



Managing Director, parkrun Asia Pacific



- **Lead transformation and growth across APAC**
- **Secure new partnerships and revenue**
- **Be the key link to the Global Leadership Team**
- **Location flexible (Melbourne or Sydney preferred)**

About parkrun

parkrun is a health and wellbeing charity with a vision to create a healthier and happier planet. Since its conception in 2004, parkrun has evolved into a global social movement with a vibrant and inclusive community at its core. As of 2024, parkrun has recorded over 100-million instances of walking, jogging, running, and volunteering.

The parkrun mission is to transform lives by empowering people to be active, together, outdoors in their local community; and to protect parkrun for the generations to come. Each and every weekend, parkrun delivers free, weekly timed events that people of all ages and backgrounds can join in. By tackling barriers to participation, they encourage communities to come together and embrace regular physical activity.

Now in its 22nd year, parkrun spans over 2,800 locations in 22 countries with more than 12 million people registered, and counting.

The first parkrun held was conducted in Australia on the Gold Coast in 2011. There are currently 557 parkrun events taking place around Australia every weekend, with an additional 150+ throughout the Asia Pacific Region. parkrun Australia Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of parkrun Global Limited (a UK-based registered charity).

parkrun Values

- We are one global **COMMUNITY**. We look after each other and make time to connect.
- We have **AMBITION**. We work creatively and collaboratively so we can keep scaling our impact.
- We bring **JOY** to our work! We celebrate the wins, laugh together and keep the passion alive.
- We always act with **INTEGRITY**. We stay true to our principles and hold ourselves and others to account.



Managing Director, Asia Pacific

As Managing Director (MD) of parkrun Asia Pacific, you will lead the growth and transformation of parkrun across one of the world's most dynamic regions. This is a rare opportunity to lead the expansion of a global social movement while navigating significant organisational transformation; including the transition to charity status, market entry into new countries, and building a high-performing, values-driven regional team.

This role demands strategic vision, transformational leadership capability, cultural confidence, and external credibility. You will own the region's strategy, P&L (circa \$4 million), culture, and reputation. You will be the visible, authentic, values-led leader who inspires staff, volunteers, partners, and stakeholders.

This role will:

- Be responsible for the ongoing success of parkrun, driving sustainable growth in existing countries and expanding parkrun, including into new countries across the region.
- Be responsible for fostering strong and collaborative ways of working with parkrun Global and the Senior Leadership Team. This role is the link between APAC and parkrun Global.
- Build the right strategic relationships to maintain parkrun's profile and to unlock new partnerships and funding streams.
- Bring inspirational leadership, credibility, authority and drive to the organisation
- Reinforce high standards of trust, integrity, quality and transparency across ways of working and decision making.
- Ensure the safe delivery of weekly parkrun events across the region.

As the “face” of parkrun in Australia, you will be an engaging communicator who can enthusiastically advocate for parkrun's purpose and its health and wellbeing benefits to the community. The MD must also be prepared to work hands-on and get involved in the fine detail as required.

To be considered for this role, you will have significant leadership experience with accountability for organisational performance, people and budgets, ideally from within sport administration, event management and/or the community / not-for-profit sector. Demonstrated financial and commercial acumen is essential, as is experience working with/reporting to a volunteer Board.



Key Responsibilities

Strategic Leadership

- In collaboration with the parkrun AU Board and parkrun Global develop a 3-5 year strategic vision for APAC
- Lead transformation including charity transition, new market entry, business model scaling
- Identify and mitigate strategic risks across multiple jurisdictions
- Be the key link between parkrun in APAC and parkrun Global
- Be the driving force of parkrun across APAC
- Be action-oriented, entrepreneurial, adaptable, with an innovative approach to business planning

Culture & leadership

- Build the culture, values, and behaviour of the global organisation
- Ensure the organisation is structured appropriately across the region, and can attract, retain and motivate a diverse, highly talented team
- Promote constructive, trusted and collaborative relationships with both Global and local colleagues as well as with key stakeholders and volunteer ambassadors
- Ensure operational efficiency and effectiveness.
- Provide direction to the organisation's leadership team, ensuring accountability and responsibility for performance, behaviours and conduct
- Foster positive relationships and be accountable to the parkrun Australia Board and the Global CEO
- Lead people through transformation and change, creating psychological safety and an inclusive culture

Business growth & financial management

- Own the circa \$4 million P&L with full accountability
- Develop diversified revenue streams including grants, government funding, partnerships
- Have a robust understanding of the financial health and sustainability of parkrun APAC
- Continue parkrun's record of disciplined financial management
- Ensure resources available are best utilised to further parkrun APAC's growth ambitions
- Build long term, sustainable income streams to drive growth across the region including managing new and ongoing commercial relationships and identifying new business opportunities
- Deliver parkrun Australia's ambition to become a charity, in order to unlock longer term benefits and growth
- Build strategic relationships with key sector partners and stakeholders, connecting parkrun into the national and regional infrastructure

Governance & Board Partnership

- Work closely with Board as trusted advisor
- Provide Board-level reporting and strategic briefings
- Understand risk, compliance, and fiduciary responsibilities

Reporting Relationships

Reports to:

- Global CEO
- parkrun Australia Board (through the Chair)

Direct Reports (APAC Senior Leadership Team):

- Head of Finance and HR
- Head of Event Delivery and Volunteering
- Head of Growth & Commercial APAC
- Head of Safeguarding
- Head of Communications and Health

Location and Travel

The Managing Director APAC may work remotely, with a preference for either a Melbourne or Sydney base.

Travel within Australia will be required to work with staff in the Gold Coast office and on occasion to attend scheduled meetings and events.

Hours of Work

This is a full time permanent position. Due to the nature of the role, regular evening and some weekend work will be required to attend meetings and manage events.

