

Steven Marshall MP

State Liberal Leader

Tuesday 25 June 2013

Marshall to reinstate school sport funding

State Liberal Leader Steven Marshall has committed to reinstating a school sport (SAPSASA) funding cut proposed by Premier Weatherill.

Mr Weatherill is proposing a cut of \$238,000 out of school sport (SAPSASA) funding, which may prevent state sporting teams competing at national championships.

The State Liberals understand that SAPSASA are considering cancelling state teams competing at national carnivals as a way of meeting the proposed cut of \$238,000.

If elected to government in March 2014, Mr Marshall has committed to reinstating this \$238,000 funding.

"This extra funding cut is another blow to South Australian sport after the Weatherill Labor Government has already budgeted to cut \$3.5 million from grassroot sporting clubs," said Mr Marshall.

"Keeping our children fit and healthy is important and we should be doing everything we can to encourage our children to participate in sport and fitness activities.

"It's a disgrace that Premier Weatherill can spend \$180,000 on a website to spruik his own Government's policies, but is more than happy to cut funding to school sport.

"Not only has 11 years of Labor waste and mismanagement created a mess of the State's finances, but Premier Weatherill and his Labor Government continue to get their priorities wrong.

"South Australia has a proud sporting history with a number of successful South Australian sportspeople coming through the SAPSASA program, including Mark Ricciuto, Barrie Robran, Mark Woodforde, Julie Franco (nee Robran) and Matt Cowdrey.

"It's a shame to think that the aspirations of future Adelaide Crows players, Port Adelaide players, netballers, basketballers and Olympians are in doubt thanks to Mr Weatherill's disgraceful penny-pinching.

"In this year's Budget, Mr Weatherill has delivered a high debt approaching \$14 billion and a higher than projected deficit of \$1.3 billion.

"Once again, Premier Weatherill has demonstrated that he can't be trusted to do what is in the best interest of South Australians and he can't be trusted to manage our State's future.

"South Australians deserve a government with better priorities to get our State back on track."