

CLUBS & COMMUNITY AWARDS

Clubs & Community Awards (C&C 2019)

Education

Where the Good Men Grow



pDrWNLJb

Entrant details

Position Name | Sport and Community Administrator

Entry details

Club Name | Bankstown Sports Club

1. Provide an outline of your program/project that addresses each of the aspects noted to the right:

The partnership between Bankstown Sports and Punchbowl Boys High School (PBHS) is based on trust, community, care and respect.

Punchbowl Boys High School (PBHS) is located in Sydney's southwest, not far from Bankstown Sports, and is run by a dedicated and passionate cohort of staff who look after over 500 students from a variety of backgrounds, including newly-arrived Australians, refugees, and marginalised families. 100 per cent of these students come from a language background other than English.

Given the diverse nature of the student body, and the requirements needed to address the learning needs of each individual student, the staff at PBHS have created their own special Learning and Achievement Framework, which encompasses a range of programs and special projects to help the students with any educational, cultural or personal setbacks they may be experiencing.

It is this Learning and Achievement Framework that Bankstown Sports has been a keen supporter of, for the duration of its 12-year partnership with the school, and will continue to be, well into the future.

PBHS has moved from strength to strength in recent years, with their school band Room 320 winning the state-wide NSW Department of Education 'Youth Rock' event, many of their sporting teams winning school competitions and students achieving academic excellence in their various areas. Bankstown Sports offers help through sponsorship of programs, but also through friendship and networking. In 2019, Bankstown Sports asked PBHS what their biggest challenge was this year and wanted to help. Their current challenge is online gaming and E-Sports and the school want to provide educational resources for their students to educate their students on how to incorporate online gaming in their lives in a healthy, feasible way. As such, the school have developed a new 10-week E-Learning Program, which has also been picked up by three other schools in NSW.

KEY PROGRAMS that are supported by Bankstown Sports Club

S.T.A.R Program (Students At Risk Program)

- S.T.A.R Program is embedded within the HSC Sports, Lifestyle and Recreation syllabus, meeting education requirements, teaching students about resilience, resolve and healthy lifestyles.
- The program includes a group of students attending a trip to the snow (Jindabyne) every year.
- This program targets students who have been identified as being disengaged, or 'at-risk' of dropping out of school, in a bid to re-integrate them into school life and have them complete the HSC.
- Program is now in its 10th year and has supported in excess of 250 young boys from low socio-economic backgrounds, during that time.
- The program is designed to challenge disengaged students to help them develop positive self-worth and a sense of camaraderie, through experiential learning.
- These boys have often experienced trauma, family hardships or other challenging circumstances and this program aims to take them out of their comfort zone.
- PBHS Deputy Principal Chris Kazanis says the S.T.A.R program would not be possible without Bankstown Sports Club's support - "This program has evolved into a highlight of the student experience at Punchbowl Boys' High. Because of programs like STAR, students feel that the school and community truly do care for them and will work together to give them the best".
- The program is now a legacy and something that students work hard to be part of. Students in Year 7 are excited about their prospects of staying to their senior years of education so that they can participate in the S.T.A.R program

Pioneers Basketball Program

- The Punchbowl Pioneer Program is a holistic program that addresses all of the pillars of learning and wellbeing, through sport.
*The program uses basketball as a means of engaging students with their learning, and teaches them practical principles to help them achieve goals.
- Teachers contributed their own money to purchase uniforms and equipment for participating students, and students from low socio-economic households were even gifted shoes so they could play.
- The school also holds fundraising barbecues to assist with funding for the program.

Annual Iftar Community Dinner

- Traditionally, during the month of Ramadan, Muslims have a pre-dawn meal and then fast during the daytime, before breaking that fast at sunset with a special meal, known as Iftar.
- PBHS hosts a large community event one evening during this month, where local business owners and members of the community are invited to share a meal with the students.
- Principal Robert Patruno says – "Ramadan teaches the boys what it's like to go without. It's also a time for reflection. A ceremony like Iftar is a way to build bridges within the community and celebrate success, moving forward and coming together as one".

