



15th January 2016

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This document is supplied in support of Golf Programs Australia Inc funding application for a dedicated facility to deliver its specialty golf programs and the excellent Golf Program it currently provides to Special Olympics Australia Sunshine Coast Region.

SOSC Sports Co-ordinator Shirley Hastings began the diligent task of seeking a local golf club to provide golf training for our athletes on the Sunshine Coast in early 2013.

Despite many knock backs from local golf clubs her persistence paid off and SOSC formed an association with PGA Golf Pro Darrell Dalton who agreed to provide a year round golf program for our athletes at the local Tanawha Golf Course.

This was a great achievement by Shirley as our athletes can now expand their horizons and extend their capabilities "Far beyond a Dream".

The Official 'Special Olympics Golf Program Opening Day "was supported by many local golfers and a large contingent of local intellectual disabled athletes plus the Chairman, General Manager & Treasurer of Special Olympics Queensland with Fiona Simpson Officiating and cutting the ribbon and the first local disabled golfer teeing off .

It seems such a long time ago that this official opening took place as the Golf Pro Darrell Dalton provides a weekly training session for all registered members of Special Olympics at the Tanawha Golf Course

These training sessions not only provide golfing tuition but extend to the athletes personal growth and worthiness With a warm heart I visit these training sessions and see the enthusiasm of the athletes and how proud they are with their involvement and achievements. (A little encouragement and praise always brings a big smile)

GPAI has over the past two years organised and provided a "Special Olympics Sunshine Coast Region Golf Classic "inviting all members of Special Olympics Queensland to participate on this enjoyable day.

This is recognised as a must attend on the SOQ Calendar with golfers coming from all corners of our great state.

We recognise and fully appreciate the hard work and efforts that Darrell Dalton provides for the Special Olympics Organisation and the behind the scenes negotiations that is required with the "established golf courses " ensuring our members are provided with the best tuition and sporting venue available on the coast.

We are of the understanding that Darrell has quite a task with the local golf clubs in relation to securing timeslots and course availability for program delivery and we appreciate his efforts in this area.

With this in mind and the excellent program GPAI delivers we encourage the State and Local Governments to provide a financial pathway for this program to grow inclusive of providing future employment / career opportunities for our local disabled. (Currently the best / only form of employment is obtained through sheltered workshops)

"Intellectually Disadvantaged" or "Unemployable Disadvantaged" Your actions can and will bring great opportunities to these worthy local citizens

Best Regards,

Lance de'Brennell - CADD

Chair Special Olympics [Sunshine Coast](#) Club

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Visit our [WEBSITE](#) today and learn more about our Sports Programs for 2015/16

"Through the power of sport, Special Olympics strives to create a better world by fostering the acceptance and inclusion of all people especially those with an intellectual disability."