

2012

Mooroo-Mooroo Program



Qld Oztag



Action shot from the 2012 Senior State Cup – FNQ Brumbies representative

Executive Summary

The Mooroo-Mooroo program is designed to improve the health and well being of Indigenous Australians. Not only does it increase activity levels addressing physical health, but also provides training and experience in areas that allows the participants to develop life skill transferable to other areas of their life, thus addressing mental health also. Mooroo-Mooroo is a Gubbi-Gubbi (Sunshine Coast) word for “full of life”. Given the nature of the program we believe that this is a perfect title for the program.

An overview of Oztag and its field requirements are provided in section one. This illustrates that Oztag is similar to any other ball sport in terms of its fielding requirements, and that two senior (and four junior) fields can fit onto any Rugby League, Rugby Union, AFL or Soccer field. Therefore Qld Oztag is not limited by field types or size in order to conduct the Oztag program.

The second section introduces the Qld Oztag organisation and its team. It provides the structure of Oztag illustrating that a State body exists to ensure any programs implemented adhere to strict performance standards. The contact details for each of the Venue Coordinators is also provided illustrating that the sport is played across the whole state and the support staff that can be provided is vast. Statistical data on Oztag participation rates is provided highlighting the growth due to increased popularity and knowledge of the sport. Additional Oztag community events conducted by Qld Oztag (and its venues) is also provided. This illustrating that Oztag is far more reaching than simply conducting social competitions and that an underlying ethos of Qld Oztag is to give back to the community...a driving factor behind the “Mooroo-Mooroo” program concept. Finally section two provides details on representative pathways that already exist within Qld Oztag. It does this firstly by providing the zone/regional structure that all Oztag venues fit within, and secondly by listing the representative tournaments that currently exist for this structure, state, national and international titles. It shows that 7 regions and 20 zones currently exist and state and national representative tournaments.

The third and final section provides specific information on the Mooroo-Mooroo program. It identifies that the primary aim of the program is to develop Oztag programs within Indigenous communities as a vehicle to promote awareness in participation, health and physical well-being and with a view to be self sustaining. The program consists of two primary sections; 1. healthy lifestyles – health and wellbeing of participants improved through increased participation, and 2. life skills – life skills and employability of participants improved through education and training. Seventy One (71) venues have been identified as possible locations for the program however this is heavily reliant on securing funding. As such a pilot program in Far North Queensland (FNQ) and an additional program have been conducted in the Moreton Bay region in 2012. To date additional funding has also been secured for another program in the Moreton Bay region and a 3 year program in FNQ. An estimated 10500 participants will be involved in the program should it be rolled out across the whole state. Several individual and community based benefits exists for conducting the program including:

1. Increase the physical and mental health of players and referees through increasing participation in Oztag activities.
2. Increase in social skills (through participation in Oztag competitions and tournaments).
3. Provides an income during Oztag season for qualified referees, and an ongoing revenue stream for Indigenous Development Officers that become Venue Coordinators running their own Oztag association.

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1. What is Oztag

The following information highlights the key components that make Oztag what it is. It illustrates that while unique in certain elements, specifically pertaining to the use of tags, Oztag is similar to any other ball sport in terms of its fielding requirements, and that two senior (and four junior) fields can fit onto any Rugby League, Rugby Union, AFL or Soccer field. Therefore Oztag is not limited by field types of size in order to conduct games / competitions.

1.1. Overview

Oztag is a non-tackling game with limited contact and the rules are designed to encourage this. Passing, catching, tagging, evasive and kicking are the skills utilised in Oztag. It is played over two 20 minutes periods with eight players from each team on the field.

The object of the game is to score tries. Defenders prevent this by tagging the ball carrier (removing the tag from the shorts). Players must wear official 'Oztag shorts' with a Velcro patch on each side and a 'tag' is supplied (a strip of cloth is attached to the Velcro).

Tagging instead of tackling is great for players of all skill levels, size and weight to compete evenly. To clarify the contact rule: an attacker cannot run straight at a defender, it is their responsibility to run at gaps. A defender cannot impede the progress of an attacker, so if you try to get a tag and bump the attacker you may well be penalised. The rule is whoever initiates contact will be penalised.

Oztag is a fast paced exciting sport that can be enjoyed by male, female and mixed teams of all athletic abilities from the ages of 5 – 60. Oztag competitions are currently run in midweek after school/work in both summer and winter. Many friends, family and work colleagues form teams primarily for fun and fitness. The attraction of Oztag is that there is no training, no volunteer duties and team coaches aren't required for seasonal games.

Oztag also offers involvement at a representative or elite level - State Cup and National championships in a range of age divisions. Junior divisions from under 8 to 16, and adult divisions in Men, Women & Mixed Open. Men's divisions like over 30, 35, 40, 45 & 50 have become very popular at Representative level. Internationally, Australia is leading the way, but countries like New Zealand and Pacific Islands, Ireland, United Kingdom, South Africa, USA and Japan are all at various developmental stages in the form of Rugby Tag or Rugby League tag.

The first Oztag competitions started in the summer of 1992/1993 at Cronulla with 28 teams and St George with 12 teams. Since then Oztag has enjoyed an extremely rapid growth throughout the country. The Australian Oztag Sports Association (AOSA) was formed in 1994 as an incorporated organisation. The AOSA currently aims to provide opportunities for people to participate at all levels, by developing, promoting and managing the game of Oztag in Australia. Juniors were introduced in the 1996/1997 summer season and have had substantial growth. Nationally, Oztag competitions are conducted in NSW, ACT, QLD, SA, WA & VIC.

Figures 1.1 and 1.2 are photos taken at the 2012 junior state cup. It shows how the tagging system works with tags attached to the Oztag shorts.

Figure 1.1: Oztag Junior State Cup photo – Townsville Blackhawks representative



Figure 1.2: Oztag Junior State Cup photo – Townsville Blackhawks representative



1.2. Field Dimensions

Figure 1.3 provides an example of how a senior field should be set out and figure 1.4 provides an example of how a junior field should be set out. The junior field should be used for under 6 – under 8 age groups only, while the under 10 and above age groups should use the senior field set up. From the dimensions below it can be identified that two senior Oztags fields and four junior Oztags fields would fit on any normal size rugby league, rugby union or soccer field.

Key: ↑ = large witches hat, ☆ = yellow markers, ○ = white markers

Figure 1.3: Senior field set up

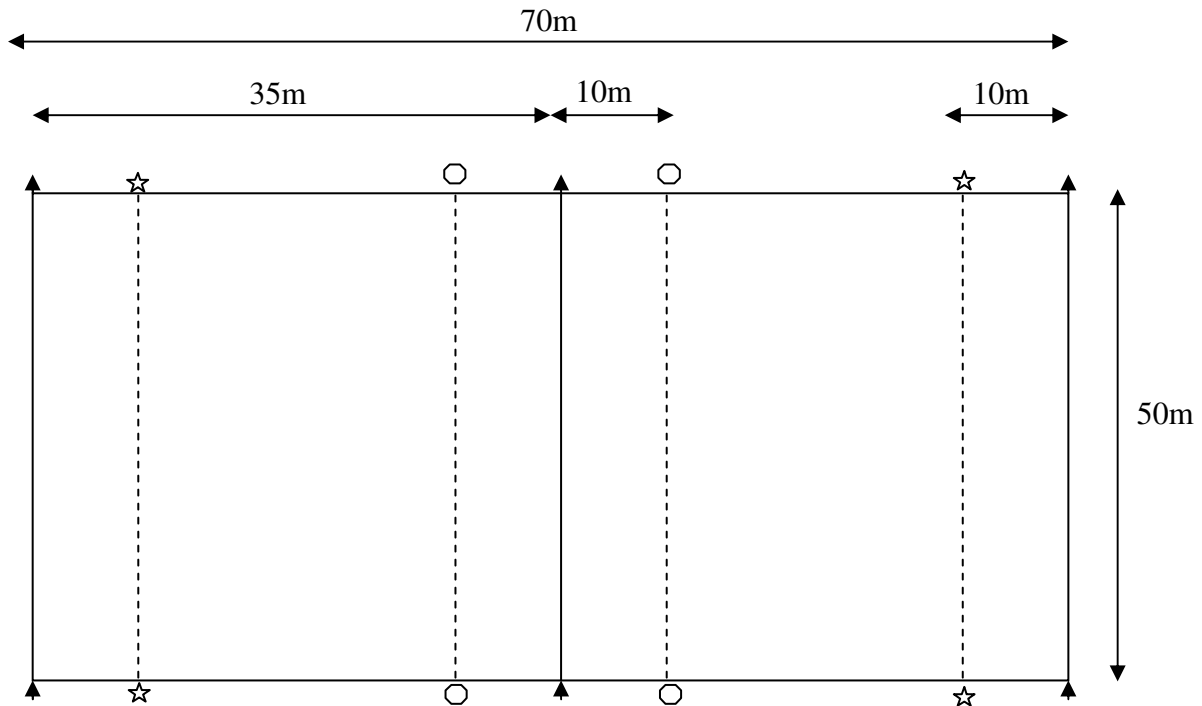
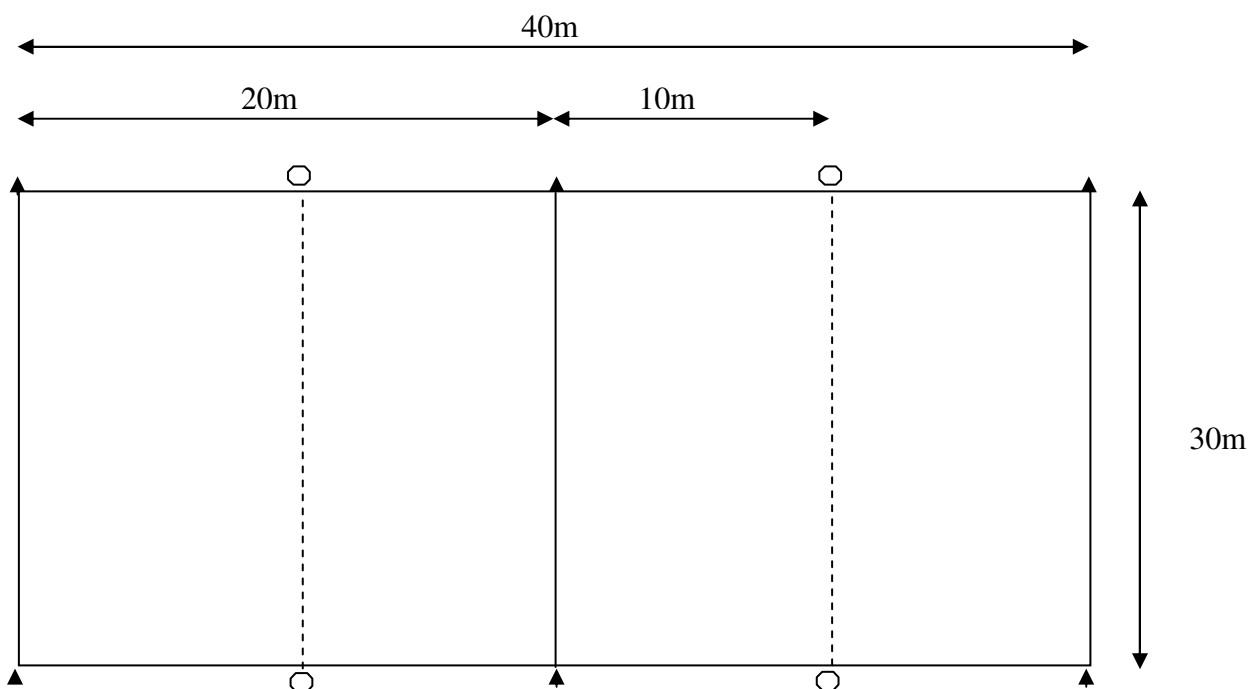


