MEDIA RELEASE

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CLUBSNSW SUPPORTS DIGNITY AND FAIRNESS FOR VOLUNTEERS

Minister for Citizenship and Communities Victor Dominello has today welcomed ClubsNSW’s endorsement of the Statement of Principles for the Recognition of Volunteers which builds respect, dignity and fairness for volunteers.

The Statement of Principles, an initiative of the NSW Government announced in May 2013, is a voluntary code of behaviour for organisations and volunteers to ensure respect, dignity and fairness in the volunteer workplace.

“The Statement of Principles is akin to the Heart Foundation tick – it signifies a quality assurance that an organisation is committed to upholding high standards in the way it trains and supports its volunteers,” Mr Dominello said.

“Our state’s two million plus volunteers will make a contribution worth an estimated to $5 billion to the state economy this year alone.

“Volunteers are integral to the activities of the not-for-profit club industry and according to a recent report each year more than 49,000 volunteers support the work of NSW clubs.

“Today was a tremendous step forward in building recognition for the important role volunteers play in 1,400 registered clubs across NSW.

“The next step will be to work with individual clubs to seek their endorsement of the Statement of Principles which will guide future engagement with their volunteer workforces.

“The Principles are about ensuring that organisations which work with volunteers pledge to treat them with the respect and dignity they deserve,” Mr Dominello said.

ClubsNSW CEO Anthony Ball said, “The industry is delighted to support the Principles and would encourage other organisations and community groups to adopt them as well.

“Volunteers are the lifeblood of clubs, so we truly understand the importance of focusing on their needs as well as appreciating the contributions they make.

“We’re pleased to endorse these Principles as they not only recognise the tens of thousands of volunteers currently involved in the club industry, but also send a strong message to potential future volunteers that not-for-profit clubs truly appreciate their efforts.”

Organisations may sign up to the Principles, which are set out on the following page, at: http://www.volunteering.nsw.gov.au/. 

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The Principles are:

- This organisation demonstrates a commitment to best practice in volunteer management and all our people respect and support this commitment.
- Our volunteers are involved in the life of the organisation and are included in decisions that affect them.
- This organisation provides volunteers with clarity about their roles and is clear about expectations and policies that impact on their roles.
- Our volunteers respect the roles of everyone in the organisation.
- This organisation recognises and celebrates the contribution of volunteers.
- Our volunteers are provided with training and professional development for their roles.
- This organisation provides all our people with the opportunity to resolve disputes with respect and dignity.