

Hon Corey Wingard MP



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of South Australia**

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Mr Mick Wilson  
Chair  
RecFish SA

By email: [ed@recfishsa.org.au](mailto:ed@recfishsa.org.au)

Dear Mr Wilson

Thank you for your correspondence received on 25 August 2021 regarding the eligibility status of recreational fishing for Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing (ORSR) grant funding.

After receiving your correspondence, I asked ORSR for further advice about this matter.

As previously advised, ORSR does not recognise recreational fishing as a sport as it fails to meet the below definition used to determine a sporting activity, namely the human activity, physical exertion, competition and physical skill elements.

*A human activity capable of achieving a result requiring physical exertion and/or physical skill which, by its nature and organisation, is competitive and is generally accepted as being a sport.*

It should also be noted that recreational fishing also fails to meet the definition of active recreation, due to the physical exertion and primary focus on human activity elements, as outlined in the National Sport and Active Recreation Policy Framework

*'Active recreation activities are those engaged in for the purpose of relaxation, health and wellbeing or enjoyment with the primary activity requiring physical exertion, and the primary focus on human activity'*

Whilst I respect your different opinion on the matter, these definitions are also used at a national level in an attempt to maintain consistency between a state and national level classification.

In light of your assertion that recreational fishing should qualify for all ORSR grant programs, I can provide the following advice.

ORSR undertook a grants review in 2020 which included an extensive consultation process carried out across South Australia. Following the outcomes of the review, the following suite of grant programs were retained/implemented with the following organisation eligibility criterion.

Grant Program	Organisation Eligibility
Active Club Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A not-for-profit active recreation or sport club or community organisation whose purpose is the delivery of active recreation or sport programs and services in South Australia.</li> <li>• Be incorporated under the Associations Incorporations Act 1985 (SA) or have some other comparable legal status.</li> <li>• Have a minimum total membership base of 20 members. Total membership can include associate, social and life membership.</li> <li>• Be operating for 12 months or longer.</li> </ul>
Plan. Build. Play. Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Recreation and Sport Facilities Program</li> <li>• Grassroots Facilities Program</li> <li>• Regional and Districts Facilities Program (RDFP)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be a not-for-profit sport club, association or sports facility manager incorporated under the Associations Incorporations Act 1985 (SA).</li> <li>• Be a local council.</li> <li>• Be a school council/board of management.</li> <li>• Have been operating for 12 months or longer.</li> <li>• The RDFP is open to any organisation but has other project eligibility criteria.</li> </ul>
Partnerships Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be a legal entity.</li> <li>• Have been operating for 12 months or longer.</li> </ul>
Sector Support Program	Currently under review, however this program is for state sport and active recreation organisations.
South Australian Sport Institute (SASI) Individual Athlete Program	Elite athletes who are engaged in a comprehensive program of intensive training and international competition in an Olympic, Paralympic or Commonwealth Games sport and discipline.

Based on the program eligibility criteria above, you will note that recreational fishing does not qualify for the Active Club Program, Plan. Build. Play. Programs, Sector Support Program or SASI Individual Athlete Program.

However, the Partnerships Program has a wider reaching organisation eligibility criterion where any organisation that is a legal entity and has been operating for 12 months or longer can apply.

Based on the Partnerships Program eligibility, if a fishing organisation (such as RecFish SA) can demonstrate that they can help achieve 'Game On' outcomes, and they have contributing partners, then they are eligible to apply through this program.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



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20 / 9 / 2021