

*A strong voice for our future*

**BRITTANY LAUGA MP**

B Urb Dev (Urb&Reg Plan)(Hons), C.dec

**MEMBER FOR KEPPEL  
AND ASSISTANT MINISTER  
FOR EDUCATION**



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## Lauga to unveil Capricorn Coast's \$200,000 football upgrade

Gender equality in sport on the Capricorn Coast will take a major step forward with the official opening of new training and change room facilities, the Member for Keppel and Assistant Education Minister Brittany Lauga said today.

This Saturday morning (2<sup>nd</sup> February) Mrs Lauga will open the Capricorn Coast Football Club's new \$200,000 facility which was funded from the Palaszczuk Government's *Female Facilities Program*.

"Gender equality is a core Labor value and we know it's important for the Queensland community too.

"There has been a big increase in the numbers of players using the Capricorn Coast Football Club – including new female members.

"There are around 50 female members and every year an additional 700 women and girls take part in a range of school programs, come and try events and school sport selection trials.

"And it's good to hear that the club is planning to further boost female football through initiatives like a women's social in-club competition and a female centre of excellence program."

#### ELECTORATE OFFICE

Shop 3, Evia Building Normanby Street  
Yeppoon QLD 4703

#### POSTAL ADDRESS

Post Office Box 1474  
Yeppoon QLD 4703

#### CONTACT

Phone: (07) 4913 1500 Fax: (07) 4913 1509  
Email: keppel@parliament.qld.gov.au

#### WEBSITE

[www.brittanylauga.com.au](http://www.brittanylauga.com.au)

Mrs Lauga said the upgrades have incorporated several design principles to encourage shared use, improved functionality, public safety and accessibility.

They include unisex change rooms and toilets, dedicated spaces for officials, two parents' rooms, facilities accessible for people living with a disability and improved equipment storage.

"The upgrades really improve the club's ability to host training and competition for soccer players of all ages, genders and abilities," said Mrs Lauga.

She said the club has grown steadily since its establishment in 1972 and now has around 430 members.

Mrs Lauga said this new facility is also in line with this year's International Women's Day theme: #BalanceforBetter.

#BalanceforBetter - balance drives a better working world.

She said the Queensland Government has invested almost \$249 million in sport since January 2015 with more than \$13 million going to support a variety of soccer projects.

"Later this year, Sports Minister Mick de Brenni will release his 10-year *Sport and Active Recreation Strategy* which will help determine funding for future projects.

"It will be a strategy for all Queenslanders, regardless of age, gender, ability and location," said Mrs Lauga.

**Contact John 0400787037**