



Growing AFL Club gets efficient to combat increasing bills.

Everton Wolves Junior Australian Football Club

The Everton Wolves Junior Australian Football Club has a rich history at the centre of the local community. The Enoggera Memorial Grounds was created in 1920 and hosted the Enoggera Show until 1939, where it then became a cow paddock. However, in it's first year the local community began playing sport with parents having to shoo cows off the field and shovel pats before games could begin. In 1969 the Everton Wolves officially began and in 1975 lights were installed on the main field and the clubhouse was finished.

Now, the club has over 300 players and is still growing rapidly, known for it's welcoming community spirit and celebrated diversity.

The challenge:

In 2021 Everton Wolves grew by over 30% - boasting it's largest size since the clubs inception. While this is a fantastic achievement, the increase in club members, volunteers, and associates requires electricity and water services to keep up with growing demands. It has become a key focus for the club to ensure that all their operating costs aren't locked up in these growing bills, and they can still invest in improving the club for the players and the community.

The solutions:

The Resilient Clubs Support Program has offered Everton Wolves a range of recommendations and solutions to help lower operating costs across energy, irrigation and plumbing. The club is focusing on a mix between smaller scale 'quick wins' that are easy to do and larger 'smart investments' that may take more time and investment, but will have greater long-term effects for the club.

Quick wins (free or low cost actions)

Set the thermostat to between 3°C and 5°C in fridges and -15°C and -18°C for freezers.

Every degree colder that fridges and freezers run on increases the running cost by 2 – 4%. Everton Wolves adopted this change as a simple 'set and forget' efficiency win.

Fix bathroom plumbing with time-saver taps

It was recommended that the club ensures taps and plumbing fixtures are water efficient and set to timers as this is an easy way to reduce water bills. For Everton Wolves, using time-saver taps helps prevent volunteers and players accidentally leaving taps on or using basin taps longer than necessary.

Replace incandescent clubroom and security lights with LEDs

While LED lights are marginally more expensive than incandescent bulbs, they last approximately 5x longer and consume approximately 80% less energy which means lower electricity and replacement costs. Additionally, LED lights have much more effective light distribution which can reduce the number of fittings by 30%.

Bigger improvements, bigger savings

Installed solar PV system:

The Program funded the installation of a 10kW solar PV system for Everton Wolves. Now the club produces nearly 40% of its daily energy requirements. This has reduced their energy bills and environmental impact.

Replaced showerhead roses with WELS rated products:

An audit of the club's plumbing systems found that the club would benefit from investing in Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards scheme recognised fixtures for the entire club, which for showerheads, use 60% of the water volume than a standard showerhead does.

Upgrade sprinkler heads on both fields:

An irrigation audit uncovered that the club's existing sprinklers were old and while they still worked, were not very water efficient. The Program funded an upgrade of all necessary sprinklers which will ensure grass surface is being covered adequately while also saving up to at least 10 litres of water per minute, for every sprinkler head.

The results:



Estimated energy savings per year:
5,886kwh



Estimated water savings per year:
70.08KL



Estimated cost savings per year:
\$3,138