



**BERT VAN MANEN MP**  
**FEDERAL MEMBER FOR FORDE**

**Local Sporting Champions Program**

**[3 MINUTES]**

It gives me great pleasure to speak today about the Local Sporting Champions Program and the impact that this initiative has had on the youth in the Forde Electorate.

As you would know this program is vital to many sporting communities all over the country, providing financial assistance for not only sporting coaches, but sporting officials and sporting competitors aged between 12 and 18.

This program assists these up-and-coming sporting stars to attend either their state, national or international competitions.

The program is also designed to support sports people through their teenage years, easing the financial burden on their families.

With children of my own, I know how important playing sport is. It helps children to develop patience and helps them to understand that it can take a lot of practice to improve their skills.

So, it is very exciting for me as the Member for Forde to announce that several recipients of the Local Sporting Champions Program have come from my local area.

These include recipients from Greenbank, Holmview, Buccan, Windaroo, Ormeau, Mount Warren Park, Cornubia, Upper Coomera, Shailer Park, Beenleigh and Loganholme.

My sincere congratulations go firstly to **Alyssa Littler** of Greenbank, **Kasey Brown** of Cornubia and **Lachlan Reed** of Shailer Park who are just three of over fifteen recipients, all

who have been successful from Round 3 Nominations in the Local Sporting Championship Grants.

17-Year-Old Alyssa Littler from Clairvaux Mackillop College has been successful in achieving a **\$700 Grant** for her upcoming Swimming Competition at the National Open Water Swim Championships.

16-Year-Old Kasey Brown from Chisholm Catholic College has walked away with **\$500** towards her Netball Queensland State Age Competition.

And, Lachlan Reed of Rochedale High School will receive **\$600** to help towards his attendance at the Australian Youth Championships.

May I say how immensely proud of these young achievers I am, all who have been juggling not only their schoolwork, but their home lives alongside their sporting commitments.

Alyssa, Kasey and Lachlan are just three recipients who will receive support to attend their upcoming championships.

The Round 3 Nominations have resulted in young constituents of the Forde Electorate walking away with over **\$8,800** in Sporting Grants. It's simply a fantastic achievement.

I would also like to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt congratulations to everyone who has been successful in the Local Sporting Championship Round across the country.

**ENDS**

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