

DRAFT PROGRAM DAY 2

MONDAY 10.11.2025 | 7:30AM-6PM



Inspired by
the past | **VISIONS FOR
THE FUTURE.**

7:30am	Registrations Open - Trade Exhibition Area			
8:15am	Official Open			
8:30am	KEYNOTE SESSION 1: Allana Corbin, overcoming adversity and extending your limits			
9:15am	KEYNOTE SESSION 2: Steve Sammartino, Futurist, Technology Entrepreneur			
10:00am	Morning Tea and Expo			
	Facilities	Open Space	Innovation and Sustainability	Sports and Physical Activity
10:35am	Wrestling a 10 thousand Pound Elephant' - Managing Sport & Recreation Facility Cost Guidelines – PLA Advisory	Managing recreation on Kunanyi / Mount Wellington – Greg Milne, Program Leader Bushland, City of Hobart	AI and Digitisation in Sport and Recreation: Building Smarter Systems for a Sustainable Future - Dr Lin, Xe, Senior Solutions Analyst, Office of Sport & Dr Juanita Weissensteiner, Principal Advisor Talent Pathways, Office of Sport	TBC
11:05am	Regional Aquatic Strategies – Michelle Devanny, Program Leader, & Kim Marshall, Team Leader, City of Kingston	Planning Tomorrow's Trails – Anna O'Sullivan, Associate, Fitzgerald Frisby Landscape Architecture	PANEL - Using Data to Understand the Bigger Picture & Connect - Mike Morris, Head of Government Relations & Carly Goodrich, Head of Government Relations, Golf Australia	From Dream to Reality – Carmine Gallarello, Director, Maverick Recreation
11:35am	Regional Aquatic Strategies – Ben Bainbridge, Associate & Mal Kuhn, Senior Consultant, Otium Planning Group	The green approach to urban biodiversity and environmental stewardship – Monina Gilbery, Partner & Kate Torgersen, Partner, Torgersen Gilbey	PANEL continues - Using Data to Understand the Bigger Picture & Connect - Mike Morris, Head of Government Relations & Carly Goodrich, Head of Government Relations, Golf Australia	Future-Ready Play: Legacy, Trends and Innovations - Ben Toussaint, Area Sales Manager, KOMPAN

12:05pm	Lunch and Expo			
	Facilities	Open Space	Innovation and Sustainability	Sports and Physical Activity
1:15pm	Workshop: Cost effective modular, stagable aquatic/recreation facilities through innovative technology solutions - Mike King & Peter Brook, Director, PTD Studio	Feeling hot hot hot.... how do we make our suburbs cooler? – Katie Jackson, Urban Forest Programs Officer, Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action	Navigating the Future: Leveraging on the Water Analytics for Smarter Waterway Management – Mike McKiernan, Chief Executive Officer, Deckee	Belgrave South Create Protect Love Project- Co designing Recreation Spaces with the Community - Jason Young, Recreation and Sport Project Officer & Ellie Ingwersen, Recreation and Development Liaison Officer, Yarra Ranges Council
1:45pm	Workshop continued: Cost effective modular, stagable aquatic/recreation facilities through innovative technology solutions - Mike King & Peter Brook, Director, PTD Studio	Navigating change: developing scalable and responsive operational models – Kerrie Davies, Senior Manager Operations, Greater Sydney Parklands	Designing for Healthy, Sustainable Communities – Kylie Mills, Director, Architect and Social Entrepreneur - BluKube Architecture	Designing for Connection in a Technology-Driven, Lonely World - Dani Eastwood, Brand Lead & Custom Design Consultant, Playscape Creations
2:15pm	Money CAN Grow on Tees: Reimagining Public Golf through Innovative Partnerships - Peter Vlahandreas, Managing Director, GreenSpace Management & James Catterall, Social Policy & Sport Planner, City of Salisbury	All Unleashed? ... Dog & Owner Behaviour Change Imperatives – Leslie Humphrey, Director, LMH Consulting	From Static Maps to Living Places: Mapping the Future of Recreation - Mike Cushen, Senior GIS Analyst, OneMap Maptivate	Brand Lead & Custom Design Consultant - Nadine Kemp, General Manager – Recreation, Y Victoria
2:45pm	Afternoon Tea and Expo			
	Facilities	Open Space	Innovation and Sustainability	Sports and Physical Activity
3:25pm	TBA title - Michelle Nolland, Executive Director, LARCON	Creating Cool Parks as refuges from extreme heat events - Jason Summers, Director, Remarkable Trees	Considerations for delivering the vision – balancing expectation and legacy in a changing industry – Anne Sacco, Head of Design, Penrith City Council	Smashing Silos: Integrating Strategy, Delivery and Funding for Open Space – Helen Carroll, Senior Consultant, Ross Planning

3:55pm	Disability Sports – Community Facility Guidelines (Volume 1: Indoor) – Jason Leslie, Director, Otium Planning & Gary West Bail, Project Manager, Australian Sporting Alliance for People with a Disability	Setting Hierarchies and Service Standards – Richard Brown, Manager, Parks & Environment, City of Gosnells	Bendigo Low Line – a complex past and a positive future – Matt Kerlin, Coordinator, Active Communities & Brett Flavell, Coordinator Community Projects, City of Greater Bendigo	Children-centred co-creation of an active travel initiative: the ‘Park It’ program, Victoria - Dr Nicholas Hunter, Research Fellow, La Trobe University
4:25pm	The Evolution of Play: Inclusive Design for Connected Communities – Clare Della Bosca, Play Space Design Strategist, Tract	Co-Designing the Future: Reimagining Public Parks for Evolving Communities – Kristy Welsh, CMO, GX Outdoors	Habitat for play – Jenn Reed, Founder/Director, Urban Discovery	Programs that deliver best possible outcomes for Sportsfield integrity when facing increased usage and scrutiny – Michael Bradbury, Technical Services Lead – Syngenta
5:00pm	Drinks and Networking - Exhibition Area			
6:00pm	Day Close			

