

AGENDA

Georges River Council Sports Advisory Committee

Thursday, 26 February 2026

6:00 PM

**Georges River Civic Centre
Hurstville - Dragon Room**



GEORGES RIVER COUNCIL SPORTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

ORDER OF BUSINESS

OPENING

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Council acknowledges the Bidjigal people of the Eora Nation, who are the Traditional Custodians of all lands, waters and sky in the Georges River area. I pay my respect to Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who live, work and meet on these lands.

APOLOGIES / LEAVE OF ABSENCE

NOTICE OF WEBCASTING

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

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CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Item: SAC001-26 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Georges River Council Sports Advisory Committee Meeting held on 13 November 2025

Author: Manager Sport, Community Facilities and Events

Directorate: Community and Culture

Matter Type: Previous Minutes

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Georges River Council Sports Advisory Committee Meeting held on 13 November 2025, be confirmed.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment [↓](#)1 Minutes of the Georges River Council Sports Advisory Committee Meeting held on 13 November 2025

SAC001-26

MINUTES

Georges River Council Sports Advisory Committee

Thursday, 13 November 2025

6:00 PM

Dragon Room
Georges River Civic Centre
Hurstville

UNCONFIRMED



GEORGES RIVER COUNCIL

ATTENDANCE

COUNCILLOR MEMBERSHIP

Councillor Oliver Dimoski (Chairperson)
Councillor Natalie Mort
Councillor Kathryn Landsberry.

COMMUNITY MEMBERSHIP

Ray Barbi – St George Basketball Association
Jeffrey Barrett – St George Cycling Club
Ross Bernays – Oatley Rugby and Sporting Club (Apology)
Sean Brohier – Football de Brazil
Warren Driscoll – St George Rugby League Football Club
Julian Finch – Connells Point Netball (Apology)
Kevin Greene – Cricket NSW (Apology)
Scott Henderson – St George Touch Association
Scot Holmes – St George OZTAG, (Apology)
Darryl Lane – St George Little Athletics Club (Apology)
Nicholas Smerdely – Football St George
Mark Smith – Swimming Metro South East (Apology)
Tanya Smith – Golf NSW (Apology)
Sal Torrisi – St George City
Dale Widders – St George Australian Football Club.

GEORGES RIVER COUNCIL STAFF

David Tuxford – General Manager
Kristie Dodd – Director Community and Culture
Bryce Spelta – Director Assets and Infrastructure
Tom Heath – Manager City Technical Services
Greg Knight – Executive Manager City Presentation and Operations
Peter Gray – Head of City Sport Maintenance
Kent Stroud – Executive Manager City Futures
Margaret Le – Manager Sport, Community Facilities and Events
Luke Galle – Coordinator Sport and Recreation
Andrew Williams – Coordinator Community Property and Venues
Melinda Gray-Schwarz, Senior Venue and Recreation Officer
Ben Taylor – Acting Coordinator Community Capacity Building
Mark Tadros – Team Leader Technology Business Support
Shannon Tomarchio – Personal Assistant to Manager Sport, Community Facilities and Events
Marisa Severino – Executive Services Officer.

COUNCILLOR ATTENDANCE

The Mayor, Councillor Elise Borg
Councillor Oliver Dimoski (Chairperson)
Councillor Kathryn Landsberry
Councillor Natalie Mort.

EXTERNAL PRESENTERS

Carolyn Duggan – Office of Sport
James Punch – Office of Sport
Jeff Apitz – Office of Sport.

OPENING

The Chairperson, Councillor Dimoski, opened the meeting at 6.03pm.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Chairperson, Councillor Dimoski acknowledged the Bidjigal people of the Eora Nation, who are the Traditional Custodians of all lands, waters and sky in the Georges River area. He paid his respect to Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who live, work and meet on these lands.

WELCOME

Councillor Dimoski introduced himself, noting it was his first time chairing the meeting and welcomed the Mayor, Councillor Elise Borg to the meeting and external presenters from the Office of Sport.

APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

MOTION: Councillor Mort, Councillor Landsberry.

That apologies on behalf of Ross Bernays, Scott Holmes, Julian Finch, Kevin Greene, Darryl Lane, Mark Smith and Tanya Smith be accepted and a leave of absence be granted.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Mort, Member Barbi - St George Basketball Association, Member Barrett - St George Cycling Club, Member Brohier - Football de Brazil, Member Widders - St George Australian Football Club, Member Smerdely - Football St George, Member Driscoll – St George Junior Rugby League, Member Torrisi - Director of St George City, Chair Dimoski

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

NOTICE OF WEBCASTING

The Chairperson, Councillor Dimoski advised staff and the public that the meeting is being recorded for minute-taking purposes and is also webcast live on Council's website, in accordance with section 5 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice. This recording will be made available on Council's Website.

CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE

Council's Code of Meeting Practice prohibits the electronic recording of meetings without the express permission of Council.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

SAC017-25 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Georges River Council Sports Advisory Committee Meeting held on 14 August 2025

(Report by Personal Assistant to Manger Sport, Community Facilities and Events)

RECOMMENDATION: Member Widders, Councillor Mort.

That the Minutes of the Georges River Council Sports Advisory Committee Meeting held on 14 August 2025, be confirmed.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Mort,

Member Barbi - St George Basketball Association, Member Barrett - St George Cycling Club, Member Brohier - Football de Brazil, Member Widders - St George Australian Football Club, Member Smerdely - Football St George, Member Driscoll – St George Junior Rugby League, Member Torrisi - Director of St George City, Chair Dimoski

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SAC018-25 Carss Park Pool Update

(Report by Executive Manager City Futures)

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Mort, Member Smerdely.

That the Georges River Council Sports Advisory Committee receive and note the update provided by the Office of Sport regarding the Carss Park Pool (formerly known as the Carss Park Aquatic Centre) project, including the current status, confirmed project scope, and timeline.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Mort, Member Barbi - St George Basketball Association, Member Barrett - St George Cycling Club, Member Brohier - Football de Brazil, Member Widders - St George Australian Football Club, Member Smerdely - Football St George, Member Driscoll – St George Junior Rugby League, Member Torrisi - Director of St George City, Chair Dimoski

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

SAC019-25 Sport, Community Facilities and Events Update

(Report by Manager Sport, Community Facilities and Events)

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Landsberry, Member Widders.

That the Georges River Council Sports Advisory Committee receive and note the presentation from the Manager Sport, Community Facilities and Events and the Executive Manager City Presentation & Operations outlining an overview of Sport and Recreation facilities across the local government area.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Mort, Member Barbi - St George Basketball Association, Member Barrett - St George Cycling Club, Member Brohier - Football de Brazil, Member Widders - St George Australian Football Club, Member Smerdely - Football St George, Member Driscoll – St George Junior Rugby League, Member Torrisi - Director of St George City, Chair Dimoski

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

SAC020-25 Sporting Infrastructure Capital Works Update
(Report by Acting Director Assets and Infrastructure)

RECOMMENDATION: Member Smerdely, Member Widders.

