



MEDIA RELEASE

7 December 2018

WBBL and Dolly's Dream in partnership to stand up to bullying

The Rebel Women's Big Bash League (WBBL) and Dolly's Dream – a national bullying initiative supported by the Alannah and Madeline Foundation – are joining forces to raise funds and awareness about the serious issue of bullying and its devastating effects.

To launch the partnership, a ceremonial coin toss was made at the commencement of the Sydney Sixers v Perth Scorchers WBBL fixture at the North Sydney Oval on 7 December.

The toss was made by 13-year old Sydney schoolgirl, Erin Fitzpatrick who paid tribute to the memory of Amy 'Dolly' Everett, promising to stand up to bullying. The dollar from the toss was donated to kick start the partnership.

During WBBL Finals all of cricket's ticket revenue from the semi-finals and final will go towards helping Dolly's Dream create positive change in the community to prevent bullying.

Australian Women's cricketer, Perth Scorchers player and Dolly's Dream ambassador, Elyse Villani said:

"As a young girl who was playing what was then perceived a boy's sport, bullying is often the biggest challenge facing many girls. I've faced many keyboard warriors myself and I don't wish it on anyone to have that experience.

"Alongside two of my teammates and closest friends - Meg Lanning and Rachel Haynes – we are proud to be ambassadors for Dolly's Dream.

"We are all passionate about ensuring people are aware of their self-worth, raising awareness about devastating impacts of bullying and dedicate ourselves to doing what we can do to create a society committed to preventing bullying."

Lesley Podesta, CEO of the Alannah and Madeline Foundation said:

"There is no place in the game of cricket for bullying, there is no place in society for bullying.

"Unfortunately, we're still in a society where bullying still exists but having the WBBL dedicate their finals series to raising awareness for Dolly's Dream will make a huge difference in changing attitudes and behaviour towards this issue."

Kim McConnie, Head of Big Bash Leagues said:

"The WBBL is committed to emphasising the importance of female elite cricketers being role models for young girls and boys both on and off the field.

"We are delighted to partner with Dolly's Dream to bring much needed attention and fundraising to this serious national issue.

"So many Australians were touched by the tragic story of Amy 'Dolly' Everett, so to create a partnership in her memory will not only give increased prominence to the issue but also give everyone further courage to stand up to bullying in all its forms."

WBBL Finals

In a League first, WBBL finals will be standalone fixtures, guaranteeing the top ranked team will win the right to host at their home stadium, in front of a home crowd. Both Semi Finals will take place on Saturday 19 December at the one location, with the Final to be played the following weekend on Australia Day, Saturday 26 January. All finals will be broadcast live on Fox Cricket, Network Seven and ABC Radio.

Dolly's Dream

Amy "Dolly" Everett was the victim of bullying and ended her young life at just 14 years of age. Dolly's Dream was established by her parents, Kate and Tick who have decided to partner with the Alannah & Madeline Foundation (one of Australia's best known and trusted children's charities) to ensure that Dolly's Dream will help prevent other children being affected by bullying.

To support the partnership, buy a ticket to the WBBL Finals from 14 January 2019 or SMS "DOLLY" to 1998 8220 to contribute \$5 to help positive change in the community to prevent bullying.

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