PBHS has recently experienced some challenges following the shock departure of their principal and deputy principal, due to an alleged cultural/religious dispute with the Department of Education, but this has only strengthened our support for the school. The current executive team are open, honest and forthcoming, and are genuinely grateful for any assistance the club provides.

PBHS Deputy Principal Chris Kazanis speaks highly of the relationship between the club and the school - "Bankstown Sports holds the same investment in our vision, far beyond monetary support, for the good of the community. I believe Bankstown Sports genuinely wants to grow their community and the club has such a strong culture of integrity and passion in all they do. They have invested heavily on the social capital of the community around them and they share our vision for developing positive contributors in our society. They are an unwavering advocate for Punchbowl Boys High School and empower us in all we do."

It is also important to note, during the media backlash surrounding the former principal and deputy principal, no enrolments were lost, and this was largely due to the opportunities offered and legacy that has been created at PBHS.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IMDGju9VrxQ&feature=youtu.be>

Please see this video for school highlights video, with school song written and performed by Room 320.

2. Provide an insight into why this program/project was supported by the club/individual.

Bankstown Sports is proud to support the PBHS students and staff because the dedication, energy, passion and genuine care they have for the well-deserved young men at their school is resolute. The staff understand the needs of their students and make decisions to provide programs, support and an education style which will cater to their needs and provide new experiences and opportunities every child deserves.

Following on from all the media attention surrounding the above-mentioned challenges in 2017, newly appointed Principal Robert Patrino and Deputy Principal Chris Kazanis, met with Bankstown Sports CEO Mark Condi, within days. They discussed the significance of the relationship between the club and the school, and it was here that the club committed to helping PBHS re-engage the local community, provide support on how to deal with the media, and discussed ways to future-proof the school. CEO Mark Condi was steadfast in his support for the school.

S.T.A.R Program (Students At Risk Program)

- Bankstown Sports committed to the ongoing support of this program because of the student's demonstrated passion for learning. Previous years results have shown a near 100 per cent completion rate for the HSC, for S.T.A.R students.
- There was strong evidence that S.T.A.R contributes to the student's greater understanding of the importance of education and revitalises their commitment to their learning. Students are more engaged and feel a sense of pride in their achievements.
- The program has instilled a will in students to challenge themselves and has given them a drive that has allowed many to overcome obstacles and adversity. The boys have gone on to mentor future leaders within the school, as well as fostered partnerships with other community agencies.

Pioneers Basketball Program

- The Pioneers team needed new uniforms and basketballs to train with and replacement of the basketball ring. This aligns with the Club's charter to foster access to sport.

Annual Iftar Community Dinner

Being located in one of the largest multicultural areas in Sydney, Bankstown Sports recognizes the importance of an event like a community Iftar dinner, both for the students and the wider community.

This is an opportunity for the students to network and meet local business owners, community leaders and key stakeholders in the community, who may be able to assist with their future education and training.

- PBHS were the first school in the Canterbury Bankstown LGA to hold an Iftar Dinner and have inspired a range of other schools in the area to hold their own dinners this year.

PBHS Deputy Principal Chris Kazanis says -

“Bankstown Sports provides us with support, friendship and guidance and we truly value our partnership. The club's support has a meaningful impact upon all our students and we are very thankful. We are here to make a difference in our community and I believe Bankstown Sports shares the same goal”.

3. Provide a brief summary of the support that your club/individual provided to this program/project.

Financial support: for programs aligned with the PBHS Learning and Achievement Framework:

Year Program	Amount
2007 Team Building	\$4,000
2008 Outdoor Program	\$7,000
2011 S.T.A.R	\$5,000
2018 S.T.A.R	\$9,000
2013 S.T.A.R	\$6,700
2014 S.T.A.R	\$7,900
2015 S.T.A.R	\$7,900
2016 S.T.A.R	\$7,500
2017 S.T.A.R	\$9,770

Year Program	Amount
2018 S.T.A.R	\$10,260
2018 Pioneers	\$3,450
2019 S.T.A.R	\$10,920
2019 Pioneers	\$4,300
2019 E-Learning	\$5,000
2019 House Shirts	\$1,500
--- Total	\$100,200

In-Kind Support:

2017 and 2018 Community Iftar Dinners - \$5,294

This event is held at PBHS, where Bankstown Sports provides free table and chair hire, tablecloth hire, disposable cutlery and napkins.

