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Media Release

12 November 2013

Tyntynder FNC awarded by Good Sports and AFL Victoria for setting community example

Tyntynder Football Netball Club has been named 'Victorian *Good Sports* Club of the Year' and 'AFL Victoria Club of Excellence'. The awards celebrate the club for promoting the values of the Australian Drug Foundation's *Good Sports* program.

The *Good Sports* program works with clubs to help them provide safe and healthy environments through the responsible management of alcohol. More than 6,000 clubs are involved with the program around Australia.

The Australian Drug Foundation's Victorian State *Good Sports* Manager, Rod Glenn-Smith, said the *Good Sports* Awards recognise the sports clubs around Australia who are providing safe and healthy places for families to enjoy sport.

"As the *Good Sports* Club of the Year for Victoria, Tyntynder Football Netball Club is showing the wider community that the club places the utmost importance on the health and wellbeing of their players, members and spectators," Rod said.

This year, *Good Sports* and AFL Victoria teamed-up to acknowledge the club for exemplifying the healthy, safe and family-friendly atmosphere that *Good Sports* promotes.

John Strachan, Cultural Strategy Manager at AFL Victoria, said that it was pleasing to see a footy club awarded *Good Sports*' best in the state, and he was delighted to be able to honour the club with an 'AFL Victoria Excellence Award' as well.

"Tyntynder have set such a great example on responsible alcohol management and play such an important role in leading their community. It highlights how important local football/netball clubs are to their local communities in setting an example on and off the field."

Tyntynder Club President Paul Morrison said that they were thrilled to be recognised for the impact they've made.

"Tyntynder Football Netball Club acknowledge the role the *Good Sports* program played in helping us to achieve our goal of becoming a safer, more resilient, family focused and community inclusive sporting club."

Paul says that years ago, the club had fallen into the same trap as a lot of clubs – they relied too heavily on alcohol for revenue and so a boozy atmosphere was inevitable.

The committee decided to turn to *Good Sports* to help set them on the right path to becoming more family and community focused with off-field performance considered just as important as on-field. Through the program, the club trained members in Responsible Service of Alcohol, they've turned to a healthier canteen and implemented the "Tyntynder Taxi" to ensure everyone gets home safely.

Previously relying heavily on bar sales to function, the club now enjoys more revenue from memberships and family-friendly social events. The club is also extremely proactive when it comes to social issues, including alcohol, and regularly promotes new causes, training and education for members.

VicHealth, major supporters of the *Good Sports* program in Victoria, have congratulated the club on their achievements.

"Sports clubs are more than just places that promote physical activity – they're also places where the community gathers and are ideal for promoting health and wellbeing beyond the match itself," VicHealth CEO Jerril Rechter said. "We'd love to see more community clubs follow Tyntynder FNC's lead to become healthier places."

Note to Editor:

Good Sports is supported in Victoria by VicHealth, Transport Accident Commission (TAC) and Department of Health (DoH), and supported locally by Northern District Community Health Service.

Our project officers and community partners work with clubs across Australia to reduce risky drinking. Traditionally delivered face-to-face, we are now also trialling new technologies and ways to work with clubs that we can't reach in person. No matter where your club is located or what your club needs might be, you can benefit from *Good Sports*.

For more information about the Good Sports program, visit goodsports.com.au or find us on [Facebook.com/GoodSportsClubs](https://www.facebook.com/GoodSportsClubs)

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