

Zed Seselja MLA
Member for Molonglo
Leader of the Opposition
Media Release

Friday 21 October 2011

**ZED ANNOUNCES SUPPORT
FOR LOCAL SPORTS
\$3.5 MILLION FOR FACILITIES
50% CUT IN GROUND FEES**

ACT Opposition Leader Zed Seselja today announced that if elected, the Canberra Liberals will cut the cost of sporting ground training and match fees by 50 per cent, and will inject \$3.5 million into improving Canberra's community sports facilities.

"These sporting initiatives are part of the Canberra Liberal's commitment today to deliver the best local government in Australia for the best city in Australia," Mr Seselja said.

"We've discovered that while ACT Labor claims ground fees have only increased in line with CPI, training fees for junior teams have in fact increased by as much as 135 per cent, making it very difficult for large families to afford organised sporting activities.

"By cutting ground training and match fees, we will help Canberra families with the cost burden of junior sports and encourage greater participation in these important activities.

"We will also provide grants of up to \$350,000 to assist in the upgrade of existing sporting facilities, many of which are currently unusable due to neglect under ACT Labor. This is new funding over and beyond other sporting grants and maintenance programs.

"ACT Labor has failed to keep up with the demand placed on Canberra's playing fields, which are used for nearly 81,000 hours a year. 41 ovals have been closed due to lack of water and despite above average rainfall, many ovals remain closed or in disrepair.

"The Canberra Liberals look forward to announcing many more policies in over the next twelve months, all of which will focus on improving core local services and lower the cost of living," Mr Seselja concluded