That the Georges River Council Sports Advisory Committee receive and note the presentation from the Manager City Technical Services providing an update on Sporting Infrastructure Projects within Council's Capital Works Program 2025/26.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Mort, Member Barbi - St George Basketball Association, Member Barrett - St George Cycling Club, Member Brohier - Football de Brazil, Member Widders - St George Australian Football Club, Member Smerdely - Football St George, Member Driscoll – St George Junior Rugby League, Member Torrisi - Director of St George City, Chair Dimoski

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

CONCLUSION

The Meeting was closed at 7.08pm

Chairperson

UNCONFIRMED

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Item: SAC002-26 Carss Park Aquatic Facility

Author: Executive Manager City Futures

Directorate: Office of the General Manager

Matter Type: Committee Reports

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Georges River Council Sports Advisory Committee receive and note the update within this report from Executive Manager City Futures on the Carss Park Aquatic Facility.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. That the Georges River Council Sports Advisory Committee receive and note the update within this report from Executive Manager City Futures on the Carss Park Aquatic Facility.

BACKGROUND

2. Georges River Council and the Office of Sport signed a Project Agreement in April 2025.
3. Since the previous update in November 2025, the following actions have occurred.
4. The Project Control Group (PCG) meet fortnightly and has four voting members: two from Council and two from Office of Sport. Council's voting members are Bryce Spelta, Director Assets and Infrastructure and Kent Stroud, Executive Manager City Futures. The PCG has met twice since the last update.
5. Milestones completed since the last update include:
 - (a) Detailed design for the facility has been developed and is currently being costed.
 - (b) Preparation of a tender package to engage a contractor, with significant aquatic facility construction experience, is well underway.
 - (c) Information signage from the Office of Sport is erected at the site.
6. The Steering Committee (SteerCo) for the project continues to meet monthly. Members of the SteerCo include David Tuxford, General Manager and the Office of Sport's Adam Berry, Deputy Secretary. The SteerCo have met twice since the last update.
7. Project Completion (PC) is on track for late 2027. The PC will be dependent on the final design, planning pathway and includes time contingency for weather. The intention is to have the pool open for the 2027 summer season.
8. The next PCG is scheduled for 24 February 2026 which is after this report is being published but prior to the Sports Advisory Committee meeting where this report is being discussed.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9. There are no budget impacts for this report.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

10. Strategic Risk 3: Assets and Infrastructure: Work on a future Carss Park Aquatic Facility meets the evolving needs and expectations of the community, particularly in terms of quality, capacity, and resilience.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

11. The community will continue to be updated on the progress of the development of a new aquatic facility on Council's website.

FILE REFERENCE

D26/41098

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

Item: SAC003-26 Sporting Infrastructure Capital Works Update
Author: Manager City Technical Services
Directorate: Assets and Infrastructure
Matter Type: Committee Reports

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Georges River Council Sports Advisory Committee receive and note the presentation from the Manager City Technical Services providing an update on Sporting Infrastructure Projects within Council's Capital Works Program 2025/26.

SAC003-26

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. On 23 June 2025, Council endorsed the Capital Works Program 2025/26 (CCL053-25). This presentation highlights projects that directly relate to sports within the Georges River.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

2. No budget impact for this report.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

3. Strategic Risk 3: Assets and Infrastructure: The Capital Works Program identifies projects to meet the evolving needs or expectations of the community, particularly in terms of quality, capacity, and resilience.

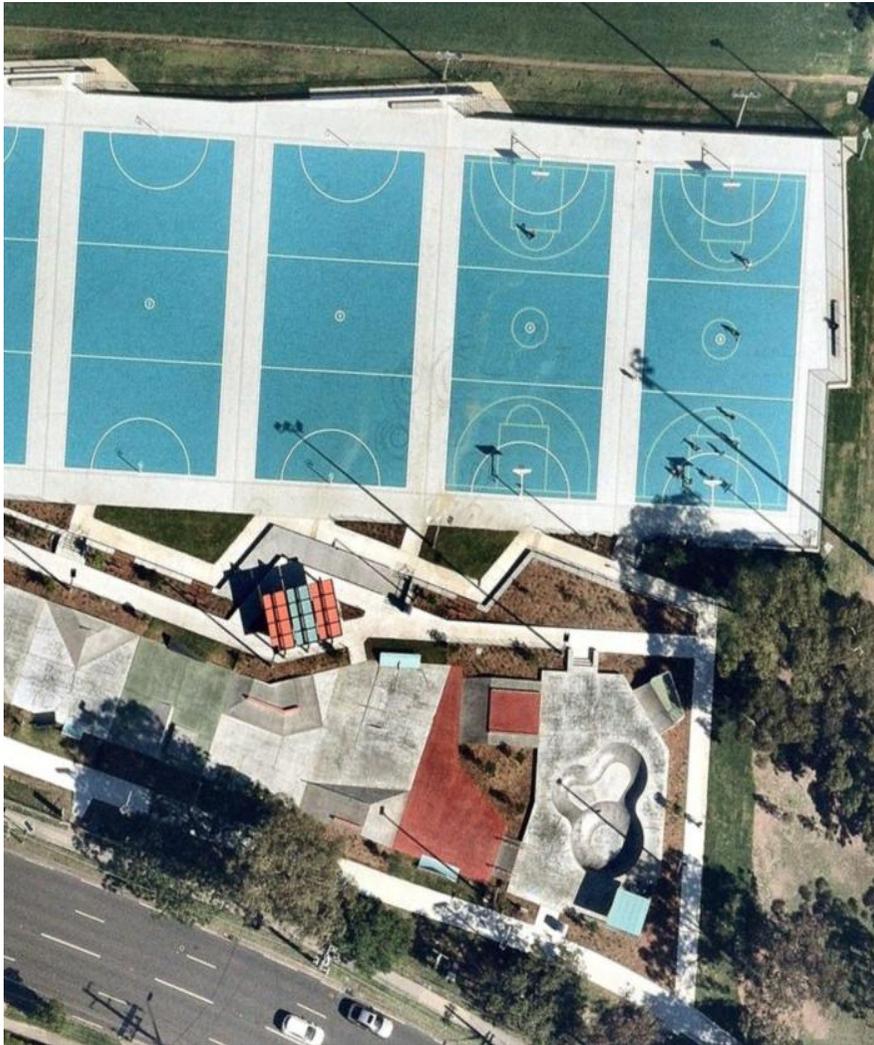
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

4. Community engagement will be conducted during the design and construction stages of the capital works projects to ensure stakeholders are aware of the work and their needs considered.

