

***be active* Recreation and Sport Industry Awards**  
**Summary of Finalists for 2006 Awards**

**Category 1 – The Minister’s Award for Recreation and Sport**

Awarded for outstanding contribution to the sport, active recreation or fitness industry by an individual, organisation or partnership.

**Category 2 – *be active* Award for Community Physical Activity Initiative**

Awarded for an innovation that increases opportunities for participation in sport, active recreation or fitness by the wider community.

**Nominee:** City of Tea Tree Gully

**Project:** Bluearth

**Comments:** The Bluearth Discovery program promotes life-long health through physical activity. The judges commented that the strength of this nomination is not the Bluearth program, but that the Tea Tree Gully Council has made such a significant commitment and monetary contribution towards the development and implementation of a physical activity program for all primary school children within the City of Tea Tree Gully. Nine schools signed up for the original program and the remaining nineteen schools will join in 2007. In three years the Bluearth Discovery program will affect the lives of every primary school aged child within the City of Tea Tree Gully. Local schools receive training for their staff and students to continue healthy principles beyond the life of the program. The Bluearth program is well developed and highly regarded. It is wonderful that the City of Tea Tree Gully has made physical activity and the Bluearth program a priority.

**Nominee:** Heart Foundation (SA)

**Project:** Just Walk It Program

**Comments:** While the Just Walk It program is a national program, the judges selected this nomination because of its innovative delivery and implementation in South Australia. Since October 2004 this project has directly been responsible for the creation of seventy-two walking groups, the training of thirty-one walk coordinators and 105 walk organisers, with more than 700 regular walkers and forty-eight new walkers joining each month. The significance of the South Australian program has been its ability to target at-risk groups in the community and encourage participation. Another key element is that each group, once developed, is able to become self-directed. Groups developed through this program are now active in events such as the City-Bay. Other groups are being formed within workplaces, while still more are expanding to encourage people to enjoy themselves in the natural environment by using the states parks and trails.

**Nominee:** Payneham Table Tennis Academy

**Project:** Payneham Table Tennis Academy

**Comments:** This nomination presented to the judges a community physical activity opportunity run entirely by volunteers. Although it has been running as a club for approximately twenty years, the Payneham Table Tennis Academy recognised that it had been ignoring the ‘fun’ element of the sport. Therefore, it set out to grow the organisation, establishing the following two objectives:

- to continue to pursue competitive excellence
- to develop social table tennis, allowing people to play for fun in a way that suited them.

Using these principles the Academy has been able to grow from just sixty members to 366 members. It provides a low cost and flexible program for the community that addresses the issue of participation in real terms. The club is now secure and strong with sufficient funds to develop and grow in the future.

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**Nominee:** South Australian Rugby League  
**Project:** Willunga Rugby League Tag Competition & Paul Crate (Organiser)  
**Comments:** After starting off with just forty after-school pupils, this program at Willunga has grown to 220 participants playing in twenty teams. It has a committee of twenty accredited coaches, sports trainers and referees who now coordinate the competition. This is an excellent regional competition involving people of all ages in differing capacities. While Paul Crate has been credited with getting the program started, what impressed the judges is how it has now brought in many more volunteers to ensure that it is sustainable for the future. It has also created physical activity opportunities for other individuals such as older adults who have become sports trainers, high school students who have become referees and parents and friends who run the barbeque - thus creating a friendly atmosphere and a community bond around an enjoyable physical activity.

**Category 3 – Volunteer Management Award**

Awarded for outstanding achievement and contribution to volunteer management in sport, active recreation or fitness by an individual or organisation.

**Nominee:** Hallett Cove Little Athletics Centre  
**Project:** Hallett Cove Little Athletics Centre relocation  
**Comments:** In 2004 the Hallett Cove Little Athletics club was forced to relocate. It used this process to further develop and promote volunteering and strengthen the club. Through the development of its policy and procedures and using its website (also developed by a volunteer member), the club has achieved the following:

- improved communication and resources for volunteers
- improved delivery of services, resulting in better trained and informed volunteers
- increased family participation by fifty per cent during the previous season
- increased the number of coaches at the club
- created job descriptions for each volunteer position within the club
- created safe and healthy working environments for volunteers
- sought to recognise its volunteers and their achievements.

Through this work it has not only successfully relocated but it has also set itself up for a strong and vibrant future.

