

27 October 2025

ADG Community Grant Supports Alice Springs Barbell in Building Strength and Community Through Sport

Airport Development Group's (ADG) Community Grants Program is proud to support the *Alice Springs Barbell*, a grassroots initiative introducing Olympic Weightlifting to young people in Central Australia.

The project, led by local coaches and mentors, provides a positive outlet for youth in Alice Springs, teaching strength, focus, and discipline through the sport of Olympic Weightlifting. With an emphasis on inclusion and community connection, the program partners with local Arrernte mentors and operates with cultural respect on Arrernte Country.

Recently, the *Alice Springs Barbell* achieved national recognition, with their young athletes placing second across two divisions at the *Australian Youth and Under 15 Nationals* held on Bribie Island in October.

ADG's support has helped the club establish regular training sessions, host official competitions, and develop pathways for local coaches and referees, ensuring the program's long-term sustainability in the region.

"The Alice Springs Barbell is an inspiring example of how sport can empower young people, strengthen community pride, and create opportunities for the future. ADG is proud to support this initiative through our Community Grants Program and to see its positive impact across Alice Springs." said ADG's Indigenous and Community Projects Manager, Rychelle Vines

Northern Territory Weightlifting Association representative Sean Parks said "With ADG's support, we have been able to grow the sport of Olympic Weightlifting in Alice Springs and give our young people something powerful to focus on, building strength, confidence, and discipline. Our success at the national championships is just the beginning. We're creating a lasting, positive culture through sport here on Arrernte Country."

The *Alice Springs Barbell* program is helping shape future athletes, coaches, and community leaders, providing a clear pathway for local youth to achieve their potential, whether in sport, education, or future employment.

ADG's Community Grants Program supports a range of not-for-profit and community organisations across the Northern Territory. The program focuses on initiatives that contribute to community wellbeing, inclusion, education, and regional development across the regions where ADG operates.

Round 4 of the ADG Community Grants will open on 10 November 2025 - for more information about ADG's Community Grants Program, visit: [Community Grants | Airport Development Group | NT](#)

-ENDS-