GERRY WOOD MLA
INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR NELSON

23/4/15 To contact Gerry: 8999 6713(bh) 8983 1237(ah) 0428 698 037(mobile)

GIVE RURAL SPORTING GROUPS A GO

Gerry Wood, Independent Member for Nelson, says that it is now nearly 3 years since the government broke off the previous Government’s agreement for funding Freds Pass Reserve and he believes that it is now time for the CLP Government to step up to the plate and help finance the operations of the biggest recreation reserve in the NT.

He says that Freds Pass Management receives funding from the Litchfield Council and user groups but receives no regular financial support from the NT Government but they are happy to fund Marrara Sporting complex to the tune of millions each year.

Gerry says that this has meant that the Freds Pass Management Board is now having to charge user groups more for using the Reserve because of a shortfall in funding. This has meant the Board is now asking user groups to pay more money meaning the user groups have increase their membership fees.

This means some families may not be able to afford to keep their children in their chosen sports.

As the budget is just about to be announced and the Government seems to have lots of money to spend on Hidden Valley, bowls, drag racing, tennis facilities and bollards at the netball yet they seem to have forgotten Freds Pass Reserve for years.

Gerry hopes that the Minister for Sport and as rural member of Parliament will rectify the situation by providing financial assistance to the Freds Pass Management Board in this year’s budget. This will mean sporting clubs will not have to increase their fees to a point where families can no longer afford to play sport at the Reserve.

Cessi fort gallinarum sed surgo