



Zeerust Primary school enjoys Bowl Patrol in Shepparton

Zeerust Primary School near Bendigo, Victoria are the first to complete a four-session Bowl Patrol program, in a test-case for Tenpin Bowling Australia as part of the Australian Sports Commission's Sporting Schools initiative. As part of a national ambition for the sport, Bowl Patrol hopes to create 'striking machines' out of primary-school aged participants by the time 'Patrollers' graduate from the program.

Bowl Patrol would usually be delivered in tenpin bowling centres by specially trained coaches referred to as 'Lane Rangers', the program was launched recently and is currently running in Victoria, NSW, Queensland, Tasmania and South Australia. Proving particularly popular in rural areas, Shepparton took up the challenge with the support of Tenpin Bowling Victoria and Oz Tenpin this year. It was in part due to the ambition of manager Liss Thompson and her team following a successful grant application to cover the costs of starting up the program.



A Bowl Patroller from Zeerust Primary collects the ball ready to walk the carpet lanes for her turn.

Vic Health's Active Club grant ensured the centre had everything they needed to get the program rolling, all they needed next were bowlers! Whilst the local bowling community are doing their best to support it, the centre would ideally like to welcome new bowlers in. The Sporting Schools program creates the ideal opportunity to show kids a new sport, one they can play for life.

Sporting Schools offers primary schools across Australia the chance to participate in a range of sports programs, fully funded by the Australian Sports Commission. Principal simply register online at sportingschools.gov.au and select the sport of their choice. Lucky for Oz Tenpin Shepparton, the

principal at Zeerust Primary School, Dr Peter Farrell chose tenpin. He sees the value of the sport being open to all ages, levels and abilities. It's also an indoors sport meaning no disruptions to scheduled playing times.

We couldn't agree more and were delighted with how quickly the students picked up the bowling technique. Barely a bumper was used with most kids graduating through a number of the program's stages, as rewarded by a coloured wristband. Each participant received a Patroller Pack including shirt, back pack and drink bottle. The sport is a popular choice with kids, especially for birthday parties or school holiday boredom busters – now they can sign up for an 8 week program in school term to further develop their skills. Find out more about the program via bowlpatrol.com.au or for Sporting Schools visit sportingschools.gov.au



Principal Dr Peter Farrell follows fellow teacher and students 'behind the scenes' with Lane Ranger Liss

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