

NETBALL WA — VOLUNTEER FEES

350. Mr P.B. WATSON to the Minister for Sport and Recreation:

I have a supplementary question. There was no consultation with the netball community and if the minister had checked she would have found that out. What action will the minister take to ensure that the overwhelmingly successful netball competitions across the state are not put in jeopardy because the state body has decided that volunteers at a community level should pay for the privilege of volunteering for the sport they love? We want to encourage people to play sport.

A government member: Lead from the front!

Ms M.J. DAVIES replied:

Lead from the front! This state government has made the biggest investment in sport in the history of the state.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members!

Ms M.J. DAVIES: The support this state government has provided for developing netball in WA cannot be questioned.

Mr D.A. Templeman interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Mandurah, if you want to ask a question put your name down. I call you to order for the first time.

Ms M.J. DAVIES: For three decades members of the netball community have waited for a centre for netball. It recently opened and they tell us —

Mr P.B. Watson interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Albany!

Ms M.J. DAVIES: They tell us that that is game-changing for them.

Mr P.B. Watson interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member of Albany, I call you to order for the first time.

Ms M.J. DAVIES: This state government's commitment to assisting sports to develop their sports cannot be questioned. I have met —

Point of Order

Mr P.B. WATSON: I asked the minister what the government was going to do about this situation, and all we are hearing is what they have done in the past in other sports. I am asking about the netball community in particular.

The SPEAKER: Minister, can you address the question, and please be nice and short.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Ms M.J. DAVIES: In my view —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members!

Ms M.J. DAVIES: I was actually addressing the member's question, because he asked about what we are doing as a state government to ensure that we are assisting Netball WA to continue to deliver fantastic programs across the state. We have done that by investing more money than any other state government. They have waited three decades for investment in a facility. I met with Netball WA and they are very —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members for Mandurah and Albany, I call you both to order for the second time. Minister, a short answer through the Chair, please.

Ms M.J. DAVIES: I met with Netball WA. In fact, on Wednesday morning, I was in a room with 25 of our state's sporting associations. They have every opportunity to raise their concerns with me on a personal basis when they need to. I can tell the member right now that they are very happy with this state government.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Mandurah!