Figure 1.4: Junior field set up



2. Queensland Oztag

2.1. Staff and Structure

The sport of Oztag in Queensland has a State and National Governing body. Queensland Oztag is itself an incorporated association ([Appendix 1](#)) that oversees all Oztag operations within the state to ensure any Oztag programs implemented adheres to strict performance guidelines. If you require any more information please feel free to contact Queensland Oztag:

Phone: 1300 4 69824 (1300 4 OZTAG)
 Address: Qld Oztag
 PO Box 1637,
 Buddina,
 Qld 4575
 Website: www.queenslandoztag.com.au

Figure 2.1 provides the structure of Qld Oztag. Contact details of Qld Oztag head office staff and their specific roles are identified in table 2.1. Each region identified in figure 2.1 consists of zones and each zone consists of venues. Each of the venues has a Venue Coordinator that coordinates each Oztag competition across the state. Table 2.2 provides the contact details for all current Venue Coordinators throughout Queensland.

Figure 2.1: Oztag Structure

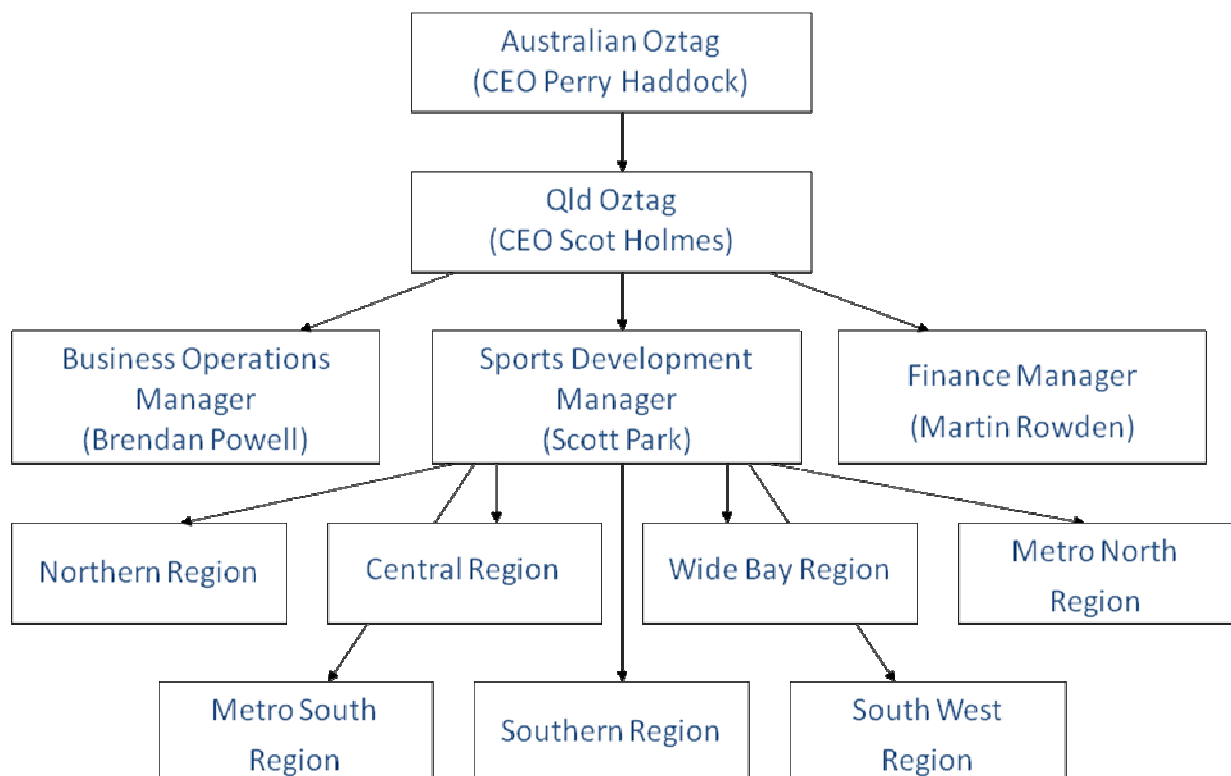


Table 2.1: Qld Oztag contact details

Name	Role	Email	Phone
Scot Holmes	CEO	scot@oztag.com	██████████
Brendan Powell	Business Operations Manager	brendan@oztag.com	██████████
Martin Rowden	Finance Manager	accounts@oztag.com	
Scott Park	Sports Development Manager	scottp@oztag.com	██████████
Leigh de Jersey	Sports Development Officer	leigh@oztag.com	██████████

Table 2.2: Qld Oztag Venue Coordinator contact details

Name	Venue	Phone	Website	Email
Sue Salmon	Albany Creek	██████████	www.albanycreekoztag.com	albanycreek@oztag.com
Sue Salmon	Ashmore	██████████	www.ashmoreoztag.com	ashmore@oztag.com
Peri Waaka	Beenleigh	██████████	www.beenleigoztag.com	beenleigh@oztag.com
Allen Taylor	Bulimba	██████████	www.bulimbaoztag.com	bulimba@oztag.com
Chris Sachlikidis	Bray Park	██████████	www.brayparkoztag.com	braypark@oztag.com
Chris Sachlikidis	Caboolture	██████████	www.cabooltureoztag.com	caboolture@oztag.com
Geoff Byfield	Cairns Central	██████████	www.cairnscentroztag.com	cairnscentral@oztag.com
Leigh de Jersey	Caloundra	██████████	www.caloundraoztag.com	caloundra@oztag.com
Allen Taylor	Capalaba	██████████	www.capalabaoztag.com	capalaba@oztag.com
Geoff Byfield	Cooktown	██████████	www.cooktownoztag.com	cooktown@oztag.com
Michelle Gripske	Coolum	██████████	www.coolumoztag.com	coolum@oztag.com
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Sue Salmon	Ferny Hills	██████████	www.fernyhillskoztag.com	fernyhills@oztag.com
Chris Sachlikidis	Gympie	██████████	www.gympieoztag.com	gympie@oztag.com
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Simon Cristaudo	Ingham	██████████	www.inghamoztag.com	ingham@oztag.com
Peri Waaka	Labrador	██████████	www.labradoroztag.com	labrador@oztag.com
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Linda Lang	Mansfield	██████████	www.mansfieldoztag.com	mansfield@oztag.com
Scott Park	Maroochydore	██████████	www.maroochydoreoztag.com	maroochydore@oztag.com
Glen Hanson	Maryborough	██████████	www.maryboroughoztag.com	maryborough@oztag.com
Andrew Pye	Miami	██████████	www.miamioztag.com	miami@oztag.com
Linda Lang	Moorooka	██████████	www.moorookaoztag.com	moorooka@oztag.com
Scott Park	Nambour	██████████	www.nambouroztag.com	nambour@oztag.com

Peter Brown	Nerang	██████████	www.nerangoztag.com	nerang@oztag.com
Michelle Gripske	Noosa	██████████	www.noosaoztag.com	noosa@oztag.com
Sacha Schuller	Northlakes	██████████	www.northlakesoztag.com	northlakes@oztag.com
Andrew Pye	Palm Beach	██████████	www.palmbeachoztag.com	palmbeach@oztag.com
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Sharon Allen	Townsville South	██████████	www.townsvillesouthoztag.com	townsvillesouth@oztag.com
Cameron Donaldson	Toowoomba	██████████	www.toowoombaoztag.com	toowoomba@oztag.com
Andrew Pye	Tweed	██████████	www.tweedcoastoztag.com	tweedcoast@oztag.com
Cicely Baira	Weipa	██████████	www.weipaoztag.com	weipa@oztag.com
Dennis Kearn	Wynnum	██████████	www.wynnumoztag.com	wynnum@oztag.com

2.2. Oztag Participation Levels

Queensland has seen amazing growth in the last 24 months growing from 9 to 31 associations state-wide. The growth will continue in 2012 and into 2016. The following section identifies current participation levels for Oztag in Queensland. It also identifies the growth that has occurred in the recent history and the expected growth that will occur for the period 2012-2016. Table 2.3 illustrates the growth of participation numbers in regular Oztag competitions / season's state wide including predicted growth for 2012 and 2016.

Table 2.3: Qld Oztag participation growth

	2010	2011	2012 (predicted)	2016 (predicted)
Senior Teams	775	1016	1392	2700
Junior Teams	235	378	729	3500
Venues	22	28	31	45

Note: Each team has a minimum of 10 players.

