Smartplay – Sports
Injury prevention
promotion in Victorian
Sporting Communities

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Victorian Smartplay Program

www.smartplay.com.au
History and Structure

- Promote Physical Activity
- Brand developed in SA
- Initiated in Victoria 1999
- Victorian Partnership between VicHealth, SRV and DHS
- Managed by SMA
- ACT, NSW
Smartplay Structure

SRV  DHS  VicHealth  Vicsport

Sports Medicine Australia

SMARTPLAY Program

Other SIP Activities eg Partnerships for Health
Strategic Objectives

- Increase capacity
- Raise SIP Profile
- Promote the Smartplay brand
- Support evidence base
- Utilise and support partnerships*
Local Government

- Key role in facility management
- Risk management focus
- Increasing role in club development
- Direct contact to clubs
Local Government activities

- Casey, Monash, Yarra, Nillumbik, Yarra Ranges etc
- Sports Injury Prevention Grants
- Latrobe
- Generally perceived superficial
Local Government Needs Assessment

Why?

- To ensure Smartplay services, information and products are of maximum benefit to local government
Method

• Survey design
  • Section A: The Smartplay Program
  • Section B: Smartplay website
  • Section C: Your role
  • Section D: Measurement
  • Section E: Future Directions
  • Section F: Your details
Method

- **Sample size**
  - Distributed to 79 LGAs

- **Response**
  - 27% response rate
  - Metropolitan – 62%
  - Regional – 38%

www.smartplay.com.au
• Average 2.5 hours spent working on sport safety issues

• Level of priority given to sports safety
  – High 65%
  – Medium 20%
  – Low 15%
• 63% - General maintenance of grounds & facilities
  – safety inspections
  – ground safety assessments
  – management of facilities
• 13% - Information distribution
Issues/ concerns

• 49% - Unsafe/ ageing facilities & equipment, playing surfaces & grounds
• 24% - Lack of awareness/ knowledge of sport safety
• 10% - Insurance issues
Barriers to addressing sports safety

- **60% - Resources**
  - Financial, time, personnel
- **20% - Club involvement**
- **Others**
  - Lack of expertise, lack of leadership from leagues, complexity of risk management
Ways Smartplay can assist

- Training - workshops/ forums/ seminars
- Resources
  - Information/ opportunities to pass on to clubs
- Assisting clubs directly
Where to from here?

- LGA - focus on maintenance of grounds & facilities
- Smartplay - Club development
Thanks

- Sport and Recreation Victoria
- VicHealth
- Victorian Department of Human services
- Sports Medicine Australia - VIC