FILE REFERENCE

D26/31531

ATTACHMENTSAttachment [↓](#)1 Sports Advisory Committee - Capital Works Presentation February 2026



2025/26 Capital Works Program

Sporting Infrastructure

SPORTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

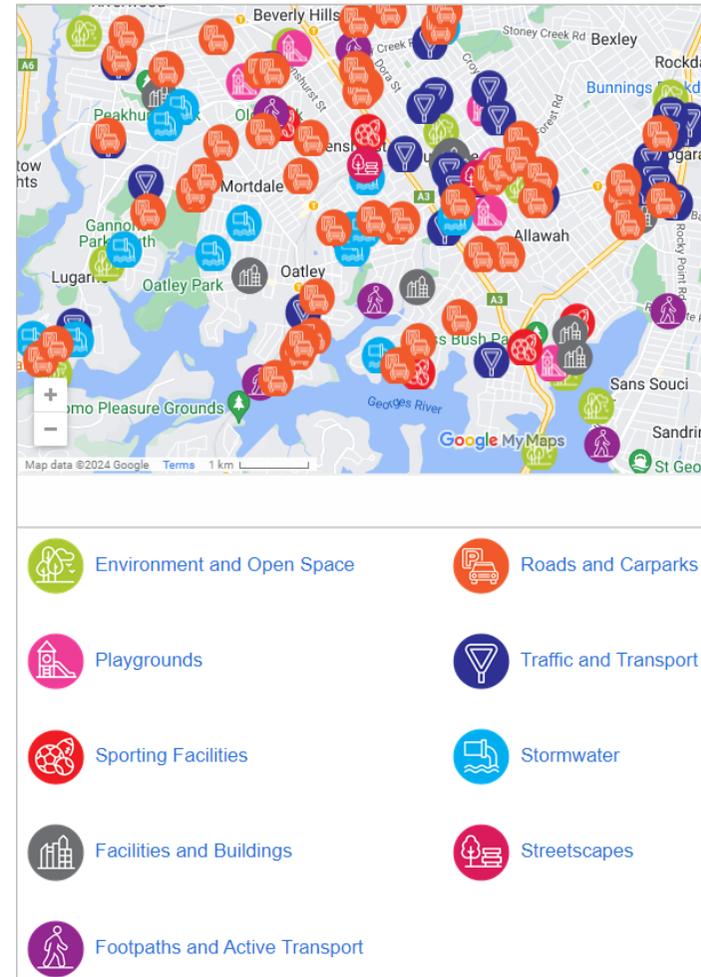
26 FEBRUARY 2026

TOM HEATH – MANAGER CITY TECHNICAL SERVICES



Project Updates

Keep up to date on Council's website



Georges River Council Sporting Infrastructure

Multi-Year Project



Penshurst Park Operable Fence Construction

Scope Overview

Design and construction of operable fence at Penshurst Park to meet Football NSW Stadium Technical Requirements for National Premier League (NPL1) use, including submission of Development Application and approval.

Proposed Practical Completion: June 2026



Georges River Council Sporting Infrastructure

Multi-Year Project



Olds Park Premium Sporting Facility

Scope Overview

Design and construction of sporting facility to improve amenity for community level sporting participants while providing services and facilities necessary for state and national level sporting events.

Proposed Practical Completion: Construction – March 2027



Georges River Council Sporting Infrastructure

Multi-Year Project



Olds Park – Shared Path & Pedestrian Lighting Renewal

Scope Overview

Design and construction of the upgrade to the Olds Park circuit path for walking and cycling. This project includes upgrade to the path, lighting and where possible, strengthening pedestrian links throughout the site.

Proposed Practical Completion:

Construction – June 2026



Georges River Council Sporting Infrastructure

Multi-Year Project

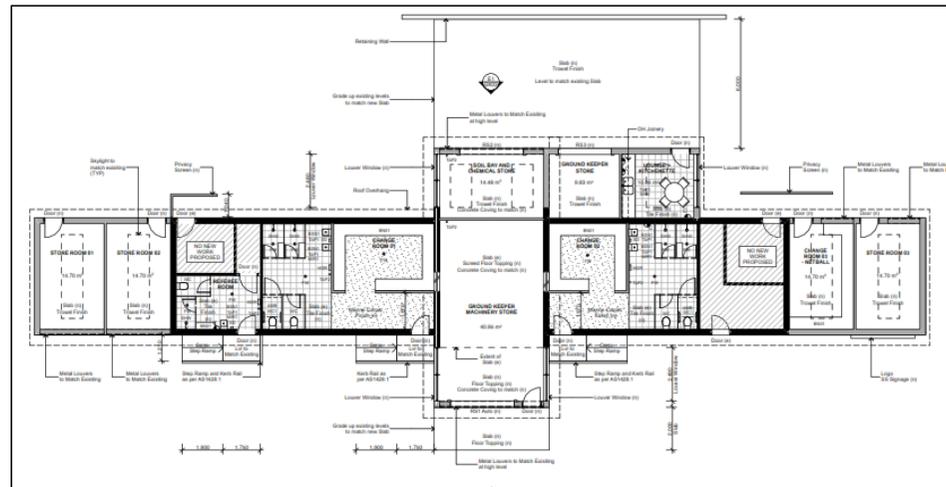


Olds Park Sporting Amenities Building Roof Replacement

Scope Overview

Design and construction for the replacement of the roof at the sporting amenities building within Olds Park. The project aims to address the water damage that has been identified within the timber framed roof structure.

Proposed Practical Completion: Construction – April 2026



Georges River Council Sporting Infrastructure

Multi-Year Project



The Green Sporting Amenities

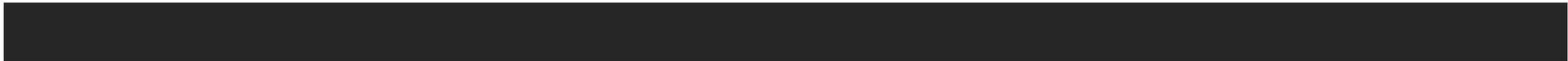
Scope Overview

Design and subsequent construction of sporting facility and public amenity, to improve use for community level sporting participants.

Proposed Practical Completion:

Design – Complete

Construction – June 2027



Georges River Council Sporting Infrastructure

Multi-Year Project

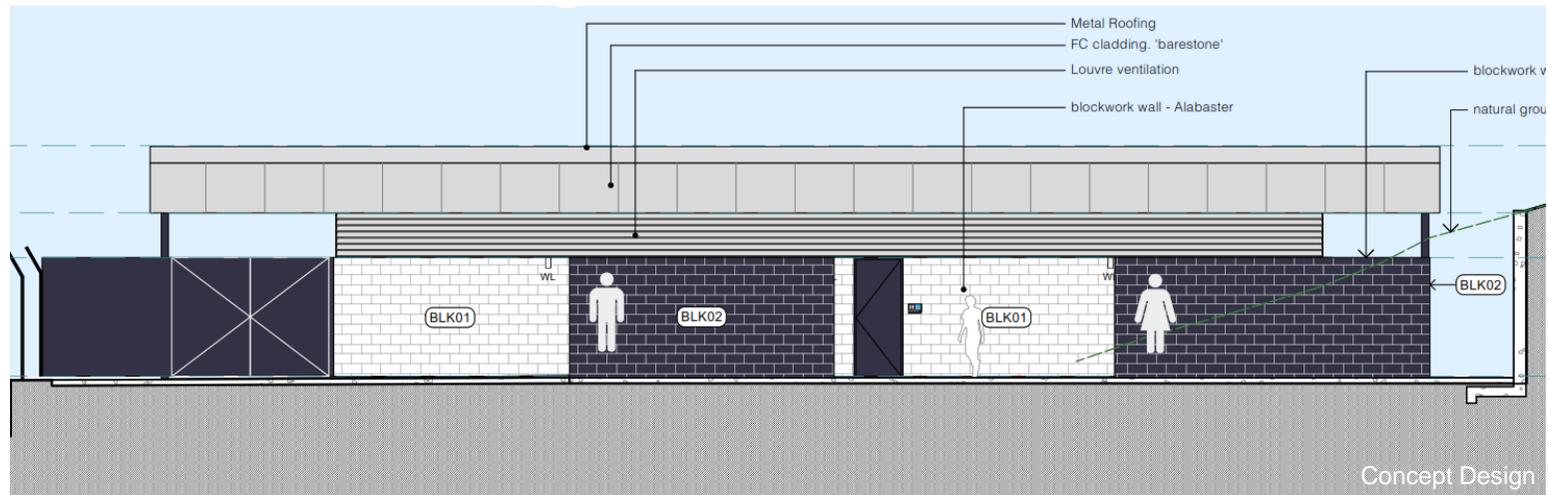


Jubilee Stadium Eastern Amenities Design

Scope Overview

Design of an upgrade to the eastern amenities building located at Jubilee Stadium. The existing building is dilapidated and has been identified for renewal.