2.3. Community Programs

Additional to conducting Oztag competitions there are a number of community programs that are conducted by Qld Oztag's Venue Coordinators throughout the state. These programs are designed to accomplish two primary objectives:

1. Increase physical activity levels (and health) of the community via Oztag participation.
2. Give back to the community via donations, free programs or targeting specific sectors of the community that require assistance in some manner.

The Community Programs illustrates that Oztag is far more reaching than simply conducting social competitions and as a result the Oztag market/audience far exceeds the participation numbers for any regular season competition. It also highlights that an underlying ethos of Qld Oztag is to provide opportunities for and to give back to the community. Examples of the programs Qld Oztag deliver include:

- Community tournaments
- Charity events
- "Tagging Out Crime" Corrective Service Program
- Schools program

2.3.1. Community Tournaments

These events are open to all members of the community, not just current Oztag players. Specifically the target audience for these events are people that do not necessarily know about Oztag and certainly are typically more sedentary in lifestyle. For this reason these events, unlike the charity events, only last for 1 hour. The aim of these events are to expose the participants to a sport that is non-contact and caters for all sporting levels, ages, sizes and abilities...ultimately to encourage greater sports participation levels from this sector of the community who typically do not participate in sporting activities.

The event structure is a one hour round robin event with 12 teams participating. Given its small time frame this event is able to be conducted of an evening through the week however weekends are also used. Also given its small time frames multiple events can be comfortably held in a calendar year.

2.3.2. Charity Events

These events are conducted to raise money for a chosen charity and typically last the majority of a day. In 2010 and 2011 the charity chosen was the Starlight Children's Foundation. [Appendix 2](#) is letter from Starlight confirming our involvement. The events take the format of a round robin tournament with participants typically coming from within current Oztag ranks, however all members of the community are invited to participate. All profits made from these events are given to the chosen charity.

As well as conducting the Oztag round robin tournament other activities are held at these events such as relay races, pass the ball competitions, and auctions all aimed at raising money for the charity. The event also includes activities for children (such as jumping castles and relays) to foster a "family" day and encourage increased participation levels.



2010 Starlight Charity Challenge Pass-the-ball competition

2.3.3. “Tagging Our Crime” Corrective Services Program

There is a myriad of research that supports the notion that sport not only reduces the levels of criminal activity within a community, but also it a effective tool to rehabilitate those individuals who do commit anti social behaviour. Some examples include research into:

- crime prevention (Hartmann & Depro 2006)
- drug use (Crabbe 2000)
- racism (King, Leonard & Kusz 2007)
- youth development / anti-social behaviour (Beedy 2007, Walseth 2006, Holroyd & Armour 2003)
- developing leadership, independence, responsibility, improving self-esteem, respect, perseverance and teamwork (Beedy 2007, Taks & Scheerder 2006)

This free program has been developed and is delivered to assist forgotten members of the community to become functional members of society and/or provide sporting opportunities within the Corrective Services system ultimately to provide an avenue for rehabilitation. This is achieved this via the vehicle of Ozttag however this program is conducted as a round robin tournament and education/training of inmates to becomes referees and development officers. This program started in 2012 and it is the aim of Qld Ozttag to have the program run within each Correctional Services facility within Queensland by 2013.



The Woodford Correctional Services Facility crew.

2.3.4. Schools Programs

Oztag Associations will be heavily involved with school's Oztag participation in the next 12 months – 5 years. The involvement has been met with great enthusiasm and support from the participating schools as indicated by letters of support we have received. [Appendix 3](#) contains a sample of the letters. This involvement will come in five stages:

- Stage 1 – Introduction
 - School clinics – Primary Schools
 - Lunch time program – High Schools
- Stage 2 – Physical Education classes
- Stage 3 – Intraschool sport
- Stage 4 – Interschool sport
- Stage 5 – Representative competitions

Stage 1 – Introduction

This stage is about introducing the game of Oztag to schools and increasing activity levels of school students through the use of Oztag. It is important to note that once a school has been involved with Qld Oztag and had clinics conducted at the school Qld Oztag involvement with the school not only continues but strengthens through not only conducting more clinics but the other stages of schools participation.

All Qld Oztag Development Officers that will be conducting these activities have Blue Cards, have undergone training by Qld Oztag to conduct the activities, and follow lessons plans developed in order to maximise student experience and learning.

School Clinics – Primary Schools

School clinics are conducted at primary schools in terms 2 and 3 of the school year. A single school clinic represents one 30 minute session with a single class. This is done in conjunction with the schools timetables, and individual's requests and demands.

Lunch Time Program – High Schools

Lunch time programs are conducted at high schools in terms 1 and 4 of the school year. The programs are conducted during a school lunch time and is aimed at increasing activity levels of the students during this time. This is done in conjunction with the schools timetables, and individual's requests and demands.

Stage 2 – PE Lessons

Now that schools have been introduced to Oztag the focus here is for schools to now have Oztag as part of the school's PE curriculum. The involvement of Qld Oztag and individual venues is limited at this level. This is because the onus is now on the schools to deliver Oztag within the schools. This is more of a supporting role to the schools where needed. It may include delivering individual lessons as part of the school Oztag unit or through providing training to PE teachers on the fundamentals of Oztag. Qld Oztag has also developed a five week unit plan to provide to schools to assist in this process.

Stage 3 – Intraschool Sport Competition

The focus here is for schools to now have Oztag as part of the intraschool (in-house) sport competition. The involvement of Qld Oztag and individual venues is limited at this level. This is because the onus is now on the schools to deliver Oztag within the schools. This is more of a supporting role to the schools. It may include:

- Assistance with draw generation
- Providing referees throughout the competition
- Training/qualify staff to be able to referee

Stage 4 – Interschool Sport Competition

The focus here is for schools to now have Oztag as part of the interschool sport competition. The involvement of Qld Oztag and individual venues is limited at this level. This is because the onus is now on the schools to conduct Oztag as a sport between schools. This is more of a supporting role to the schools. It may include:

- Assistance with draw generation
- Providing referees throughout the competition
- Training/qualify staff to be able to referee



Interschool sport champions.

Stage 5 – Representative Teams/Competitions

The focus here is now to develop Oztag as part of a normal school “representative” calendar. This will involve all levels of representation – zone, region and state. Each carnival conducted will result in the next level of team selected to participate in the next level of carnival:

- School team participates at zone carnival - zone representative team selected to participate at regional carnival
- Zone team participates at regional carnival - regional representative team selected to participate at state carnival
- Regional team participates at state carnival - state representative team selected to participate at national titles
- Australian merit squad selected from national titles with vision of conducting international competition

2.4. Qld Oztag Representative Pathways

A dramatic increase in player participation numbers has caused for representative pathways to be further developed and more stringent guidelines applied for regular season competitions. The following information outlines the structure of the representative pathways that exist for players and the tournaments in which they participate in.

2.4.1. Qld Oztag Associations/Venues Structure

Qld Oztag has divided the State into different regions and within each region different zones. All current and future venues fit within this model. In terms of representative Oztag the model identifies representative pathways:

- All regional areas will be represented at the National Titles
- All zones will be represented at the Qld State Cup

Table 2.4 lists the venue model identifying how the State is broken into regions, zones within each region, and venues within each zone. It also identifies existing venues and additional venue marked for expansion in 2013 and for 2014 and beyond.

Table 2.4: Qld Oztag Regions, Zones and Venues

Region	Zone	Venues	Current	2013	2014+	
1. Northern	1. Far North Queensland	1. Cairns Central	X			
		2. Cairns South		X		
		3. Cooktown	X			
		4. Weipa	X			
		5. Bamaga			X	
		6. Kowanyama			X	
		7. Mornington Island			X	
		8. Doomadgee	X			
		9. Normanton	X			
		10. Atherton			X	
		11. Mareeba		X		
		12. Innisfail			X	
	2. North Queensland	13. Townsville North			X	
		14. Townsville South	X			
		15. Townsville City	X			
		16. Burdekin/Ayr			X	
		17. Mt Isa			X	
		18. Ingham	X			
		19. Charters Towers			X	
2. Central	3. Whitsunday Coast	20. Mackay		X		
		21. Bowen			X	
		22. Proserpine			X	
		23. Sarina			X	
		24. Airlie Beach			X	

Central (cont)	4. Capricorn Coast	25. Rockhampton	X		
		26. Yeppoon			X
		27. Gladstone		X	
	5. Central West	28. Emerald			X
		29. Winton			X
		30. Barcaldine			X
		31. Longreach			X
		32. Blackwater			X
		33. Moranbah			X
3. Wide Bay	6. Fraser Coast	34. Hervey Bay	X		
		35. Bundaberg		X	
		36. Maryborough	X		
	7. Burnett	37. Kingaroy			X
		38. Nanango			X
		39. Murgon			X
		40. Mundubbera			X
		41. Gayndah			X
		42. Monto			X
	8. Sunshine Coast Nth	43. Maroochydore	X		
		44. Noosa	X		
		45. Coolum	X		
		46. Gympie			X
		47. Nambour	X		
	9. Sunshine Coast Sth	48. Caboolture	X		
		49. Bribie			X
		50. Beerwah			X
		51. Caloundra	X		
4. Metropolitan North	10. Brisbane North	52. North Lakes	X		
		53. Redcliffe	X		
		54. Bray Park	X		
	11. Brisbane Hills District	55. Kenmore		X	
		56. Albany Creek	X		
		57. Ashmore	X		
	12. Brisbane City	58. Ferny Hills	X		
		59. Wavell Heights	X		
		60. Stafford	X		

5. Metropolitan South	13. Brisbane Bay District	61. Wynnum	X		
		62. Capalaba	X		
		63. Redland Bay		X	
	14. Brisbane Rivers District	64. Moorooka	X		
		65. South Bank			X
		66. Bulimba	X		
	15. Brisbane Plains District	67. Richlands	X		
		68. Browns Plains			X
		69. Sunnybank			X
		70. Mansfield	X		
71. Logan		X			
6. South West	16. Darling Downs	72. Toowoomba West	X		
		73. Toowoomba East			X
		74. Warwick			X
		75. Gatton			X
		76. Dalby			X
		77. Stanthorpe	X		
	17. Western Downs	78. St George			X
		79. Cunnamulla			X
		80. Roma			X
		81. Charleville			X
7. Southern	18. Gold Coast North	82. Beenleigh	X		
		83. Nerang		X	
		84. Labrador	X		
	85. Coomera		X		
	19. Gold Coast South	86. Miami	X		
		87. Palm Beach	X		
88. Tweed Heads		X			