**Nominee:** SA Police and Emergency Services Games (SAPES)  
**Project:** 2006 SA Police and Emergency Services Games  
**Comments:** In 2002 and 2004 the SAPES Games were conducted using employees of the agencies involved (SA Police, SA Metropolitan Fire Service, Country Fire Service, State Emergency Services and SA Ambulance Service) and volunteers from various sport associations. For the 2006 SAPES Games the management of the Games was handled by a committee formed also to conduct the 2007 World Police and Fire Games in Adelaide, with a much greater emphasis on the recruitment and use of volunteers. Volunteers were used to improve the services with the following results:

- 330 volunteers were enlisted to assist with the Games
- job descriptions were developed for volunteer roles
- a database was established to ensure good communication
- training and induction programs were developed for volunteers
- volunteer handbooks, an appreciation program and uniforms were developed.

As a result of this work and the volunteers, the 2007 World SAPES Games should be an SA success story in future years.

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**Nominee:** **Whyalla Golf Club**  
**Project:** **Irrigation of the Whyalla Golf Course**  
**Comments:** With the opportunity to utilise recycled water to develop a quality sporting and recreational facility, Whyalla Golf Club was confronted with an issue facing so many sport and recreation groups - insufficient funds. Eager to seize the opportunity, the club turned to its volunteers to undertake the task of irrigating an eighteen-hole golf course. In the first stage, 95 per cent of the construction work was carried out by volunteers. These volunteers underwent training in order to use the equipment on the course as well as manage the increased patronage that the course upgrade produced. The judges were attracted to this nomination by the evidence of initial planning, the provision of training to ensure the volunteers had the necessary skills, and the way volunteers had been assigned tasks matching their skills and abilities. It was also evident that this success has attracted new volunteers to the club, making it stronger.

**Category 4 – Organisational Management Award**

Awarded for innovative and/or effective management practices by organisations providing sport, active recreation or fitness opportunities and services.

**Nominee:** **District Council of Ceduna and the Far West Football League**  
**Project:** **Far West Football League restructure**  
**Comment:** A league in crisis was the impetus for this initiative. Internal issues between clubs and difficulties with player and spectator behaviour had led to the likely demise of the Far West Football League and to a loss to the community of the recreational, social and economic benefits that it provided. The development of a 'Community Task Force', which was responsible for assessing the provision of football in the far west of the state, and the implementation of good consultation processes, was key to this project. As a result of this task force, the Ceduna Council now has independent administration of the league and a review and upgrade of processes and procedures for managing 'on-field' and 'off-field' behaviour has been implemented. These changes have provided the clubs within the league with a sense of security that did not exist prior to the changes. They offer leadership and consistency to a previously dejected set of clubs. The result has been a successful 2005 season, the opportunity for 400 participants to play sport, more umpires and better officiating, and reconciliation in the community. The impact of this initiative is felt not only by the football community, but the community as a whole, as the Far West Football League and its facilities are an integral part of the local region.

**Nominee:** **SA Cricket Association (SACA)**  
**Project:** **Grade Cricket Strategic Plan**  
**Comment:** The SACA Grade Cricket Strategic Plan is a concise overview of sound practices for club management and development. It provides a clear direction for clubs to assess their management practices and implement improvements. In addition to the ongoing support that had previously been available to its clubs, SACA has backed up the document with education and training to support clubs as they adopt this plan. As a result Cricket Australia has identified the SACA Grade Cricket Strategic Plan as one of the better models for club development available for Australian cricket. Local cricket clubs report that as a 'best practice tool' the Strategic Plan can be easily implemented and has already resulted in increased recruitment, better training and better retention of administrators/officials within clubs.

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**Category 5 – Safety Initiative Award**

Awarded for innovative risk management, child protection, and safety and injury prevention initiatives that address specific issues and have a direct benefit to participants or an industry sector.

**Nominee:** Recreation SA

**Project:** Adventure Activity Standards (AAS)

**Comment:** The Adventure Activity Standards are linked to the development of national standards for safe participation in outdoor activity. Modified for South Australia, the AAS are a tool for the development of operational procedures within individual organisations and serve as a risk management strategy for the outdoor recreation sector. The judges found that the development of the AAS as an online tool also allows for ease of updating, which is beneficial as changes to legislation, practices or activity-specific standards are likely in the future. The judges noted that development of the AAS involved significant consultation, ensuring appropriateness for the industry and creating enhanced ownership of the AAS by the industry. The AAS, although specific to outdoor recreation adventure activities, could be utilised as a 'good practice' model for other activities in the future. In stage one, standards were developed for artificial and rock climbing, mountain biking, abseiling, canoe/kayaking, trail bike touring, horse trail riding and bushwalking. Another seven AAS are under development.

