City Councils submission to the Victorian Government for the involvement of our city in the 2026 Commonwealth Games.

Deakin University through its Warrnambool Campus is committed to working with the City Council in offering our significant accommodation resources to house athletes and officials, if this is required in the delivery of an event or pre games training camp.

The university will also provide access to our teaching and lecture spaces for the delivery of an E Sports event if this opportunity was supported by the Victoria Government Commonwealth Games Committee.

Deakin would also be very keen to provide opportunities for our students to play a part in supporting delivery of any events and in showcasing our regions amazing natural beauty to any of the visiting commonwealth teams.

I would be very happy to provide additional information if this was required to support our cities bid in securing some part in this very exciting event for our state and country in March 2026.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alistair McCosh".

Alistair McCosh
Director Warrnambool Campus
Deakin University

Director Warrnambool Campus
Office of the Vice-Chancellor

Warrnambool Campus,
Princes Highway, Warrnambool, VIC 3280
deakin.edu.au

Page 1

Deakin University CRICOS Provider Code: 00113B





na@hockey.org.au
hockey.org.au
ABN: 265 469 554 55

10th May 2022

Mark Bridge
Secretary
Warrnambool District Hockey Association
PO Box 2
Warrnambool VIC 3280

Dear Mark

On behalf of Hockey Australia, I would like to offer my full support for the Association in your pursuit of improved facilities which can host National and International hockey into the future.

The Green & Gold runway began on 13 April 2022 with the announcement of the March 2026 Commonwealth Games. In 2032 a home Olympics in Brisbane. It could not be a more exciting time.

Hockey will be played in Geelong which provides a wonderful opportunity for Regional Centres such as Warrnambool (South West Association). The opportunity to conduct a range of activities to boost the profile and participation of the sport and deliver economic gain to the region is an exciting one for all levels of hockey administration.

In my recent visit to Geelong off the back of the hockey announcement I made it clear that as a sport we must capitalise from the games with good infrastructure. See a link below to the article.

We are also talking with Visit Victoria about bringing a World Cup to Regional Victoria over the next decade to again maximise the investment of the State Government into the commonwealth games.

Hockey Australia will work with all of the local Associations in regional Victoria to host countries coming to Victoria for the Commonwealth Games and the other major events we can bring to Victoria over the next decade.

My mantra is about bringing more international content to Australia, and I look forward to discussing other opportunities to schedule both international or domestic content with the local council into the future.

Warm regards,

David Pryles
Chief Executive Officer

Head Office
66 Jolimont St
East Melbourne VIC 3002
☎ (03) 9947 9900

High Performance Office
Perth Hockey Stadium
Hayman Rd, Bentley WA 6102
☎ (08) 9458 0216





HOCKEY VICTORIA

State Netball Hockey Centre
10 Brens Drive
Parkville VIC 3052

PO Box 32
Parkville VIC 3052

ABN 66 215 250 461

P +61 3 9448 2100

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E admin@hockeyvictoria.org.au

Mark Bridge

Secretary

Warrnambool & District Hockey Association

Via email: secretary@hockeywarrnambool.org.au

Thursday 28 April 2022

Re: Support for Facility Development

Dear Mark,

On behalf of the Hockey Victoria (HV) Board & Management I am writing to provide our strong support to the Warrnambool & District HA's desire to develop their facilities to a standard which can host international teams into the future.

On 12 April 2022 the Victorian Government announced that the 2026 Commonwealth Games will be hosted in Regional Victoria. Hockey was announced as being scheduled in Geelong which is really exciting for the growth and profile of Hockey in Victoria.

The Commonwealth Games will provide a number of our Regional Hockey Associations with an opportunity to attract International Teams into camp prior to the Commonwealth Games which is high on the Victorian Government & Hockey Victoria's agenda. The opportunity also presents an outstanding opportunity to compliment and growth strategy HV has across regional Victoria.

I can confirm that Hockey Victoria & Hockey Australia are working very closely with Visit Victoria in a bid to bring the 2026 Women's World Cup to Geelong and Regional Victoria. We are working hard to ensure the Government capitalise on the investment into the Commonwealth Games by exploring bringing new events to Regional Victoria.

We are also working closely with Hockey One (the national Hockey League in Australia) to explore the opportunity to host HC Melbourne matches into the future.

If there is any other information or support Hockey Victoria can provide the Association, please don't hesitate to contact me via mobile 0430 751 223.

Kind Regards,

Andrew Skillern

Chief Executive Officer

Hockey Victoria

www.hockeyvictoria.org.au



Att: Mark bridge
Warrnambool District hockey Assoc.
Po Box 2
WARRNAMBOOL VIC 3280

Dear Mark,

RE: Support for redevelopment of hockey facility and Commonwealth Games

I am writing to provide my strong support to the Warrnambool District Hockey Associations' desire to develop their facilities to a standard which can host international teams and develop our local talent into the future.

I was lucky enough to represent Australia as a member of the Hockeyroos and win a Commonwealth Silver Medal at the 2018 Commonwealth games, a result that I am proud of. It is also a result of a lot of driving and time spent by my parents to get to a location that had the facilities needed to develop to that level and realise a dream.

Warrnambool is in a unique location, close to the SA border and 2 hours from the nearest major regional town, and has a community who love sport, embrace opportunity and, you can be sure that our locals would be more than welcoming to any visiting national team for the games and become their local cheer squad.

The 2026 Commonwealth Games creates the opportunity to develop a legacy in the Southwest Hockey hub, which I have no doubt, will develop our regions hockey athletes into the National players of the future.

As a member of the HC Melbourne team, participating in the Hockey One League, the prospect of playing in my hometown with that team is an exciting opportunity I can see developing into a draw card for the region. With home games against Adelaide in Warrnambool and return games in regional SA, you can see how this new facility would benefit so many members of the community in general. Introducing the sport to new participants, drawing economic benefits to the region, and reinvigorating the VIC / SA sporting rivalry.

I commend the Warrnambool City Council and WDHA for their efforts and look forward to being at the opening of the new Hockey Southwest facility in the lead up to the 2026 Commonwealth Games, and with a bit of luck, 2026 Women's World Cup!

If you have any questions or there is any other support you need of me, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Madi Ratcliffe





David Mills
General Manager
Warrnambool Basketball Inc
71/77 Caramut Rd,
Warrnambool VIC 3280

27 June 2022

Dear David,

SUPPORTING WARRNAMBOOL BASKETBALL

Basketball Victoria fully supports the Warrnambool Basketball Inc (WBI) in relation to their submission to support the Warrnambool region in hosting events for or in association with the 2026 Commonwealth Games.

The recent announcement that the State of Victoria and Commonwealth Games Australia were confirmed as hosts of the 2026 Commonwealth Games and that the games were to be based in Regional Victoria, demonstrates the ability of Regional Victorians to be innovative and creative.

It is estimated the 2026 Commonwealth Games will contribute more than \$3 billion to Victoria's economy, creating more than 600 full-time equivalent jobs before the Games, 3,900 jobs during the Games and a further 3,000 jobs beyond the Closing Ceremony.

Basketball in the Warrnambool area is delivered by a strong association providing an activity for country children and adults. It is evident through research that by providing sporting and multipurpose facilities and then the programs from the sporting organisations, we can assist our community in being healthier and well balanced. What is harder to measure is the positive impact that a recreational facility can have on the local community with the capacity to increase the community's interaction and the continued development of team characteristics.

4 Regional Hubs have been announced, however Basketball Victoria understands that further work is being completed with the Commonwealth Games Federation and Commonwealth Games Australia, to determine if additional sports will be included in the Victoria 2026 program, which may open opportunities for other locations to host events.

It is essential that each region/LGA considers how they can be part of this important and significant event.

WBI has demonstrated over many years that they have been able to plan and deliver in this space, conducting significant Regional activities, with their volunteer network. The association has a significant base and delivers at all levels of the basketball pathway, both on and off the court.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the work of the volunteer Warrnambool Basketball Committee who have demonstrated true leadership during the last 2 years, through what has been a very difficult time for Community Sport.





Basketball is an all year round operation and generates the majority of income from seasonal registrations, game day fees, clinics, sponsorship, events and tournaments. There are 240,000 registered weekly basketball participants across Victoria, including 73,000 females

This is the largest registered playing numbers of any sport in Victoria. Year round positive participation outcomes for all genders, ages and abilities. Victorian basketball also has a gross Annual Turnover in excess of \$110m

The Intergenerational Review of Australian Sport 2017'' notes that:

“Together, sport creates significant value for Australia, with at least \$7 returned for every \$1 expended in the sector. This high rate of return is a combination of direct economic benefits, the network of volunteers, avoided health costs and education benefits.”