2.4.2. Representative Tournaments

It is the association/venue structure identified in table 3.1 that creates representative pathways for our players at club level. Several Oztag tournaments are held annually specifically related to our representative calendar:

- Locally hosted representative trials
- State and National held tournaments

Local Oztag Associations Representative Trials

These are run by individual venues and/or a combination of multiple venues. The tournaments/events are used to select representative teams to participate at Oztag representative tournaments. These trials include:

1. Junior Venue Selection trails – Conducted to select junior teams to be represented at the Qld Junior State Cup
2. Senior Zone Selection trails – Conducted to select senior teams to be represented at the Qld Senior State Cup
3. Junior Zone Selection trails – Conducted to select junior teams to be represented at the Junior National Titles
4. Senior Regional Selection trials – Conducted to select senior teams to be represented at the Senior National Titles

State and National Held Tournaments

There will be several tournaments that Oztag venues and their players from throughout the state will be represented at every year. These are

1. Qld Senior State Cup – Senior representative teams from each zone compete.
2. Qld Junior State Cup – Junior representative teams from each venue compete.
3. NQ Top End Cup – Held towards the end of the year, this welcomes individual teams from all Oztag venues to participate. This tournament is held in Cairns.
4. Senior National Titles – Senior representative teams from each region compete.
5. Junior National Titles – Junior representative teams from each zone compete.
6. Senior State of Origin – Senior Qld teams competes against NSW in the State of Origin.
7. Junior State of Origin – Junior Qld teams competes against NSW in the State of Origin.
8. International tournaments – Every year Australian teams are selected to participate against international teams. Every 3 years an Oztag World Cup is also conducted. The next World Cup is in 2012 and to be held in Sydney.

Now that Qld Oztag has established a representative pathway at club level, it is the primary aim of Qld Oztag to establish representative pathways within the Queensland Education school system.



2011 Junior State Cup players

3. Qld Oztag Mooroo-Mooroo Program

3.1. Overview

Mooroo-Mooroo is Gubbi Gubbi (Sunshine Coast) language for “full of life” which is the philosophy this program was written and is conducted for. This event is aimed at increasing health awareness and sport participation levels of the Indigenous population, ultimately to close the gap between the Indigenous Australia and the rest of society. This free program offers several weeks of clinics to its participants culminating in a round robin tournament. As well as physical activity other aspects of health are also addressed including nutrition and mental health.

Additional to increasing participation in Oztag, the program aims to empower participants through providing job opportunities. This includes qualifying identified participants to become Oztag referees to be able to referee at local competitions and representative tournaments, and where possible the opportunity of coordinating an Oztag venue with the community is also on offer. This is done within areas that a local Oztag competition is not currently run and ensures that the effects of the program are long lasting and continue to assist/benefit the community. [Appendix 4](#) provides newspaper clipping and letters of supports for 2 programs already conducted in Far North Queensland and Caboolture..



Presentation at the Caboolture Mooroo-Mooroo tournament.

3.2. Aim and Objectives

The aim of the Qld Oztag Mooroo-Mooroo Program is to develop Oztag programs within Indigenous communities as a vehicle to promote awareness in participation, health and physical well-being and with a view to be self sustaining. It provides opportunities for Indigenous children, teenagers and adults to become involved in playing, coaching, refereeing, and administration of Oztag in Qld.

To achieve this aim our objectives are to:

1. To increase the active participation of able and disabled Indigenous Australians in sport and physical recreation activities. This will be achieved through:
 - Through our Sports Development Officers conducting clinics on Oztag skill development to Indigenous Australians (primarily youth) involved with Indigenous organisations and within Indigenous communities
 - Through the training of Indigenous Development Officers to provide ongoing training in the skills of Oztag to Indigenous Australians (primarily youth) involved with Indigenous organisations and within Indigenous communities
 - Through increasing participation in Oztag regular season competitions at their nearest venues. This is a natural progression from the clinics mentioned above. Incentives to participate will also be available (such as free teams fees and merchandise)...ultimately we envisage whole teams entering from with the clinic program. OR if the communities are too remote then we will assist the community in starting their own Oztag competition.
 - Through increasing participation in Oztag tournaments. This is a natural progression from the regular season competitions mentioned above. Incentives to participate will also be available (such as free team fees and merchandise). Tournament participation will include a dedicated Indigenous tournament once the full program is implemented. For this tournament we envisage whole teams entering from with the clinic program. Representative participation through our mainstream tournaments hosted by Qld Oztag and AOSA will also be available to all participants.
 - Through referee participation at regular season competitions and at tournaments.

2. To encourage and increase community ownership and management of sport and physical recreation activities, including through skills development. This will be achieved through:
 - Qld Oztag will provide key community organisations with an expression of interest to become Indigenous Development Officers for Qld Oztag. The Indigenous Development Officers are embedded in the community and will continue to conduct Oztag clinics, organise teams to participate in regular season competitions and to participate in tournaments, and organise Oztag competitions (if applicable). The now trained and qualified person/s can now conduct the Oztag clinics and competitions (if applicable) without assistance being needed. Qld Oztag will however be always available to provide ongoing assistance if needed.
 - Qld Oztag will train other community members to become referees. These people will then not only be able to assist at any community programs the people identified above conduct, but also eligible to referee at local Oztag competitions and at tournaments.

3. To encourage drug-free participation and respect for players, officials and spectators.

Any participation in Oztag must be done within the code of conduct (Policy Manual section 2). Within the code of conduct a player, spectator, parent and coach must abide all rules of the code or else they deal with the consequences (including suspension and life bans - section 13 of Policy Manual). Contained with the code are areas specifically address drug and alcohol free participation and respect for all involved with Oztag.

3.3. Structure

The Qld Oztag Mooroo-Mooroo Program is broken into two sub projects that align with the program aims:

1. Healthy Lifestyles through Oztag
2. Life Skills through Oztag

3.3.1. Healthy Lifestyles through Oztag

This project will focus on increasing sports participation of Oztag through regular and ongoing participation by Indigenous community members in:

- Oztag clinics
- Regular season competitions
- Representative tournaments

Whilst thousands of families from mainstream society have benefited from participating in Oztag, our feedback has been that members of Indigenous communities often lack the resources and the confidence to attend mainstream local programs.

The major benefits will be:

- The fostering of self esteem, self efficacy, self responsibility and internal motivation.
- The nurturing of skills in Oztag providing a platform for lifelong involvement.
- The building of confidence and understanding to be able to assimilate into mainstream activities.

Our outcomes will be:

- Growth in the number of participants involved at Oztag activities.
- The number of Oztag venues servicing Indigenous communities will increase.
- The number of Indigenous participants involved in the coordination and development of Oztag will grow.

3.3.2. Life Skills through Oztag

This project will focus on strengthening Indigenous families and communities by increasing the life skills of selected community members through training community members to be:

- Oztag referees to referee at Oztag competitions and tournaments
- Qld Oztag Indigenous Development Officers to coordinate and manage Oztag activities within their communities and potentially become Venue Coordinators to manage their own venue.

Qld Oztag qualified Sports Development Officers will provide training to Indigenous community members to become qualified referees and Indigenous Development Officers. The training received will be done in conjunction with conducting Oztag clinics within the community and initiating the community Oztag program.

Once the training is received the Indigenous Development Officers will be encouraged and supported to continue the Healthy Lifestyles through Oztag program in the community in line with the three Oztag seasons each year. Ongoing assistance and communication will continue between the Indigenous Development Officers, the Sports Development Officers and Qld Oztag to ensure all needs are being met by the Indigenous Development Officers and therefore the community to ensure the Healthy Lifestyles through Oztag program continues.

Development Officers, local Indigenous role models will be the vehicles for the delivery of this objective. The training of this group on how to conduct Oztag programs will result in short and long term benefits, both in participation and life skills. Leadership skills will be developed, as these community members are involved in our refereeing and development courses.

Indigenous sportsmen and women have always been a source of inspiration to the Indigenous communities, especially young people. The training to be provided to Oztag Indigenous participants will result in more well equipped and motivated referees and development officers to support the Oztag Indigenous Program.

Strengthening Indigenous Communities

Involvement in Oztag provides an avenue for young people and their families to build strong relationships and connect to a wider community that leads to developing a sense of belonging. Further, many of the leadership, decision making and organising skills gained by people participating in Oztag are transferable to other community activities making Oztag an important incubator of the skills required to sustain other community organisations. An important focus of the Oztag Indigenous program is to connect Indigenous communities and mainstream communities through their mutual interest in Oztag as supporters or participants.

Our outcomes:

- Increasing the incidence of the engagement and participation of Indigenous people in the affairs of the local community
- Developing recognition, respect and empathy for the cultures, social values, customary practices and aspirations of both the Indigenous and mainstream sectors of community through cultural exchanges between Indigenous and mainstream Oztag Venues.
- New and innovative programs will be established which will bring further benefits to Indigenous groups and the community at large.
- A higher level of consultation with Indigenous community groups at forums designed to share experiences and to plan programs and strategies which will enhance community participation.
- Expanding the number of Oztag Indigenous Development Officers will greatly enhance the level of consultation and partnership with government agencies and Indigenous networks and result in better practice, healthier and more inclusive Oztag environments, and more effective communities.

3.4. Proposed Locations

Two slightly different types of locations will exist within the program:

- Locations that are near existing Oztag venues
- Locations that are not near existing Oztag venues

Indigenous Development Officers at both type of locations will receive the identical training and go through the same qualifying processes, however venues that are not near existing Oztag venues will receive the option to become a Venue Coordinator and manage a sanctioned Qld Oztag venue.

Table 3.1 lists the total proposed locations for this program split into the two categories of near or not near existing Oztag venues. The locations are also divided into the zone and regional structure within Qld Oztag, with a total of 71 locations to be covered in the full program.

