



A New Permanent Home for Gymnastics in South Australia

South
Australian
Labor

For the
Future



Foreword

Smartphones and social media are among the modern parenting challenges of our time. Expert evidence shows that social media and excessive screen time can harm the development and mental health of our children.

We are investing in programs to keep South Australian kids off screens and ensure they can live active, healthy and happy lives, where smartphones and social media are not the defining feature of their childhood.

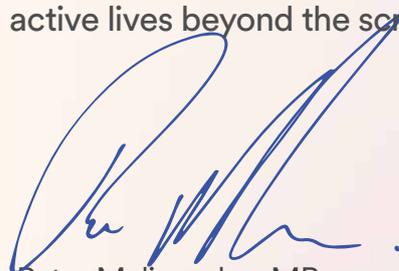
Grassroots sport, like gymnastics, play a vital role in South Australia, supporting physical health, building confidence and teamwork, and strengthening local communities by bringing families, volunteers, and local organisations together.

Gymnastics helps our kids develop fundamental movement skills such as balance, coordination, strength and flexibility - skills that underpin participation in almost every other sport.

With more than 4,000 kids currently on waiting lists for gymnastics programs, too many young South Australians are missing out on these opportunities.

That's why the Malinauskas Labor Government is taking a plan to the State Election to deliver a new \$100 million permanent home for Gymnastics SA - ensuring thousands of South Australian kids and athletes no longer miss out on the chance to tumble, jump and soar.

This investment will cement South Australia's position as a national leader in grassroots sport, women's participation and high-performance pathways, while helping more young people lead healthy, active lives beyond the screen.



Peter Malinauskas MP
Premier for South Australia



SUPPORTING A GROWING SPORT

Nationally, gymnastics is the second most popular sport for children aged 0–14 years old, behind only swimming.

Here in South Australia, it is the second largest foundation skills sport and the second largest sport for girls under the age of 14.



More than 46,000 South Australians, including 16,000 registered gymnasts, participate in gymnastics every year.



So far this year, gymnastics is the fourth-largest user of the Malinauskas Labor Government's Sports Vouchers.



77 percent of South Australians who participate in gymnastics are female, making it one of the most important sports for girls and young women.



CURRENT FACILITY NO LONGER FIT- FOR-PURPOSE

The current State Gymnastics Centre is no longer fit-for-purpose.

The 43-year-old facility is one of the oldest and least functional in Australia. It no longer reflects the scale or strength of the gymnastics community in South Australia.

It has a leaking roof and significant maintenance issues, inadequate seating for families and spectators, ceiling heights that are too low for trampoline and rhythmic gymnastics and does not meet modern accessibility requirements.

As a result, thousands of young South Australians are missing out on opportunities to develop foundational movement skills and healthy active lifestyles.

High-performing athletes are deciding to train interstate and South Australia is unable to host modern state or national competitions.

This shouldn't be the case. The talent is here – but the facilities are not.

With the Brisbane 2032 Olympics and Paralympic Games on the horizon, the Malinauskas Labor Government wants to see South Australians on the world stage, backed by infrastructure that supports their pursuit.



Up to 75 per cent of demand for gymnastics programs is currently unmet.

70 percent of clubs have waiting lists in the hundreds - too many children are missing out due to lack of space.



40 percent of clubs do not have permanently set-up venues.

Many clubs operate in community halls and leased spaces not designed for gymnastics.

Demand continues to grow, with more than 4,000 children currently on waiting lists to join gymnastics clubs.

NEW STATE-OF- THE-ART HOME FOR GYMNASTICS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA



Gymnastics is one of the most important foundation sports in South Australia. It helps children develop coordination, strength, balance and confidence - skills that underpin participation in almost every other sport.

Yet, gymnastics in South Australia is being held back by ageing infrastructure and a lack of purpose-built facilities.

That's why, the Malinauskas Labor Government is taking a plan to the election to deliver a new \$100 million centrally-located, permanent home for Gymnastics SA, ensuring thousands of South Australian children and athletes have access to world-class facilities to learn, train and compete.

The new approximately 4,000 square metre centre will cater for multiple gymnastics disciplines under one roof, including:

- KinderGym
- Gymnastics for All
- Acrobatic Gymnastics
- Aerobic Gymnastics
- Rhythmic Gymnastics
- Women's Artistic Gymnastics
- Men's Artistic Gymnastics
- Trampoline and Tumbling

The new facility will be purpose-built to support both community participation and elite gymnastics training - allowing multiple gymnastics disciplines to operate simultaneously.

