

OFFICE OF SPORT



FUTURE CHAMPIONS

Pathways to sporting success

Strengthening our pathways to support the next generation of NSW athletes to be future champions in and out of sport

www.sport.nsw.gov.au/futurechampions

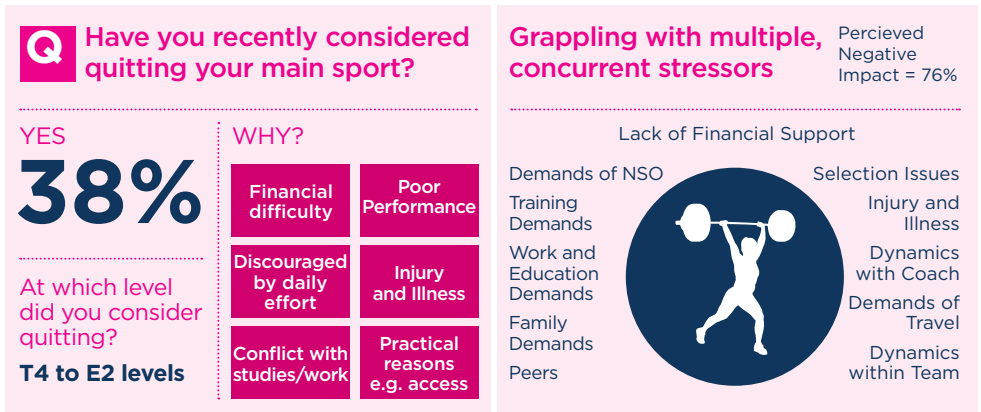
Introducing FUTURE CHAMPIONS

As Australians we pride ourselves on our sport people delivering superior performances on the world stage and inspiring the next generation of aspiring athletes. As the largest jurisdiction in the country NSW plays a vital role in developing these athletes to reach their potential.

When an athlete's pathway progresses to the elite performance and competition environment we observe a weight of expectation descend upon them.

In 2017 nearly a third of high performance NSW athletes surveyed (of a total of 176 individuals) had recently considered quitting their main sport due to the cost, competing demands on their time between training, study and/or work, injury or illness and the natural stressors of a high performance, competitive environment.

NSW Data 'My Sporting Journey Questionnaire' AIS



FUTURE CHAMPIONS focuses on the importance of ensuring emerging NSW athletes have acquired all the skills, knowledge, experience and exposure along their journey that will allow them to cope with that pressure, relish opportunities and perform at their best physically, psychologically, tactically and technically when they reach the elite arena.

To do this we must provide best-practice, holistic support to our athletes through an effective coordination of high performance drivers that will enable the best possible opportunity for success.

Connecting our Key System Partners

Through the development of the FUTURE CHAMPIONS strategy, the NSW Government seeks to influence and connect all relevant system partners and resources within the NSW pathways system towards this common goal.

GOAL

Sustained NSW sporting success and NSW being a valued partner in Australia's international success

MISSION

To provide informed, leading and holistic support to develop NSW athletes at every step along their pathway to becoming a Future Champion

To achieve this, the buy in and engagement of all NSW pathway system partners is critical. NSW athletes are fortunate to be supported by a vast number of support organisations and individuals who work across the region to provide multiple services, resources and facilities to our pathway performers.

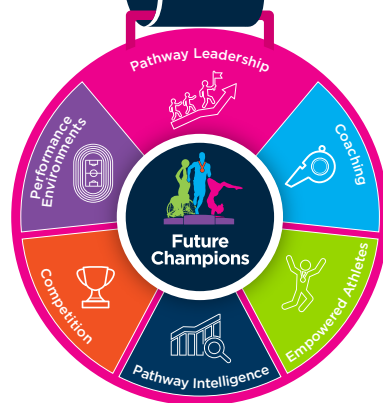


Blueprint for High performance

The FUTURE CHAMPIONS Strategy has been developed following a detailed review of local and international best practice and evidence, as well as system partner and expert consultation involving over 100 individuals from more than 50 organisations.

Informing the consultation process and the formulation of the Strategy is the FTEM (Foundation, Talent, Elite and Mastery) athlete development framework originally developed by the AIS and utilised extensively with the majority of national sporting organisations.

FUTURE CHAMPIONS has identified six drivers integral to high performance success, with the athlete at the centre. These six drivers allow for clear outcomes and recommendations specific to NSW athlete pathways. Pathway leadership is a particularly significant driver and encompasses all other drivers.



FUTURE CHAMPIONS OUTCOMES

	PATHWAY LEADERSHIP Informed, aligned and collaborative pathway leadership
	COACHING A well-resourced, empowered and capable coaching workforce
	EMPOWERED ATHLETES Educated and supported NSW athletes in control of their pathway
	PATHWAY INTELLIGENCE Research-based and innovative solutions informing pathway policy and practice
	COMPETITION Accessible, appropriate and progressive competition opportunities
	PERFORMANCE ENVIRONMENTS Accessible and adaptive, best-practice training and competition environments

A series of actions has been developed for each of the six drivers, with system partners identified that are critical to the implementation of these actions. The FTEM athlete development framework has been overlayed to clearly show where on the pathway each action will impact, and what the system should ideally provide in support at this point.