Table 3.1: Qld Oztag Region, Zones and Proposed Locations

Region	Zone	Locations near existing venues	Locations NOT near existing venues
1. Northern	1. Far North Queensland	1. Cairns	1. Atherton
		2. Cooktown	2. Mareeba
		3. Weipa	3. Innisfail
			4. Aurukun
			5. Bamaga
			6. Doomadgee
			7. Badu Island
			8. Burketown
			9. Kowanyama
			10. Mornington Island
			11. Normanton
	2. North Queensland	4. Townsville	12. Ayr
		5. Ingham	13. Mt Isa
			14. Cloncurry
		15. Charters Towers	
2. Central	3. Whitsunday Coast		16. Mackay
	4. Capricorn Coast	6. Rockhampton	17. Yeppoon
			18. Gladstone
	5. Central West		19. Emerald
			20. Winton
			21. Barcaldine
			22. Longreach
			23. Blackwater
			24. Moranbah

**Submission 013
Attachment A**

3. Wide Bay	6. Fraser Coast	7. Hervey Bay	25. Bundaberg
			26. Maryborough
	7. Sunshine Coast Nth	8. Gympie	
		9. Nambour	
	8. Sunshine Coast Sth	10. Caboolture	27. Bribie Island
			28. Beerwah
	9. Burnett		29. Kingaroy
			30. Nanango
			31. Cherbourg
			32. Mundubbera
		33. Gayndah	
		34. Monto	
4. Metropolitan North	10. Brisbane City	11. Hickey Park	
	11. Brisbane North	12. Bray Park	35. Redcliffe
	12. Brisbane West	13. Springfield Lakes	
		14. Ipswich	
5. Metropolitan South	13. Brisbane Bay District	15. Wynnum	36. Redland Bay
	14. Brisbane Rivers District	16. Moorooka	
	15. Brisbane South	17. Mansfield	
		18. Sunnybank	
		19. Logan	
	16. Brisbane Plains District	20. Richlands	
		21. Browns Plains	
6. South West	17. Darling Downs	22. Toowoomba	37. Warwick
		23. Stanthorpe	38. Gatton
			39. Dalby
	18. Western Downs		40. St George
			41. Cunnamulla
			42. Roma
			43. Charleville
7. Southern	19. Gold Coast North	24. Beenleigh	44. Beaudesert
		25. Nerang	
	20. Gold Coast South	26. Miami	
		27. Tweed Heads	

3.4.1. Implementation Plan

Following the pilot program conducted in Far North Queensland and additional program conducted in the Moreton Bay Region (Caboolture) the aim of the Mooroo-Mooroo program as a whole is to implement it across the state. However for this to occur Qld Oztag is reliant on funding to be received. To date two additional programs have been planned and funding secured for their implementation. These programs can be identified in table 3.2.

Table 3.2: Mooroo-Mooroo Program implementation plan

Program / Region	Areas/Communities the program will be conducted in	Expected Participation Rates	Start Date	End Date
FNQ	Cairns South Normanton Mareeba Innisfail Bamaga	Approx 1800	September 2012	September 2015
Moreton Bay	Caboolture Albany Creek	Approx 600	November 2012	December 2012

3.5. Number of Participants

While it is impossible to provide an exact figure of the number of participants that will participate in both projects an estimate can be provided based on participation rates of Qld Oztag Indigenous programs provided previously. The estimates for the full program are:

- Healthy Lifestyles Project: = 9940 participants
 - 71 locations x 140 participants (average per location)
- Life Skills Project (referees): = 426 participants
 - 71 locations x 6 participants (average per location)
- Life Skills Project (Indigenous Development Officers): = 71 participants
 - 71 locations x 1 participants (average per location)

Therefore it is estimated a total number of 10437 Indigenous community members will participate in the full Mooroo-Mooroo program.

3.6. Target groups

The target group for this program can be identified as follows:

- Age groups:

- Life skills program -18+ for the people we train
- Healthy Lifestyles program - 15+ for referees, 5+ for players (juniors - 5-14, seniors – 15+)
- 90-100% Indigenous participants – key non-Indigenous members of the community may choose to participate also
- Genders – both male and female
- Disability – not targeted but welcome as per Qld Oztag Policy manual

3.7. Training and Qualifying

Training and qualifying of participants will differ slightly for the two projects.

3.7.1. Healthy Lifestyles through Oztag

- Oztag clinics conducted by Qld Oztag qualified Sports Development Officers and Indigenous Development Officers (through the Life Skills Project) to learn fundamental skills of Oztag including:
 - Tagging
 - Tag evasion
 - Attacking skills
 - Defensive skills
 - Rules of Oztag

3.7.2. Life Skills through Oztag

Referees

All trainee referees will receive the following training and/or undergo the following qualifying processes:

- Referee level qualifying (see manual attached). Skill learnt includes
 - Communication – verbal, non-verbal, whistle technique
 - Conflict resolution
 - Fitness
 - Oztag rules
 - Game control
 - Field positioning
 - Time management / punctuality
 - Responsibility
- Referee course (see manual attached)
- Ongoing referee clinics to maintain referee skills
- Training from Qld Oztag qualified Sports Development Officers and Indigenous Development Officers (through the Life Skills Project) in skills unique to Oztag

Indigenous Development Officers

Additional to the referee training and qualifying, Indigenous Development Officers will also receive following training in and/or undergo the following qualifying processes:

- Venue Coordinator Qualifying process (see attached manual). Skills required to complete this task
 - Research
 - Negotiation
- Venue Coordinator Post Qualifying process (see attached manual)
- Training from Qld Oztag qualified Sports Development Officers in:
 - Clinic delivery
 - Venue / Tournament management and administration
 - Venue / Tournament promotion and marketing
 - Venue / Tournament evaluation / reflection
 - Association governance
 - Book keeping
 - Player and referee communication
 - Planning
 - Time management
 - Web site maintenance

3.8. Financial Assistance

To ensure participation levels are at a maximum and to address the low socio-economic status stereo-typically seen within Indigenous communities, it is the aim of Qld Oztag to be able to provide financial assistance to members of both Indigenous Programs Projects. The financial assistance includes:

3.8.1. Healthy Lifestyles through Oztag

- Free Oztag national membership for life
- Free clinics conducted by Qld Oztag qualified development officers
- Full team fees for every participating team into their first Oztag competition
- Free Oztag shorts for every participant
- Free official Qld Oztag cap for every participant
- Free official Qld Oztag water bottle for every participant
- Free team shirts for every participating team
- Free Qld Oztag Indigenous tournament conducted for all participants
- Free player uniforms for all participants in the Qld Oztag Indigenous tournament
- Free National Oztag Indigenous State of Origin tournament (Murri v's Koori)
- Free player uniforms for all Qld Oztag Indigenous representatives at the Murri v's Koori Tournament

3.8.2. Life Skills through Oztag

Referees

- Free referee level qualifying – minimum level 1 referee achieved which will allow the person to referee at any Oztag competition or tournaments throughout Australia (see attached manual)
- Free referee course (see manual attached)
- Free ongoing referee clinics to maintain referee skills
- Free training from Qld Oztag qualified development officers in:
 - Oztag skills
- Free official Oztag referee shirt and shorts
- Free official Qld Oztag cap
- Free official Qld Oztag sports bag
- Free official Qld Oztag towel
- Free official Qld Oztag water bottle
- Free whistle

Indigenous Development Officers

Additional to the referee financial assistance, Indigenous Development Officers will also receive:

- Free Venue Coordinator Qualifying process (see attached manual)
- Free Venue Coordinator Post Qualifying process (see attached manual)
- Free training from Qld Oztag qualified Sports Development Officers in:
 - Clinic delivery
 - Venue management
- Free official Qld Oztag Indigenous Development Officer polo shirt
- Free equipment to conduct Oztag clinics and competitions to ensure the resources exist to be able to continue the Oztag programs within the communities
 - One Oztag kit – tags, balls, rule book and bag
 - Markers
- Free Oztag venue website and web hosting for the new Oztag Associations (where applicable)
- Free Oztag venue email address
- Free marketing and promotional material for new Oztag Associations (where applicable)

3.9. Benefits

Several benefits exist for this program for all involved. These include (but not limited to):

1. Healthy Lifestyle Project Participants
 - a. Increase the physical and mental health of players and referees through increasing participation in Oztag activities
 - b. Increase in social skills (through participation in Oztag competitions and tournaments) such as:
 - Communication

- Leadership
- Teamwork
- Discipline
- Decision making

2. Life Skills Project Participants

- a. Provides an income during Oztag season for qualified referees, and an ongoing revenue stream for Indigenous Development Officers that become Venue Coordinators running their own Oztag association
- b. Provides skills that are transferable into other areas of their life and/or to address community needs
- c. Improved self esteem and sense of being

3. Indigenous Communities

- a. Skilled people within their community to deliver ongoing and sustainable Oztag programs for the benefit of the community and its members
- b. Positive role models created for others to emulate (particularly youth)
- c. Ownership of the Oztag program within the community
- d. Potential revenue stream for the community

4. Qld Oztag Venues

- a. Greater participation rates and therefore a larger talent pool to draw from at representative tournaments

3.10. Key Personnel

There are a number of key personnel associated with this program:

1. Project Manager
2. Qld Oztag Executive Staff
3. Qld Oztag Development Officers

3.10.1. Project Manager

Name: Brendan Powell

Qualifications:

Tertiary: Degree: Master of Business Administration
Institution: University of the Sunshine Coast
Year: 2003 - 2006

Degree: Bachelor of Education (Physical & Health Education)
Institution: University of Wollongong
Year: 1993 - 1997

Secondary: Qualification: Higher School Certificate
Institution: Ballina High School
Year: 1988-1992

Experience:

Brendan is a Worimi man (Central Coast NSW) but grew up in Bundjalung country (Nth Coast NSW). He has been involved in all aspects of Oztag since 1994 including a player at all representative levels (including Internationally), coaching and managing teams, coordinating venues, organising tournaments and is now employed full time by Qld Oztag as Business Operations Manager. In his previous role at the University of the Sunshine Coast he was published in both Indigenous Education participation and Sports Marketing (social sport participation).

