



Human Rights are Aussie Rules

Newsletter Summer 2009

Kicking Goals for Human Rights ~ Our Launch

The Human Rights are Aussie Rules project was launched by Deputy Premier & Attorney-General Rob Hulls at Eley Park in Blackburn on 11 September 2009. The day featured a live performance of FRED's Fair Play by Carp Productions and involved students from the Blackburn English Language School. The AFL Multicultural Program also supported the day with activities and Sherrin footballs for all the children.

Deputy Premier and Attorney General Rob Hulls said human rights are about making sure each person feels included and respected. "They apply in the classroom, the playground, the street or at home. Respect for yourself, others and the community is fundamental to a safe, healthy and productive society".

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Deputy Premier & Attorney-General Rob Hulls shows his support for human rights at the launch of the Human Rights are Aussie Rules project.

This Edition

- Human Rights are Aussie Rules Project Launch
- Website goes live!
- HRAAR on Youtube!
- The Report is Out! National Human Rights Consultation
- Brian Ward OAM joins the HRAAR Advisory Board
- Aussie Rules at VEOHRC
- HRAAR at the Foundation for Young Australian's Annual Youth Conference.

Contact Us

Human Rights are Aussie Rules Project

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Human Rights are Aussie Rules is a project of Eastern Community Legal Centre





Human Rights are Aussie Rules

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“This program explains our basic rights in terms of fair play in sport and helps make rights and responsibilities real and practical and part of our everyday life,” Mr Hulls said.

“For example, the right to express cultural difference equates to the right to wear your team's colours, the right to freedom of movement, being able to sit where you like at a game and join the cheer squad and the right to a fair trial equates to the right to an independent umpire.”

Each year, the east of Melbourne welcomes thousands of kids from different countries. The one language common to young people from all cultures is sport and ECLC believes the key to teaching kids respect for racial and religious difference is through sport. At school, all kids learn the rules of fair play on the sportsfield. But they should also understand the rules for fair play in life. Human rights education is important to the wellbeing and inclusion of young Australians.

Mr. Hulls congratulated the Eastern Community Legal Centre (ECLC) for developing the project.

“The theatre production is followed up by workshops to allow the kids to discuss what they have seen and learnt. The program focuses on diversity, so kids from different racial, religious and cultural backgrounds learn that we all have the same human rights.”

Human Rights are Aussie Rules – Now Online and on YouTube!

As well as launching our project on the 11 September 2009, we also went live with our website: www.humanrightsareaussierules.org.au The website contains information about the project, links to our Facebook page and YouTube footage, which show excerpts from FRED’s Fair Play along with commentary from people who have watched the performance.



ABOVE: Children of the Blackburn English Language School running through the HRAAR Banner

ABOVE: Human Rights are Aussie Rules website and YouTube footage CARP Productions performing Freds Fair Play! at the launch of the Human Rights are Aussie Rules Project.



Human Rights are Aussie Rules

Education Top Priority for National Human Rights Committee

The report is out! In October, the National Human Rights Consultation concluded with the release of the final report. It contains a series of recommendations, most notably that Australia adopt a Federal Human Rights Act. However, the first recommendation was:

Recommendation 1:

The Committee recommends that education be the highest priority for improving and promoting human rights in Australia.

Human Rights



We have enthusiastically welcomed the report and its recognition that education must be the starting point for creating a human rights culture in Australia. We look forward to working with schools, students and project partners and the broader community to play an active part in this work.

Now it is up to the Government to implement this report. We have written to the Federal Cabinet urging them to allocate funds for human rights education.

www.humanrightsconsultation.gov.au

New Member of our Advisory Board!

The Human Rights are Aussie Rules Project welcomes the appointment Brian Ward OAM, founder and Managing Partner of [Brian Ward & Partners](#) to our advisory board.



Brian is an experienced Sports Lawyer, acting for a number of notable sporting identities & organisations including Kevin Sheedy and the Australian Cricket Association. Brian is also passionate about Humanitarian Law, having spent several years as Chairman of the Australian Red Cross. He was heavily involved in the Bali Appeal and worked to establish the Red Cross Professor of Humanitarian Law at the University Of Melbourne.

Aussie Rules at the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission

Congratulations to our advisory board member, Dr Paula Gerber, on her appointment to the Board of [the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights](#)



[Commission](#). We were very excited to see the Attorney-General Hulls has appointed not only Paula, but two passionate Aussie Rules supporters, Brendon Gale and Jason Mifsud. Brendon is a former CEO of the AFL players Association and now of the Richmond Football Club. Jason is the head of the AFL Foundation. We look forward to working with Paula, Brendon and Jason to promote the Human Rights are Aussie Rules Project .

www.humanrightscommission.vic.gov.au



Human Rights are Aussie Rules

Foundation for Young Australians Youth Conference

Our project was selected to feature at the Foundation for Young Australian's Annual Youth Conference. The conference, which aims to inspire young people to take action for social change, took place at Etihad Stadium with hundreds of young people from primary and secondary schools attending.

Our project was one of ten community projects showcased to the students as projects they could be involved in. We were delighted with the response to our stall from both students and staff. Our first booking for 2010 has come from our involvement in this conference.

www.fya.org.au



Performances and Bookings!

The project has funding to perform FRED's Fair Play in 8-10 schools in the Outer-East of Melbourne. Our funding comes from the Helen MacPherson-Smith Trust, the Victorian Multicultural Commission and the Sports Without Borders Foundation. We have also recently received a grant from the City of Whitehorse as well.

FRED's Fair Play has been performed to young new arrivals to Australia from the Blackburn English Language School and to rural and isolated children in Bendigo.

We are now booking in performances of FRED's Fair Play for 2010.



Thanks To

The ongoing support of these financial and other partners is gratefully acknowledged.