Basketball is returning just under \$1b to the Victorian Community annually.

There are 52,680 registered weekly participants in Country Victoria and this does not include the many Junior Squad teams (such as the Warrnambool Seahawks and Mermaids), our Aussie Hoopers, referees, coaches, committee, Senior CBL teams, and Teams competing in the Senior State Leagues, such as the BigV and the Victorian Junior Basketball League.

WBI has been required to review all aspects of their operations to ensure sustainability and viability. In excess of 1000 weekly participants compete at the Warrnambool Stadium and it is vitally important that the Basketball Association provide strong, steady and positive leadership.

If you add the Aussie Hoops, squads, referees coaches etc, there are around 1200 active participants in Warrnambool. That puts the participation rate as approximately 3.56% of the Warrnambool population and basketball is seen as the highest Team Participation Sport in Victoria.

The challenge to our sport is access to fully compliant courts to continue to grow that participation base. It has been demonstrated in other parts of Victoria, that if indoor fully compliant courts are developed or made available, Basketball can increase the penetration rate into the community up to 6% in some areas.

In Warrnambool that would see approximately 2018 participants weekly, an increase of 818 participants and the added benefits that participation brings to the community.

Basketball in Victoria has seen consistent strong growth and demand for a number of years and at a state-wide level our participation numbers represent around 4% of the population. Sport is an essential part of our community well-being and will play an even more important role in the coming years as the community recovers.





Basketball Victoria understands that the development of Multi Court facilities are based on the high utilisation rates that basketball enjoys across the State, but equally we fully understand that we need to be a community leader in bringing lower participation sports to the Multi Court venues and offer opportunities for those sports to grow and for the community to have those sporting opportunities.

The work in Warrnambool is supported by the Basketball Victoria's mission:

Basketball is the sport of choice for ALL Victorians - through leadership, innovation, engagement and accessibility.

Also supported by the following Strategies contained within the 2022-2024 BV Strategic Plan:

Deliver Leadership

We will provide our membership with direction and support to ensure our sport is best placed to meet future demands and provide a structure whereby all associations, big and small, can flourish.

Provide Pathways

Basketball Victoria will clearly define and align pathways for all participants to enter and develop to the level of their ability. Through innovative practices, Basketball Victoria will provide additional opportunities for more Victorians to play more basketball.

Drive Infrastructure Growth

We are committed to ensuring each basketball player has a place to play. We will be relentless in our drive to ensure that new basketball facilities and upgrades to existing facilities are front-of-mind whenever local, state and federal funding is allocated and we will work with other sports to ensure that multi-use facilities best benefit basketball.

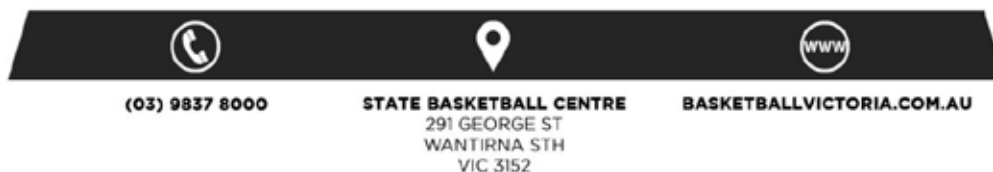
Annually, WBI operate the popular Junior Seaside Classic Basketball Tournament, which has a demonstrated economic impact to the local community of \$261,300. The redevelopment of the Warrnambool Stadium will allow this tournament to expand and create a larger impact for the Warrnambool and districts community.

Basketball Victoria fully supports Warrnambool Basketball in this submission.

Yours faithfully

David Huxtable

David Huxtable
General Manager, Member and Community Services
Basketball Victoria





Pickleball Australia Association
 Address: PO Box 233, Indooroopilly, QLD 4068
 Email: president@pickleballaus.org
 Ph: 0400452624

1st June 2022
 Peter Schneider
 CEO Warrnambool City Council
 Victoria

RE: EOI Pickleball

Dear Peter,

The Pickleball Association of Australia (PAA) encourage pickleball being included as a demonstration sport during the timeframe of the 2026 Commonwealth Games. We also fully support the South-West 2026 Commonwealth Working Group and Warrnambool City Council expression of interest to host this event.

While a very new sport in Australia, and other Commonwealth countries, its growth is significant. This has driven the establishment of PAA in 2020, with the subsequent registration and affiliation of 7 state/ territory bodies, and Northern Territory well on the way to also joining our ranks.

Since the establishment of PAA, financial membership of players has grown from 0 to 3500 with recorded regular recreational player numbers growing from 800 to 15,000+ (as of May 2022). This growth has resulted in strong increased demand for tournaments and organised playing events for individuals of all age and skill levels. In response, over 40 tournaments are presently organised annually (with this number expected to grow), across Australia, with players eager to travel to attend from all states and territories. As a sporting event in 2026 we can see the potential for:

- a competitive tournament across a wide range of ages and abilities,
- introductory sessions and coaching clinics for interested spectators,
- meetings and workshops for Commonwealth representatives.

On the international level pickleball is being played in at least 30 Commonwealth countries with the majority of these having a national association driving the development of pickleball. These countries include: Bangladesh, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Canada, Cyprus, Dominica, India, Jamaica, Kenya, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, St Lucia, Samoa, Singapore, South Africa, Tanzania, Tonga, Uganda, United Kingdom (Scotland, Ireland, Wales and England), Vanuatu.

The development of pickleball internationally is only in its infancy, with most national associations being established in the last 3 years. Using USA Pickleball and Pickleball Canada as indicators of what is to come, exponential growth is expected to continue for several years. Just recently the first Asian Pickleball Open was held with India and Australia dominating the winner's circle. Australia is also set to be the host for the first Oceania Pickleball Open, in January 2023, with interest coming from players in Asia and North America, as well as our local region.

The inclusion of pickleball as an event during the 2026 Commonwealth Games will demonstrate a highly accessible sport for players of all ages and skill levels, also providing an opportunity for Commonwealth competitors and associations to come together enabling collaboration and cooperation for the future development of the sport.

We applaud and thank the efforts of your working group to include pickleball as a sporting event in 2026 and will support this initiative in any way possible. Please let us know if you have any further questions or need more information, regarding the sport, to support this bid.

Regards,

Jen Ramamurthy
 PAA Board Chair





Shooting Australia
 28 Greenhill Road, Wayville SA 5034, Australia
 E. office@shootingaustralia.org
www.shootingaustralia.org
 ABN 45 115 431 868

25 July, 2022

To Peter Schneider
 Chief Executive Officer – Executive Services
 Warrnambool City Council
 PO Box 3280
 Warrnambool VIC 3280

CC Office of Dan Tehan MP
 73 Kepler Street
 Warrnambool VIC 3280

Australian Clay Target Association
 Target Rifle Australia
 National Rifle Association of Australia
 Sporting Clays Australia
 Pistol Australia

Dear Peter,

With the announcement that Victoria (VIC) will host the Commonwealth Games in 2026, Shooting Australia is working closely with its key stakeholders and member organisations to ensure Shooting has the best possible chance of inclusion on the program. The Target Shooting Sports have a proud history of success and have formed an integral part of the Australian Team in many editions of the Commonwealth Games. We would like to see a continued success of the Australian Team at this 'home Games'.

Given the strong regional focus being brought to the planning and delivery of the VIC 2026 Commonwealth Games, Shooting's relevance will extend well-beyond the competition field of play. The Target Shooting Sports and the administering organisations play a critical role in the fabric of regional and rural communities by bringing people together through club activities and sporting events. Our sport caters for a diverse mix of participants in terms of age, gender and socially and culturally diverse backgrounds.

The VIC 2026 Commonwealth Games will provide Shooting (and other sports) an opportunity to create a greater awareness and understanding of the sport and bring a consciousness of current and prospective new participants. The Warrnambool Local Government Area will be no exception and can embrace opportunities which may include:

- Hosting athletes/teams as part of their pre-games training and preparation
- Promote and deliver a range of 'come and try' activities within the local community

Shooting Australia, its national and state member organisations and the target shooting sport clubs within the locale fully support the Warrnambool City Council's efforts to contribute to the engagement of its constituents in Games-time activities and events and create a legacy from the Games through participation in the same.



