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## AND THE WINNERS ARE... ILLAWARRA CLUBS TAKE OUT TOP PRIZES AT CLUBS AND COMMUNITY AWARDS

Dapto Leagues Club and Wests Illawarra have taken out top prizes in the Environment and Sport Categories at 2015 Clubs & Community Awards.

**Dapto Leagues Club** was named as the winner in the Best Club Contribution to the Environment category for reducing its carbon footprint as well as committing to being a leading corporate citizen.

Since the establishment of a Green Team amongst staff last year, the Club has introduced key programs such as *Don't Hurtle the Turtle*, *Swticharoo*, *If it Grows it Goes* and *Recycling for our Future*, and adopted the Global Reporting Initiative in order to be leaders in the environment and sustainability field.

The Club has since seen back-of-house organic waste and comingle recycling separation grow from 25 per cent to 100 per cent, a reduction in paper consumption by 75 reams and electricity consumption drop by 115,084kWh.

**Wests Illawarra** was the winner in the Best Club Contribution for Sport category for their leadership of and commitment to local sport. The Club provides the community with sporting facilities, coaching clinics, training programs and financial support.

Wests Illawarra also proudly supports the Recreational Sports Program that offers families an affordable, subsidised way to participate in sport.

In 2014, Wests Illawarra contribution to Junior and amateur reached \$600,000 – showing just how serious they are in ensuring community sport thrives.

Aside from Dapto Leagues Club and Wests Illawarra taking out the top gongs, **the German Club** and **The Shellharbour Club** both took home Highly Commended Awards for their support of Arts and Culture and Sport respectively.

ClubsNSW CEO Anthony Ball congratulated all four Illawarra Clubs on their respective wins at the Clubs & Community Awards.

“The commitment of clubs in the Illawarra region is so strong that four clubs managed to beat out a record number of entries in each of their categories, cementing all of them as key pillars in their local community,” he said.

“Clubs play a key role in the Illawarra, which is why it is great to see four local clubs recognised at the Clubs and Community Awards for the work that they do.

“Wests Illawarra and Dapto Leagues Club have both made significant contributions that will hopefully leave a lasting mark for future generations. These clubs truly are role models for other organisations in the local area.”

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**Photos from the Awards night are available on request.**