

**BACK TO SPORT PROGRAM**

**845. Ms A. SANDERSON to the Minister for Sport and Recreation:**

I refer to the McGowan Labor government's efforts to support both Western Australian families and community groups as we recover from the impacts of COVID-19.

- (1) Can the minister outline to the house how the government's Back to Sport program will help more Western Australian kids get back into community sport?
- (2) Can the minister advise the house how this program will ensure that our community sporting clubs remain strong?

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** A bit of respect for the senior member, thank you.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY replied:**

- (1)–(2) It is with great pleasure that I stand to answer that great question from the member. In all seriousness, as a result of the COVID-19 problem that we had, most kids dropped out of sport and it has taken them a fair while to get them back and participating. On top of the KidSport program, we tipped another \$4 million, courtesy of the Lotterywest COVID-19 Relief Fund, into the KidSport program, which will allow 24 500 children to access funding to help them get back into sport. If anyone wants to grizzle about that, they can see me outside and I will give them a shake-up as well!

Several members interjected.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** Seriously, I cannot see anyone wanting to grizzle.

Several members interjected.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** I reckon I will beat most of you!

We should be serious. This is a great program. The program is needed. Many children out there are unable to participate in sport because of funding or because their parents have lost their jobs. We will expand the program so that people who are on JobSeeker can claim \$150.

I know that you are going to ask me to move on, Mr Speaker. On top of that, \$500 will be given to each club that accesses KidSport. Every club out there can apply for a \$500 grant that will help the club itself organise those kids to get back into a sports program.

One great thing I have noticed happening in KidSport—I have said this a couple of times—is that kids have returned to play sport. When the kids come off the ground, as part of their training, they use hand sanitiser. We must ensure that clubs continue that process. That is why we are putting money into those clubs. A total of \$1 million will be used to help clubs get kids back into KidSport. In all sincerity, it is one of the greatest programs. I am not taking to heart what the member for North West Central said about the KidSport program; I am saying that we are enhancing it by \$4 million. The Labor Party does care about KidSport.

**Mrs A.K. Hayden** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Darling Range, I do not know who you are talking to but I call you to order for the first time.

**Mr V.A. Catania** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for North West Central, I call you to order.