As a minimum, the Managing Director APAC will be expected to attend parkrun Australia Board meetings, parkrun Australia Finance Committee meetings, APAC Senior Leadership Team meetings, and Global meetings such as Global Town Hall meetings and regular meetings with the Global CEO.



Selection Criteria

In addition to demonstrating **relevant experience across the core functional areas of responsibility identified in this Position Overview**, candidates applying for this role will require a range of personal and professional skills, including:

- **Senior executive leadership:** Significant leadership experience at CEO, Managing Director, Executive Director or equivalent level, with accountability for organisational performance, people and budgets.
- **Relevant sector experience:** Leadership experience across one or more relevant environments, including sport administration, event management and/or the community/not-for-profit sector. Experience spanning more than one of these areas would be advantageous.
- **Growth, transformation and change:** Demonstrated experience leading organisations through growth, transformation or significant change, including changes to operating models, organisational structures or ways of working.
- **Commercial and financial acumen:** Strong commercial judgement and the ability to understand budgets, financial performance, revenue models, partnerships and organisational sustainability.
- **People leadership:** Demonstrated ability to recruit, develop and lead high-performing senior teams, establish accountability and build a positive organisational culture.
- **External relationships and influence:** Experience developing senior relationships across government, corporate, philanthropic, community and other relevant sectors, including representing an organisation publicly.

- **Governance and Board experience:** Experience working effectively with Boards, with a sound understanding of governance, risk, compliance and the respective roles of Board and management.
- **Mission and inclusion:** Experience in purpose-led environments and a demonstrated commitment to reducing barriers to participation, equity and inclusion.
- **parkrun:** An understanding of and genuine enthusiasm for parkrun's purpose, model and community would be advantageous.

Critical skills and capabilities

- **Leadership and judgement:** Strategic, decisive and values-driven, with sound judgement and integrity.
- **Communication and influence:** Builds trust and communicates effectively across diverse stakeholders.
- **Emotional intelligence:** Self-aware, empathetic and resilient through challenge and change.
- **Accountability and delivery:** Sets clear expectations, empowers others and delivers outcomes.
- **Volunteer leadership:** Understands how to engage and lead a large volunteer-powered community.
- **Inclusive leadership:** Builds belonging and reduces barriers to participation.
- **Adaptability:** Pragmatic, curious and comfortable with change.

Residency & Immigration

Candidates must be an Australian Citizen / Permanent Resident or have unlimited working rights within Australia to be considered for this position.

Timelines

Final interviews and the appointment of this role are scheduled for early November 2026.

The successful candidate would be expected to commence duties as soon as possible, mindful of notice periods and general availability.

Remuneration

An attractive remuneration package will be available to the successful candidate, negotiable depending upon skill level and experiences. At the time of applying, candidates are invited to indicate their current salary and salary expectations.

Candidates are invited to phone Sportspeople Recruitment to discuss salary before applying if that will be helpful in decision making.



Please apply now to avoid missing out!

Please note, Sportspeople Recruitment will commence screening and interviewing for this role immediately.

If you are intending to apply, please do so now. We reserve the right to close the role as soon as sufficient merit applications are received.

Applications close:

5pm (AEDT) Wednesday 28 October, 2026

Candidates must complete and submit the COMPULSORY **Sportspeople Recruitment**

Application Form at the time of applying. The form is available as a download at the Sportspeople Recruitment website listing for this role and contains questions against which we require your specific responses prior to considering your application.

Sportspeople Recruitment prefers a 1-2 page letter of introduction and an accompanying CV of no more than 6 pages, merged into the Application Form as one MS Word file.

Apply Now to

Your application should be sent electronically via the “apply now” link at the advertisement via sportspeoplerecruitment.com/jobs

Enquiries

In the first instance, general enquiries should be directed to **Scott Oakhill** on **0408 258 337** or **FREECALL AU 1800 634 388** or **+61 2 9555 5000** or via admin@sportspeoplerecruitment.com.

About Sportspeople Recruitment

The Managing Director, parkrun Asia Pacific (APAC) search and recruitment process is being managed exclusively by **Sportspeople Recruitment**.

Sportspeople Recruitment is a leading executive search and recruitment firm servicing sport business. Celebrating 30 years in 2026, our curated Talent Network has been developed as a result of successfully filling thousands of roles across the A-Z of sport business employers.

We offer the most experienced Consultant Team in the market available to assist with executive search, general recruitment, hiring strategy, remuneration planning and executive/Board advice.

We are delighted to have been appointed by parkrun Australia Ltd as the exclusive search partner for the Managing Director APAC position.

Australian owned - globally connected - since 1996

Website & Social Media

For more information and news items on all facets of activities, services and programs, visit:

Website: parkrun.com.au

Facebook: facebook.com/parkrunAU

Instagram: instagram.com/parkrunau

Tiktok: tiktok.com/@parkrun

Linkedin (global): linkedin.com/company/parkrun

LinkedIn (AU): linkedin.com/company/parkrun-australia

Merit Recruitment

Don't meet every single requirement? Studies have shown women and minority groups are less likely to apply for jobs unless they meet every single qualification. **Sportspeople Recruitment has a reputation as a leader in merit recruitment.** Everything we do has a focus on presenting the best candidates to our client Employer whilst maintaining a commitment to do what we can to address the imbalance of under-represented groups in leadership positions.

If you believe you have what it takes to perform this job but don't tick off every single qualification and experience we've listed, we encourage you to focus on the strengths, experience, qualifications and soft skills you do have as the reasons you should apply. Believe in yourself and if still in doubt call our Consultant for a quick chat or simply apply. Without an application we can't consider you, and we'll never consider your application a waste of our time.





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