Employment:

- Business Operations Manager – Qld Oztag (January 2009 – Present)
- Research and Teaching Fellow – Faculty of Business, University of the Sunshine Coast (Jun 2007 – Jan 2009)
- Indigenous Service Coordinator – University of the Sunshine Coast (Aug 2001 - Jun 2007)
- Curriculum Officer – Australian Rail Training, NSW State Rail Authority (Feb 1998 – July 2001)

3.10.2. Qld Oztag Executive Staff

Chief Executive Officer

Name: Scot Holmes

Qualifications:

Secondary: Qualification: Higher School Certificate
Institution: Ashfield Boys High School
Year: 1988

Employment:

- CEO - QLD Oztag (January 2009- Present)
- Oztag Venue Coordinator – St George and Bankstown Oztag (1998 –Present)
- Sales and Merchandising Manager – Tag Sports Australia (2001-2003)
- Owner/Managers – Sports Care (1997-2001)

Sports Development Manager

Name: Scott Park

Qualifications:

Secondary: Qualification: Higher School Certificate

Institution: Caloundra State High School

Year: 1986-1990

Experience:

Scott has played Rugby League for St George from 1991 – 1994, South Queensland Crushers 1995, and Manly Warringah 1996-1997. Scott is the Founder of Mad Gecko Sports Solutions which caters to the sports and business sector, coordinating software development along with a suite of other services. Scott has been heavily involved with the sport of Oztag since its inception in 1992. He has run school tournaments and both High school and Primary school level as well as coaching and development. Scott also has coordinated his own venue for the past 10 years

Employment:

- Sports Development Manager - QLD Oztag (January 2009- Present)
- Solid plasterer (2002 – 2008)
- Oztag Venue Coordinator – Maroochydore Oztag (2002 –Present)

Finance Manager

Name: Martin Rowden

Qualifications:

- 1993 Admitted as Associate Member to the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia (ACA)
- 1987 – 1990 Bachelor Degree in Economics, Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia.

Experience:

Martin's background offers a range of entrepreneurial expertise matched with institutional and global experience spanning over 20 years. With a BEc and as a qualified Chartered Accountant (ACA), Martin spent 10 years with PriceWaterhouseCoopers in the Financial Advisory Services division before following his passion as an entrepreneur. Since 1997 Martin has been involved (in varying executive and non-executive roles) in no less than 6 successful technology 'start-ups'. Martin has been involved in varying roles with the QLD Oztag management team since 2004.

Employment:

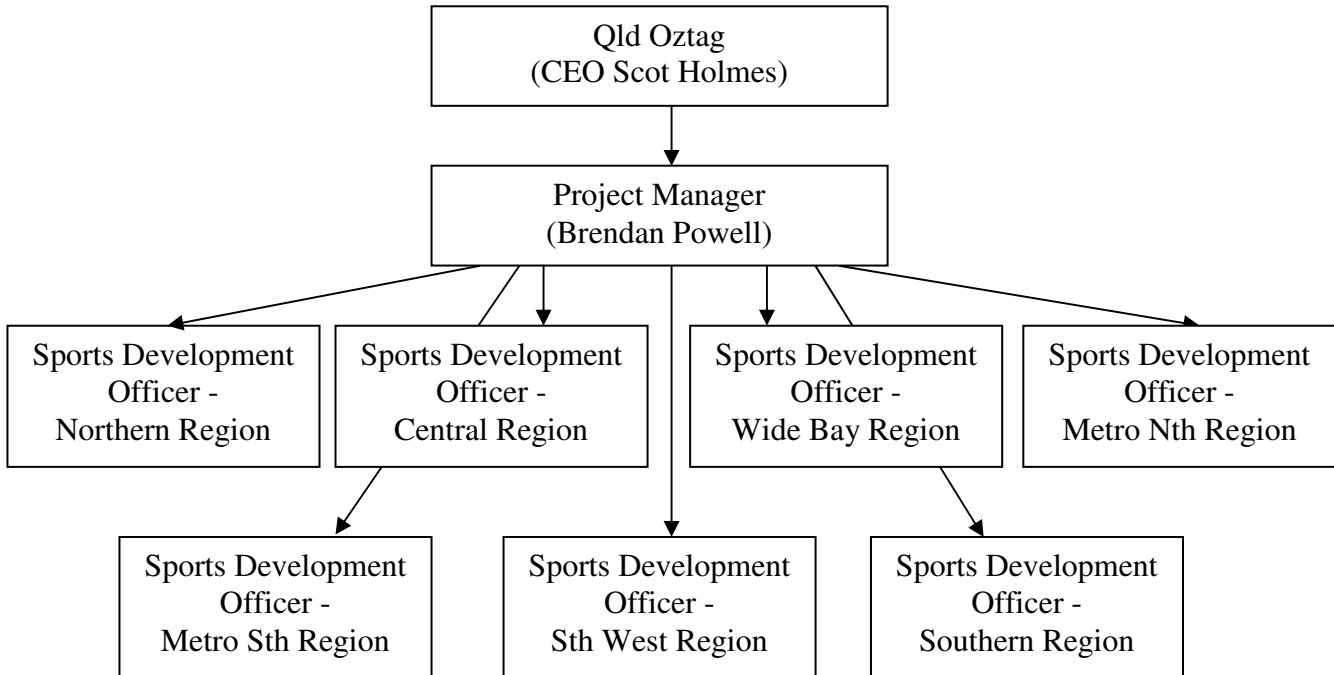
- 1987 – 1997 PricewaterhouseCoopers, Manager, Financial Advisory Services
- 1997 – 2000 Hercules Financial Services Ltd, Founder and Director
- 2000 - 2001 Avanza AB, Country Manager; startup online brokerage business.
- 2001 – Present iPlato Healthcare Ltd, Founder and Director
- 2004 – Present Mad Gecko Ltd, Finance Manager
- 2009 – Present QLD Oztag, Finance Manager

3.10.3. Qld Oztag Sports Development Officers

The Qld Oztag Sports Development Officers for this project will come from the existing Qld Oztag ranks. Qld Oztag currently has 22 qualified and experienced Venue Coordinators. An expression of interest will be sent to each of the Venue Coordinators (including selection criteria to be addressed) and seven Sports Development Officers will be selected for this program based on merit, each Sports Development Officers covering a different region within Qld Oztag.

Figure 3.1 illustrates the management structure of the Mooroo-Mooroo program within Qld Oztag.

Figure 31: Mooroo-Mooroo program management structure



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Appendices

Appendix 1 – Certificate of Incorporation



QUEENSLAND

Associations Incorporation Act 1981
Section 15

Form 15

— Incorporation Number: **IA38449**

Certificate of Incorporation

This is to certify that

QLD. OZTAG GROUP INC.

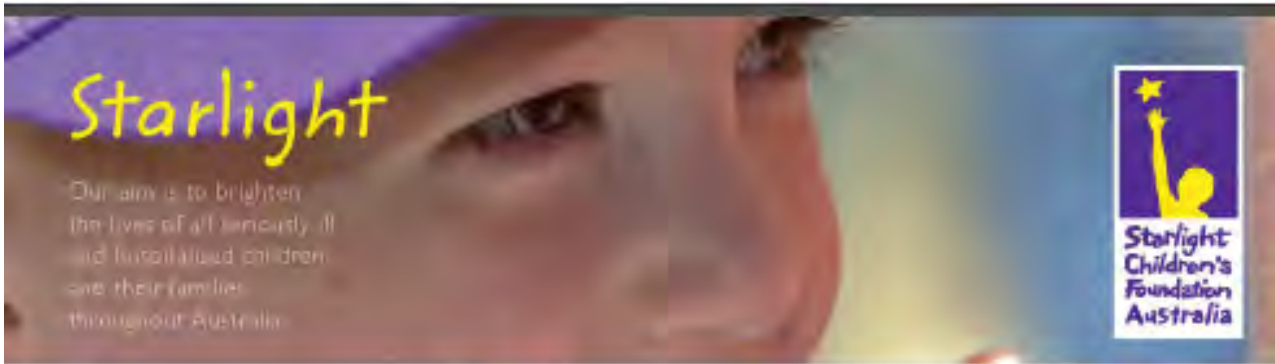
is, on and from the twenty-fourth day of September 2010
incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 1981.

Dated this twenty-fourth day of September 2010



Delegate of Director-General

Appendix 2 – Charity (Starlight Foundation) Events Letter



Thank you for your support!

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This letter is to confirm that **Queensland Oztag** will be conducting fundraising activities in support of the Starlight Children's Foundation.

NAME OF EVENT: Queensland Oztag (Gala Days and HPE Schools Challenge)
DATE: dates to be advised

Every year, there are over 600,000 child admissions to hospitals across Australia and thousands of these children are diagnosed with a serious or terminal illness. That's hundreds of thousands of Australian children who will experience some form of physical pain, not to mention feelings of helplessness, confusion, isolation and boredom.

Currently Starlight reaches only one in three. Our intention is that by 2010 '3 out of 3' seriously ill or hospitalised children, and their families, will have the opportunity to access and benefit from Starlight's programs.

Through innovative programs Starlight provides multiple touch points that enable these children and their families to connect with the magic of the Starlight world:

- Captain Starlight – the human touch!
- Starlight Wishgranting & Escapes – the family experience.
- Starlight TV, Radio & Fun Centres – the diversion and entertainment.
- Starlight Express Rooms & Starlight Express Vans – on location & on the move.

Starlight receives no government funding, relying solely on the dedication and generosity of organisations like **Queensland Oztag** to be able to spread so much happiness. We would be thrilled if you could come on board and support the Gala Days in support of Starlight.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any queries or questions about this activity, please do not hesitate to contact me on [REDACTED]

Kind Regards,

[REDACTED]

Julie Mullen,
Partnerships Executive.



