



Sporting Schools for Clubs and Associations - Part 2

In last month's edition of Homeplate News, we introduced the new Sporting Schools Program (SSP). At that stage, the SSP was in its infancy and our intent was to initiate discussion on how we could effectively meet requests from schools to run a softball program.

The results from the funding application process have been outstanding. In the first two weeks, 60 requests to run a softball program were received; in the third week that number jumped to 89 with the final number of 163. The following is a breakdown of applications by state, resulting in projected participation of 9,380 on current figures. Program requests would be for a minimum of 4 sessions of softball before, during or after school.

ACT - 5	NT - 4	SA - 18	Vic - 40
NSW - 49	Qld - 26	Tas - 4	WA - 17

Total requested programs = **163**

Total requested sessions = **1050**

States have now be notified of the schools that requested softball programs, and that information is being used to formulate a plan for developing the softball workforce capable of meeting the substantial demand for softball.

Become a Sporting Schools Coach!

If you are interested in becoming a coach for SSP, contact your state association who will be aligning coaches to programs and ensuring they meet the minimum standards required by completing:

- the ASC general principles course online - [click here](#)
- the Softball Community Coaching Program for Sporting Schools online induction - [click here](#)

So spread the word and tell your members about SSP and encourage them to get involved by:

- identifying possible program coaches at your club who are accredited
- directing everyone to the Sporting Schools website to register <https://www.sportschools.gov.au/>

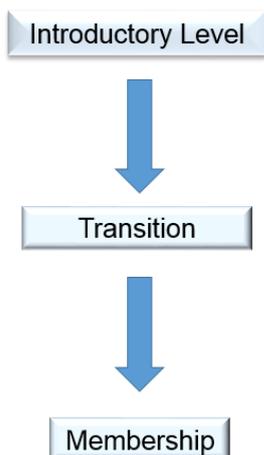
To find out more about SSP and becoming part of softball's workforce, [click here](#).



PARTICIPATION PATHWAY



PARTICIPATION PATHWAY



Levels of participation	Type of activity	Focus
Introductory	Sporting Schools Programs, Interscholar competitions, Come n Try day, Gala event, Shopping Centre promotion, All abilities program, CALD, ISP, community activity	Participants are introduced to softball in the school or community setting. Goal is to give participant a "Fantastic" first experience of softball. Focus on introduction to basic skills in a safe environment through fun, engaging game play. Programs could include SSP, interschool competition or PE classes, Come n try days or other
Transition	Club based program designed to build on first experience. Could be SBU program or school competition conducted at a club	Engage participants in softball activities with the goal of transitioning them into members. Focus is on value proposition of softball and quality experience. Programs should focus on fun, inclusion and learning
Membership	Club Program - competition or social focus	Structured club competitions or modified games program that requires membership. Could include Social 7s, junior, senior or masters competitions

To find out more about getting involved in the Sporting Schools Program, or to develop your club pathway program, please contact Softball Australia's Sport Development Manager, Ben Utting ben.utting@softball.org.au.