



# Just the wicket

When politics and sport come together, great things happen - as demonstrated by the upgrade of the cricket pitch at Berowra's Warrina St Oval, opened last month with some stylish bowling displays.

A collaborative funding effort between Berowra Cricket Club, Hornsby State Liberal MP Matt Kean, Hornsby Council and a McDonald's Community Facility Grant from Cricket NSW saw the installation of a new synthetic pitch designed to outlast many a young cricketer's paces.

It's one of 112 supported through the Cricket NSW Facility Grants Program, a state-wide initiative to help improve the standard of playing and training facilities.

"We'd like to thank all those involved for supporting this project and we are confident that the new pitch will help foster the love of cricket across the local cricket community," said Cricket NSW State Infrastructure and Government Relations Manager Anthony Brooks.

The pitch was officially opened in March during

a T20 Blast clinic where girls and boys had a hit with Minister Kean and Hornsby Mayor Steve Russell.

Mr Kean said Warrina Street Oval is the beating heart of local sport. "It's the home of Berowra cricket, rugby league and netball," he said. "That's why I've worked with council and local community groups to see over \$250,000 invested in this wonderful community facility.

"Today's announcement sees a brand new cricket pitch installed which I think is the best synthetic pitch in the Shire."

Mayor Russell said that this pitch, "is another example of Hornsby Shire Council's commitment to local sporting facilities, particularly those for our younger sportspeople. We're very grateful for the assistance from the NSW Government and Cricket NSW."

Berowra's upgraded pitch is part of \$300,000 the council is spending on cricket facilities across the Shire, including new synthetic wickets at Normanhurst Oval, both Foxglove ovals, Mt Ku-ring-gai Oval and Cheltenham Oval. A new

picket fence and new sight screens are also being installed at Hornsby's Mark Taylor Oval.



A big hit: Steve Russell wicket keeps while Matt Kean and Berowra cricketers put the new pitch through its paces

MP Matt Kean and Mayor Steve Russell officially open the new cricket pitch, ably assisted by kids from Berowra Cricket Club