Starlight Children's Foundation

Level 2, 310 Vulture Street | KANGAROO POINT QLD 4069
Phone 07 3456 0426 | Fax 07 3456 0499 | Email julie.mullen@starlight.org.au

Appendix 3 – Schools Program Letters of Support

ESTABLISHED 1975



Alexandra Hills State School

12 Princeton Avenue P.O. Box 5503
Alexandra Hills 4161

PRINCIPAL: Stephanie Crick

BUSINESS SERVICES MANAGER: Jo Kruger

TELEPHONE: 3820-0333

FACSIMILE NUMBER: 3820-0300

WEB: <http://alexhillss.eq.edu.au>

EMAIL: ahss@eq.edu.au

30 August 2011

Dear Kate,

On behalf of Alexandra Hills State School (Primary) I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for visiting our school on numerous occasions and introducing the students to Oztag. All the students thoroughly enjoyed participating in the skills sessions you conducted with them. The students have also gained a great knowledge and understanding of the sport.

I appreciate that you are focused on keeping registration costs, etc, to a bare minimum. This would certainly be of great assistance to our students and result in greater participation from Alexandra Hills State School. After your most recent visit to our school, I know many of the students are keen to join Capalaba Oztag.

Kate, I would like to thank you once again for all your efforts in promoting Oztag at Alexandra Hills State School. The sport is certainly lucky to have someone with your enthusiasm and dedication. I wish you every success for the Program.

Kind regards,

Yvette Butterworth

(P.E Specialist – Alexandra Hills State School)

Gregory Street
PO Box 459
Caloundra Q 4551

Ph: 07 54374333
Fax: 07 54374300
Email: admin@goldbeacss.eq.edu.au



Scott Park
Sport Development Manager
Queensland Oz Tag
PO Box 1637
BUDDINA QLD 4575

14 June 2012

Dear Scott,

It is with confidence that I write this letter of support to establish a representative pathway for students playing Oz Tag in both state and independent schools.

As a sport option for students our school has found Oz Tag 'ticks all the boxes' in terms of what is important to players, parents and teachers.

OZ Tag:

1. develops an array of physical skills; ie. running, passing, catching, kicking, agility, fitness, etc
2. is very inclusive in terms of gender, age, skill level etc. and has modified rules which ensure the specific playing groups have a quality experience
3. the rules and strategies associated with playing OZ Tag are designed to achieve maximum player participation in a non-contact environment
4. the time and cost requirements of play OZ Tag are minimal.

At Golden Beach State School, 2012 will be the fourth consecutive year we have been part of the OZ Tag Schools Program. Our students and staff have benefited significantly from the quality clinics through your team of experienced coaches. Due to high student interest and skill development our class teachers now confidently play OZ Tag with their classes.

In lieu of clinics in 2011, our school held a mini OZ Tag Carnival for Years 5-7. The success of this day was due largely to the professionalism of OZ Tag Queensland staff who officiated all games but also coached and encouraged our students.

A representative pathway is the obvious next step in the progression of this game in our schools, which would be beneficial to both students and schools.

We wish OZ Tag well in this endeavour and would be willing to provide further support if required in the future.

Yours sincerely

Alan Beasley
PE Teacher

Greg Ferdinands
Principal

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FERRY HILLS STATE SCHOOL

25 March 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to inform and congratulate Ferry Hills Oztag for their continual support and assistance for students in the Ferry Hills district. Over the past few years, Ferry Hills Oztag has provided many professional sport programs and clinics designed for primary school children. They also provide the opportunity for kids to engage in qualified active activities ~ especially Oztag based. Ferry Hills Oztag has very helpful resources and consists of skilled instructors who are always friendly and willing to work with students varying in ability levels.

In most cases, Ferry Hills Oztag events are delivered to the participants for 'free'. Not only does this allow all children the possibility of attending and giving it a go, it also promotes active living and personal skills in a fun environment.

I hope that Ferry Hills Oztag has the capacity to continue providing wonderful sporting opportunities for children within our region. As you would be aware, organisations such as Ferry Hills Oztag help towards combating childhood obesity and getting the community active.

Many thanks

Mick McGrath
HPE TEACHER





All Saints Parish School
4 Faheys Rd East
ALBANY CREEK QLD 4035
Phone: 07 3325 6900
Fax: 07 3264 5877

To whom it may concern,

My name is Michael Out and I am the PE Specialist Teacher at All Saints Primary School. Our school has been involved in the Oztag program at a variety of levels from after school clinics to intra school programs for the past year. The children, both boys and girls enjoy the Oztag experience and they particularly see it as an alternative to the physicality of rugby league. In view of our experiences, we would strongly support a representative pathway to be set up for children within the Education system for Oztag.

Furthermore, not only is the Oztag program an enjoyable and beneficial experience for our children, the staff from QLD Oztag are extremely competent and helpful with both staff and children. They are enthusiastic, always prepared to support schools and willing to provide suitable programs for children of a variety of ages and abilities.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Out
PE Specialist
All Saints Parish School

OZ TAG

9 July 2012



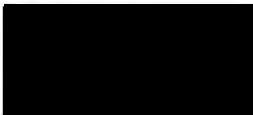
To Whom It May Concern

In the recent past Meridan State College has embraced Oz tag both as curriculum physical activity which is studied through Physical Education by a number of different year levels, and as an option for sport. Most recently Oz tag has been included in our primary school interschool sport and we will be looking to include it in future interschool sporting seasons for our middle and senior school as well.

We have found that Oz tag is a real growth sport with students engaged at all year levels. There is a core group of students at our college that participate in club Oz tag away from school and perform at high levels including Queensland representative Oz tag. Students new to the sport also seem to learn quickly and adapt skills from touch, rugby league, rugby union and even AFL. The very nature of the activity means it is perfect for school classes of mixed gender or for single gender competitions.

At Meridan we have found representatives from the OZ tag organisation to be professional, organised and helpful in establishing Oz tag within our college. We would be very supportive of any proposal that would increase Oz tag within schools, particularly if this involved creating representative pathways for our students. We believe that given our current participant numbers across a broad range of age groups (both primary and secondary) that it is already one of the most popular sports to play within the college for school sport. We have more primary Oz tag teams than netball, rugby league or soccer and a large interest in the lower secondary area. Students at our college would definitely appreciate the opportunity to represent their school, district and State in Oz tag in the same way students can in so many other sports.

Yours faithfully



Karen McCord
Principal Senior School



Ross Stewart
Head of Physical Education & Sport



15th June 2012

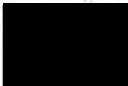
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Representatives from Sunshine Coast Oztag have been affiliated with Caloundra City Private School for six years. They have provided a number of very valuable sporting experiences for all students across the Junior and Senior Schools, ensuring that the sport of Oztag has become very popular with all of our students.

Oztag developmental officers have organised and conducted in school clinics, which the students participate in as part of their Physical Education curriculum program. They have also provided additional skills training as an after school extra-curricular activity. This exposure to the game of Oztag has encouraged students to be very keen to compete in the annual Primary School Challenge and The Lunchtime Legends competitions. We have also had students independently pursue coaching qualifications and now are able to referee inter-school competitions.

The benefits of having such a great sport become part of the sporting culture of our school are numerous, and it would be great to see representative pathways exist within the Education system to ensure students are able to continue to benefit from the exposure to the great game of Oztag.

Kind regards



Mrs Gabrielle Frisby
Head of Junior School

Appendix 4 – Mooroo-Mooroo Program Letters of Support



Department of
Communities

25 March 2011

To Whom It May Concern

I wish to lend my support to Caboolture Oztag's application for Moreton Bay Regional Council funding to conduct an Oztag Indigenous Sport Program in Caboolture - named the Mooroo-Mooroo Program.

I understand that the Mooroo-Mooroo (a Gubbi-Gubbi word for "full of life") program is designed to improve the health and well being of Indigenous Australians in the Caboolture area, increasing activity levels addressing physical health.

Indigenous people are a target group of the Department of Communities and I believe that this program will benefit their health and well-being as well as contributing towards participants' confidence and self esteem.

Regards

Stephen White
Regional Manager - Community Services, Sport and Recreation
Department of Communities North Coast Region

Tomorrow's Queensland: strong, green, smart, healthy and fair www.towardQ2.qld.gov.au

Department of Communities - Sport and Recreation Services
North Coast Region
Sports Precinct, Level 4 Health & Sport Centre, University of the Sunshine Coast Via Sippy Downs Drive,
PO Box 7377 SIPPY DOWNS QLD 4556
Telephone: (07) 5458 7100 • Facsimile: (07) 5445 2984



Queensland Health

Enquiries to: Cultural Healing
Telephone: 5450 4700
Facsimile: 5450 4730
Our Ref:

To Whom It May Concern,

"I support Queensland Oztag's application for Health Qld Community funding to conduct an Oztag Indigenous Sport Program throughout the State.

I understand that the Mooroo-Mooroo (a Gubbi-Gubbi word for "full of life") program is designed to improve the health and well being of Indigenous Australians in Queensland, increasing activity levels addressing physical health, and providing training and experience in areas allowing the participants to develop life skill transferable to other areas of their life.

The major benefits of this program will be:

- An Improvement in the health and physical well-being of indigenous Australians by increasing the levels of Oztag participation in clinics, competitions and tournaments.
- The fostering of self esteem, self efficacy, self responsibility and internal motivation;
- The nurturing of skills in Oztag providing a platform for life-long involvement.
- The building of confidence and understanding to be able to assimilate into mainstream activities.
- Growth in the number of indigenous participants (and venues) involved in Oztag activities in Queensland and in the coordination and development of Oztag.

The Cultural Healing Program, Indigenous mental health, has been running a Youth Program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people aged from 12 to 25years, although the program has expanded to include community members and younger children. The Black Swans Big Day Out(BSBDO) is run on a monthly basis for the past 4 years and feeds into a Regional program called Wanna Be Deadly, which is a touch football carnival once a year. This proposal for Oztag to run here on the Sunshine Coast could compliment what we have been able to establish for our Indigenous youth.

I wish Qld Oztag well in its application - it will provide a boost to the Queensland community and contribute to closing the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians."

Yours sincerely

Jennifer McClay

Clinical Nurse Consultant

Cultural Healing Program, Indigenous Mental Health

And Regional Coordinator of BSBDO and Wanna Be Deadly

Office
Continuing Care Team
Currie Street
NAMBOUR Q 4560

Postal
PO Box 547
NAMBOUR Q 4560

Phone
(07) 5450 4700

Fax
(07) 54 50 4730

31/8/11

31 August, 2011

Chris Sachlikidis
[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern,

Kambu Medical Centre was invited to attend and participate in an Oz Tag Carnival in the month of April 2011. We nominated two teams and from the feedback from staff that attended they relayed that it was a great day. Everything was well organised and everything was all prepared when we arrived.

