



- MEDIA RELEASE -

**WOMENSPORT NSW ANNOUNCES MS PRU GOWARD MP, AS THE NEW PATRON.**

Passionate about women's issues, Ms Pru Goward, NSW Shadow Minister for Women, intends to raise the voice of women's sports in New South Wales via her new role as Patron of Womensport & Recreation NSW (WRNSW). When agreeing to be Womensport NSW's Patron, Ms Goward said "I see sport as a perfect avenue for girls and women to be empowered; not only as a result of improved self esteem, but also through the opportunities sport and recreational activities can provide them."

"There are many inequalities in sport in this country but with dedicated Womensport organisations around Australia, working tirelessly to improve this situation, women in sport will begin to achieve greater awareness and recognition of their endeavours," said Ms Goward. "Furthermore, we hope to unite New South Wales' sporting women in a collective voice for the future of our young girls embarking on their own sporting journeys." This will be done by establishing a solid network of female athletes in New South Wales and ensuring they are given many opportunities to convey their successes and achievements to our young girls.

Womensport & Recreation NSW provides a focal point for all female sports organisations and athletes throughout the state. The organisation holds various events to advocate for more opportunities for females in sport and foster awareness of the unequal status of women in sport. One of the well known events is the *Schoolgirls' Breakfasts* both in Sydney and regional New South Wales in order to promote women's sports and introduce young girls to elite female athletes.

Womensport NSW will expand its active lobbying in 2010. Ms Goward's valuable experience both in the sports arena, as a mother, a former Equal Opportunity Commissioner and now as the NSW Shadow Minister for Women, will contribute to ensuring female opinion in NSW heard.

"Ms Goward is a valuable and knowledgeable addition to our team of enthusiastic women's sports supporters and we welcome her zest for and understanding of women's issues" said WRNSW's President Dr Imke Fischer. "We hope to achieve many things this year with Ms Goward's involvement and expect young sports women to find her inspiring and motivating," Dr Fischer added.

For further information on Womensport NSW (WRNSW), please contact Kim Wilkinson, Executive Officer on (02) 8116 9734 or [office@womensportnsw.com.au](mailto:office@womensportnsw.com.au)

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