DRAFT PROGRAM DAY 3

TUESDAY 11.11.2025 | 8:00AM-LATE

8:00am	Registrations Open - Trade Exhibition Area			
	Facilities	Open Space	Innovation and Sustainability	Sports and Physical Activity
8:35am	Building Impact for the Future: Measuring What Community Sports Infrastructure Really Delivers - Erika Gee-Kot, Manager Program Strategy, Sport and Recreation Victoria	The Impact of Homelessness in public open spaces - Bishop Ngobeli	Ki Uta Tārei Ai, Ki Tai Rewa Ai: Reimagining Recreation Through a Te Ao Māori Lens – Kuruho Wereta, Kaiwhakahaere Whaihua Māori - Manger Māori Outcomes, Recreation Aotearoa	Australian Sports Commission
9:05am	Aligning our vision for the future, through collaboration– Lara Zeccola, Senior Playground Renewal Officer & Martin Ralph, Coordinator Arboriculture, City of Casey	How an Industry’s Past Has Grown to Shape Its Future: A Career Lived in Open Space – Shane Burrows, Business Manager, Solutions +	Sensing the Wild: Ethics, Technology, and the Thresholds of Wilderness Experience – Tracey Woods, PhD Candidate, The University of Sydney	Workshop: TBC
9:35am	Play & recreation opportunities for Young Women - Aaron Wallis, Director, Playce	Programs that deliver best possible outcomes for Sportsfield integrity when facing increased usage and scrutiny – Michael Bradbury, Technical Services Lead – Syngenta	Trail Development. Trends, events, and the future – Neil Ames, Trail Development. Trends, events, and the future, MidCoast Council/PLA National Advisory, Trail Ventures	Workshop: continues TBC
10:05am	Morning Tea and Expo			
	Facilities	Open Space	Innovation and Sustainability	Sports and Physical Activity
10:45am	Lighting Open Public Spaces – Andy Spivey, General Manager, Buckford Illumination Group	Natural Turf Sports Grounds – Best Practice Design Processes – Grant Greenway, Director, Endeavour Turf Professionals Pty Ltd (ETP Turf)	Inland Waterways - setting up safe swimming spaces - Suzanne Raven, Programs & Operations Manager, City of Paramatta	Beyond the Beach: Planning Open Space for a City on the Edge – Helen Carroll, Senior Consultant, Ross Planning
11:15am	Developing a framework to quantify the physical, mental and social connection benefits provided by sport and active recreation facilities - Anand Pillay	Restoration Without End: Balancing Community and Ecology in the Ongoing Story of the Queens Domain – Emma Birnbaum, Program Leader Fire and Biodiversity, City of Hobart	Incorporating Green Infrastructure into Mainstream Asset Management for Climate Resilience – David Jenkins, CEO, IPWEA (Institute of Public Works Engineers Australasia)	Workshop: Australian Sports Commission – to be confirmed

11:45am	Parks and Leisure in a Changing Climate - Flood Risk Considerations – Julian Skipworth, Director and Engineer, Cumulus Engineering	New Opportunities for Open Space Contracting Models – Simon Branson, Principal / Director, Green Change Solutions	Is this an Australian First? Holistic Management of all Parks Services Utilising One IT Solution – Michael Tregonning, Coordinator Parks and Natural Environment, Manningham Council	Workshop continued: Australian Sports Commission – to be confirmed
12:15pm	Lunch & PLA Annual General Meeting			
	Facilities	Open Space	Innovation and Sustainability	Sports and Physical Activity
1:20pm	From Conflict to Consensus: Collaborative Planning for Inclusive Community Spaces and Facilities - Hayley Ashworth, Manager Sport and Recreation, City of Ashworth	Brick Pit Reserve Revitalisation – Sherry Siow, Senior Landscape Architect & Eliza Halsey, COMPLETE Urban	Workshop: Future of park & leisure industry – John Tower, PLA Advisory, PLA Advisory Chair	Planning to Ensure Our Future Community has Space for Sport - Simon James, Manager - Open Space and Climate, City of Ryde
1:50pm	TBC	Fact-check: Is Your Organisation Excelling in Parks and Open Space Management? – Mark Corea, Principal Consultant, Xyst Australia Pty Ltd	Workshop continues: Future of park & leisure industry – John Tower, PLA Advisory, PLA Advisory Chair	Regenerating and Accelerating Physical Activity: From Global Goals to Local Action - Chloe Dupont, Senior Facilities and Participation Officer, Maribyrnong City Council
2:20pm	Afternoon Tea			
2:45pm	KEYNOTE SESSION 3: The Forest of Freedom (celebrating 30 years of democracy) - Bishop Ngobeli, Senior Manager: Protected Area and Environmental Enforcement, Johannesburg City Parks and Zoo, South Africa			
3:15pm	KEYNOTE SESSION 4: International perspectives of sport and legacy – Dy Currie, Principal, Principal at Dyan Currie & Associates			
3:45pm	100 Year Launch			
3:55pm	2026 Conference Announcement & Conference Closure			
6:30pm	Awards of Excellence Gala Dinner			