Women in Football 21st Century Town Hall Meeting Participant Feedback

Final report

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Summary of results

Women in Football 21st Century Town Hall Meeting was held on the 28 November, 2015, at the MCG in Melbourne. Around 150 women participated in the Summit, of whom 102 provided feedback on their experience and the organisation of the event.

The overall evaluation of the day was highly positive. 100% of participants thought the day went well with 78% - very well, 20% - quite well and 2% - well. Extraordinarily, 100% of participants indicated that they would be very or quite willing to participate again in a similar event (Figure 1 and Figure 2).

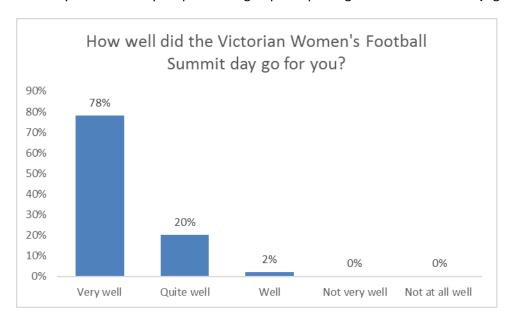


Figure 1

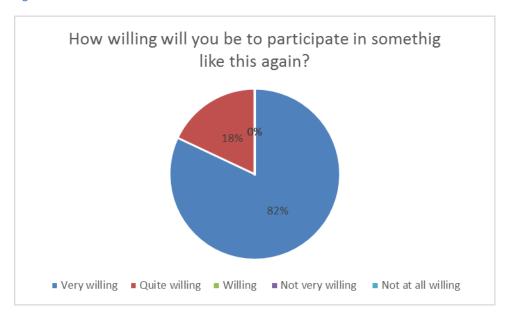


Figure 2

Discussions with people at small tables and presentations were unanimously rated as useful by 100% of those who provided feedback. Techniques to gather ideas and prioritise key themes, and the videos shown during the Summit were found to be useful by 99% of the respondents (Figure 3).

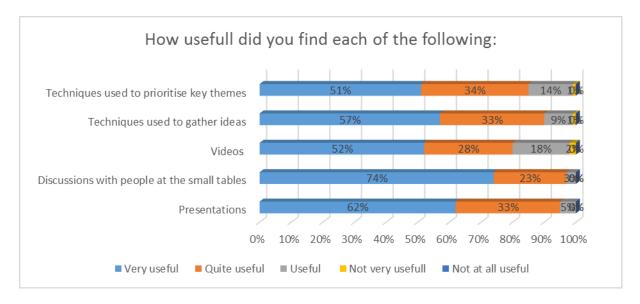


Figure 3

Notably, all participants felt they were able to listen to other people's viewpoints, express their own views during the deliberation process, understand the issues that have been discussed and influence the outcomes of the workshop very well, quite well or well. 97% reported that they were able, in one way or another, to learn new information about issues discussed during the forum (Figure 4).

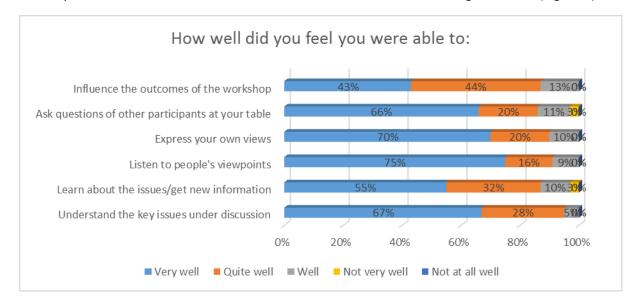


Figure 4

All participants reported that their contribution was valued by people running the event and 96% believed that their participation was undoubtedly encouraged. Almost all of respondents felt that their experience and expertise was highly valued by the organisers and the other participants. Nearly half of those who provided feedback were certain that the deliberation process resulted in useful outcomes. More than 1/3 believed that the outcomes of the Summit deliberation were definitely likely to be valued and acted on (Figure 5).

