



SPORT

Liberals would continue funding sports grants

THE Liberal Party will continue the Community Recreation and Sports Funding Program past 2015 if it wins government at the upcoming State election.

Opposition Leader Steven Marshall announced yesterday that he would continue the program - which grants funding for grassroots facility upgrades and sporting equipment - if he were elected Premier on March 15.

The measure would cost \$3.5 million per year, \$1.5 million less than the program's current budget, from 2015, when it is due to expire.

Mr Marshall said the Liberals were committed to focusing on facilities which encouraged a healthy, active lifestyle.

"Keeping our children fit and healthy is important," he said.

"We should be doing

everything we can to encourage our children to participate in sport and fitness activities."

Liberal Member for Hammond Adrian Pederick welcomed the announcement.

"Sport and recreation is extremely important in regional communities," he said.

"Participation such as Saturday morning sport keeps regional communities alive and thriving and promotes an active and healthy lifestyle."

The program currently has a budget of almost \$5 million to hand out in grants in 2014-15.

Its previous funding round, announced last August, included \$60,000 for a redevelopment of Mannum Football Club's clubrooms and \$20,000 towards a new playground at Pinnaroo.