Proposed Practical Completion: Complete



Georges River Council Sporting Infrastructure

Multi-Year Project



Riverwood Park Field Upgrade

Scope Overview

Design and construction for the upgrade of the sporting fields at Riverwood Park. This project includes renewal/upgrade of turf, drainage, irrigation, lighting and overall field configurations.

Proposed Practical Completion: June 2027



Georges River Council Sporting Infrastructure

Multi-Year Project



Peakhurst Park Adventure Playspace

Scope Overview

Design and subsequent construction for a new off-road biking facility and youth recreational facility within the eastern area of Peakhurst Park. Council had secured funding under the Metropolitan Greenspace Program for the detailed design stage.

Proposed Practical Completion: Design - June 2026
Construction – June 2028



Georges River Council Sporting Infrastructure

Multi-Year Project



Gifford Park Sporting Amenities

Scope Overview

Design and construction of sporting facility to improve amenity for community level sporting participants. This project includes home and away changerooms, canteen, storage and public toilet facilities.

Proposed Practical Completion: Design – December 2026
Construction – June 2028



Georges River Council Sporting Infrastructure

Multi-Year Project



Quarry Reserve North Tennis Courts & Amenities Refurbishment

Scope Overview

Design and subsequent construction for an upgrade to the Quarry Reserve precinct. This project includes refurbishment of the existing tennis courts and amenities building and identifying further opportunities for improvement of facilities at the site.

Proposed Practical Completion: Design – December 2026
Construction – June 2028



Georges River Council Sporting Infrastructure

2025/26 Project



Todd Park Sporting Amenities Consultation

Scope Overview

Design of sporting facility to improve amenity for community level sporting participants while providing services and facilities necessary for state level sporting use has been completed.

Further community consultation to be undertaken in the 2025/26 financial year.

Proposed Practical Completion: June 2026





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Item: SAC004-26 Feedback from Sports Advisory Committee Workshop - 13 November 2025 - Sporting Amenities and Storage Facilities

Author: Coordinator Community Property and Venues

Directorate: Community and Culture

Matter Type: Committee Reports

SAC004-26

RECOMMENDATION:

That, the Georges River Council Sports Advisory Committee:

- (a) receive and note the outcomes of the Georges River Council Sports Advisory workshop held on 13 November 2025;
- (b) note that Council officers will conduct broader community consultation on the proposed mixed management model for sporting amenities and storage facilities; and
- (c) note that a future report will go to Council on the outcome of the community consultation.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. With many existing licence agreements expired and demand for sporting facilities increasing across the Georges River local government area (LGA), Council officers are conducting a review of sporting amenities and storage facilities. Amenities and storage facilities are buildings or spaces located near or adjacent to sports fields that support the use and operation of the grounds.
 - (a) **Amenities** include canteens, toilet facilities, change rooms, referee rooms, or medical rooms.
 - (b) **Storage facilities** are secure areas used to store club or maintenance equipment such as training gear, line-marking materials, or other items needed for regular activities.
2. As part of the review, Council officers have analysed usage patterns, community need, and comparative models via benchmarking with other Councils to inform a more effective operating framework for amenities and storage facilities.
3. On 13 November 2025, a targeted survey was administered during the Georges River Council Sports Advisory Committee (SAC) workshop.
4. Based on the findings of this review, Council is proposing a new approach to the management of sporting amenities and storage facilities that balances the protection of established community relationships and optimal use of sporting assets. Under the proposed model:
 - i. Storage facilities are managed under a five (5) year exclusive licence agreement via year-round access;
 - ii. Canteens are managed under a five (5) year non-exclusive licence agreement, alternating between winter and summer sporting seasons and, where feasible, be shared between multiple sports within the same season.
 - iii. Changerooms, toilets and referee rooms are accessed through seasonal or casual hire arrangements of Council's sports fields.

BACKGROUND**Strategic Context**

5. On 29 May 2023, Council resolved (NM027-23):

- (a) *That the design of future Council canteen facilities accommodate multi-use (shared use) by more than one entity where feasible, to enable multiple sporting codes/clubs to store, access and sell their canteen produce safely and securely from the same facility during the same season;*
 - (b) *That Council undertakes a review of existing canteen facilities to determine whether any can accommodate shared use for the same season under their existing designs; and*
 - (c) *That if an existing canteen can facilitate shared-use, that future license agreements for those facilities do not provide exclusive use and outline the conditions to enable shared-use.*
6. The Georges River Council Community Lease and Licensing Policy (Policy) provides the overarching framework for the equitable, consistent and transparent management of Council owned and Council managed community properties, whilst maximising benefit to the community. These include community centres, baby health centres, scout and girl guide halls, community gardens, and sporting amenities.
7. In accordance with the Policy, the provision of a non-exclusive licence agreement for a sporting facility may be subject to an Expressions of Interest (EOI) or similar open and competitive process in line with Council's tendering and licensing framework, consistent with applicable legislative requirements.
8. Council recognises the growing demand for access to Council's playing fields across all sporting codes, and the subsequent need to foster shared use of assets. This aligns with the Community Infrastructure Needs Assessment Area Acquisition Strategy (CINAAAS), which identifies increasing participation rates, limited land availability, and pressure on existing sports infrastructure. CINAAAS emphasises the need for multi-use, flexible and efficiently managed facilities, directly supporting this review of sporting amenity and storage access to ensure facilities operate in a way that optimises availability, participation and community benefit.
9. Council further acknowledges that long-standing amenity and storage arrangements have supported volunteer capacity and continuity within clubs, often reflecting decades of community investment, identity and tradition. While highly valued, these legacy arrangements must be balanced with the need for more equitable and contemporary access models that reflect current and projected demand.

Current Status and Benchmarking

10. The majority of Council's amenities and storage facilities operate under recently expired or underdetermined non-exclusive licence agreements.
11. As a result of the Council resolution NM027-23, Council officers undertook an audit of the canteens within Council's amenity and storage facilities. Of the 26 canteens, it was determined that 20 canteens showed potential for shared use, and 13 showed demand for shared use.
12. On 22 May 2025, a workshop was conducted with internal stakeholders to discuss and determine options for the future non-exclusive licence agreements of Council's community sporting amenity buildings.
13. As part of the review, Council officers have analysed usage patterns, community need, and comparative models via benchmarking with other Councils to inform a more effective operating framework for amenities and storage facilities.
14. The benchmarking review examined how Sutherland Shire, Bayside, Canterbury-Bankstown, City of Sydney, Inner West, Northern Beaches, and Penrith City councils manage amenities and storage facilities through exclusive and non-exclusive licences and

seasonal allocations to understand how each council structures its arrangements within its unique community sporting context.

