

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Attention: News Editor

### **Borden builds sporting health**

Weekend sport makes a strong contribution to sustaining regional towns, and Borden is ensuring that it is well placed to meet residents' recreational needs.

Supported by \$140,000 of Royalties for Regions funding through the Great Southern Development Commission (GSDC), the Borden Pavilion Committee is developing a \$967,000 sporting precinct to encourage community building through recreation.

Gnowangerup Shire President Kerry Stone said the project would consolidate the town's previous well-planned facilities with an updated precinct providing for six sporting codes, covering a majority of Borden's sport and recreational needs.

"Football, tennis, cricket, netball, hockey, bowls and basketball are all currently catered for around the purpose-built Borden Pavilion," Mrs Stone said.

"However, some of the surfaces have deteriorated, there is no cricket practice wicket and the bowling club has an outdated clubroom and labour-intensive heavy grass surface.

"Almost the whole community takes part in one sport or another on a Saturday, either playing, officiating, volunteering or watching, and the precinct development ensures the pavilion will continue to be at the centre of that social activity."

Facilities will include a synthetic bowling green, dual-purpose netball and tennis courts, cricket practice wickets and a multi-use viewing shelter.

Mrs Stone said the town's cricketers were particularly keen to gain access to permanent practice nets, since they now must raise and dismantle temporary nets for each practice session.

GSDC Chief Executive Bruce Manning said the project would help to consolidate the community of Borden.

"Regional towns have great community spirit and put a great deal of effort into their local projects," Mr Manning said.

"Borden is making a significant contribution to this project by fundraising and practical work.



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“When it is finished, the sporting precinct will help the town to maintain and build that strong sense of community,” Mr Manning said.

The Borden sporting precinct project is also supported by the Department of Sport and Recreation and the Shire of Gnowangerup.

The project is due for completion in early 2013.

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