

Facilities Development

FACT SHEET

These guidelines are intended to assist sporting organisations that are updating or replacing facilities ensure that redevelopments are fit for purpose and provide a welcoming environment to encourage ongoing participation for everyone.

Introduction

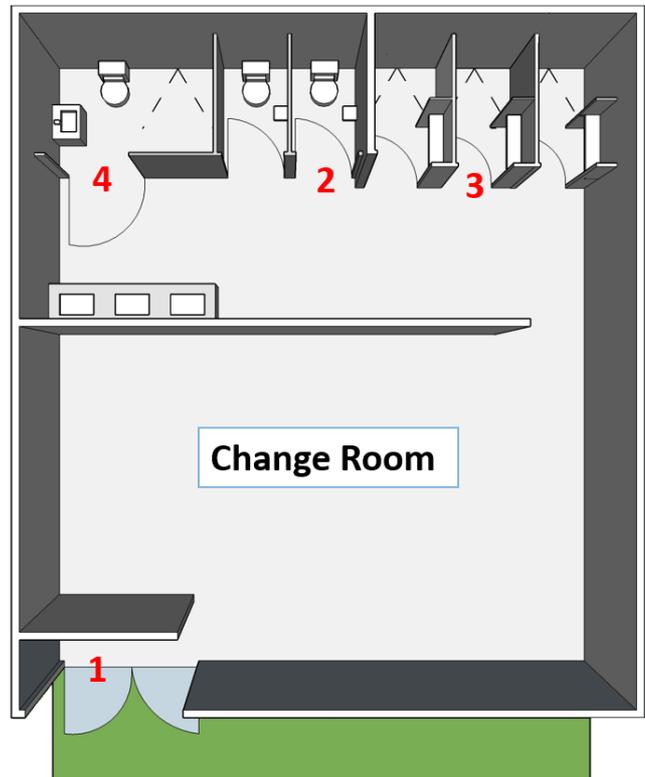
Increased female participation has enhanced the need for facility redesign, and should be part of a strategy to provide female friendly environments, particularly for sports that have traditionally been male dominated.

It is important to note that the provision of facilities alone will not necessarily encourage female participation. Communities, Sport and Recreation has released a set of principles that organisations should consider when attracting female participants, which are available to download from: www.dpac.tas.gov.au/divisions/csr

Facility Development Considerations

All facility developments must comply with the Building Code of Australia. Universal design principles to cater to all users, including the provision of unisex and accessible amenities, must also be considered during the development stage.

Organisations are encouraged to contact their local council and state sporting organisation during the planning phase to ensure design compliance with their standards.



Change rooms should include

1. Privacy screens at the entry to minimise sightlines into the change room
2. Individual toilet cubicles and avoid urinals
3. Individual lockable shower cubicles with change seats inside the cubicle
4. At least one accessible toilet/shower

Other considerations when designing change rooms

- ensure an adequate number of amenities to meet user needs;
- provide shelving and power outlets near sinks;
- ensure appropriate location of rubbish and sanitary bins;
- allow natural ventilation to minimise odours;
- ensure cleaning equipment can reach all areas of the change rooms and amenities;
- ensure the finishes selected promote a clean hygienic environment; and
- where possible, provide direct access from change rooms to playing surfaces with minimal level changes.

Facility design considerations

It is important that the facility provides a welcoming, secure environment for all participants, officials and spectators. While change rooms and amenities are a large part of the comfort for participants, broader facility considerations should include:

- the provision of adequate lighting from playing surfaces to car parks;
- the provision of baby change facilities, which are also accessible to the public;
- the provision of accessible pathways from facilities to the playing surface;
- the provision of accessible toilets for the public, players and officials;
- the provision of safe shade areas;
- the provision of access ramps rather than stairs where there are changes in level;
- ensuring change rooms and amenities are maintained, clean and tidy; and
- the development of processes that enable hazard identification and feedback to ensure facility quality improvement.

More detailed information on these design principles can be found on the Sport and Recreation Victoria website: <http://sport.vic.gov.au/publications-and-resources/female-friendly-sport-infrastructure-guidelines>

An overview of universal design principles and its application to specific elements can be found on the Sport and Recreation Victoria website: <http://sport.vic.gov.au/publications-and-resources/design-everyone-guide/overview-universal-design>

Special thanks to the Office for Recreation and Sport (South Australia), for giving permission to adapt their fact sheet:

http://www.ors.sa.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/274456/Female_Friendly_Change_Rooms_Guide.pdf

Other useful resources

Victoria Police - *Crime prevention Through Environmental Design*–

http://www.police.vic.gov.au/content.asp?document_id=10444

Office for Recreation and Sport (South Australia) - *Greening Your Club*

http://www.ors.sa.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/166561/Greening_your_club_checklist_July_WEB.pdf

Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (Western Australia) - *Environmental Sustainability Pack for Sport and Recreation Organisations in Western Australia*

<http://www.dsr.wa.gov.au/docs/default-source/file-support-and-advice/file-facility-management/sustainability-pack.pdf?sfvrsn=2>