15. Based on the benchmarking and audits, Council officers have determined the following potential options for shared use of amenities and storage facilities, noting that Option 1 is the current approach:

Table 1: Possible Arrangements

	Option 1 (Current approach)	Option 2	Option 3
<i>Canteens</i>	Non-Exclusive Licence Agreement	Non-Exclusive Licence Agreement	Seasonal Allocation
<i>Change rooms and toilets</i>	Non-Exclusive Licence Agreement	Seasonal Allocation	Seasonal Allocation
<i>Referee rooms</i>	Non-Exclusive Licence Agreement	Seasonal Allocation	Seasonal Allocation
<i>Storage facilities</i>	Non-Exclusive Licence Agreement	Non-Exclusive Licence Agreement	Exclusive Licence Agreement

SAC004-26

Engagement and Feedback

16. On 13 November 2025, a targeted survey was administered during the Georges River Council SAC workshop. The purpose of this engagement was to explore the above options for shared use of amenities while recognising that, for many clubs, long-standing historical arrangements continue to be the preferred model. The expertise of the SAC members is a critical consideration, given their long-standing role in overseeing their clubs or organisations' use of these facilities. Their sustained involvement provides valuable operational insight that informs evidence-based decision-making.
17. A total of ten (10) respondents participated, providing both ranked and open-ended feedback on how amenity and storage arrangements influence club operations, volunteer management, access requirements, and broader community outcomes. The survey design sought to understand the varying levels of constraint and flexibility associated with different types of amenities, acknowledging that not all facilities support clubs in the same way.
18. Club responses provided valuable insights into how current arrangements either support or limit day-to-day operations, including training, competition scheduling, equipment storage, and volunteer administration.
19. This initial survey was intended to gain the perspectives of the SAC before progressing to a broader community consultation process through a YourSay engagement. This staged approach ensures that Council captures the informed views of regular facility users first, enabling clearer framing of issues and opportunities for the wider community survey.
20. The following section summarises the results of the survey and highlights the key themes emerging from SAC feedback.

Storage Facilities

21. Survey findings showed that storage facilities are the least suited to shared use arrangements, primarily due to their limited flexibility and the operational challenges associated with sharing.
22. As a result, it is recommended that storage facilities are managed under a five (5) year exclusive licence agreement.

Canteens

23. Clubs emphasised that shared canteens create significant difficulties, as they are facilities that operate best when managed by a single, primary user. Canteen management involves stock control, protection of cash or Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) systems, food safety compliance, and upkeep of equipment specific to each club. These responsibilities are difficult to distribute across multiple hirers, further reinforcing the preference for single-user management within each season.
24. Benchmarking with other councils highlighted three common models for canteen management:
 - (a) The primary club runs and staffs the canteen for all field hirers and retains the income;
 - (b) Two clubs share access, with one operating the canteen in winter and the other in summer; and
 - (c) Two clubs share access concurrently within the same season, based on allocated field usage.
25. The workshop asked the SAC to rank preferences for canteen access, and results are the following (from most preferred to least preferred):
 - Seasonal hirer of the ground automatically has canteen access
 - Canteens remain under a licence with one club or organisation
 - Two clubs share access, one in winter and one in summer
 - At their discretion, clubs can run and staff the canteen and retain any income
 - Two clubs share access, in the same season, determined by field use
 - Clubs must run and staff the canteen for other hirers and retain any income
26. As a result, it is recommended that canteens be managed under a five (5) year non-exclusive licence agreement. Where canteens alternate between a winter and summer hire, ensuring equitable access between seasonal sports while still maintaining single-user management within each season. Where possible, this will also include in season shared access and/ or casual hire by other users, with the aim to provide access to previously audited in demand locations for example Beverly Hills Park and Peakhurst Park.

Referee Rooms

27. Open-ended feedback revealed support for allocating referee rooms through seasonal allocations, as these facilities are necessary in conjunction with active field usage. One survey participant remarked, "*Change rooms and referee rooms should be part of seasonal hire. Clubs need to recognise that these facilities belong to the ground and can be used by casual hirers.*"
28. Council officers recommend that referee rooms are available via seasonal allocation. This model works to recognise their direct connection to active field use.

Change Rooms and Toilets

29. As presented in Table 2, 100% of respondents want change rooms and toilets on seasonal allocations.

Table 2: Amenities under Seasonal Allocation

Facility	Result
Canteens	9 votes
Storage facilities	8 votes
Referee rooms	7 votes
Change rooms and toilets	10 votes

30. As a result, it is recommended that change rooms, toilets and referee rooms be available via seasonal or casual hire arrangements of Council's sports fields. This model works to recognise their direct connection to active field use.

Proposed Mixed Management Model

31. Based on feedback provided via the Committee, along with benchmarking undertaken with neighbouring and wider Sydney Metropolitan Councils, and a review undertaken by Council's Sport and Recreation team, Council officers recommend the following operating model:
- i. Storage facilities are managed under a five (5) year exclusive licence agreement via year-round access;
 - ii. Canteens are managed under a five (5) year non-exclusive licence agreement, alternating between winter and summer sporting seasons and, where feasible, be shared between multiple sports within the same season.
 - iii. Changerooms, toilets and referee rooms are accessed through seasonal or casual hire arrangements, in addition to the seasonal allocation of Council's sports fields.
32. Storage facilities and canteens will be allocated through an Expression of Interest process, ensuring a transparent and structured approach in accordance with Council's Community Lease and Licence Policy.
33. Changerooms, toilets, and referee rooms are proposed to be accessible through seasonal or casual hire arrangements, with all fees applied in accordance with the Schedule of Fees and Charges.
34. This approach provides a practical and equitable framework that balances the operational needs of primary clubs with broader community access, supporting long-term facility sustainability, promoting inclusivity, maximising participation, and ensuring the optimal operation of Council's sporting fields.

Next Steps

35. Council officers will undertake further community consultation via Council's YourSay platform to gather broader community and club feedback on the proposed model and ensure that the final framework reflects operational realities and community expectations.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

36. Development of the relevant fees and charges will be undertaken within existing resources as part of the annual budget planning process and will be subject to public exhibition.
37. In line with the Community Lease and Licence Policy, annual rent licence agreements are determined by way of market valuation and subsidy assessment outcome.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

38. *Strategic Risk 3: Assets and Infrastructure* - Should the Committee not endorse this report, Council's infrastructure may not meet the evolving needs or expectations of the community, particularly in terms of quality, capacity, and resilience.

