



ASPIRE TO BE DEADLY

12th January
2022

2021 Program Highlights

One of the key strategic pillars within the Cairns Hockey Strategic Plan identifies *high level of community engagement and social responsibility through Cairns Hockey community* and our marquee program in this landscape is Aspire to be Deadly and it is designed to use hockey as a vehicle to drive positive social change. The model program links participation with Live Well Learn Well Lead Well - education, well-being and leadership programs and identifies hockey as a gender equal, inclusive, and culturally safe program. Unlike mainstream participation programs, recruiting players into club is not the program's primary consideration but it has been very pleasing to report in 2021 that indigenous club membership is increasing and the strengthening of communication and awareness within the clubs and Aspire to be Deadly drives this positive outcome.

Cairns Hockey began developing Aspire to be Deadly in 2015 well before the challenges of the COVID19 focused world but the pandemic has shown the importance sport plays in a community recovery. Aspire to be Deadly plays the role supporting inclusion, engagement, connectivity in repairing some of the torn social fabric caused by COVID19.

Cairns Hockey Aspire to be Deadly is supported through Commonwealth Government NIAA and has built strong and diverse community partnerships to reinforce the importance of a holistic and inclusive approach in the modified delivery of hockey activities and supporting across Torres Strait, Cape York, Gulf Savannah and Cairns and Tableland regions.

Aspire to be Deadly engages at risk and vulnerable indigenous young women and girls in disadvantaged environments and looks to engage with school, support agencies, hockey clubs, partners and sponsors, and family to provide a program that builds self-worth, builds self-confidence, provides tools to support positive decision-making, and challenges the participants to



increase school attendance, reduce anti-social behavior, make better well-being choices, and encourages participants to become leaders.



HIGHLIGHTS IN 2021

- The Aspire Schools Program was delivered into 25 primary school programs and 5 Secondary Campuses across Cairns, Cape York, Torres Strait Islands and Gulf Savannah regions during 2021.
- Actively supporting 5 secondary schools Grade 7,8 and 9 transition programs across the identified remote and regional regions with a total 85 students in these transition program of which 76 are indigenous
- National curriculum aligned programs using Aspire supported resources continue being delivered with significant success in remote and regional communities.
- Continue to advance and strength collaborations and partnerships with additional well-being and leadership partners coming on board. Cape York Girls Academy is a new partner in Deadly 5's as well as the Empower Me Program
- Through the Aspire to be Deadly Program, over 3000 indigenous young people and families from grades 3-9 across Primary and Secondary Schools were introduced to, participated in, and were mentored as part of in support of the LIVE WELL LEARN WELL LEAD WELL Programs. These programs were delivered across a region larger than the combined are of Victoria/Tasmania and ACT.
- 4 additional community collaborations delivering education/training/mentoring and participation
- Over 38 indigenous young people including 31 indigenous young women and girls participated in the integrated SCHOOL TO CLUB Program offered through Aspire and these young people and their families played mainstream club hockey and summer 6's.



- **31 indigenous young women** were supported through the Aspire indigenous mentor program and linked with the Aspire Schools Learning Resource, workshops, transport support and the availability of the Aspire Hockey Hub and Yarning Place.
- **Community Support continues as does the ongoing engagement with family. Over 73% of these parents and supporters actively supporting the young women and girls are female.**
- Delivered pathway performance program support with 20 Aspire Schools participants attending representative school hockey trials with 7 Aspire students being selected in regional teams across all identified regions.
- Developing ACE – Aspire Centre Excellence (Hockey Program) for delivery in Term 4 including workshops, specialized coaching skills and game sciences, strategies, and performance as part of a Cairns Hockey collaboration and support to grade 7 and 8 transition support. Collaborated with supportive coaches to align with program needs.
- Delivered 3 team building workshops, mental health support programs and healthy habits program incorporating nutrition, hygiene, and well-being habits for life.
- Delivery of inaugural Rene Archer Indigenous Round and community support. Strong feedback and confirmation this will become an annual event.
- Mentor and Support Program delivered with support of Olympians Savannah Fitzpatrick and Tim Howard



- Delivered a new and improved Gulf Savannah Hockey Program producing strong outcomes around all aspects of LIVE WELL LEARN WELL LEAD WELL



- Delivered 2 remote communities Hockey Carnival modified to meet COVID 19 restrictions. This program was embraced by the community.
- Delivery Deadly 5's event aligning with NAIDOC in June 2021.
- Developing digital education and support platforms across remote and regional school delivery to support ASPIRE SCHOOLS LIVE WELL LEARN WELL LEAD WELL.

Cairns Hockey has strengthened its relationship with Oceania Hockey through the Hook in4 Health Program delivered by Aspire to be Deadly, increased its engagement with Hockey Australia across indigenous program support and has been recognized through FIH as a leading sport for development program.

Everything mentioned above is due to the hard working Aspire to be Deadly Team. Julie McNeil leads the team comprising Wes Ferns, Jess Fatnowna, Sawadu Tabuai, David McNeil and Stephanie Bonel and supported by Lisa Fatnowna, Sarah and Bella Cochran and Carleah Flinders. Aspires' success is because the team works. Thanks to everyone in the team and thank you to our partners, schools, sponsors, clubs and volunteers, because we know and appreciate that it takes a village.

Planning is underway for an exciting 2022.

The Aspire to be Deadly Team