Affiliations | Sport Australia | Australian Institute of Sport | Australian Olympic Committee
 Paralympics Australia | Commonwealth Games Australia | International Shooting Sport Federation
 Commonwealth Shooting Federation | Oceania Shooting Federation





Shooting Australia
28 Greenhill Road, Wayville SA 5034, Australia
E. office@shootingaustralia.org
www.shootingaustralia.org
ABN 45 115 431 868

A full list of the organisations that have indicated their support of Warrnambool City Council's proposed VIC 2026 Commonwealth Games initiatives are provided below.

Yours sincerely,

Adam Sachs
Chief Executive Officer
Shooting Australia

Malcolm Dyson
President
Australian Clay Target Association

Bob Maddocks
President
Victorian Amateur Pistol Association

David Wright
President
Target Rifle Australia

John Hopkins
Vice President
Target Rifle Victoria

Tina Thornhill
Chairperson
National Rifle Association of Australia

Ray Andrews
President
Pistol Australia

Anthony Panetta
President
Sporting Clays Australia



Affiliations | Sport Australia | Australian Institute of Sport | Australian Olympic Committee
Paralympics Australia | Commonwealth Games Australia | International Shooting Sport Federation
Commonwealth Shooting Federation | Oceania Shooting Federation





5 July 2022

The Hon. Jacinta Allan
Minister for Commonwealth Games Delivery
Level 3, 1 Treasury Place
EAST MELBOURNE 3002

Dear Minister

RE: 2026 COMMONWEALTH GAMES IN MOYNE and WARRNAMBOOL

Congratulations on your recent appointment as responsible Minister for the Commonwealth Games. We are excited to meet with you to reaffirm Warrnambool City and Moynes Shire Council's interest in hosting an event as part of the 2026 Commonwealth Games.

As previously stated, Victoria's South West is a perfect fit for the Marathon; Warrnambool and Moynes are also well placed to host an international team prior to the start of the Games.

The South West features many spectacular landscapes that would create a magnificent backdrop for international TV coverage while helping promote our great state and region to the world.

We have a proven record in hosting major events – both sporting and cultural – and we are keen to discuss with you the role we can play in hosting the Marathon event of the 2026 Games.

We see opportunities for the creation of infrastructure to assist in the delivery of the Games that would also be an investment in the region's future: for the community and the tourism economy.

As always we are available to discuss these matters at a time convenient to you or your department.

Yours sincerely

**CR. VICKI JELLIE, AM
MAYOR
WARRNAMBOOL CITY COUNCIL**

**CR. IAN SMITH
MAYOR
MOYNE SHIRE COUNCIL**

Phone: 1300 656 564
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www.moyne.vic.gov.au

All correspondence to:
PO Box 51 Port Fairy VIC 3284
DX 28402 Port Fairy



OUR VISION & PROPOSAL

On behalf of the Warrnambool 2026 Commonwealth Games Working Group and Warrnambool City Council we are proud to submit our vision and concept proposals for Warrnambool City to play a key partnership role in the delivery of the 2026 Commonwealth Games in Victoria ('Victoria 2026').

The City of Warrnambool is passionate about playing a substantive role in the delivery of Victoria 2026 and will embrace the responsibility and privilege that comes with being a host city.

Victoria 2026 will play a significant role in bringing diverse peoples together, promoting welcoming and inclusive communities and strengthening the goodwill among the family of Commonwealth nations. Uniting cultures through the power of sport is a unique opportunity that cannot be missed for Warrnambool.

We look forward to welcoming visitors to our City – Australia's most liveable regional city! Warrnambool can offer

a fun, friendly, secure and spectacular natural environment that promotes the best interests of athletes and other participants and reflects favourably on Victoria, Australia, and the Commonwealth.

Victoria 2026 will provide Warrnambool the opportunity to showcase the attributes, development and growth of our progressive and dynamic regional city to an international audience.

We are hopeful that government financial support will extend beyond the four large, populous regional hubs that have been announced so we can create modern, inclusive, fit-for-purpose legacy infrastructure in our City.

Warrnambool's proposal to be part of Victoria 2026 includes:

- hosting sporting competition;
- hosting countries;
- hosting pre-games training camps and competition; and,
- delivery of a South West Victoria Festival of Culture and Sport.

Our vision to present Warrnambool as an important partner in the delivery of Victoria 2026 aligns strongly with our City's long-term community plan Warrnambool 2040 which aims to inspire our City's leaders and the broader community to achieve aspirational goals around our people, our place, our economy and our environment.

Our People:

Warrnambool will be a City where all people will thrive

Our Place:

Warrnambool will be Australia's most liveable regional city

Our Economy:

Warrnambool will be Australia's most resilient and thriving regional economy

Our Environment:

Warrnambool will be Australia's most sustainable city.





OUR PROPOSAL -

Hosting Sporting Competition

Marathon – Men's, Women's and Wheelchair Categories

Warrnambool has engaged with the Victorian Government to host the Victoria 2026 Commonwealth Games marathon. We understand a decision is yet to be made on the location of the marathon.

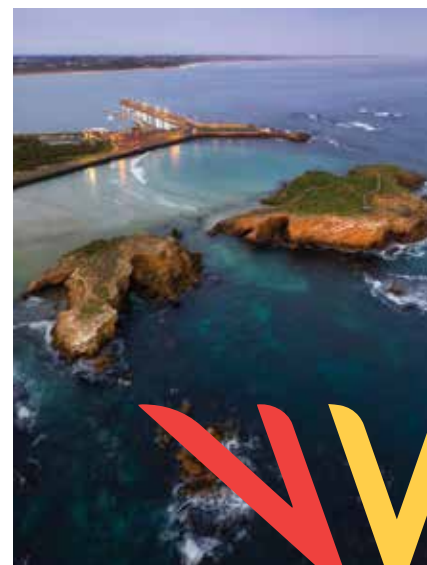
Set against the spectacular natural wonders that is one of the world's most scenic coastlines and home to remarkable Indigenous, physical and cultural heritage, Warrnambool has all the attributes required to host a memorable Victoria 2026 marathon.

Working in close collaboration with neighbouring Moyne Shire, relevant authorities and technical teams, a Warrnambool marathon in Victoria 2026 could be used for a legacy event in the future and would bring

enormous value to our City and profile. The course design could be point to point, out/back, or looped to leverage the natural beauty of Warrnambool and Port Fairy and maximise spectators and atmosphere. This includes options for spectacular coastal views, a pass by stunning Tower Hill, streets packed with spectators and a potential finish at beautiful Lady Bay. A Port Fairy-Warrnambool course will enable a great atmosphere and deliver a wonderful spectacle that captures the beauty and diversity of Victoria and the South West.

Our City has the capability, capacity and community support to deliver this iconic event for Victoria 2026 and remains at the ready to assist, where required, with the technical and complex planning associated with hosting an elite marathon event including but not limited to – course design and measurement,

athlete accommodation and welfare, volunteers, transportation and parking, security, technology, signage, medical and aid support, start/finish logistics and infrastructure, officials' and broadcaster/media needs, road closures and liaison with authorities and on-course entertainment.



More sports to be added to the Program in late 2022

Our City remains open to working with the relevant sporting bodies and decision-makers to facilitate opportunities for our region outside of the four regional hubs to be part of Victoria 2026 and host sporting competition.

A core group of 16 sports has been agreed between the State of Victoria, the Commonwealth Games Federation and Commonwealth Games Australia to be delivered across four regional hubs – Geelong, Bendigo, Ballarat and Gippsland.

We understand more sports will be added to the program in late 2022 and international sporting federations have been invited to submit an expression of interest to have their sport added to the sports program.

Warrnambool remains open and at the ready to play its role in delivering an exhilarating Victoria 2026 event and hopes that our City might be considered to host an event from one or more of the additional sports to be added to the program.

The Warrnambool Commonwealth Games Working Group comprising elected representatives from all tiers of Government (Federal, State and Local), indigenous and education leaders, and local and regional sporting peak bodies has been meeting regularly to develop Warrnambool's offering as part of Victoria 2026.

Subject to the sports program being finalised in late 2022 our City has a number of expressions of interest submitted by peak bodies and/or Working Group members which have been included as part of this submission. These include shooting, basketball, esports, skateboarding and pickleball. Detail of a number of these sports addressing the expression of interest detail can be found in the Appendix to this submission.

Esports

Deakin University Warrnambool would be supportive of working with the Warrnambool City Council and other key

partners from the city of Warrnambool to explore the opportunity to host an Esports Tournament at the Warrnambool campus of Deakin, as part of the Commonwealth Games being held in Victoria in 2026.

