

**Speech by Mayor K. Logan Howlett, JP**  
**City of Cockburn 2025 Club Recognition Awards |**  
**and Volunteer Recognition Night**

**Function Room, City of Cockburn, 9 Coleville Crescent, Spearwood**

**Monday 7 April 2025**

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Kaya Wanju, Hello and Welcome,

On behalf of the Elected Members and Staff of the City of Cockburn I am delighted to welcome you to the City's 2025 Club Recognition Awards and Volunteer Recognition Night.

I acknowledge the Whaduk people of the Nyungar Nation who are the traditional custodians of the land on which we are meeting tonight, and I pay respect to their Elders past and present, and I extend that respect to First Nations people here tonight.

The Club Recognition Program was introduced in 2021 to acknowledge sporting clubs that are demonstrating excellence in club management and governance – which in turn leads to positive outcomes for our community.

Tonight, I am pleased to acknowledge the presence of:

- My wife, Patricia;
- Deputy Mayor Chontelle Stone;
- Councillor Kevin Allen and his wife Debra;
- Councillor Philip Eva JP;
- Councillor Phoebe Corke;
- Councillor Tarun Dewan;

- Members of staff from the City:
  - Mr Daniel Simms, CEO;
  - Mr Andrew Tomlinson, Head of Recreation;
  - Mr Toby McCready, Manager Recreation Infrastructure Services;
  - Mr Tim Clark, Community Infrastructure Manager;
  - Mr Cameron Heron, Club Development Officer;
  - Ms Sonia Farr, Administration Officer;
  - Ms Lucy Atkinson, Executive Assistant;
- Our MC for the evening – Journalist and MC, Ashtyn Hiron
- Guest speaker Bradd Dalziell former West Coast Eagles player – Education and Inclusion Manager at West Coast Eagles;
- Representatives from Sporting Clubs across our district;
- Ladies and gentlemen, one and all.

This evening is not only one of excitement but very importantly provides us with an opportunity to acknowledge and thank clubs in Cockburn for their immense efforts in effectively managing their respective clubs.

With 120 plus sporting clubs in our district, and most sporting codes covered, there is a huge demand for volunteers.

You may not be aware that Cockburn has one of the highest rates of volunteering of any community.

We owe a gratitude of thanks to the hundreds of people in our community who dedicate countless hours to support a club or in some cases more than one, giving up weekends and evenings throughout the year.

By doing so, they provide the opportunity those who participate to:

- learn new skills;
- understand the rules;
- understand and respect the decisions of the referee or umpire;
- make new friends; and
- maintain a fitness level that ensures a healthy lifestyle; and importantly, is proven to have a positive impact on mental health

On behalf of the Council and staff, I move a vote of thanks to each and every one of you, volunteers, parents, carers, families, sponsors and supporters.

Your support ensures the growth and development of our sporting clubs.

The City of Cockburn acknowledges the significant benefit of sport to our community and has a long history of commitment to supporting grassroots clubs.

In advance of the awards, I congratulate the finalists in the Club Recognition Program for their commitment to excellent club management, which helps to ensure the retention of members and overall club sustainability.

I look forward to hearing some great stories as the 2025 winners are announced.

Ladies and gentlemen, please enjoy the evening and the wonderful company here tonight.

Thank you.