**Nominee:** Scouts Australia, SA Branch

**Project:** Safety Standards and Procedures Manual

**Comment:** Scouts Australia, SA Branch has formed a comprehensive set of operational procedures for adventurous activities and guidelines for implementing safety at individual Scout group levels. This resource will allow volunteers running Scout groups to access up-to-date, relevant and easy-to-understand information. The judges commented that this is a thorough manual that covers all activities undertaken by the Scouts. The manual is available online to all Scout leaders through the Scout intranet and in loose-leaf form allowing easy updating. The Safety Standards and Procedures Manual means that Scouts who participate in Scouting activities in South Australia do so in the safest possible environment. The manual is now being taken up by other Scouting states.

**Nominee:** Surf Life Saving SA

**Project:** Nipper Safe (Damien Eichner & Lucas Stubings)

**Comment:** Nipper Safe is a member protection strategy developed in collaboration with SA Police and Surf Life Saving SA as well as key agencies in the area of child protection. Initiated by two surf lifesavers, who are also members of the SA Police, the program is unique, with no comparable programs in existence. The program addresses how to recognise indicators of all forms of child abuse and how surf lifesaving clubs and the community can assist to balance the scales away from child abuse in all of its forms. The judges were impressed that this initiative has been well accepted locally and is now being implemented by surf lifesaving associations across Australia. The adaptation of this program for other industry sectors and outside of the industry is already evident and SAPOL proposes to develop some of the Nipper Safe resources for wider community use.

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**Category 6 – Event Award**

Awarded for outstanding development and management of an event that has been of direct benefit to a sport, active recreation or fitness activity and the local/wider community.

**Nominee:** Brighton Surf Life Saving Club  
**Project:** Brighton Jetty Classic Swim 2006  
**Comment:** The Brighton Jetty Classic Swim combines open water swimming events for competitive, old, young, disabled and novice swimmers into one event. In its inaugural year it attracted new swimmers (forty-one per cent hadn't previously participated in ocean swimming events) and appealed to a broad age group, with participants ranging from twelve to seventy years of age. The Brighton Surf Life Saving Classic Swim also included a range of activities on the beach creating a fun festival component. Of the twenty-four swimming races held on the day, 788 people registered, making it the largest ocean swimming event organised in South Australia. The judges noted that strong community support means that the event will now become a part of the South Australian sporting calendar. The event also attracted significant sponsorship, generating funds for both surf lifesaving and associated charities.

**Nominee:** City-Bay Fun Run  
**Project:** 2005 City-Bay Fun Run  
**Comment:** An icon event in the South Australian sporting calendar for thirty-five years, the 2005 City-Bay event incorporated significant changes, which made it more relevant for those who simply wish to make physical activity part of a healthy lifestyle but balk at running or walking twelve or six kilometres. It was these changes that made the City-Bay Fun Run eligible for these Awards. The changes included the introduction of a three kilometre 'un-timed' run/walk. As a result the City-Bay Fun Run set a new participation record with 19,000 registered entrants in 2005. Other innovations noted by the judges included a new timing system, increased focus on participation for all, repositioning of the finish for added participant safety, and the development of a new schools training program promoting increased youth participation.

**Nominee:** Town of Gawler  
**Project:** Gawler Horse Festival 2005  
**Comment:** Bringing together twenty-eight equine disciplines at one time and attracting 1,000 participants, ranging from the disabled to international competitors, this event celebrated both equine sport and the importance of horses in Australia. These are the items that stood out to the judges in assessing this nomination. The Gawler Horse Festival was run by the Town of Gawler, which was assisted by committees comprising representative's from all areas of the equestrian sector and key equestrian sporting bodies. The event was embraced by the community and township of Gawler and involved hundreds of supporters and volunteers.

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**Category 7 – Innovative Programs for Specific Population Groups**

Awarded for an initiative that increases opportunities for participation in sport, active recreation or fitness to specific community sectors, e.g. indigenous, youth, aged, people with a disability, women, and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

**Nominee:**     **Active Ageing SA Inc**

**Project:**     **Home Activity Monitoring Project (HAMP)**

**Comment:**    This nomination impressed the judges, who defined it as very innovative and a good practice model. The project provides telephone-coaching support to participants undertaking physical activity in their own home. Participants receive encouragement and safety tips. The judges were impressed because in doing this the HAMP project provides a significant expansion of opportunities for isolated older adults to become involved in physical activity, which is not provided by any other means. The target is to provide each participant with 150 minutes of activity per week. The HAMP project can be sustained indefinitely once the groundwork has been laid, and it provides participants with links into other community-based activities by the individual once they 'graduate' from the HAMP program.