Deakin has the infrastructure and facilities needed to hold a world class Esports event, including high speed fibre connectivity, large lecture spaces to accommodate players and audience participation along with onsite accommodation and access to a University student body who would be engaged to assist in running of the event.

Deakin and the Warrnambool City Council would work with the Australian Esports Association to ensure the tournament was designed to maintain a set of professional, ethical and best-practice standards set by International Esports Federation (IESF) and Global Esports Federation (GEF).





Skateboarding

Skateboarding competition was held for the first time in the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo, Japan. With the view of attracting a younger generation of participants and spectators, Skateboarding competition at Warrnambool in Victoria 2026 would be a memorable event for all. Set against the spectacular backdrop of Warrnambool's foreshore there is space for extension, infrastructure, and grandstand seating. Immediately adjacent is large scale multiple storey high quality accommodation, Warrnambool has all the credentials to be the location for Skateboarding Competition in Victoria 2026.

Warrnambool's foreshore and an example of the city's high quality accommodation.



OUR PROPOSAL

Hosting Countries, Pre-Games Training Camps and Competitions.

Hosting Countries and/or sports for Training Camps and pre-Games competition for Commonwealth Games Teams are often located outside the hosting cities. Warrnambool has the credentials to host such activities across one or a number of sports listed in the Victoria 2026 program.



Hockey

With Commonwealth Games hockey earmarked for Geelong, the Warrnambool District Hockey Association (WDHA) has the ambition to become a satellite hub featuring training, practice matches and events in the lead up to Victoria 2026.

Just two hours from Geelong, the WDHA is working closely with peak bodies Hockey Victoria and Hockey Australia to play a supporting role.

Upgrading and leveraging an existing facility within proximity of the Geelong and Ballarat hubs can deliver benefits including reduced pressure on infrastructure, resources, transport and accommodation at hubs while delivering vibrant events and legacy

infrastructure to additional Victorian communities.

Hockey Australia endorses our vision and in May 2022 wrote to six national hockey bodies - Canada, Scotland, Wales, South Africa, Pakistan and Malaysia - inviting them to consider using Warrnambool, Ballarat and Bendigo as a "home base" in 2026.

Our two concepts:

1. The existing Warrnambool hockey centre is upgraded to international standard, enabling the region to host practice matches between visiting national teams and domestic national hockey league teams including Hockey Club

Melbourne, Tassie Tigers and Adelaide Fire. As outlined in Hockey Australia's letter, Warrnambool is included as one of four regional locations to host practice matches if our infrastructure is brought up to international standard;

2. Everything included in concept #1 as well as becoming a physical home base for the men's and women's teams of 1-2 nations for the duration of the Games. It would provide these nations with exclusive use of a world class pitch and reduce potential challenges around the equitable scheduling of training time for 20 teams at the Geelong hockey hub. This approach would enable local communities to "adopt" these teams in the lead up to, and during, the Games and increase opportunities



for cultural events and meaningful community engagement including schools over several weeks.

An international standard facility in Warrnambool also features in Hockey Australia and Visit Victoria's bid to bring the Women's World Cup to Victoria in 2026 and an upgraded facility would leave lasting infrastructure for local competitions, regional tournaments and elite hockey including national hockey league matches.

A masterplan for an upgraded facility will be completed by October 2022. The facility will require approximately \$9.5 million in financial support from sources including government to design and build with completion in late 2024, 18 months ahead of the March 2026 Games.

Hockey Legacy

Upgrading the existing hockey facility from one to two pitches and putting in place a modern pavilion will leave a tremendous legacy with benefits including but not limited to:

- Two pitches used concurrently will allow the WDHA to continue to increase participation while avoiding growing pains that come with increased demand for time slots for matches and training sessions.
- The international standard water pitch will be a draw card and expose our community to elite hockey, including Hockey One national hockey league matches, Victorian premier league matches (between Geelong and Altona) and state age training camps.
- Two pitches will allow the region to host larger, more significant hockey carnivals that deliver better local economic development outcomes.
- The new pavilion will replace an existing structure built in the 1980s with a modern, accessible and female-friendly building that delivers a comfortable match day experience for players, parents, officials and spectators.

Our concept will modernise and enhance infrastructure to become a fit-for-purpose all-abilities community

sporting hub capable of hosting elite international standard matches, community events and functions. This upgrade includes renewing a hybrid pitch that is more than 15 years old, replacing lighting that no longer meets Australian standards for community sport, building a new, accessible, female-friendly, comfortable and energy efficient pavilion and improved access with parking for all conditions.

It will also augment existing weekly hockey competitions run from Warrnambool for the South West region and allow for two matches to be played concurrently - an important enabler for the growth of the sport as the scheduling of time slots for matches and training sessions becomes increasingly problematic as participation increases.

It will allow the WDHA to hold more and larger festivals, including the existing South West Games, in partnership with our regional sports assembly South West Sport. Following months of preparation, the concept formally commenced in June 2022 when councillors from Warrnambool City Council passed its 2022/23 budget which included \$600,000 for the renewal of the existing pitch. At the same time the WDHA engaged engineering and project management services to commence work on a project plan and masterplan for the facility which is due to be completed by October 2022.

Once financial support is secured we aim to have the masterplan and design of the facility completed and "shovel ready" by June 2023, tenders completed and awarded by early 2024 and construction completed by October 2024, approximately 18 months ahead of the March 2026 Commonwealth Games.

While there is a concrete start and end date for the upgrade of the physical infrastructure, hockey competitions (ie. soft infrastructure) will be ongoing and therefore self-sustaining into the future.

We believe the commitment of our peak bodies Hockey Victoria and Hockey Australia to work with the WDHA to bring international hockey

to the region sufficiently demonstrates support for our proposal. Victoria 2026 is a once in a generation opportunity to upgrade infrastructure to enable us to bring elite level hockey to the doorstep of South West Victorian communities on an ongoing basis for generations to come and we are committed to working with stakeholders to deliver our vision.

The following documents have been provided to support this proposal.

- Letter of Support from Hockey Australia
- Letter of Support from Hockey Victoria
- Letters sent to Hockey Scotland, South Africa, Malaysia, Canada, Wales, Pakistan

The above model could also be applied for Warrnambool to host training camps and pre-Games competitions from other sports listed in Victoria 2026 such as, but not limited to Cricket, Athletics, and Road Cycling.



Commonwealth Games 2018 Silver Medalist, Warrnambool's Madi Ratcliffe





Road Cycling

Our city has all the credentials to provide a training hub for road cycling teams in Warrnambool in the lead-up medal competition. There are multiple routes used locally, with a variety of terrain, all starting from Warrnambool.

The roads attract very little traffic, and in some cases, are marked for road cycling making the routes safer. Warrnambool is a thriving regional city with all the necessary services to support teams and athletes, with first class medical services, restaurants and leisure facilities.

The Warrnambool Cycling Club has committed to provide regular races in the lead-up to the Commonwealth Games, which if Warrnambool were a training hub, would allow for lead-up events to be provided on a regular basis in a safe environment. The event would benefit the Warrnambool region with accommodating the athletes, teams and the exposure that this would provide Warrnambool.

Warrnambool has hosted the world famous annual Melbourne to Warrnambool Road Race since 1895, an event with international standing, and hosting international teams would be a celebration of Warrnambool's rich and long history of world class cycling. Cyclists are frequently active on social media and the local region would promote the cyclists via social media, which in turn will further consolidate Warrnambool as a renowned cycling destination.

Given Warrnambool's proximity to many of Victoria's most stunning regions, such as the Grampians, the

Twelve Apostles & Port Campbell, and the Bridgewater/ Nelson region), we propose that teams are taken to such areas to train, which would promote the region and Victoria. This would also extend the economic benefits beyond Warrnambool.

The local Indigenous community has been consulted and expressed interest in providing a Welcome to Country Ceremony to the cyclists to express long and deep Aboriginal cultural connection to this region. A training route through Tower Hill (a caldera volcano of geographical and indigenous cultural significance), would provide an opportunity to promote Tower Hill and for local Koori communities .

A number of Aboriginal tribes exist between Geelong and Warrnambool. A Warrnambool tribe annually walked to the Otways to obtain ochre. Such inter-tribal connections can be celebrated and promoted as a part of this event. Not only can this event promote the natural scenery of this stunning region, it can celebrate and show to Australians and the world the rich and complex indigenous history of Western Victoria.

