**Media Release 20 March 2017**

**Grand Prix harms local sport – yet again**

The Victorian government subsidy for 2005/2006 for the formula one grand prix – with no F1 Victorian participant of any age or either sex - was $21m.

**Other sports**

At the same time the Australian Open received $1.5m and 13 other sporting organisations – Athletics Victoria, Little Athletics, Australian Rules Football (including Auskick), Tennis Victoria, Cricket Victoria (including Milo-Have-A-Go), Football Federation Victoria (Soccer), Swimming Victoria, Golf Victoria, Baseball Victoria, Basketball Victoria, Netball Victoria, Cycle Sport Victoria and Hockey Victoria – received a total subsidy of just $501,000 for a combined player participation of 942,308 Victorians.

**Not surprisingly,**
in 2016 the F1GP received a total $69.607m in cash flow from the Victorian government and F1 still has no Victorian F1 participant.

**You can bet**
**1.** those 13 aforementioned Victorian sporting clubs combined, in 2016 would not have received a fraction of what was given to the F1GP that same year and,

**2.** participation numbers for those 13 sports for both men and women, girls and boys have exploded over the past 10 years.

**We’re told the GP is only a four day event and, sporting ovals are expected to be affected due to “sports ground occupation and repair program” as follows:**

\*One week: Ovals 1 and 2 and Touch Field 8   \*Ten weeks: Field 16 East
\*Three weeks: Field 6                                    \*Eleven weeks: Oval 20
\*Five weeks: Oval 9                                       \*Fifteen weeks: Field 10
\*Seven weeks: Fields 14 and 15                      \*Sixteen weeks: Field 16 West
\*Eight weeks: Oval 11                                    \*Twenty weeks: Oval 21 = ‘unrestorable’
\*Nine weeks: oval 12

**The State Government talks big on community strengthening, obesity and the problems associated with an inactive lifestyle, but it puts far more of taxpayers’ money into the staging of the F1 grand prix, a sporting event which is the antithesis of healthy living.**
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