FILE REFERENCE

D26/40049

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment [↓](#)1 Amenities and Storage Facilities SAC Workshop Results



Amenities and Storage Facilities SAC Workshop Results

What's one word to describe the role amenities and storage facilities can play in supporting clubs and community sport? 10 / 10 23

Most popular

critical 4

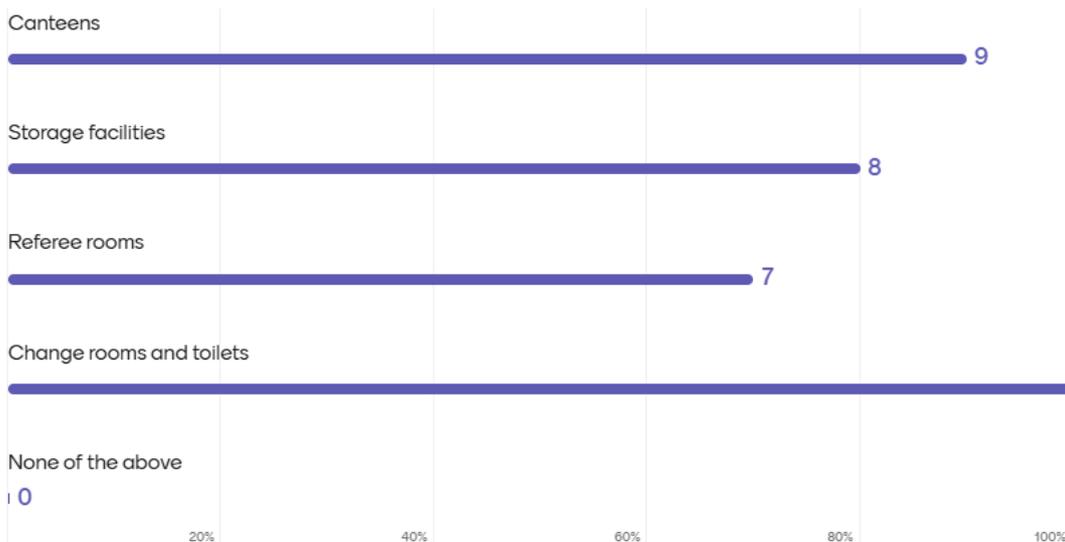
Also prominent

essential 3 roi 2

Other responses

accessibility 1 assistance 1 community 1 compliance 1 compulsory 1
convenience 1 convenient 1 crucial 1 earn income 1 facilitation 1
necessary 1 provides change rooms 1 service 1 support 1

Of the below, what should be included under seasonal ground hire? 10 / 10



F Please rank the following approaches to canteen access: 10 / 10

- > 1 Seasonal hirer of the ground automatically has canteen access
- > 1 Canteens remain under a licence with one club or organisation
- > 2 Two clubs share access, one in winter and one in summer
- > 3 At their discretion, clubs can run and staff the canteen and retain any income
- > 4 Two clubs share access, in the same season, determined by field use
- > 5 Clubs must run and staff the canteen for other hirers and retain any income

D What are the benefits of clubs opening and staffing the canteen for other hirers? 10 / 10 13

Raises funds for the Club	Clubs can invest in equipment and ensure it is looked after. Sharing equipment and facilities usually ends up with poor maintenance and inevitably gets damaged.
Revenue	
Community interaction	If a custodian club has done most of the leg work to build, maintain, access grants, provide money to the ground and canteen, its equitable the custodian club reaps the rewards.
Allows governance over field use and receives compensation for this	Club is able to maximise their investment in the facility and equipment.
Income	Income for the club
If it is a non regular hirer it can mean additional revenue to the local sporting club which can be great for providing more opportunities to members	Promoting code and developing sport
NA	If there's only one canteen facility available in the season for multiple fields on the one park then it's easier if one hirer has use otherwise there is potential conflict over stock control, etc

What are the challenges of clubs opening and staffing the canteen for other hirers? 10 / 10 18

Volunteer availability	Volunteers to run
Lack of volunteers	Staffing
Understanding catering requirements in relation to external groups	Upkeep
Ability to predict usage	Being on call all the time. It is a labour intensive operation that sometimes doesn't yield revenue to cover costs
Ordering and stock issues	Availability of staff
Stock storage issues	Unreasonable hirers
Volunteer availability	Clean up & stocking
Competition to your sporting group	Sometimes it is difficult to get volunteers to work and often it may fall on the existing committee who are probably already overstretched
Lack of volunteers, motivation unless significant income to the club	Lack of volunteers or staff to do this

Please rank the following approaches to managing keys and cleaning for change rooms and toilets: 10 / 10

- > 1 Only clubs have keys; no sharing. Clubs responsible for cleaning
- > 2 Only clubs have keys; no sharing. Cleaning fee included in seasonal hire charge
- > 3 Clubs share keys. Cleaning fee included in hire fee (whether seasonal or casual hire)
- > 4 All hirers have access to keys. Cleaning fee included in hire charge
- > 5 Council manages keys on a per-hire basis. Hirers are responsible for cleaning

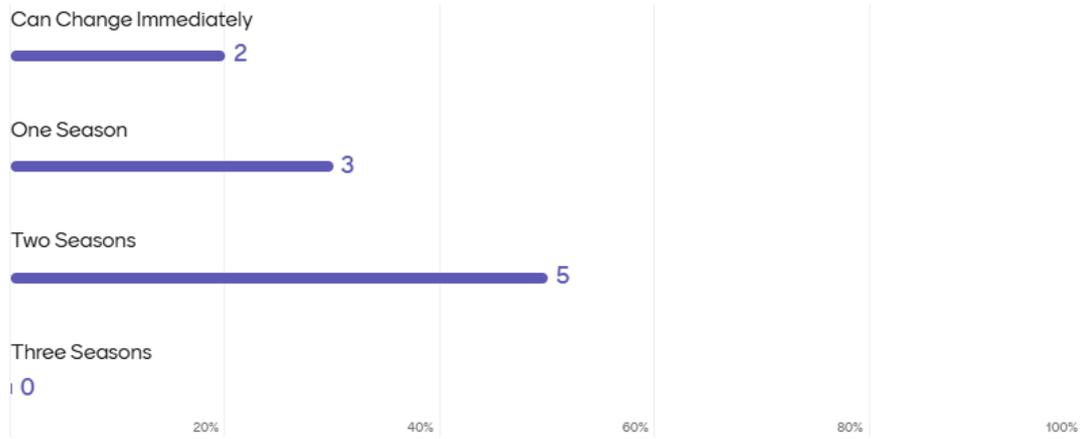
Please rank the following approaches to hiring amenities and storage facilities as a bundle or separate: 10 / 10

- > 1 All amenities together
- > 2 Any combination needed; remaining amenities available for casual hire as needed
- > 3 Only canteens and storage rooms together
- > 4 Only referee rooms and changerooms together
- > 5 All amenities separately