The government support needed for a training hub is minimal; safe roads are already built, and much of the economic benefit that will ensue, will be from athletes and the region's

promotion by way of social and mainstream media.

It is expected that the training hub would leave a tourism legacy for the entire region – Warrnambool, the Great Ocean Road to the east, the Grampians to the north, and the Bridgewater/Nelson region to the west. The area is stunning and social media promotion by athletes with significant social media followings would be invaluable.

Further, the name "Warrnambool" is well known in the cycling community due to it hosting the world's second longest in the terms of distance, and second oldest one day cycling classic the Melbourne to Warrnambool Cycling Classic.

The event would complement the Cycling Classic. The knowledge base and course design work would be invaluable in planning for Victoria 2026.

This region provides a diversity of tourism attractions, from the mountain ranges of the Grampians, the long indigenous history of the Warrnambool region to the awe of the Great Ocean Road coastline. A training hub of a one to two week period would provide significant promotion of this region to the world.





OUR PROPOSAL

Delivery of a South West Victoria Festival of Culture and Sport.

Our City's proposed Festival and Cultural Events Program will build not only on our community's growing diversity but also on promoting cultural issues in the region and across the State and Nation.

The Games cultural programme will build on Warrnambool's distinctive identity as a growing regional centre for South West Victoria, while reinforcing the aspirations of the City as outlined in its long term Community Plan (W2040).

Warrnambool City Council is a participating member of Welcoming Cities, a growing network of more than 250 municipalities across the world. Our City benchmarks itself against the National Standard for cultural diversity and inclusion policy and practice in Local Government and is determined to help create communities where everyone can belong.

Many highly-accomplished and recognised artists who call Warrnambool home, together with local stakeholders will develop the cultural programme which will be a celebration of our City's diversity and promoting welcoming and inclusive behaviours.

Queens Baton Relay – Warrnambool and region

A highlight of the cultural programme will be the Queen's Baton Relay through Warrnambool and around our region – a symbol of Commonwealth unity in safe and peaceful

surroundings. The Relay through our region will be an exciting and powerful opportunity for community engagement along the route and will generate a positive profile for the Games through local, national and global media coverage.

Live Sites

We will activate a central live site which will serve as a spectator meeting place and creative hub for the arts and cultural programme. Such a Live site will offer free arts and cultural activities to complement the screening of sports events, be serviced by public



transport and positioned in a key entertainment precinct. Possible locations might include our Civic Green in our City Centre or in our Foreshore Precinct.

Carnival of Sporting Culture

Competitions do not need to be restricted to Commonwealth Games sports.

The Victoria 2026 Sporting Competition will run from March 17-29. This follows one of the busiest periods of tourism and sporting activity in our City – the March Labour Day long weekend. March 7-9, 2026.

The Labour Day Long weekend in Warrnambool is alive with activity and visitors participating in sporting competitions and tournaments featuring tennis, surf lifesaving, basketball and volleyball. This existing program could be extended to include many other sporting tournaments to add to the atmosphere and build-up to Victoria 2026 as a celebration of sporting competition.

Road cycling event

A road cycling event from Geelong to Warrnambool, through the Otway Ranges, villages, then joining the Great Ocean Road at Princetown to the finish in Warrnambool taking in the Twelve Apostles, Port Campbell, the amazing Great Ocean Road cliffs and beautiful Western district scenery. The event would be a postcard to the world of some of Victoria's most stunning scenery.

The event would leave a tourism legacy for the entire region – Geelong through the Otways, the Great Ocean Road and Warrnambool. The coverage of the event would be a tourism postcard for the region (imagine the amazing vision of cyclists riding past the Twelve Apostles). The footage could be used in ongoing tourism promotion and it would be expected that the tourism legacy would last. Further the event would promote the Warrnambool region as a premier cycling destination, consolidating its proud reputation forged since the first Melbourne to Warrnambool Cycling Classic in 1895.

The event would complement the Melbourne to Warrnambool Cycling Classic. The event would be held on one day. Women's road cycling events are usually held over a shorter course than the men's. The women's event would start in Colac (providing benefit to the Colac region), then follow the same route as the men's race. This means infrastructure, road closures, volunteers and logistics would all be utilised for both events.

Arts, Music and Education

Our City will run an arts, music and education program during Victoria 2026. Ideas include:

- Commissioning exhibiting artists to develop a visual arts component for children and families to promote the Games through Warrnambool and the region.
- The contribution of Australia's Indigenous athletes have made to sport could be recognised and celebrated.
- Community participation in activities celebrating the history of Commonwealth sports could occur as well as active transport initiatives such as walking and cycling.
- Art works to build the public profile of athletes with particular emphasis given to younger athletes to inspire the City's youth.
- Initiatives, such as the 'Adopt a Commonwealth Country' programme to provide primary and secondary school students with opportunities to learn about the Commonwealth and Australia's role in the Commonwealth, as well as international athletes and their cultures.
- A range of music programs catering for all tastes from classical through to contemporary rock and pop to be held in public outdoor spaces, notably our City Centre and Foreshore precincts.



OUR CITY & REGION

Our City's population is 36,000 and is the regional services centre of South West Victoria serving a catchment of 120,000 people.

As one of Victoria's ten regional cities and the only coastal regional city in the State, Warrnambool has the credentials to deliver a uniquely memorable and exciting celebration of sport and culture as part of Victoria 2026.

Our region is home to remarkable Indigenous, physical and cultural heritage and achievement – Point Ritchie-Moyjil, Tower Hill and Budj Bim. For decades much of the focus of Australian archaeology has been directed at finding the oldest sites of Aboriginal occupation. The discovery of Aboriginal remains at Lake Mungo in the 1970s created considerable excitement because it pushed the date at which Australia was colonised

by humans to beyond 40,000 years ago. More recently, scientists are now exploring the possibility that shell middens and a hearth at Moyjil-Point Ritchie could be older than 60,000 years and perhaps date to 80,000 years ago.

Our extensive and experienced base of event professionals, officials and volunteers, and our passion for sport, will guarantee an expertly-organised, attended and technically-delivered Commonwealth Games in 2026.

Athletes, officials and all who visit Warrnambool for the Games will enjoy a 'clean and green coastal' sporting, entertainment and cultural experience like no other.

Our growing multicultural population will provide a friendly welcome for the athletes and officials together with their families and friends, and help all visitors discover the City as a destination with something for everyone – the spectacular coastline, hinterland and famously casual lifestyle, nightlife and impressive sporting facilities.

Experience the rugged beauty along the south-west coast of Victoria by setting off along one of the world's most scenic coastal drives. Vibrant, dynamic and fast-growing...it's easy to see why Warrnambool is consistently ranked as one of the most liveable locations in Australia.





Our track record

Warrnambool has a solid reputation as a city that regularly, successfully and reliably delivers major events including:

- The Annual Warrnambool – Melbourne Cycling Classic, staged since 1895, the second oldest one day cycling event in the world and the longest in the Southern Hemisphere. The 2022 edition included for the first time a separate Women's race.
- The Annual May Race Carnival, is the biggest country horse racing event in Australia and this year marked the 150th anniversary of the Grand Annual Steeplechase – the longest and most celebrated race of its kind in Australia. The 3 day carnival over the first week of May attracts over 30,000 attendees.
- The Grand Annual Sprintcar Classic, now in its 50th year brings tens of thousands of visitors to our City over the summer period.
- State Surf Lifesaving Championships (seniors and juniors) in Warrnambool's Foreshore precinct bringing thousands of competitors and visitors to enjoy our beautiful coastline.
- Annual Warrnambool Athletics Gift, Warrnambool Running Festival that attracts hundreds of participants each year. Further to this the Surf to Surf Fun Run, established in 1982 is one of the largest participation events in South West Victoria attracting around 2,000 competitors annually over the peak summer tourist season each year.
- Annual Warrnambool Lawn Tennis Open three-day event which attracts up to 900 players each year and was recently awarded the 2021 Victorian Tennis Tournament of the Year and Tennis Australia's 2021 Newcombe Medal for Most Outstanding Professional Tournament.
- Victorian BMX State Championships held in Warrnambool attracting over 1,500 participants and visitors over the three day event.
- Warrnambool has hosted regular full bore shooting events since the 1890's and forty years ago we formulated a "marathon" competition where six ranges are shot on a single day. There is no other similar event held in Australia, nor the rest of the world.
- Warrnambool Basketball annually host the Warrnambool Junior Basketball Seaside Classic, which attracts more than 100 teams from across the state for two days of competition for Under 12, Under 14, Under 16 and Under 18 age groups.

