

A close-up photograph of a swimmer's legs and feet in a pool. The swimmer is wearing black swim trunks with a white stripe and a red and white swim cap. The water is bright blue and splashing around the swimmer's feet. A hand is visible in the water, reaching out from the left side of the frame.

# NATIONAL HIGH PERFORMANCE SPORT STRATEGY 2024

AUGUST 2019

### **Acknowledgement of Country**

The National High Performance Sports System Partners acknowledge the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of this nation. We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands on which our companies are located and where we conduct our business. We pay our respects to ancestors and Elders, past, present and emerging.

The NHPSS is committed to honouring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' unique cultural and spiritual relationships to the land, waters and seas and recognise the outstanding contribution they make to sport in Australia and to celebrate the power of sport to promote reconciliation and reduce inequality.



## BACKGROUND

High Performance (HP) sport can be considered to comprise a number of areas of activity and investment. HP sport (both international and domestic elite competition) influences the community's perception of, and value placed on sport. Elite competitions are pinnacle events that showcase the highest levels of skill, mastery, competitiveness and sporting excellence. They inspire participants, spectators and competitors alike. Amongst the competitors emerge successful role models that inspire the community, resulting in increased participation and engagement in sport. Increased participation also creates a solid foundation for high performance talent to arise and builds community commitment to a life-long appreciation of sport and the broader benefits of being healthy and active.

**The National High Performance Sport Strategy 2024 (NHPSS) focuses on Olympic, Paralympic and Commonwealth Games outcomes.** The NHPSS is a joint strategy of National Sporting Organisations (NSO), the National Institute Network (NIN)<sup>1</sup> and other system partners.<sup>2</sup> The NHPSS is a first, positioning Australia's HP Institutes/Academies and athletes under a national framework, strengthening its dealings with governments, communities, academic institutions, industry and the private sector, moving towards a common goal of *National Pride and Inspiration through International Sporting Success*.

1. NIN executive delegates include the Directors of the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) and the eight State and Territory Institutes/Academies of Sport (SIS/SAS). NIN- are committed to strategic engagement with Australia's National Sport Organisations (NSOs) and other peak agencies.
2. In addition to NSOs and NIN, 'Other System partners' include Peak Agencies (Australian Olympic Committee, Paralympics Australia, Commonwealth Games Australia), State and Territory Agencies of Recreation and Sport (STARS), and State Sporting Organisations (SSOs).





## SPORT 2030

In August 2018, the Australian Government launched *Sport 2030* with a clear objective – to ensure Australia is the most active and healthy nation, known for its integrity and sporting success.

Sport 2030 has four key priority areas which will, when fully implemented, create a platform for sporting success through to 2030 and beyond.

The priorities are:

- **Build a more active Australia** — More Australians, more active, more often;
- **Achieving sporting excellence** — National pride and inspiration through international sporting success;
- **Safeguarding the integrity of sport** — A fair, safe and strong sport sector free from corruption; and
- **Strengthening Australia's Sport Industry** — A thriving Australian sport and recreation industry.

The strategic priorities are interrelated to ensure the key relationships between participation, high performance (HP), integrity and the sport industry more broadly are addressed.

**THE NATIONAL HIGH PERFORMANCE SPORT STRATEGY HAS BEEN DEVELOPED TO SUPPORT THE PRIORITIES AND OBJECTIVES OF SPORT2030, WITH A FOCUS ON THE SECOND KEY PRIORITY, TO ACHIEVE SPORTING EXCELLENCE.**

# PURPOSE

## National High Performance Sport Strategy

The National High Performance Sport Strategy (NHPSS) is about having an aligned HP system that revolves around athletes, coaches and sports and our mission to have sustained sporting success at the highest level.

The NHPSS recognises that our champion athletes are important role models as we aspire to be a physically active nation. To achieve these ambitions new strategies and standards of investment, support and performance expectation are required in regard to athlete wellbeing, coach development, and sports science and sports medicine innovation.

The NHPSS recognises the important role of all HP system partners in providing opportunities for both aspiring athletes moving through the athlete development pathway and in fostering lifelong physical activity. Though each organisation operates under its own governance frameworks, the NHPSS specifically seeks to inform Commonwealth and State/ Territory government investment in HP sport. This supports the achievement of broader societal outcomes including:

- Australians are healthier (physical and mental health through sport)
- Australia is a more cohesive society (inclusive with shared values through sport)
- The culture of sport in Australia is strong (a part of our national identity and legacy)
- Sport makes a strong contribution to Australia's economy.



