

FOR MEDIA

CRAIG EMERSON

Member for Rankin

7 October 2011

RANKIN IS STILL LEADING THE WAY WITH SPORTING CHAMPIONS

Six local residents have been selected as Local Sporting Champions by Member for Rankin, Craig Emerson.

Mr Emerson said, "Many young people find it difficult to meet the ongoing and significant costs associated with participation at sporting competitions, particularly those taking place interstate or overseas.

The Local Sporting Champions program is an Australian Government initiative designed to provide financial assistance for young people aged 12-18 towards the cost of representative sport.

Mr Emerson said, "Rankin has such a rich history of providing sporting elite to represent our nation. People like Israel Falau, Cameron Smith, Jai Tuarima, Jodi Henry and Jai Wallace have all had to do the hard yards for their sport with little or no government assistance."

"This grant changes things for many of the recipients who otherwise might have had to forego their chance of performing at an elite level in their sport."

Mr Emerson announced the following recipients will receive \$500 to assist with the costs of participating in their chosen sport:

Ryan and Matthew Biss of Rochedale South (shooting),
Simon Leung of Calamvale (badminton),
Kimberly Skinner of Parkinson (swimming),
Tegan Riding of Stretton (swimming), and
James Cooper of Rochedale South (athletics).

"Anyone of these young people could possibly go on to represent their country in their sport and I wish them well. These grants help out along the way for parents and the wider sporting community," Mr Emerson said.

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