Our City has also hosted many other regional championships and competitions including but not limited to triathlon, lawn bowls, shooting, swimming, hockey, netball, sailing, basketball, volleyball, cricket and golf.

Warrnambool has a rich history in sport and is home to many local and international champions who live and train across the City. Our passionate sporting community would warmly welcome athletes from all disciplines and countries.





OUR INFRASTRUCTURE & CONNECTIONS

Warrnambool's compact and efficient city layout means competition and training, accommodation, dining and entertainment, recreation and leisure are all within a 10 minute drive.

Warrnambool's passion for sport extends across a diverse range of assets, with approximately 69 different sports, activities or past-times being actively pursued across the City. The result is a diverse range of sporting and recreation assets including but not limited to:

- Fifteen sports grounds provide important venues for the organised and formal needs of AFL, cricket, netball, hockey, dog training and soccer clubs. Headlining these sports grounds is Reid Oval the region's premier sporting ground that has recently benefitted from a \$10.7 million redevelopment completed on time and under budget. The Reid Oval redevelopment included a new playing surface; a modern, accessible, two storey gender equitable pavilion; lighting that allows for night football and cricket matches and enhanced training facilities.
- Athletics track at Brauerander Park that has previously hosted regional athletics championships. The athletics track will be upgraded through 2022/23 with a \$1 million investment in a new athletics track surface.
- Our City also has access to a variety of high quality indoor sporting facilities such as Aquazone (indoor and outdoor swimming), the Warrnambool Stadium and the Val Bertrand Netball Centre. These indoor facilities provide an important base for many sports, and are also used for informal active recreation.
- more than 350 kilometres of footpaths and cycling lanes; seventy playgrounds; a skate park and a BMX track.
- approximately 40 commercial facilities in Warrnambool ranging from gymnasiums and fitness studios that also contribute to the diversity of facilities available.
- Privately owned facilities also contribute to the diversity of outdoor facilities available. Lake Gillear, on the coast east of Warrnambool, has a range of regional motorsport and sport shooting facilities, and the Premier Speedway situated near Allansford is an internationally renowned sprint car racing facility.
- The Warrnambool Showgrounds, Warrnambool Racing Club, Warrnambool Golf Club and four bowling facilities are examples of facilities provided on public land and managed by locally elected Committees of Management or the occupant Clubs. The Warrnambool Racing Club has recently completed a \$5.8 million upgrade to its facility and function room space and the Warrnambool Golf Club has just commenced construction of a \$4 million redevelopment of its Clubhouse and function room space.

To meet the needs of its growing population, Warrnambool already has significant public infrastructure and well established health services and public transport systems. Our compact city provides advantages to travel times and easy and efficient access to venues, community and social infrastructure to enable our City's many attributes to be showcased.

Warrnambool is renowned as a popular tourism destination with its population ballooning over the summer season by tens of thousands of visitors. Our City therefore has a diverse range of accommodation options and tourism product to host and interest many thousands of competitors and visitors to our City.





There are plenty of ways to visit Warrnambool – by car, train, or plane. Our region offers frequent and reliable public transport services to get people where they need to go quickly, reliably and safely.

By Road

The upgrade of Princes Highway West, including a \$60 million upgrade between Warrnambool and Port Fairy, will be critical to addressing the productivity efficiency, tourism movement and safety issues that this increased traffic will present on our arterial roads and our local road networks.

By Rail

The Warrnambool Line Upgrade will deliver a fifth weekday return service between Warrnambool and Melbourne, improve safety and reliability, and will allow modern VLocity trains to travel on the line for the first time.

By Bus

Warrnambool is serviced by a public bus transport network across the city and region. The Deakin University Hycel Technology Hub is collaborating with Warrnambool Bus Lines to develop a first of type project with the goal to have hydrogen powered buses operating across the City in the next year.

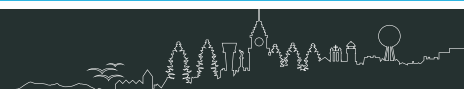
By Air

Warrnambool Regional Airport is operated and managed by the Warrnambool City Council. The current runway configuration has the capacity for handling over 100,000 movements per annum. There is a significant separation of the airport from surrounding residential areas, allowing 24 hours/day, 365 days a year use. The airport has around 95% clear days per year with virtually zero weather restraint closures.

Warrnambool was previously served by an operator carrying circa 5,500 passengers per annum between Warrnambool and Melbourne.

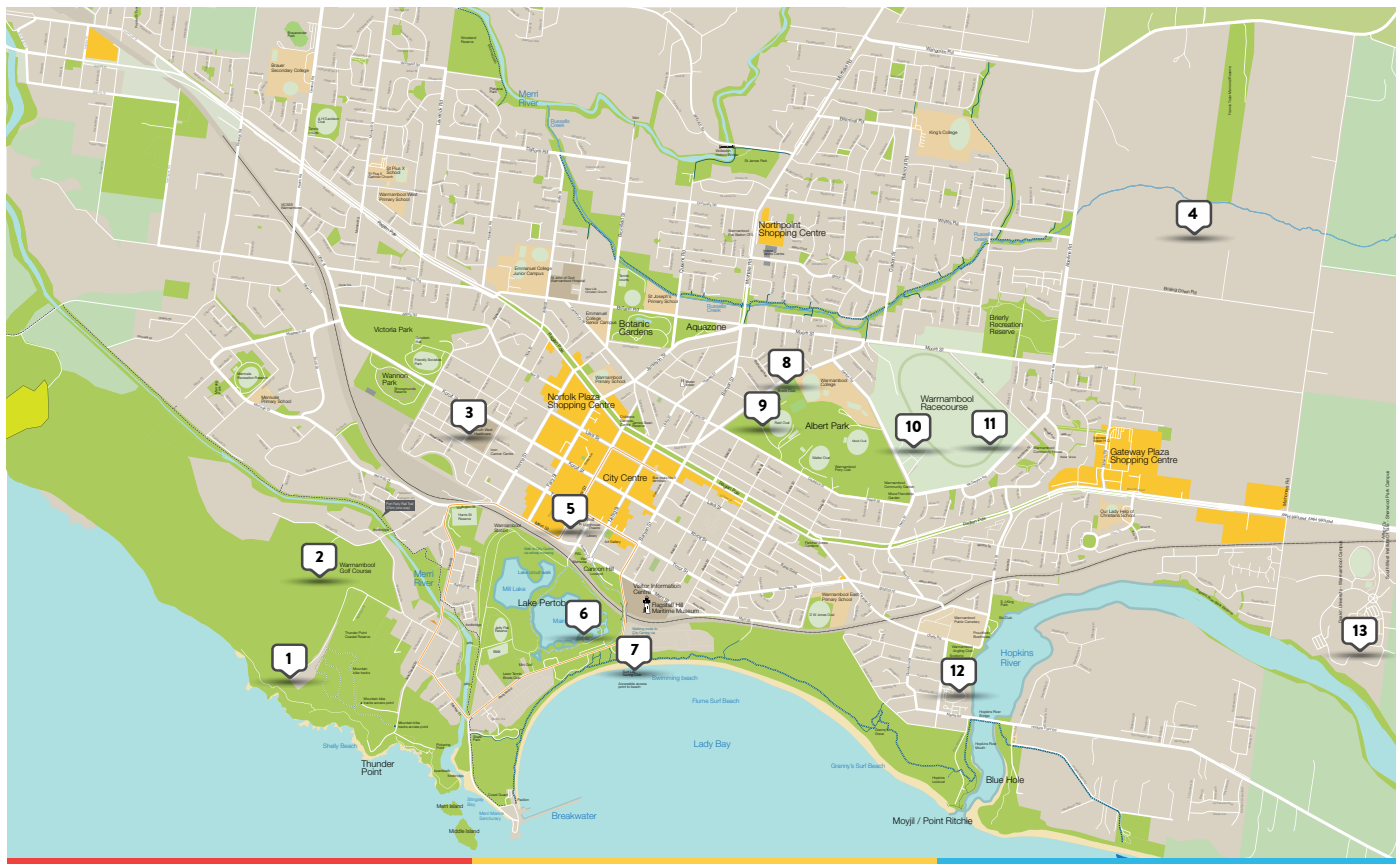
A number of enquiries are being facilitated by interested air service operators, including a proposal for vertical take-off and landing (VTOL) aircraft to service South West Victoria. The proponent who lives in Warrnambool plans to bring VTOL aircraft to Australia for regional travel, aeromedical and search and rescue services and commercial transport. If successful, powered lift vehicles could operate as an app-based charter service to the city of Melbourne, Avalon and Tullamarine by 2025. Such aircraft has the potential to revolutionise regional travel and Warrnambool is working closely with the proponent exploring pilot training and maintenance opportunities.