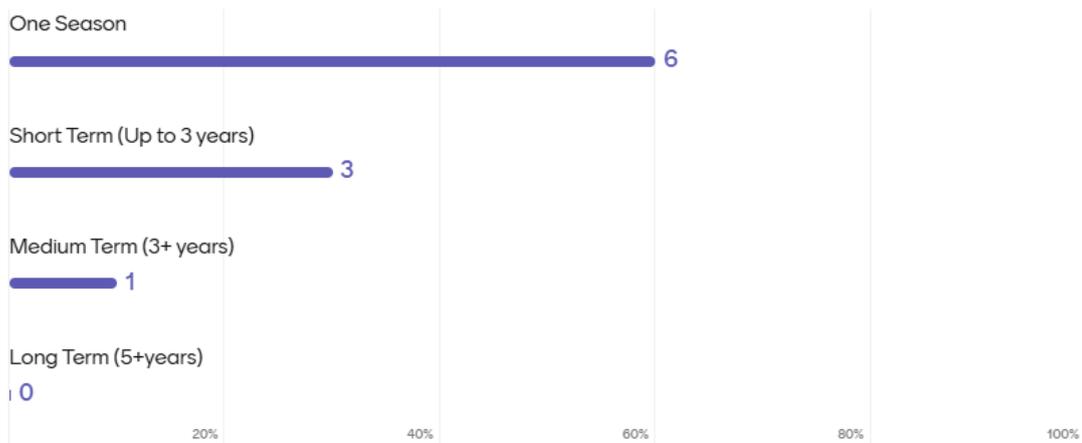
What are the challenges or risks of bundling amenities, i.e. change rooms and referee rooms, under seasonal hire? 10 / 10 13

Council keeps increasing costs	Degrading of facilities. Licensees with responsibility tend to take better care of facilities than casual hirers or new seasonal hirers
Remains the same	
Having sufficient volunteers to manage	Ensuring that the hirer is using all the facilities. Hirer should only be hiring the venue that is appropriate to their purpose
Where multiple group access amenities, the issue of area left unclean and proving who is responsible	Confusion on responsibility
Other hirers stealing items on site	Council generally tries to everyone happy rather than demands based.
They may not be required by some or all hirers, the cost may be unnecessary for some hirers	Council tries to keep everyone happy rather than go by demands
Damage so not in good state for next sport/hirer	Change rooms and referees rooms should be part of seasonal hire. Clubs need to recognise that these facilities belong to the ground and can be used by casual hirers. Therefore no gear storage

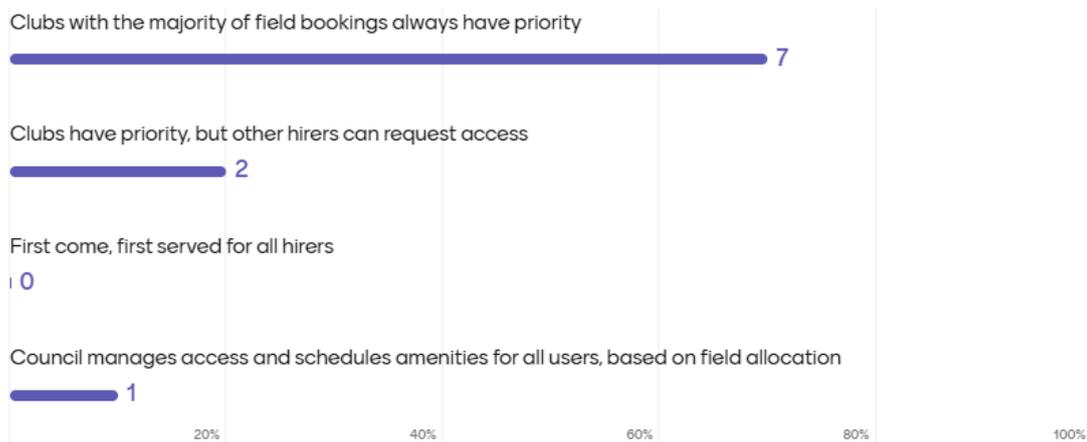
How long would clubs require to plan for operational changes? 10 / 10



For how long should any changes to operations be implemented? 10 / 10



When multiple hirers want to use the same amenities or storage facilities at the same time, which approach do you prefer? 10 / 10



Please provide any other feedback on how amenities or storage facilities access should be managed: 9 / 10 11

- | | |
|--|--|
| Very hard to share storage | Historical use should have priority |
| Historical use to be considered highly | Custodian Clubs should have priority, but also focus on the demand for the sport |
| Historic priority | Have a tiered arrangements for clubs that have ongoing relationship or usage of a facility. Clubs should be able to call something "home" |
| Always open to discuss and to see if can come to an arrangement | My opinion is that the Club with the majority use retains 'head' access because they tend to have a vested interest in the upkeep of the facilities however should casual hirers can bring in food truck |
| Priority should be given to organised sports/community organisations - these are the fabric of the community and should be assisted in any way possible, | |
| NA | Amenities (changerooms) are available with the ground booking. Toilets are available with the park and are council responsibility. Canteens and storage facilities are for seasonal hirers |

Item: SAC005-26 Sport, Community Facilities and Events Update

Author: Manager Sport, Community Facilities and Events

Directorate: Community and Culture

Matter Type: Committee Reports

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Georges River Council Sports Advisory Committee receive and note the presentation from the Manager Sport and Community Facilities and the Executive Manager City Presentation & Operations outlining an overview of Sport and Recreation facilities across the local government area.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The presentation provides an update on sporting facilities and sporting events for the period of November 2025 to February 2026.

BACKGROUND

2. Georges River Council manages a broad network of sport and recreation facilities that provide essential opportunities for community participation, physical activity and social connection.
3. These facilities include aquatic centres, golf and tennis venues, indoor and outdoor sporting complexes, Jubilee Stadium, and a wide range of sports fields. Council continues to invest in the maintenance, renewal and strategic development of these assets to meet growing community needs, and the updates presented for the November 2025 to February 2026 period reflect ongoing improvements, operational achievements and planning initiatives across this diverse portfolio.

Managed Sporting Facilities

4. Council continues to oversee a diverse portfolio of aquatic, golf, tennis and indoor sporting assets. Key operational and capital updates include:
 - (a) Hurstville Aquatic & Leisure Centre (HALC) - Spa and program pool filter replacements were completed, improving asset condition and water quality. The centre also recorded increased patron usage over the period.
 - (b) Sans Souci Leisure Centre (SSLC) - Major indoor pool tiling works were completed over the Christmas period, improving safety and amenity for users. Parking and traffic management upgrades commenced in response to accessibility and safety needs, with further sandstone barrier works planned for early 2026.
 - (c) Hurstville Golf Course (HGC) - There was record rounds over the Christmas period and the course successfully hosted the PGA-sanctioned Wayne Reilly Pro-Am in November 2025 raising \$22,000 for the St George Sutherland Medical Research Foundation.
 - (d) Ken Rosewall Tennis Centre - Following a tender process, a report was presented at the Council meeting on 23 February 2026 recommending that Council enters negotiations with all tenderers to determine a preferred operator.

- (e) Norm O'Neill Cricket Centre - Council released a Request For Quotation in 2025 seeking interest from potential operators to propose expanded multi-sport use and capital investment, with the process now moving to selective tender.

Jubilee Stadium

5. Between November 2025 and February 2026, 11 events were delivered at Jubilee Stadium:
 - (a) The NRL Pre-Season Challenge double-header on 7 February 2026;
 - (b) Four Dragons training sessions and a Members Forum;
 - (c) Four Council events, including the No Domestic Violence Walk;
 - (d) Two commercial TVC shoots, demonstrating the stadium's versatility.
6. Council also secured agreements for Jubilee Stadium to serve as an exclusive training venue for the Women's Asian Cup 2026 and the Men's Rugby World Cup 2027, reinforcing its standing in the NSW stadium network.
7. Naming rights sponsorship negotiations had progressed, and a report was presented at the Council meeting on 23 February 2026 recommending the sponsorship arrangement for Council's consideration.