## VISION

NATIONAL  
PRIDE AND  
INSPIRATION  
THROUGH  
INTERNATIONAL  
SPORTING  
SUCCESS



This vision will be realised through the following success factors.

SUCCESS FACTORS		
<p><b>Podium Success</b></p> <p>Australians consistently winning medals at major international events</p>	<p><b>Pride and Inspiration</b></p> <p>Our sporting champions are a positive influence on the community</p>	<p><b>World-leading System</b></p> <p>Our high performance sports system is recognised as world leading</p>

The level of success this strategy achieves will be routinely assessed against Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) measuring the following performance criteria.

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA		
<p><b>Podium Success</b></p> <p>Number of medals and medallists at Olympics, Paralympics and Commonwealth Games and at International Championships.</p>	<p><b>Pride and Inspiration</b></p> <p>The level of positive sentiment from sporting results, athlete conduct and engagement within the community.</p>	<p><b>World-Leading System</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sports' progress against a performance monitoring framework.</li> <li>- NIN achieving strategic priorities.</li> </ul>

Achieving success requires we build a collaborative and innovative HP system that implements strategies that are recognised as world-leading; a system that is empowered to achieve sporting success through tailored approaches for sports and athletes.



## Towards a more collaborative and aligned national high performance system

Based on several national system reviews completed in recent years, the need for greater alignment and collaboration between the partners of the national HP sport system has been consistently identified as integral to future success.

The following principles have been developed to define, progress and improve the national HP system. They reflect the prime responsibilities and shared commitment of sports and federal, state and territory government agencies to develop and operate **a world-leading high performance system** for Australian sport.

Applying these principles to policy and practice will clarify and simplify system partner roles and responsibilities, providing the basis for a collaborative and aligned national system.

1. State and Territory Institutes/Academies of Sport (SIS/SAS)
2. State and Territory Agencies of Recreation and Sports (STARS)

## National System Guiding Principles

### PRINCIPLE 1

A National High Performance Sport Strategy, developed by the AIS in partnership with the SIS/SAS<sup>1</sup> and in consultation with sport, will inform the Federal and State and Territory governments' investment in this strategy.

### PRINCIPLE 2

Sports have ownership for leading, developing and implementing their high performance plans to support the National High Performance Sport Strategy.

### PRINCIPLE 3

System partners within the HP Sport System will strive to provide a nationally consistent minimum level of resources to categorised athletes.

### PRINCIPLE 4

The AIS will lead and enable a united, collaborative high performance system that supports Australian athletes to achieve international success.

### PRINCIPLE 5

The SIS/SAS<sup>1</sup> will support identified sports to develop and deliver high performance pathways for categorised athletes within their jurisdiction and available resources.

### PRINCIPLE 6

The SIS/SAS<sup>1</sup> and STARS<sup>2</sup> will work in collaboration with sport to align support for athlete pathways in their jurisdiction that facilitate progression/development of athletes to categorised status

### PRINCIPLE 7

Decision making by system partners will be collaborative, informed and transparent.

## System Partner Roles and Responsibilities

The core operational roles and responsibilities for the national HP system partners under these guiding principles are:

1. **Sports are responsible** for developing **their HP plans** in collaboration with the AIS and consultation with relevant stakeholders.
2. The **AIS is responsible** for leading the **National HP Sports planning** and resource allocation process to ensure it meets the objectives for the National High Performance Sport Strategy in a timely manner.
3. NIN members are responsible to develop a transparent, accountable and sustainable **joint funding and investment model** that will inform the respective governments (Australian and State/Territory) underpinning investment in the National High Performance Sport System and sports' plans.
4. **Sports** are responsible for leading the alignment of the NIN and other system partner support to implement their **high performance athlete pathway strategy and programs** that support the objectives of the NHPSS.
5. The **NIN**, under the leadership of the AIS, will be responsible to **deliver world-leading performance support services** to be positioned as the preferred provider to sports and athletes.
6. **NIN members** are individually responsible for confirming their **jurisdictional level of investment** in each sport's HP plans.
7. **Resources from a NIN member** may be invested at their discretion to support additional performance or capability enhancing **initiatives complementary to** Sports' National HP plans.



### Monitoring and Responding for Success

To ensure system resources are achieving our strategic intent and priorities, we will build a transparent system to routinely monitor, review and respond as required to ensure ongoing success.