Vertical lift aircraft



Future Infrastructure

Infrastructure planned for Warrnambool over the next five years that would benefit Victoria 2026 includes:



Wannon Water Sewage Treatment Plant Upgrade

\$ \$40 Million



Warrnambool Golf Club Redevelopment

\$ \$2 Million



Warrnambool Base Hospital Redevelopment

\$ \$384.2 Million  2026



East of Aberline Precinct Structure Plan Implementation



Learning and Library Hub @ SW TAFE

\$ \$20.25 Million  2022



Lake Pertobe Upgrades

\$ \$2.9 Million  2022



Proposed Surf Life Saving Club Redevelopment

\$ \$12 Million



Reid Oval Redevelopment

\$ \$12 Million  Completed 



City Memorial Bowls Club Roof and Dining Redevelopment

\$ \$2.9 Million  Completed 



Warrnambool Racing Club Grandstand/Function Room Upgrades

\$ \$4.9 Million  Completed 



Warrnambool Racing Club Track Upgrades

\$ \$4 Million



Lyndoch Living Medical Facility

\$ \$20 Million



Hycl Technology Hub @ Deakin University Warrnambool Campus

\$ \$20 Million



Warrnambool Rail Line Upgrade

\$ \$251.8 Million  2022



OUR SUSTAINABILITY AND LEGACY

Our proposal to participate in Victoria 2026 includes a focus on ensuring such a partnership benefits our region long after the Games have concluded.

A major goal for Warrnambool playing a key partnership role in Victoria 2026 will be the delivery of significant and positive economic, environmental, social and community legacies. New and upgraded sports infrastructure which will help make our City and region the ideal place for

major events, providing world-class facilities for our regional sporting clubs and the packed calendar of sport and events which our City attracts.

Beyond infrastructure, Victoria 2026 will help reinforce Warrnambool's commitment to diversity and inclusion, while significantly strengthening international relationships throughout the Commonwealth through sport diplomacy. These tangible benefits will be matched by other considerable benefits through the recognition of Warrnambool as a vibrant, multicultural and international destination.

Significant investment has been made in our region through the Geelong City Deal and Shipwreck Coast Master Plan; hosting the Commonwealth Games events will further assist with the region's recovery post COVID19 pandemic by strengthening the local economy, increasing visitation and creating job opportunities.

With a growing population servicing a regional catchment of 120,000 and 1 million visitors to the City each year, the Games present an opportunity to develop sustainable infrastructure and foster positive change within the community that will last long after the Games end.

Warrnambool 2040 - Our long term strategy

Warrnambool 2040 (W2040) is the community's long-term vision for the future. W2040 was developed through an extensive community-led process over a two-year period.

The Plan captures the community's aspirations for the future of Warrnambool via four visions and nineteen goals which cover Warrnambool's Environment, Economy, Place and People.

The development of W2040 anticipated the requirement under the new Local Government Act (2020) for each municipality to have a community vision that was to have a scope of at least a decade; that described the community's aspirations and which had to be developed through a deliberative engagement process.

Thousands of residents and hundreds of clubs, groups, schools, businesses and community organisations shared their 'Wishes for Warrnambool' and their aspirations for the future of the City. The plan is owned by the community and the W2040 Network partners, with support for collaboration and project communication by Warrnambool City Council.

Underpinning the City's long-term planning strategy, there is a strong alignment between this vision and the Games vision, specifically including many of the City's future plans, strategies, investments and activities.



APPENDIX



Shooting

North Warrnambool Rifle Club members participate in full bore, small bore and 5 stand sporting shotgun related activities. We understand more sports will be added to the program in late 2022 and international sporting federations have been invited to submit an expression of interest form to have their sport added to the sports program. A letter of support from Shooting Australia is included in our submission.

Our EOI for Commonwealth games related activities relates to full bore competition and the utilisation of our existing facilities and our members who have state, federal and international competition experience.

At our Buckley's Road site, we have 18 operational targets and ranges from 300 to 900 yards. We also have an electronic target system which covers six targets allowing for individual shots to be displayed on

any smart phone or tablet in real time with the system calculating scores and bullet velocities. This eliminates the need for personnel in the target gallery marking targets manually which represents a labour and time saving innovation, which has previously been a barrier for participation in our discipline.

Our ideas for future development will support the shooting community that exists not only in southwest Victoria but also the southeast of South Australia, north and central Victoria and the Melbourne metropolitan area extending east of that. Evidence of appeal into these areas is competitors who regularly travel from these regions and interstate, to compete in full bore shooting at Warrnambool.

Our activities are open for people of cultural backgrounds, and we have hosted people with mobility, post traumatic and hearing disabilities. The ongoing benefits for the community will be for all interested people to have the opportunity to participate in full bore shooting which is a discipline of safety, resilience, application, dedication, responsibility and a technical study of cause and effect regarding preparation of rifles and ammunition which are accurate and therefore produce consistent results.

The full bore limited danger area range is currently approved and licensed by Victoria Police with safety templates

in place. Proposed development will work within this existing framework, so the risk of planning and approval issues are non-existent.

In the event that our site be utilised by international visitors or locals, for practise or qualifying activities leading up to the Commonwealth Games, we would seek funding for the following:

- **Expansion of the electronic target system:** Typically, four to six shooters occupy one target in competition and take turns in shooting. We have six electronic targets so under these conditions we could host 36 shooters at one time. However, in a practice session, a single team may require 4-6 targets for their 16 person squad which reduces their time on the range and allows time for other teams to utilise hours. Extra targets could be added at a cost of about \$2000 per lane.
- **Consumables:** The target faces are subjected to repetitive bullet strike, with each strike creating a hole in the material. Over time and with enough holes, the material needs to be replaced. This material is corflute, which is a fluted polypropylene plastic being lightweight and strong. It is commonly used for sign writing material used for company banner boards and real estate signs. We use corflute panels with a varying size of circular targets printed depending on the distance being shot. For example, a 300-yard target face has smaller circles than a 900-yard target. The rate of destruction of these target panels with concentrated practice by numerous teams would be in excess of two to three years of consumption in normal club activities. We would allow \$2-3000 for these consumable materials or more in the event of heavy usage. Note that without this electronic system, manual labour would be required costing \$25 per hour



per target. To operate six targets over an eight-hour period would then cost \$1200, so the cost of consumables is a cost saving to the manual alternative.

- **1200-yard range:** Within full bore shooting there are three disciplines operating at 1000, 1100 and 1200 yards which cannot be conducted at the VRA Welsford Range (Bendigo) because it is limited to 1000 yards. These are Long Range F Class and Match Rifle which are events which are popular overseas and especially in the UK because they operate over extreme distances. This poses extra challenges with wind and accuracy over distance requiring telescopic sights and specialised rifle barrels and ammunition such that some regard these disciplines as the “Formula One” of full-bore shooting. If these disciplines being considered for a Commonwealth Games event, or a demonstration event, we propose to build a new specialised electronic target gallery, 300 yards beyond the existing gallery. Then from our current maximum range of 900 yards, we shoot 1200 yards to the new, further target gallery. This development would require some excavation, earth works and construction of six new target frames. Allow \$25-30,000.

- **Pavilion and property upgrades:** The Graham Dyson pavilion, which is located on the site, is approximately 20 x 25 metres. It contains male, female and disabled toilets and showers, a commercial kitchen with cool room, several offices and we have hosted dinners of up to 90 people seated in the main hall. This facility would be available to competitors, spectators, organisers and media in the event of a games related activity. The roof is currently in poor condition and there is a live application, now in second stage, for funding to cover the cost of about \$120K. Should this application be successful, this important upgrade will be completed in time for proposed activities. There is also the capability to host

campers with 20 caravan sites with power heads and water available. There is more space for tents and camper trailers which do not require power and water at their site. The existing camping infrastructure is functional and has been used as recently as last summer. However, there is some maintenance required on items such as power heads pipe fittings which may or may not be within our budget. There may some financial assistance requested for this, allow \$1-2K.