Sportsground Operations and Bookings

8. Winter sports field allocations 2026 - Council received over 90 submissions during the winter sports expression of interest period during November 2025, with allocations finalised two months earlier than in previous years demonstrating a commitment to improved customer experience.
9. Quarry Reserve Tennis Courts - Following a period of closure, the courts were reopened to the public after interim improvements, including deep cleaning, new nets and umpire chairs. Courts are now available through Council's online booking system with standard fees and charges being applied. Included in the Capital Works Program is redevelopment plans including full court reconstruction, fencing upgrades, new amenities, accessibility improvements and car park upgrades.

Multi-Sport Indoor Stadium Feasibility Study

10. Under Council Resolutions NM088-24 and CCL053-25, the Feasibility Study involved assessing potential sites for a new multi-sport indoor stadium in response to the identified undersupply of hard-court facilities in the Georges River Community Needs and Area Acquisition Strategy. The study scope included site identification, site evaluation and the preparation of a strategic and detailed business case, with a report to Council expected in six months.

Draft Fees and Charges 2026/27

11. Council is refining the sports pricing model introduced in 2025/26. Consistent with stakeholder feedback and winter allocation outcomes, Tier 3 turf fields will transition from a flat seasonal fee to a Seasonal Day Hire model (e.g., one-day, two-day, etc.). This aims to ensure transparency, fairness and optimisation of ground access whilst having the dual benefit of better usage data capture for Council.

Grants Calendar

12. Upcoming opportunities relevant to sporting organisations include:
 - (a) Community & Micro Grants Round 2 – March 2026

- (b) ClubGRANTS 2026 Round – May 2026
 - (c) Event Grants & Venue Hire Grants – ongoing
 - (d) NSW Office of Sport Project Support Program – ongoing
13. Clubs are encouraged to seek advice from Council's Grants and Projects Officer via grants@georgesriver.nsw.gov.au prior to applying.

Promoting Respect and Safety in Sport

14. Council has applied for the NSW Government's *Game On for Change* grant to deliver a sport-focused domestic and family violence prevention initiative that aligns with Council's resolution of 23 June 2025 to promote respect and safety in local sporting environments, as well as the priorities outlined in Council's Domestic Violence Action Plan endorsed in 2025. The proposed program strengthens respectful behaviours, supports safe reporting pathways and enhances community education within local sporting clubs. In support of these commitments, Council will also expand the No Domestic Violence Walk to further engage local sporting organisations as advocates and champions for change across the community.

Jubilee Stadium Precinct Master Plan and Plan of Management

15. The draft Master Plan and Plan of Management are on public exhibition from 11 February to 27 March 2026 via YourSay. These documents outline the long-term vision for the precinct and enable future development opportunities that balance sporting, community and commercial uses.

Hurstville Museum & Gallery

16. The new permanent exhibition "Georges River Reflections" includes a dedicated section on the history of sport, leisure and community culture in the Georges River district, showcasing the evolution of local sporting life since the early 1900s.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

17. No budget impact for this report

RISK IMPLICATIONS

18. No risk to Council identified.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

19. No community engagement required for this report.
20. Draft Jubilee Stadium Precinct Master Plan and Plan of Management are on public exhibition from 11 February to 27 March 2026 via YourSay.

21. FILE REFERENCE

D26/29338

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment [↓](#)1 Sport, Community Facilities and Events Update - 26 February 2026



Sport, Community Facilities and Events Update

Georges River Council Sports Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday 26 February 2026

Manager Sport, Community Facilities and Events

Coordinator Stadium, Sport and Recreation

Executive Manager, City Presentation and Operations



Managed Sporting Facilities



Hurstville Aquatic & Leisure Centre (HALC)

Spa and program pool filter replacements.

Increased usage of centre

Sans Souci Leisure Centre (SSLC)

Major indoor pool tiling works completed in Q2

Parking improvements commenced – ongoing project

Hurstville Golf Course (HGC)

Record usage over Christmas

Successful delivery of the PGA Sanctioned Wayne Reilly Pro-Am event in November 2025

Ken Rosewall Tennis Courts:

Management agreement out to tender. Report to Council 23 February 2026 recommending negotiations.

Norm O'Neill Cricket Centre :

Management agreement out to market seeking expanded use/multi sport. Moving to select tender process





**AFC
WOMEN'S
ASIAN CUP™**

Jubilee Stadium upcoming

- Womens Asian Cup 2026
- Mens Rugby World Cup 2027
- Stadium Naming Sponsorship Agreement

Jubilee Stadium Events

11 Events

1 x NRL Pre-Season Challenge

2 x TVC Film Shoots

4 x Dragons Training Sessions-
Including Members Forum

4 x Council Events – including No
DV Walk





Sportsfield Season Transition





Sports Bookings Update

EOI Winter Sporting Season 2026

Quarry Reserve Tennis Courts, Hurstville Grove – reopen to the public





Future Multi-Sport Indoor Stadium



Feasibility Study

- Council resolution November 2024 (NM088-24)
- Undersupply of hard-court facilities
- Potential sites:
 - Johnny Warren Indoor Stadium (Penshurst),
 - Tallawalla Reserve (Beverly Hills),
 - and two additional locations.
- 50% co-funding from Basketball NSW



Draft Fees and Charges 2026/27

Annual review to ensure
transparent and fair pricing

2025/26: Introduced tiered sports
field model, 2 day seasonal rate

2026/27: Shift to Seasonal Day
Hire model

Stakeholder feedback & Public
Exhibition



Grants Calendar 2026

March 2026

Community & Micro Grants Round 2

(Small Projects up to \$10,000; Major Projects up to \$25,000; Micro Grants up to \$1,000)

May 2026

ClubGRANTS (2026 Round)

Funding for local sporting and community organisations.

Ongoing (throughout 2026)

NSW Office of Sport – Project Support Program (2025/26–2026/27)

Suitable for larger, strategic sport projects, facility upgrades, organisational capacity, etc.

Event Grant (2025–2026)

Supports community events, including sport tournaments and recreation festivals.

Venue Hire Grants (2025–2026)

Supports subsidised access to Council-managed venues.



Please contact Council's Grants Officer prior to applying grants@georgesriver.nsw.gov.au

Game for Change Grant

Promoting Domestic, Family, and Sexual Violence (DFSV) prevention through sport

- Respectful behaviours
- Safe and inclusive sporting environments
- Education for coaches, volunteers, players, and spectators
- Community awareness and culture change

Aligns with the Domestic Violence (DV) Action Plan endorsed by Council in 2025.

Safe Reporting at Clubs

Expanding the NO DV Walk





Public Exhibition of the Jubilee Stadium Precinct Master Plan and Plan of Management

11 February to 27 March 2026 via YourSay

Community drop in sessions





Hurstville Museum & Gallery

Hurstville Museum & Gallery's new permanent exhibition
'Georges River Reflections'



Questions?