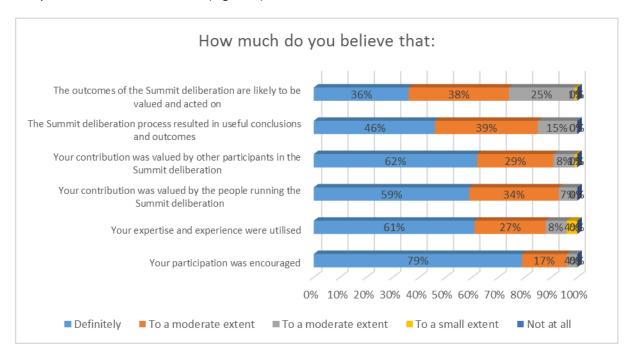


Figure 5

More than 80 % of the people were confident that the outcomes of the event reflected to a greater or fairly greater extend the common ground of the room, their own views and their table's views (Figure 6). However, 15% thought that the time for discussion at table level and the time available for individual reflection on issues was too little (Figure 7).

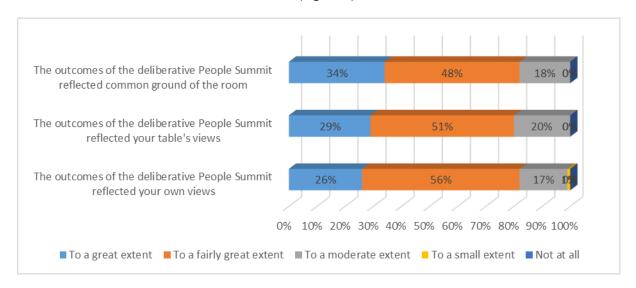


Figure 6

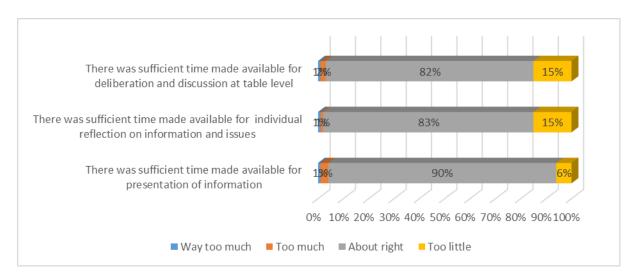


Figure 7

Nearly half of the people reported they have broadened their views as a result of the deliberation to a moderate extend and 1/3 reported they have experienced this to a fairly greater extend (Figure 8). All participants shared the opinion that it is valuable (84% thought very to extremely valuable) for people to broaden or change their views (Figure 9).

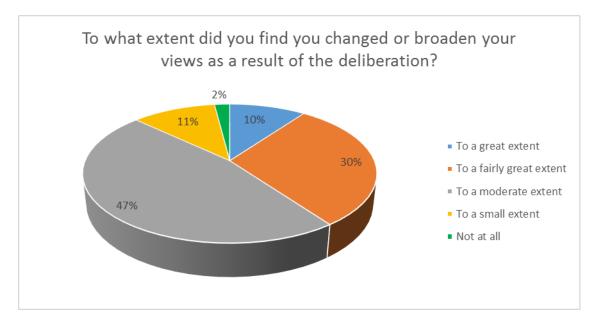


Figure 8

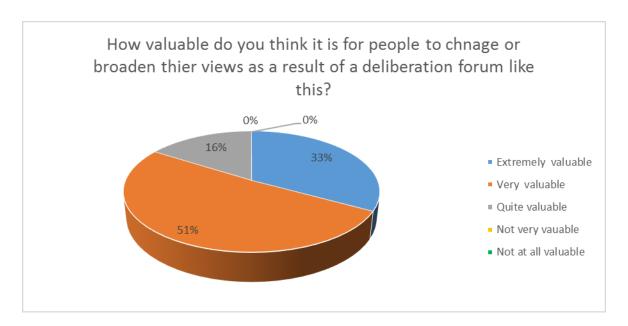


Figure 9

Participants' Written Comments

Nearly half of the participants provided written feedback in the comments section of the questionnaire and over 2/3 of all comments were positive in terms of the organisation of the event and the food provided, pointing out that this format was a brilliant idea for getting people together and sharing ideas. A number of participants thought that men who are involved in football should also be included in such initiatives (11%). Respondents also highly commended the use of the technology.

