



## **Information sheet – Changing the game for girls in action sports (GASP)**

Thank you for your interest in this research project about girls in action sports (skateboarding, surfing and mountain biking). This study is being conducted by Associate Professors Meredith Nash (Senior Lecturer in Sociology, University of Tasmania) and Verity Cleland (Senior Research Fellow, Menzies Institute for Medical Research) and Drs Melanie Sharman (Senior Research Officer, Menzies Institute for Medical Research) and Robyn Moore (Research Assistant, School of Social Sciences). It is supported by through Womensport and Recreation Tasmania and funded by the Tasmanian Government Department of Communities, Sport and Recreation.

### **1. What is the purpose of this study?**

The purpose of GASP is to better understand why girls do and do not engage in the action sports of surfing, skateboarding and mountain bike riding. Understanding why girls do and do not participate in these sports and sport generally is important, because girls' participation in physical activity declines more with age compared with boys. If we can better understand why some girls do and some girls do not participate, we may gain valuable insights for engaging and retaining girls in these and other sports. In an earlier phase of GASP, we spoke to girls who currently participate in these sports. In this phase of GASP (GASP2), we plan to speak to a broader range of people involved in these sports – girls who want to or who no longer participate, boys, parents/carers, coaches, officials, sport administrators.

### **2. Why have I been invited to participate?**

You have a daughter, or are a carer of a girl who skateboards, surfs or mountain bikes or who used to or who would like to participate in either of these sports.

### **3. What does this study involve?**

This is a focus group study that will occur in 2020. A focus group is like a group discussion and will last no longer than 90 minutes. Participants will have the choice of participating in

the focus group face to face (as COVID-19 restrictions allow) at the Menzies Institute for Medical Research, Hobart or through the video conference software, Zoom. Participants can access and use Zoom through their mobile, desktop or another portable electronic device. The discussion will focus on perspectives on the enablers and barriers of girls' participation in the three action sports. Under certain circumstances a telephone interview maybe offered as an alternative to attending the focus group.

#### **4. Do I have to participate?**

Your involvement in this study is voluntary. Whist we would be pleased if you do participate, we respect your right to decline. There will be no consequences to you if you decide not to participate.

#### **5. How will my privacy be protected?**

Data from individuals will not be shared with any other party. Summary reports, academic manuscripts and conference presentations will present findings from all participants combined, meaning you will not be able to be identified. If you decide to discontinue participation in this project at any time, you may do so without providing an explanation. If you choose to withdraw after you have participated in the focus group, we will do our best to remove your comments from the transcript of the focus group, but it is not always possible to identify individual speakers in focus group transcripts. After September 2020 it will not be possible to remove your data from the study as we expect to have begun the publication process by that time. All research data will be kept in password protected computer files behind institutional firewalls. This study is part of an intended program of work that will take place over several years. For this reason, data will be kept indefinitely (with your consent) and for no less than 5 years. Data may be used for other related research purposes, subject to appropriate ethics approvals. Further, we will ask participants in the focus group to not record the session, to keep discussions confidential and ensure that other persons in their immediate surrounds (e.g. family members) cannot hear the discussion if using Zoom. However, we cannot guarantee that participants will do as advised.



**6. Are there any possible benefits from participation in the study?**

We hope that you will enjoy discussing the topic of girls in action sports. You will be providing us with important information that we can use to help young people lead healthy, active lifestyles.

**7. Are there any possible risks from participation in this study?**

There are no anticipated risks by participating in this study.

**8. What if we have questions about this research?**

If you would like to discuss any aspects of this study, please feel free to contact Dr Verity Cleland via telephone (03) 6226 4603 or email [verity.cleland@utas.edu.au](mailto:verity.cleland@utas.edu.au)

**9. What do I need to do now?**

If you would like to participate in this study, please contact Anita Oakley [on \(03\) 6226 4676](tel:(03)62264676) or [gasp.study@utas.edu.au](mailto:gasp.study@utas.edu.au). You can ask Anita any other questions you may have before deciding to participate.

Thank you for your interest!

**This study has been approved by the Tasmanian Social Science Human Research Ethics Committee. If you have concerns or complaints about the conduct of this study, you should contact the Executive Officer of the HREC (Tasmania) Network on (03) 6226 2975 or email [ss.ethics@utas.edu.au](mailto:ss.ethics@utas.edu.au). The Executive Officer is the person nominated to receive complaints from research participants. You will need to quote HREC project number H0018497. This information sheet is for you to keep.**