These proposed developments would leave an ongoing legacy to the focus area in consideration of the following:

- The expansion electronic target system will last into the medium term of 10-20 years. While there are more expensive and complicated systems on the market, our Shot Marker system meets all our needs and is current technology, good value for money, cheap to operate and reliable with good ongoing manufacturer support. Additional targets will allow us to operate future competitions more efficiently and be able to cater for increased demand from the locals who recognise the benefits of full bore participation with electronic targets.
- The new 1200 yard range will be a legacy for the life time of the site. This will be one of two such ranges in Victoria and will appeal to shooters in our catchment area who wish to participate in this full bore specialty. Once in place, this development will need little ongoing maintenance except for that of wooden target frames which have a life expectancy of 10-20 years. Routine maintenance of this new facility, consistent with that of our existing target gallery would be annual grass mowing and weed control which is within the capabilities and budget of the club.

The South West District Rifle Association and North Warrnambool rifle club have conducted festivals such as the Summer by the Sea and the Jim Cue Memorial Warrnambool

Marathon and the Annual Military Rifle invitation shoot. The Marathon is the only event in Australia which shoots six ranges (distances) in the same day, hence its title. Because of the size of our target gallery and the number of targets, we are the preferred location for Corangamite Shield competition which is conducted annually and draws from the Corangamite area and outside of the traditional boundary to Werribee, for example. The developments we propose will compliment existing festivals, competitions and other club related activities.

With favourable consideration and funding opportunities provided, these developments would be implemented immediately. Shipping for electronic target systems would take about six weeks. Consumables and new electronic target frames could be ready to go in about one month. Construction of the new 1200-yard target gallery could take 3-6 months depending on surveying, site marking and contractor availability.

We appreciate the opportunity to articulate our vision for shooting in our region. This submission represents our aims for the future which is restricted by funding and a particular short term need for others to use the site and may otherwise take a lifetime to achieve. We see Commonwealth Games activities as opportunity to meet a need in several years, which will justify the expense and time commitment proposed. The desirable “side effect” will be, to leave a lifetime of legacy to our full bore community, our visiting competitors who stay and spend money in the area and an asset for the local community.

From the early 1990s, the vision was to have a multi-sport shooting complex for the region. The site over the last 20+ years has grown from one full bore and 1 small bore cub to two full bore clubs, 2 small bore clubs, an Archery, shot gun, and 5 stand sporting clays accommodated on the site. The extension of the existing full bore range for Match Rifle shooting will further grow the number of disciplines and increase the number of local, interstate and international shooters to the facility.



**Australian Basketballer,
Nathan Sobey**



a long way in helping Warrnambool and the South West region promote sport but also allow for larger events including professional sport to take place in the region which really is an exciting prospect."

**Nathan Sobey
Professional Basketballer/Athlete**

By nominating Warrnambool as a potential host venue for the 2026 Victorian Commonwealth Games, the support such an event would have on the City of Warrnambool and the Great South West Communities, such as the Moyne, Corangamite, Glenelg and Southern Grampians Shires, by creating an improved multi-use Stadium as an extension of the current Warrnambool Stadium (ARC).

During the pre-Commonwealth games training period (or if selected for competition), the cultural and economic benefits for not only Warrnambool and the South West, but the much wider population will be substantial.

Post the Games, an investment in the required facilities and the Games as a whole will result in many benefits. These will include a better, ongoing and sustainable, ability to provide sporting, recreational and entertainment options such as sporting competitions, concerts etc.

As a part of the post games legacy, user groups including Aboriginal and athletes with disabilities will have access to a better more user friendly venue.

The end result being a facility that will service a large percentage of the Warrnambool and South West Victoria population for many years to come.

The Warrnambool Stadium, the home of Warrnambool Basketball, currently has temporary and confined administration offices and our home teams utilise the second and third court as change rooms during Big V basketball competition. With this in mind, with the support of the current user groups, additional Government support would be needed to undertake a major upgrade, extension of the current facility.

Support would also be sought via Basketball Victoria and Basketball Australia.

Basketball

Warrnambool Basketball is ready and willing to play host to Commonwealth Nation/s for a pre-games training camp. This would include the ability to provide excellent training venues, cultural experiences and tourism opportunities for the City of Warrnambool and the Greater South West. A letter of support from Basketball Victoria is attached in our submission.

To enable this to be possible, an investment in improved community facilities will be required at the Warrnambool Stadium (ARC), which in turn will provide an ongoing, long lasting legacy of the Commonwealth Games for the City and Region.

"I grew up at the Warrnambool Basketball Stadium and fell in love with Basketball at an early age. I have been very fortunate that Basketball has taken me from Warrnambool to National level, to the Olympics and now the highest level in the world, the NBA. In my time, the sport of basketball in Warrnambool has been driven by so many passionate people, who have invested in basketball for all the right reasons and Warrnambool

continues as a basketball town!

With the 2026 Commonwealth Games coming to Regional Victoria, Warrnambool's unofficial title of Basketball's home in South West Victoria provides an opportunity for Warrnambool to showcase this passion, with investment in an improved facility a catalyst for increased participation, not only in basketball, but a number of other indoor sports that cater for a multitude of age groups."

**Trevor Gleeson
Assistant Coach Toronto Raptors – NBA
5 time NBL Championship Winning
Coach Perth Wildcats**

"I am writing to show my full support in the proposal to upgrade the Warrnambool Stadium as part of the 2026 Commonwealth Games. The Warrnambool Stadium has played an integral part of my basketball career, growing up moving from the YMCA to a brand new stadium in the early 2000's, to now playing in professional areas across Australia and Internationally.

Warrnambool is a central sporting hub for South West Victoria, with a strong basketball culture, and as both a Commonwealth and Olympic medalist who began his journey at the Warrnambool Stadium, I can honestly say that an upgrade to the facilities is needed to not only service the future growth of Basketball within the region but other sports as well.

I believe the upgrade proposal will go



By investing in an upgraded basketball (multi-use) facility, as an extension to the current Warrnambool Stadium, the legacy that would remain, for many years to come, would be profound. A venue for South West and Western Victoria that provides improved sporting and entertainment options as well as bringing facilities and amenities into line simply with current standards that are lacking as of now for many user groups.

Our proposal of hosting Basketball prior to the Commonwealth Games (Victoria 2026), would complement our existing basketball program, via growth, increased participation and improved facilities which would also benefit other current user groups. In addition it has the potential to provide an alternate entertainment venue (indoor concerts, trade shows) that could be attracted to Warrnambool on a regular basis. Event such as Big V Basketball, Western Region Netball Championships and The Warrnambool Junior Seaside Basketball Classic would also benefit by not having to utilise other smaller off site venues. The current Warrnambool Basketball Domestic Program would also benefit as we are currently turning players (juniors in particular) away from sport and more specifically basketball because of a lack of court space.

In a broader sense we would need to be looking at beginning facility upgrades as soon possible to enable

us to provide the very best basketball experience we can for any visiting international teams en-route to the Commonwealth Games. Once we have a facility in place for the direct use of Commonwealth Games teams, I think we will see a spike in our participant numbers, thus meaning the project doesn't ever really end. Our domestic junior participants is greatly limited by court availability, the idea of improving the venue for Commonwealth Games purposes also has an instant impact on our players.

Pickleball

Pickleball is a cross-generational, and international sport that has wide appeal. Warrnambool Stadium is currently the home of Warrnambool City Pickleball, boasting 17 courts, including a show court with grandstand seating.

With the rapid growth of Pickleball in Australia and across the Commonwealth, Warrnambool is uniquely positioned to host an international event with timing to coincide with the 2026 Regional Victoria Commonwealth Games. Pickleball is a game that combines

elements of tennis, badminton and table tennis, to deliver a fun, social, and popular activity that is suited to participants aged 8 to 80.

Using a composite paddle, players hit a hard plastic perforated ball over a three-foot high net on a badminton sized court. Played in singles and in doubles, this game has grown in popularity rapidly throughout Australia, particularly due to it's low impact nature, and appeal to an older age group who are able to utilise facilities in off-peak times.

Supporting an international event are Pickleball Association Australia, Pickleball Victoria, and the Warrnambool City Pickleball Club. A key consideration for these groups is the drive for the game to be formally recognised as a sport within Australia, particularly as globally the game is producing professionals and tour events.

The global appeal of the game is also an important tourism factor to consider, with the core playing group typically being retired and packing their paddle whilst they tour Australia.

A redevelopment of the Warrnambool Stadium would serve many sporting groups beyond the Pickleball fraternity, with flooring in need of being replaced to support basketball, wheelchair basketball, netball, badminton, volleyball, indoor bowls, as well as the many community groups that utilise the region's biggest indoor sporting facility.