There were a few suggestions for improvement – two people suggested that there should be more time to work on solutions rather than focusing on problems; another thought the speakers could have been spread more evenly during the day. One person felt too rushed through the sessions, and another noted that questions could have been formulated better. One participant thought it would have been better if the event could have been run for half a day or on a week day, while another participant noted that people at her table felt too tired after lunch and the table lost focus.

There were also many positive comments about the day. Some included the following:

Thank you to the organisers and the facilitators. It has been a great event I would greatly welcome an opportunity to continue the conversation. Thank you now I have a great deal to share with my club leadership team.

Just to say thank you for a great day, very well run and professional. Appreciated a lot of the hard work put in to run the day including catering stuff.

Thank you, looking forward to seeing football in the coming years change for the better inclusion of women and growth in participation across all levels of the game.

Awesome day. Great work by the organisers and volunteers.

I thought that when I arrived and was asked to participate, I was worried about what to say. When we started talking, we all couldn't stop suggesting ideas, learning about other issues of women in football and inspired me to support women in football even more so. Very invigorating FFV - well done!

WOWOWO! Utterly thrilled for the team of champions who put this conference together. It was even better than I had originally imagined it would be. Great table allocation - really diverse and made for great discussions. I feel inspired to set my own goals towards this. The seamless presentations, inspiring speakers and clever system of modern information gathering that empowers women and enables everyone voices to be heard.

Excellent initiative by FFV, the energy in the room. Think utilising the opportunity could be done better - to broaden the women in football netball and perhaps promote how they can join the network. Great coordination by the FFV and Tal Karp was a brilliant presenter.

Predominantly, participants thought the *Women in Football 21st Century Town Hall Meeting* was positive step forward.

Appendix 1. Comments

We have spent a lot of time looking at the problem. It would have also been good to hear from the women in the room who are already doing what we want more of (e.g. refs, presidents, players, coaches). A "what's working conversation". DO not use money to vote on priorities as people tended to vote on things that needed money like facilities and not things that are less costly like role modelling. potentially it has biased voting.

Thank you to the organisers and the facilitators. It has been a great event I would greatly welcome an opportunity to continue the conversation. Thank you now I have a great deal to share with my club leadership team.

It would be interesting to run a feedback forum with males involved in football.

Was great may have been good to spread out speakers over the day.

Ran well.

At times difficult to hear people speak at individual tables. Rename the title of the event to conference or networking session.

Food was great, setting great, vibe great. Technology was a bit of an issue but great potential.

Just to say thank you for a great day, very well run and professional. Appreciated a lot of the hard work put in to run the day including catering stuff.

A great organised event. Wonderful to have such great speakers and participants. Would love to see these sessions continue more into implementing strategies. Would be great to have men involved in future. Great venue - ties in well with sport and great food!

Would love to see more of these sessions to move forward

Monthly events/discussions; create sub-committees to work on the discussed issues.

Thank you, looking forward to seeing football in the coming years change for the better inclusion of women and growth in participation across all levels of the game.

Possibly break up groups into how they fit in the picture - i.e. community coaches, advanced coaches, referees, government bodies, ffv, players.

Possibly done in a week day for a shorter period of time, or a full day.

The ability to provide further feedback after today's session.

Excellent workshop.

Awesome day. Great work by the organisers and volunteers.

Incorporate men that are willing to help with the charge. Not lose women out of the game - ie mums, pregnant etc.