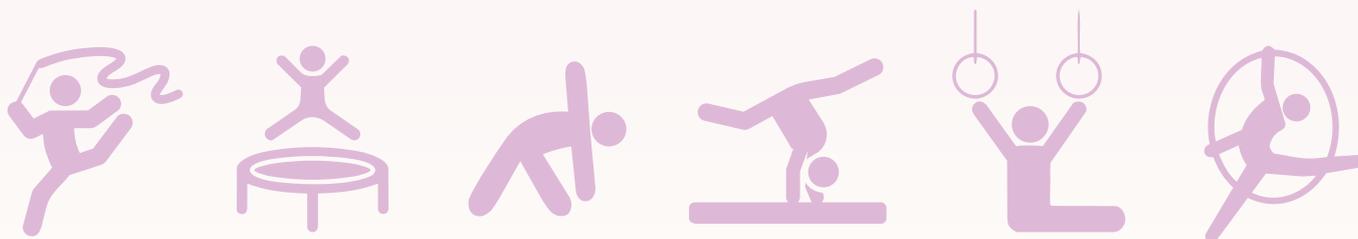
It will include a specialised safety matting system, closed-pit landing systems with soft-top landing covers, ceiling-mounted harness systems to support safe high-performance training, as well as equipment capable of hosting community, and elite competitions.

We will also investigate whether the facility is able to accommodate other indoor sports such as basketball, netball and volleyball - subject to the final location and ensuring the primary needs of gymnastics are fully met.

The Malinauskas Labor Government will immediately commence a targeted and strategic search for an appropriate site for the centrally located venue, working closely with Gymnastics SA to ensure the facility meets the needs of athletes, clubs and the community.

This major \$100 million investment will support the growth of women and girls' sport in South Australia, reduce gymnastic program waiting lists, allow thousands more South Australian kids to participate in gymnastics and provide a home for high-performance athletes in this state.

It will ensure South Australia can host major gymnastics events and it will deliver a modern, state-of-the-arts community sports facility for many generations to come.





LABOR'S PLAN TO KEEP KIDS OFF SCREENS

Our major investment in a \$100 million state-of-the-art home for gymnastics in South Australia complements our \$75 million plan to deliver programs designed to get children active and engaged, helping keep kids off screens:

- Free school camps for Year 7 students in public schools
- Keeping our kids active during school time with 150 minutes of mandatory active learning per week.
- Free activities before and after school
- Expanding Sports Vouchers Plus to 16 to 18-year-olds
- Free school holiday come and try sessions
- Making school facilities more accessible to the community
- Funding improvements to school facilities for community use
- Ensuring all new public schools are designed for community use
- More students volunteering
- Guaranteeing green space in all new housing developments



DELIVERING FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

✓ DELIVERED



Banned mobile phones in all public high schools

All students in our South Australian public schools are now required to keep their mobile phones switched off and out of sight during school hours - making our schools safer by tackling social media harassment and violence and allowing our kids to focus on their learning, friendships and keeping active.

The ban has resulted in substantial improvements in student behaviour. A 12-month review of the ban found 93% of leaders reported a decrease in staff time spent following up issues with phones and social media.

✓ DELIVERED



Youth Action Plan

We have launched the Youth Action Plan which sets out a roadmap for how we can support young people in our communities to grow and thrive.

✓ DELIVERED



Led the global-leading social media ban for under 16s

South Australia led the nation and the world in preparing legislation which created the model for the Australian Government's world-leading ban on social media, enforcing a minimum age of 16 years across the country.

✓ DELIVERED



Sports Vouchers Expansion

We have delivered significant cost of living relief and increased access to extra-curricular activities through our expansion of the Sports Vouchers Plus Program. We have doubled the vouchers to \$200 per year, and expanded the eligible activities to include music lessons, dance and active recreation.

✓ DELIVERED



Funded Wait Mate

In yet another Australian first, South Australia is leading the way to make childhood smartphone free. We are investing \$6.5 million to make the Wait Mate program available to every public and private school in the state, supporting parents to unite and delay the introduction of smartphones for their kids.

