



# SPORT CLIMBING VICTORIA

## STRATEGIC 2019 - 2021 PLAN





**VICTORIANS.  
CLIMBING TOGETHER.  
LEADING THE WAY.**





A black and white photograph of two athletes on a rope climbing wall. One athlete is higher up, reaching for the next hold, while the other is lower down, also reaching. They are both wearing harnesses and climbing shoes. The background is a light-colored wall with ropes and holds.

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 **Black Diamond**

**VICTORIANS.  
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A photograph of two people climbing a rope. The person at the top is wearing a blue shirt and red shorts, and the person at the bottom is wearing a yellow shirt and black shorts. They are both wearing climbing harnesses and are connected by a rope. The background is dark and out of focus.

# INTRODUCTION

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Climbing, both indoor and outdoor, is undergoing unprecedented growth in Victoria. There has been a near doubling of commercial climbing facilities in the past two years and participation figures from Ausplay suggest a 10% per year growth rate from 2016 to 2018 with an estimate of the current number of self-identified climbers at approximately 45,000 Victorians.

Victoria consistently hosts some of the largest state competitions, attracting athletes from across Australia. This is due to the high quality of those events with experienced event officials, experienced and creative route-setters and access to some of the best indoor climbing terrain in Australia. Growth at these events is also accelerating, in both adult and youth categories. At the 2019 Victorian Lead Championships we experienced a 50% growth in the youngest categories, suggesting a surge of interest which will continue as those athletes move into older age categories.



We anticipate this growth to continue given the increased coverage the Tokyo Olympics will bring to climbing, as climbing will be an Olympic medal sport for the first time in 2020. Climbing achievements are also getting more attention in the mainstream media - for example the recent Oscar win for the spectacularly popular climbing film, Free Solo. Meeting the demands of the growing participation and interest in climbing presents both opportunities and challenges for Sport Climbing Victoria which we are excited to address.

The Sport Climbing Victoria 2019-2021 Strategic Plan outlines how we intend to channel the growing participation and interest in our sport into achieving our vision for climbing in Victoria. In this strategic plan we have identified four strategic priority areas where the Board of Directors have identified objectives that are essential for continuing the development of climbing in Victoria and will lay the foundation for climbing to contribute significantly to the Australian sport and active recreation landscape.

Philip Goebel  
President, Sport Climbing Victoria



# OUR VISION

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Sport Climbing Victoria plays a central role in **inspiring excellence** in the sport and recreation of rock climbing, from **grassroots community participation** through to **elite performance**.

# OUR MISSION

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Driving improvement of Victorian climbers and the climbing community through **organising events**, **developing resources** and through **leadership and advocacy**.





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# PRIORITIES

## SSA STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2019 - 2021

### Operational Sustainability

Building a resilient organisation with enhanced capability and capacity to improve current activities and expand our reach, with special focus on the opportunities relating to the 2020 Olympics.

### Facilities

Expanding access Victorians have to world class climbing facilities and reliably securing venues for events, workforce development and elite athlete programming.

### Athlete Pathways

Creating the human resources and programming support to assist Victorians in their pursuit of athletic excellence at the national and international level.

### Governance

Taking a leadership role in the broader climbing community to build governance capability across all climbing activity; including leaders from commercial gyms, community climbing spaces, University and community clubs, commercial and recreational outdoor climbers.



# Operational Sustainability



**SCV will strive towards improved operational sustainability to increase the quality and professionalism of all activities.**

**SCV will accomplish this through:**

- Growing the workforce, both volunteer and professional, through targeted investments into recruitment and training
- Improving our financial position by working to cultivate recurrent revenue sources
- Develop a stronger network by identifying potential partners with aligned interests, to work together towards shared outcomes

**Measures:**

- Number of engaged volunteers at events and contributing to ongoing projects
- Number of events with workforce development and training objectives
- Annual Recurring Revenue



# Facilities



Access to climbing facilities is a particular challenge for SCV as all activities require access to highly specialised terrain and keeping up to date with the evolving international standards.

To meet this challenge, SCV will drive infrastructure development to fill current gaps not being met by commercial facilities and which are essential for hosting world-class events, workforce development activities and athlete development, covering all three disciplines of competition climbing.

## **This will be done through:**

- Developing a State Facility Plan which identifies needs and opportunities
- Strengthening relationships with commercial facilities to continue to improve current programming and events

## **Measures:**

- A State Facility Plan adopted by the Board of Directors outlining a strategy and timeline for further infrastructure requirements in Victoria
- Number of unique commercial facilities that host SCV events

# Athlete Pathways



SCV will continue to build and support a broad and inclusive climbing population in Victoria. As part of our outreach, we support all Victorians performing at regional and national competitions including the growing interest in para-climbing, and hope to inspire Victorians to reach their highest potential.

## We will accomplish this through:

- Facilitating and supporting current and new clubs and squads to organise local programming and athlete development activities, including specialised programming such as the adaptive climbing community
- Emphasize the development of a diverse local workforce in key technical roles involved in delivering athlete development programming, including continuing our leadership role in the implementation of the national coaching accreditation framework
- Explore sponsorship opportunities to enhance available resources for athlete support activities

## Measures:

- Number of clubs and squads in Victoria with particular note of clubs with programming that caters towards diverse segments of Victoria's population
- Number of full-time route-setters and coaches in Victoria, with additional support to create a diverse workforce
- Budget spent on athlete development and support activities across a diverse population



# Governance



Sport Climbing Victoria has a key role to play in leading the development of robust governance bodies which can encompass all climbing activities for the diverse needs of all Victorians.

Given increased climbing interest in our world-class outdoor locations in Victoria, it is important that all climbers behave responsibly to mitigate environmental impact and work with the Traditional Land Owners to preserve cultural heritage sites.

Furthermore, it is important that SCV work to support and embrace the growing diverse demographic interested in climbing both indoors and outdoors. SCV will take leadership in developing a new climbing governance organisation which will serve all Victorian climbers.

## Measures:

- Number of climbing clubs and organisations that SCV have formal relationships with, and who will participate in a coordinated governance structure
- Number of climbers in Victoria who are members of SCV or related climbing governance bodies



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**Photography Credits:**

Climb Media Photography  
Sytse Van Slooten  
The Circuit Climbing  
Eddie Fowke  
Team Australia  
Yvette Harrison  
Bayside Rock Climbing Gym  
North Walls Indoor Climbing  
Cliffhanger Indoor Rock Climbing Gym





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

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