

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF SPORT — GYMNASTICS PROGRAM —
SPORT INTEGRITY AUSTRALIA REVIEW

620. Mr P.J. RUNDLE to the Minister for Sport and Recreation:

I have a supplementary question. I note the minister has a departmental representative on the board of the Western Australian Institute of Sport who as of Monday was the only remaining member. Will the minister guarantee protection for incoming board members?

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN replied:

I do not think I can guarantee protection. Does the member want me to guarantee that? First, that is a legal matter, and I do not think I am in a position to do that. Let me say this: the interesting thing is that when we started having resignations, my office had a number of contacts from people willing to put up their hand because they believe in WAIS. They believe in the importance of WAIS in terms of our sporting infrastructure in Western Australia, and they wanted to contribute. That included the chair who I have appointed and others. I think this comes to the point that these people have put themselves forward because they recognise that they have the skills and expertise to take the organisation forward, and I am very confident that they will do that. Of course, they will have my support. As part of the government's review and other processes, there may be recommendations around how the WAIS board organisation needs to operate, whether it should be in-house, a statutory body or remain as an incorporated body. Back in the 1980s, it was originally established as an incorporated body because of the willingness or urgency at the time for the government to be at arm's length from those people who were the experts—those who train and who know about athlete psychology and all those sorts of things. But is it timely to look at that process and structure now? Yes; I think it is. We now have in place a board that will be able to do that I think very effectively.