✓ DELIVERED



Civics Education

We have delivered a series of nation-leading reforms to boost civics and citizenship education in our schools. These reforms ensure that there is a dedicated civics and citizenship teacher in every school with secondary enrolments, while increasing the level of civics content available for students. We also introduced the state's first ever Active Citizenship Convention in 2025.

✓ **DELIVERED**



Better online safety education

We have reformed the school curriculum, with our kids now being taught about online safety and the dangers of social media, including cyberbullying, body image, and mental health and wellbeing. There's also new content on coercive control, strategies for detecting deepfakes, understanding artificial intelligence and the impact of negative online influencers.

✓ **DELIVERED**



Anti-bullying initiatives

We have invested heavily in anti-bullying initiatives in schools, including \$50 million into mental health and allied health supports on-site to make our schools safer, complementing initiatives to limit the amount of time students spend on their phones.

South Australia was at the forefront of what has become a global movement to ban social media for under 16-year-olds.

CNET
Australia Bans Social Media for Kids Under 16. Which Sites Are Blocked?

The New York Times
Australia begins enforcing world-first teen social media ban

Los Angeles Times
Australia Bans Social Media for Kids Under 16. Which Sites Are Blocked?

euronews.
Australia banned social media for under-16s. Could Denmark do the same?

ALJAZEERA
TikTok, Instagram ban for Australian kids heralds global curbs

NEW YORK POST
Australia bans YouTube accounts for children under 16

IT'S BEEN A BUSY 4 YEARS

From grassroots sport and recreation, to high-performance sporting events, the Malinauskas Labor Government has been serious about supporting all South Australians to be healthy and active.

We have invested in opportunities to support our children and young people and to help our elite athletes perform at their very best.

We have delivered world-class facilities, like the new South Australian Sports Institute and the new Adelaide Aquatic Centre, and funded programs for our community sports clubs to increase their participation and develop their infrastructure.

These lasting investments will ensure that all South Australians can be active in their communities.



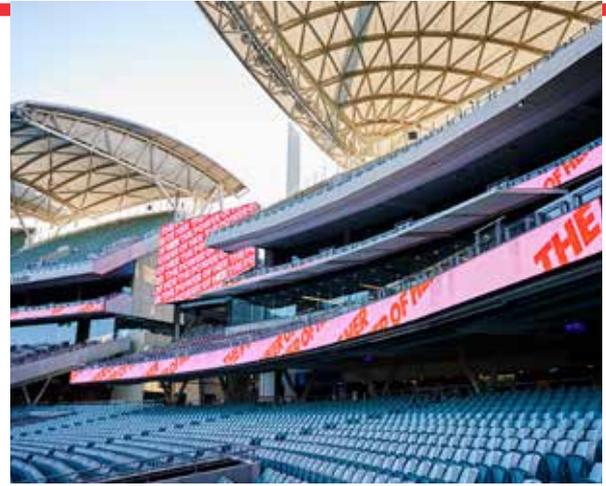


New South Australian Sports Institute Facilities

The Malinauskas Labor Government completed the new SASI HQ, which is now one of the country’s best high-performance sports facilities.

Importantly, it is co-located with the Australian Centre for Sports Aerodynamics, Beach Volleyball National Training Centre, SA Athletics Stadium and SA Netball Centre.

This \$88 million facility will help the state’s elite athletes achieve success.



Power of Her Funding

We know the importance of spaces, programs and equipment that encourage participation and meet needs of South Australian girls and women.

Through the Power of Her Leadership Symposium, and the dedicated \$18 million Power of Her – Infrastructure and Participation Program, the Malinauskas Labor Government is increasing the participation of women and girls in sport.

New Adelaide Aquatic Centre

In 2022 the Malinauskas Labor Government pledged to build a new world class aquatic centre, right in the heart of Adelaide.

And we have delivered.

The landmark \$135 million Adelaide Aquatic Centre is now open. It is a world-class facility that includes indoor and outdoor pool areas, four water slides, splash zones, diving facilities, sauna and steam rooms, inclusive and accessible spaces, cafe and retail spaces.

This generational investment will provide a space for all South Australians to enjoy now and for the future.



Community and Recreation Funding

The Malinauskas Labor Government has delivered more than \$270 million to support local clubs, sporting organisations and individuals.

This investment has supported initiatives including the Active Club Program, the Community Recreation and Sports Facilities Program and the SASI High Performance Program.

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