2018 Community Christmas Dinner - \$1,068

This event is held at PBHS, where Bankstown Sports provides free table and chair hire, tablecloth hire, disposable cutlery and napkins.

2019 Cash Support

House Group Shirts - \$1,500

PBHS has introduced House Teams, which recognize influential ex-students who have represented Australia in sport. These funds will assist Year 7 students, and students with financial hardships, to purchase their House Group Shirt. These ex-students are Steve Folkes, Len Pascoe, Jeff Thomson Gary Manuel, two prominent cricketers and two prominent footballers.

E-Learning - \$5,000

PBHS will introduce a range of new programs addressing online safety, online gaming addiction, time management and educational career opportunities. Bankstown Sports will provide funding to help the school establish a suitable setting to host this education module.

Pioneers Basketball Program - \$4,300

Bankstown Sports will again assist with funding for this fantastic program, to help PBHS host a gala day for the local primary schools, provide uniforms and improve their training resources.

S.T.A.R Program - \$10,920

Bankstown Sports will support this program for the 10th year running, to subsidize suitable accommodation, food, lessons, safety equipment and transport for students chosen to go on the snow trip.

PBHS teacher Joseph De Guia says –

“Bankstown Sports is the pillar of the community who these boys need to make this opportunity a reality. Bankstown Sports helps us make the impossible possible.”

4. Provide a summary of the outcomes this program/project achieved and how the club's/individual's contribution helped in this success. Where possible, please quantify your response.

Figures from 2017, show an 825 per cent increase in the number of student-centred programs being run at PBHS, thanks in part to the support of Bankstown Sports. Additionally, students are leading philanthropic and fundraising events for their own community on a regular basis.

Outcomes -

S.T.A.R Program (Students At Risk Program)

- Of the 197 graduates all but 2 completed their HSC, with 80% going on to further study at university
- The program has produced 4 school captains and 33 prefects over the duration of the program.
- PBHS Principal Robert Patruno has acknowledged the S.T.A.R excursion is particularly special in that it has evolved beyond a wellbeing program into 'a rite of passage'. Beyond the educational opportunity that the S.T.A.R program provides, the life lessons of resilience and fostering resolve has been invaluable to all participants. Students who

hope to attend PBHS, see it as a coming of age moment and recognise their experiences as potentially being one of the most valuable learning opportunities of their lives.

- PBHS Deputy Principal Chris Kazanis says - "Bankstown Sports Club has given us the opportunity to push our students outside their comfort zone and to learn from experience. Since we returned (from the snow camp) the teachers have noticed a definite change of attitude – there is now a sense of camaraderie and care among the boys." Feedback from the students shows the impact of the program.

"Personally, I am a better man because I have been part of such an exciting and exhilarating life experience like this. We will never forget it. I feel more confident now because I have done something that not many others get to do."
(This student is now a junior NRL referee who hoped to join the police force and serve the community upon leaving school. In 2019, he and another ex-student were in the graduating class of police recruits).

Pioneers Basketball Program

- Results from the original program show that 80 per cent of the students went to graduate, with 5 students entering university.
- The program is proving highly successful as a way of promoting leadership and engagement within the student body.