**Nominee:**     **Southern Cross Care (SA) Inc**

**Project:**     **Fitness Enhancement Active Lifestyles (F.E.A.L. Good) Program**

**Comment:**    After identifying significant gaps and barriers to participation in physical activity by older adults living in the western, eastern and southern suburbs of Adelaide, Southern Cross Care developed two generic exercise programs for mobile and frail older people. These programs were then used to create an incremental program called 'Fitness Enhancement Active Lifestyles or F.E.A.L. Good. The F.E.A.L. Good program includes basic, intermediate and active stages, plus specific programs to address the needs of people with arthritis and other medical conditions. The judges described this program as a great expansion of opportunities, with a good level of innovation and groundwork. It is supported by research and consultation and is continually evolving.

**Nominee:**     **Tennis SA**

**Project:**     **Tennis for People with a Disability**

**Comment:**    Although the program has been operating for ten years, Tennis for People with a Disability has undergone significant changes since 2004, making it eligible for these Awards. Since 2004 participation in the Tennis for People with a Disability program has increased by 100 per cent. This has been achieved by offering the program at more clubs, targeting new disability groups and training twenty new coaches in coaching athletes with a disability. Tennis SA has created new pathways, disability friendly tennis development squads, and it has conducted club workshops to ensure that each club has a commitment to fully developing these participants. They have also developed new partnerships with outside agencies and promoted wheelchair tennis through mainstream events such as the Next Generation International Tennis Event. The judges noted that Tennis SA has now set out to make Tennis for People with a Disability a part of mainstream tennis, not just something that is 'tacked on' to existing programs.

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**Category 8 – Creating Elite Pathways Award**

Awarded for initiatives which create, develop or improve elite pathways for coaches, officials (referees and umpires) or participants in sport, active recreation or fitness.

**Nominee:** SA Rowing

**Project:** Talent Catch Rowing Program (TCRP)

**Comment:** The TCRP program was developed as a result of an identified need to provide a sub-elite rowing program for young people. The Talent Catch Rowing Program provides a structured rowing program for fourteen to eighteen year olds identified through the South Australian Sports Institute's (SASI) Talent Search program. TCRP aims to keep talented and potential high performance rowers in the sport during a period where many either drop out or move on to other sporting pursuits. It underpins the existing SASI High Performance Program. To date the TCRP has resulted in a sixty per cent retention rate of targeted participants within rowing, with forty per cent of TCRP participants going on to compete in national championships. The judges were also impressed that the TCRP had the capacity to support and retain country athletes in the sport.

**Nominee:** South Australian Rugby League (SARL)

**Project:** South Australian Rugby League High Performance Program

**Comment:** This high performance program prepares players for a higher standard of performance through the provision of elite coaching and competition. The judges were impressed that Rugby League, although a relatively small sport (in SA), has been able to attract significant investment from its national body into the state and use this to create an effective athlete pathway. SARL has also developed partnerships to ensure it has access to suitable training facilities to make the program work. In doing so SARL provides the opportunity for these athletes to impress NRL talent scouts and player managers who may sign players to contracts or cadetships with eastern state rugby league teams. Participants have the opportunity to travel to various states for tournaments and represent Australia in international matches, sometimes overseas.

**Category 9 – Recreation and Sport Education Award**

Awarded for outstanding achievement in the development of educational materials, or delivery of education and/or training services relating to sport, active recreation or fitness.

**Nominee:** Netball SA

**Project:** 'tHREE' Umpiring Program

**Comment:** Netball SA has identified a need to develop more umpires if their sport is to continue to flourish and grow in the community. To achieve this they set out to address the development and retention of young umpires, in particular twelve to eighteen year olds. Netball SA firstly created an umpire development officer position and an umpire development plan. Then using schools, Netball SA started a process to recruit and train new officials in their own schools and among their peers. Links with existing clubs were developed to create a pathway for these young officials from schools and into the sport. Issues such as harassment of officials were addressed and mentors were provided. The judges noted that in the first year, 2005, 300 schools were visited and 600 students were involved at this level. Interest in taking on umpiring has increased as a result of this work and regional schools will be included in the program during 2006. The next step of the 'tHREE' Umpiring program is to provide more training to these young umpires and encourage them to take their umpiring further by undertaking the All Australia Level 1 Umpires Course, the first step in the Netball Australia umpiring pathway.