FTEM NSW

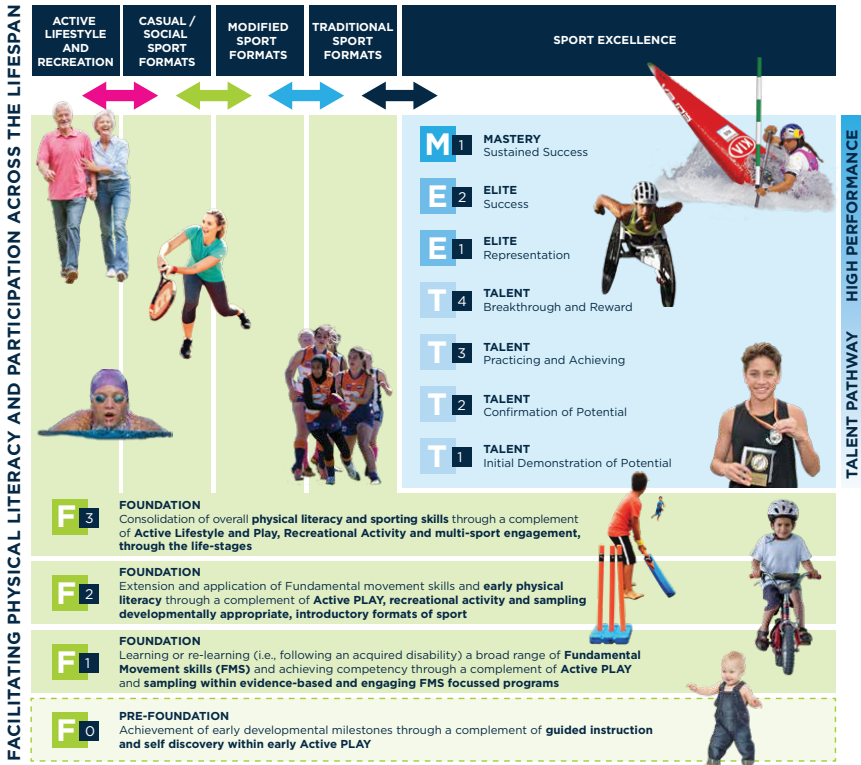
(Foundation, Talent, Elite and Mastery)

FTEM is an evidence-based framework providing a best practice and flexible approach for educating and supporting sports in reviewing and refining the alignment, coordination and efficiencies of their pathway operations at a foundation, pre-elite and elite/mastery level.

FTEM is not predicated on chronological age, but instead espouses a best practice and holistic approach to participant and athlete development ensuring the ‘the right support at the right time.’

By systematically applying the six drivers for high performance success at each FTEM level specifically in NSW, identification of clear gaps and opportunities for strengthening our pathways have been articulated and will continue to be identified through strategy implementation.

FUTURE CHAMPIONS will target the Talent levels of the FTEM pathway [Talent Identification (T1), Talent Confirmation (T2), Talent Development (T3) and Talent Transition (T4)] as this was identified through consultation as the part of the pathway with the most critical need for focus and investment.











Future Champions **AT A GLANCE**

For each of the six drivers the Future Champions Strategy outlines the current landscape and explains why this driver is an integral part of the strategy.

Full details of recommended actions, suggested system partners and a picture of success for our stakeholders can be found at: sport.nsw.gov.au/futurechampions

FUTURE CHAMPIONS AT A GLANCE

PATHWAY LEADERSHIP	 <p>Informed, aligned and collaborative pathway leadership</p>	1.1	Review and refine NSW talent pathways through implementation of FTEM NSW
		1.2	Grow targeted investment into NSW talent pathways
		1.3	Strengthen NSW pathway leadership through best practice and networking
COACHING	 <p>A well-resourced, empowered and capable coaching workforce</p>	2.1	Promote the importance of dedicated coach development
		2.2	Grow coaching capability
		2.3	Increase coaching capacity
EMPOWERED ATHLETES	 <p>Educated and supported NSW athletes in control of their pathway</p>	3.1	Empower the athlete voice to inform strategy and practice
		3.2	Advance systemic financial support initiatives for athletes
		3.3	Develop centralised educational resources for athletes and supporting stakeholders
PATHWAY INTELLIGENCE	 <p>Research-based and innovative solutions informing pathway policy and practice</p>	4.1	Prioritise systemic, longitudinal data collection and analytics
		4.2	Establish collaborative athlete monitoring systems to build the evidence base and inform day-to-day athlete case management
		4.3	Utilise evidence-based pathway intelligence to inform strategy and practice
COMPETITION	 <p>Accessible, appropriate and progressive competition opportunities</p>	5.1	Provide accessible and progressive competition opportunities
		5.2	Continue to host benchmark events within NSW
PERFORMANCE ENVIRONMENTS	 <p>Accessible and adaptive, best practice training and competition environments</p>	6.1	Prioritise quality, innovative and accessible talent development environments and facilities
		6.2	Ensure pathway athletes have access to inclusive, safe, supportive and facilitative daily training environments

**FUTURE CHAMPIONS STRATEGY DOCUMENT AND
CASE STUDIES ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT:
SPORT.NSW.GOV.AU/FUTURECHAMPIONS**

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