School and community outcomes:

- 96 per cent of the boys who participated in the S.T.A.R program have taken their lessons in resilience and self-reliance, and have achieved their goals of completing the HSC.
- Other high schools seek guidance from PBHS for support on ways to better their own school community, and develop and implement programs.
- Three graduates have returned to the school as mentors to support the students on this program
- The program has attracted 13 volunteers, such as student teachers, who would like to donate time to support the vision of this program
- The camp coordinator and the ski and snowboard instructor, has requested to take Punchbowl Boys High School on future trips. 2019 will be the 6th year with this instructor.
- The school has worked with elite snowboarding coaches and members of the Australian Winter Paralympic team, including the 2018 Indigenous athlete of the year.

5. Provide a summary of how the community responded to the project. Please provide examples to support your answer.

Additional feedback – PBHS Deputy Principal Chris Kazanis

"Teachers and Clubs can be viewed as similar when we take into account how they both do a lot of heavy lifting in terms supporting the grass roots of the community. The both provide a special type of service, it requires a high degree of integrity and nobleness of spirit.

"We are a humble and close-knit school family and one of our goals is to level the playing field for our boys. Achieving this levelling is an arduous and hard-fought aspiration, (especially when you consider the great socio-economic divide that we must bridge), requires strength. Though our hearts' intentions may be aligned, the difference between us is that we are the guides and you are the bridge builders that convert these best intentions into rock solid experience. In doing so, you help out our hardworking local school to punch above its weight".

The community and key stakeholders have warmly embraced all of the initiatives outlined above, and continue to offer their ongoing support and investment.

S.T.A.R Program

- Jindabyne Sport and Recreation Group offer PBHS a subsidy for running this program through them
*Snow instructors request to be allocated the PBHS students because they know of the legacy
- Olympic athletes volunteer their time to be able to train the students
- Mentors and volunteers return year after year, to assist with the program
- A teacher at PBHS attained a bus license of his own accord, so he would be able to drive the boys to the snow, in order to reduce costs and offer another seat on the bus
- A local bus company provide the bus free of charge

Pioneers Basketball Program

Sydney South West Regional Basketball provide coaches and training sessions, free of charge

PBHS teachers see such value in the project, that they are prepared to contribute their own personal funds to help the students succeed

Iftar Community Dinner

*Local business owners and members of the community, executives from the Department of Education, religious leaders and politicians attend the dinner, and every year it is a full house.

- The feedback received from students after these dinners is always positive and uplifting, as they love being able to share their story with new people.

In general, PBHS continues to foster strong relationships with the local community and despite any hardships they may face, remain positive and determined to achieve their goals.

*Student enrolments continue to increase

- High schools seek guidance from PBHS for support on ways to better their own school community, and to develop and implement similar programs for their students.
- Graduates have returned as mentors to support the students.
- Valued and respected community leaders attend PBHS community events, to show their support for the school. For example: Department of Education Secretary, Department of Education Deputy Secretary, Dr Jamal Rifi (community leader), other school principals, police officers from Bankstown and Campsie PAC, GWS giants representatives, WS Wanderers representatives, sporting legends and past students Wayne Pearce, John Pascoe, Ken Scully

6. Add your credits here:

- Punchbowl Boys High School Deputy Principal - Chris Kazanis
- Punchbowl Boys High School Principal (Acting) - Robert Patrino
- Punchbowl Boys High School Teacher and Basketball Coach - Joseph De Guia
- Punchbowl Boys High School band - Room 320

You are encouraged to credit all members of the team that contributed to this entry.

Please be sure to spell names correctly and get titles correct.

You may also use this space to credit any contributing organisations. Email addresses are not required but may be used to arrange delivery of award certificates.

Upload your clubs logo here (min 1MB)

Bankstown Sports

We have read the Terms & Conditions of the awards and agree



We declare that the information presented in this entry, is to the best of our knowledge, accurate and true in every respect



We confirm that the nomination/submission has been approved by the Club President or Secretary Manager



Name of President/Secretary Manager

Mark Condi


Title

CEO

Date

2019-05-10

Log in to clubsandcommunityawards.awardsplatform.com to see complete entry attachments.




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Punchbowl Boys... 1.8 MiB



Community Iftar... 516 KiB



Community Iftar... 399 KiB



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Punchbowl Boys...

314 KiB



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