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**Nominee:** Port Lincoln High School  
**Project:** Port Lincoln High School's Umpiring Academy  
**Comment:** The Umpiring Academy began in 2004 and has grown to include seventy students. It aims to make strong links between the school and community-based sport in and around Port Lincoln, as well as addressing an obvious need to develop new umpires and referees. To be successful, the Academy had to overcome entrenched issues such as the harassment of officials. By using resources such as 'Play by the Rules', reportable issues of abuse towards officials have declined. Features of the program include the consultation with, and use of, existing local umpires to help develop the training package and to mentor the students. Links to units of SACE have enabled participants to gain credit for the work at school. The Academy also uses web-based resources, which are easy to access and use. The judges noted that the Umpiring Academy has created a lifeline for local sport and that local competitions are stronger. It also noted that the overall standard of officiating is higher, a new generation of umpires has been created and trained umpires are now available for junior grades.

**Nominee:** Willunga High School  
**Project:** Year 10/11 Sport Coaching  
**Comment:** While this program was first established in 1999 and some 200 student coaches have since graduated, the judges were particularly impressed with the significant changes undertaken in the past two years, changes which made this project eligible for these Awards. Students are now able to undertake sport coaching as a subject during one semester each year, and they are able to obtain SACE credits for this work. The innovation has come about by allowing the students to deliver 'skills' sessions during PE lessons for junior classes (twenty-five students are involved in this). Links are also being developed with feeder primary schools, again with students as coaches, some of whom are now being employed. Students are now being encouraged to take up umpiring as well as coaching, again with training provided. As a result several students have been identified by their sports to complete higher umpiring levels and have officiated at interstate events. This initiative has resulted in other schools using the model and the development of new regional sport competitions.

**Category 10 – Recreation and Sport Facility Award**

This Award recognises new or refurbished sport, active recreation or fitness facilities with a focus on excellence in planning and design, and a demonstrated impact on participation.

**Nominee:** Cumberland United Football Club  
**Project:** AA Bailey Reserve (joint project with City of Mitcham)  
**Comment:** Faced by the need to provide the best quality sporting facility for its members and driven by water management issues, the Cumberland United Football Club embarked on a two-stage project to develop its facility with support from the City of Mitcham. Where there were previously flooded playing surfaces, storm water is now used in an environmental and sustainable manner, allowing water to be stored and then used in toilets, showers, etc. Surplus water is returned to the aquifer. The club expects to save 275,000 litres per year and achieve a reduction of flooding in neighbouring residential properties. In turn the project provides increased use of the facility through a reduction in pitch flooding. Stage two of the project provides the club with an improved, environmentally friendly clubroom. The judges commented that this project represented a good method of identifying partners and funding sources and then creating a water management initiative. The judges were particularly impressed with the way the club had used the project to educate its young players about water management and how it has created a 'map' to show them how this has been achieved.

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**Nominee:** City of Port Lincoln

**Project:** Ravendale Sports Complex

**Comment:** This \$5.7 million project included provision for football, cricket, netball, little athletics, hockey and baseball. It is a facility that has the capacity to attract significant regional events and provide for the Port Lincoln community. By embarking on a joint-use facility, significant economies of scale have been achieved. At the same time the previous expense to clubs and the community of maintaining aging facilities dotted across the city has been reduced. This project also shows evidence of consultation with both community and sporting groups. Additional benefits were obtained as each sport organisation relocating to Ravendale was required to develop an ongoing business and risk-management plan, focussing them on the future as well as their day-to-day operations. The judges were impressed by the use of landfill and lightweight construction materials, the maintenance of open space and the significant innovation in water management, including the use of recycled water.

**Nominee:** City of Unley

**Project:** Unley Swimming Centre

**Comment:** After being closed in 2000 due to structural problems, the Unley Swimming Centre underwent a \$3.5 million redevelopment and has emerged as a premier outdoor aquatic venue. In assessing this nomination the judges were impressed by the consultation obtained to ensure that the facility met community needs. They also liked that the project was designed to accommodate both users and staff needs and that it is cost effective, environmentally friendly and sustainable. Highlights in the design and fit out include variable frequency drive pumps for water recirculation, which offers energy savings of ten per cent, safer chemical storage, family friendly changing areas, and improved disability access. The judges commented that this is clearly an example of 'best practice' in planning/design of a swimming pool retro-fit.