Feedback from the students was also well received. They enjoyed the day and would like to participate again in the future. The main thing that they spoke about was that everything was free. As a Medical Centre that provides programs for students, we would gladly participate in any further Oz Tag Carnivals in the future.

I would not hesitate in recommending or supporting any future programs conducted by Oz Tag Caboolture. If you require any more information please don't hesitate in contacting me on [REDACTED]

Regards

Noel Hicks
Community Care Officer
Kambu Medical Centre
27 Roderick St,
Ipswich, 4305





K idz
Y outh
C ommunity

KYC Consultancy PTY LTD & The Trustee for KYC Trust & Jabani Jinna

Director: Kim Reid
ABN: 46 119 227 986
Contact Details:
Address: 1-2 King Street
CABOOLTURE QLD 4510
Telephone: 07 5428 3589
Fax: 07 5428 3561
Mobile: [REDACTED]
Website: www.kyc.org.au

19 March 2012

To whom it may concern,

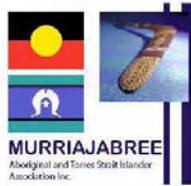
As requested I am writing a letter of support in regards to Mooroo – Mooroo Indigenous Ozttag Program for which KYC (Kidz Youth Community) a non – profit organisation that assist the young Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people in the wider Moreton Bay Community through their endeavours and journey through life as we know at times can be difficult.

So when invited to attend the Mooroo – Moroo Ozttag Program there were no hesitations from KYC to engage in an event that would be of great benefit to our young people as it is a way to bring not only the young people together but the community as whole, the event went as planned with many young people walking away gaining skills and learning more about themselves as an individual and as a team player.

Kind Regards

Sonny Pelite

Stepping Up and Out – Case Manager



MURRIAJABREE ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER ASSOC. INC.

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P.O. Box 190
Deception Bay
Qld 4508
Email: murrijabree@iinet.net.au

Hi Chris

I would like to congratulate you and your team on a job well done, regarding the recent Indigenous OZ -Tag Program, which was held at Centenary Lakes during the months of July and August 2011.

Everyone had a really great time and seemed to enjoy themselves throughout the whole day it was really great to see that everyone played for the enjoyment of the sport the games were played in the true spirit of the game where everyone played for the enjoyment and it wasn't all about winning.

We felt that the consultation process on all aspects of the program was really great it really created a networking group between Indigenous Communities and OZ-Tag- Queensland. A program such as this has many benefits to our Indigenous children including Healthier active lifestyles, socializing, builds confidence and self-esteem whilst also developing life skills.

Hopefully we can encourage our Indigenous children to become more involved in the sport of OZ-Tag by signing up and playing OZ Tag throughout the season, refereeing or trying out for the rep teams.

Therefore we are looking forward to building a longer relationship with OZ-Tag QLD and Indigenous Community, Organisations throughout the Moreton Bay Region.

Yours in Sport
Alec Wightman
Active Inclusion Officer

Normanton Crocs Make their Mark

It's not an everyday event when a group of Normanton youth have the opportunity to travel to the Sunshine Coast and represent their region in a sporting event. This is exactly what happened in February with 14 boys aged between 11 and 14 representing North Queensland at the Oz Tag Queensland Junior State Titles.

The trip can only be described as a resounding success with the boys being great ambassadors for Carpentaria Shire and the Gulf region. All the boys had to attend many weeks of training before the trip, and they should all be commended for their willingness to participate and the high level of enthusiasm and commitment. Many of the boys had never travelled on a large plane or been to Brisbane, so this in itself was a reason for much excitement. To the delight of the boys, and the adults as well, there was a brief photo opportunity with some of the Melbourne Storm players at Brisbane airport en route to the Sunshine Coast.

Over the weekend the boys had as much success off as on the field. With 74 teams comprising 1000 players in the competition the boys made it to the quarter finals. Isaac Owens was named Best and Fairest player for Saturday and Sunday games. Jesse McPherson and Isaac were selected to represent Queensland in the under 14's Oz Tag Team in June 2012.

Many favourable comments were received in relation to the boys' behaviour over the weekend. The trip and the lead-up time provided new sporting skills for the boys; gave them an opportunity to contribute and commit to a team; support their fellow players and gave the boys an opportunity to experience a major sporting event outside North Queensland.

The trip would not have been possible without the support of many businesses, government agencies and community organisations in Normanton and the wider Gulf/Mt Isa region. All contributors must be mentioned, and they cannot be thanked enough as many were asked at very short notice and were able to work small miracles to provide funding. A very big thank you to the generosity and support of: Cape PCYC Indigenous Business Unit; Mt Isa Public Health Unit; Carpentaria Shire Council; MMG Century; Save the Children; Lamberr Wungarch Local Justice Group; Albion Hotel; Purple Pub; Kurtjar Aboriginal Corporation; Bynoe CACS Pty Ltd; Central Hotel; Hawkins Transport; and Yippippi Gulf Indigenous Health.

Volunteers and workers who put in many unpaid hours including training, preparation, and supervision whilst on the Sunshine Coast must also be recognised for their contribution and commitment to ensuring that Normanton youth were provided with this experience. The boys were provided with a safe, caring and supportive environment through the efforts of Katrina Rapson, Elton Thompson, Shirley McPherson, Geoff Byfield, Lance Owens and Stephanie Owens.

It is hoped that this is the first step on the path to establishing an OzTag competition in Normanton and the wider Gulf region and providing other youth with opportunities to also play at high levels of competition. If you would like to know more about any aspect of this trip or OzTag please do not hesitate to contact Katrina Rapson at the Normanton Sports Centre – [REDACTED]

Congratulations to the Normanton Crocs: Gasmun Kampf; Jesse McPherson; Renee Turner; Carl Casey; Nicholas Casey; Rakeem Rainbow; Juwan Fraser; Zachary Gilbo; Troy Kumsing; Isaac Owens; Collis Casey; Kelean Logan; Raymond Dalton; and Isaiah Callope.



Getting ready for training.



The boys playing on Sunday morning



The boys looking professional in their uniforms.



Having some down time between games



All the teams at the opening ceremony of the Junior Oztag QLD State Cup



The Crocs with one of the teams that they played

Oztag helps troubled Cape men

Murray Wenzel
Tuesday, December 7, 2010
© The Cairns Post

"SHAUN" used to spend his afternoons drinking, smoking and generally causing trouble, but he has found a new way to spend his spare time.

The 18-year-old is one of 12 young men being counselled for drug and alcohol abuse turning out to play Oztag in the Gulf and it's putting their lives back on track.

The sport has captivated the Aboriginal community of Doomadgee from the moment Cairns Oztag's Geoff Byfield arrived on November 2.

They played until 8pm that night and left Byfield full of inspiration when he left for Cairns three days later.

"It has been such good fun and I never thought it would be," said Shaun, whose real name has been protected for privacy reasons. More and more of us are getting along now and we can't get enough of it."

The modified rugby league concept was such a success that an annual 10-team competition is being organised to start in 2011, taking in Mornington Island, Burketown, Normanton and Doomadgee.

"They turned up in their droves because they'd never had anything to look forward to," Byfield said.

"They took me on board and just didn't want to go home; we were playing in the dark.

"You always hear about the doom and gloom, but this was just absolutely positive; I had that warm and fuzzy feeling."

Doomadgee drug and alcohol officer George McLean said the sport was bringing the community together like nothing before it.

He said more than a dozen teenagers and young adults had tried their hand at Oztag in an attempt to escape the lure of drugs and alcohol.

"They'd take drugs – whatever they can get their hands on really. They've never taken to a sport like this one; it's given them something to do," he said.

"I was surprised to see a lot of the kids I'd been referred to through work turn up for a game of Oztag. I was very proud to see that.

"The community is very happy now."

The Oztag converts sure can play too – there is no shortage of speed and hand-eye co-ordination in the region.

"They were a bit frightened at first because they didn't know the rules. But now they are playing naturally and it's great to watch," Byfield said.

Running around on dirty clay-based fields isn't the best, but it's all they have at the moment.

"The conditions are pretty bad. It's really hard to describe what they have to deal with day to day," he said. These sort of setbacks are minor speed bumps for McLean and Byfield though.

"We've got to keep it going, we just have to. They are just having too good a time for it to stop now and it's up to us to keep it going," McLean said.

Byfield has overseen the sport in Cairns for 11 years. "It's expanded ever since and I wish we had got to the Gulf country sooner," he said.



Hope: Traye Hodge takes part in Oztag action in Cairns. The game has taken on major importance in the Gulf as wayward young men turn to the sport as a way to beat drugs and alcohol abuse. Picture: JAKE NOWAKOWSKI

Skytrans Blog

Normanton Crocs Oztag Team Make their Mark

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Over the weekend the boys had as much success off as on the field. With 74 teams comprising 1000 players in the competition the boys made it to the quarter finals. Isaac Owens was named Best and Fairest player for Saturday and Sunday games. Jesse McPherson and Isaac were selected to represent Queensland in the under 14's Oz Tag Team in June 2012.

Due to their commitment the two boys were also selected to play in the Far North Queensland Senior Open Men's team to play in the Queensland Oztag Senior State titles. *Skytrans* were proud to provide the boys with return flights from Normanton to Cairns at no charge, in order to compete at such an advanced level. Both boys displayed skills beyond their years and competed extremely well against mature aged players.

It is hoped that this is the first step on the path to establishing an OzTag competition in Normanton and the wider Gulf region and providing other youth with opportunities to also play at high levels of competition.

Congratulations to the Normanton Crocs: Gasmun Kampf; Jesse McPherson; Renee Turner; Carl Casey; Nicholas Casey; Rakeem Rainbow; Juwan Fraser; Zachary Gilbo; Troy Kumsing; Isaac Owens; Collis Casey; Kelean Logan; Raymond Dalton; and Isaiah Callope.

Isaac Owens & Jesse McPherson with Skytrans Community Development Manager Billy Gordon

Normanton Crocs Under 14 Oztag Team