Have printed matter available.

Excellent forum and excellent host. Food great but lots of meat for people who are not veggies.

Strength in diversity of range of people but their knowledge was much stronger than advanced levels - no knowledge around role (importance/problems with zone reps so comments were very unsophisticated)

Good food

Fantastic initiative, great attendance & good diversity across the group, some really great desire to drive change for women in football.

I thought that when I arrived and was asked to participate, I was worried about what to say. When we started talking, we all couldn't stop suggesting ideas, learning about other issues of women in football and inspired me to support women in football even more so. Very invigorating FFV - well done!

Well done, good job!

We were a little too rushed in the last session.

WOWOWO! Utterly thrilled for the team of champions who put this conference together. It was even better than I had originally imagined it would be. Great table allocation - really diverse and made for great discussions. I feel inspired to set my own goals towards this. The seamless presentations, inspiring speakers and clever system of modern information gathering that empowers women and enables everyone voices to be heard.

I felt today was an excellent day for progression of football. Being able to meet with likeminded people has been amazing and will help me in my football journey having more opportunities.

Wonderful event - amazingly organised. would be useful to invite men so they can see women's view and express their own opinion.

Excellent initiative by FFV, the energy in the room. Think utilising the opportunity could be done better - to broaden the women in football netball and perhaps promote how they can join the network. Great coordination by the FFV and Tal Karp was a brilliant presenter.

Well organised and run, look forward to the next one. Let's make it even bigger! Look forward to seeing many of the great initiatives progressed and put into play.

Really valuable discussion and great ideas generated. The important thing now is to harness the enthusiasm in the room and to put the ideas into practice. Use the network to make things happen - all the people present turned up voluntarily so there is a clear willingness for people to contribute.

Great having variety of people/backgrounds at the same table. Encouraged of everyone to be involved, validation of what we have experienced in discrimination as women, you are not alone. Host is great. Good job!

Would like to know more of other successful sporting codes/football organisational clubs/leagues in promoting females in the sport. Host has been excellent.

Fantastic range of views and levels of experience. As an outsider I was surprised by our shared experiences.

Fantastic opportunity to meet and network with women in football and share like-minded sentiments - would attend further sessions in the future!

The speaker line-up was inspirational and amazing. Well done. Also our table coordinator was very professional and good at getting results from topics discussed.

The table lost focus a little after lunch - maybe an earlier finish time around 3 pm would have been better. Two people didn't come back after lunch.

Such an awesome forum to participate in. Just needed more time in the group to share stories and discuss things

Great facilitator - fantastic mix of work, deliberation and humour.

Great day, well run congratulations to all involved. I feel privileged to be part of the women in football network. It's really exciting and inspirational.

A great day - lots of energy and ideas. The challenge is the next step.

Terrific facilitator

Thank you for hosting, we need to continue to target those who have gone away from the game. Regular communication is the key. Join with the men and talk about issues raised today.

Some topics could have benefited from a how to resolve component, so more problem solution approach targeted to issues.

Excellent organisation. Exceptionally facilitated. Tal was/is brilliant. So many like-minded, accomplished, drawn people in the room. It was a pleasure! Well done!

More time to talk, more specific questions.

Very professional event, would love more!

A great forum, well-paced with discussion and breaks.

I thought the day was very well ran and I was extremely impressed with the calibre of presenters, and the diverse range of evidences of my table. Thank you!

Thank you for the opportunity to join. Happy to explore how we involve FFV in Elite sport male champions of change

Many excellent ideas did not make the lists and I am hoping these are captured and actioned, even if not put forward by many/all participants.

Interesting exercise to be part of; very varied experience and skills at our table made discussions interesting and productive; what happens to the other suggestions not used in the presentations?

I am a quiet person but when i got to speak people listened and today was excellent

This was a great experience.

Excellent venue and food; great participatory adult model; very professionally presented and ran; Wonderful Tal!