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## Good Sports Program

Alcohol and sport are inextricably linked. Heavy drinking is a tradition in many sports clubs and often alcohol is a major source of revenue. However, sporting clubs today are facing increased responsibility for the care of their players, members and supporters.

Good Sports is a free program of the Australian Drug Foundation, helping sporting clubs to manage alcohol responsibly. Good Sports helps clubs create responsible policies and practices surrounding alcohol that ensure a safe and healthy club for the community and helps the club educate its members.

There are currently community sporting clubs actively involved with Good Sports across Australia. Good Sports clubs have 285 members each on average, so the program directly benefits more than a million Australians.

Good Sports is suitable for all sporting clubs, irrespective of if they sell or not, as it relates to alcohol management at things such as presentations, committee meetings, functions and AGM's. Good Sports clubs regularly demonstrate increased participation and income and fewer incidents of alcohol related problems.

For more information on Good Sports and how it can help your club please visit [www.goodsports.com.au](http://www.goodsports.com.au) or contact Russel Grimson on 0425 609 561.



# From the Editor's Desk

This is a busy time of year for sporting clubs with the changeover of seasons – summer sports completing their finals and winter sports in pre-season mode before the season proper. This is also a busy time for our ground staff and they are doing a terrific job, especially in light of the recent wet weather which has shortened the available time to install posts, cover wickets and complete line marking at sportsgrounds.

The recently upgraded sportsgrounds at Meadowbank Park and Pidding Park will return to use as from April. These facilities have been regraded and returfed as well as having new irrigation systems installed. This should see these fields improve steadily over the next 2-3 years and be more resilient in the long term.

**An unusual spate of thefts** in the North Shore area has come to light. In recent months, a total of six water meters have been stolen across the City. This week it was discovered that 50 metres of cable which supplied power to floodlights at Marsfield Park has been stolen. It is believed that these items are being stolen for the value of the copper wire. Whoever is responsible seems to know what they are doing as they did not touch a larger live cable which supplies the telecommunications facilities at the Park. Regular security patrols have been organised at all floodlit fields and I want to make all users aware of this and ask you to make your membership aware and to report any suspicious activity via the after hours number 9952 8222.

Council is in the process of appointing a consultant for the **Best Value Review (BVR)** of Sportsgrounds and Maintenance Processes. The demand being placed on sporting facilities is increasing and the BVR will analyse the approaches used by the CoR in the provision of community level sporting facilities, compare these with current better practice and make recommendations to achieve this. This will ensure that the allocation, management and maintenance of sportsgrounds is responsive to the needs of community sport within the City, and of appropriate quality and cost. The BVR will;

- Challenge why, how and by whom the services are being provided.
- Compare the performance of the City of Ryde with others across a range of relevant indicators, taking into account the views of both service users and service providers.
- Consult with local stakeholders as to their experience of local services and their aspirations for the future

Further updates on this project will be provided in subsequent newsletters.

This will be my last article in the City of Ryde Sports News as I have recently accepted a position at Marrickville Council and will be saying farewell to Ryde just before Easter. I would like to take the opportunity to commend all the volunteers who I have worked with who give of their own time to facilitate the thriving participation in sport and recreation that takes place in Ryde. I have enjoyed working with you all and trust that you will continue this valuable contribution to your local community.

As ever a **big thanks** to all the sports groups who have contributed to this edition of your City of Ryde Sports News and I hope this inspires other organisations to contribute in future editions.

*Peter Montague, Recreation Coordinator*



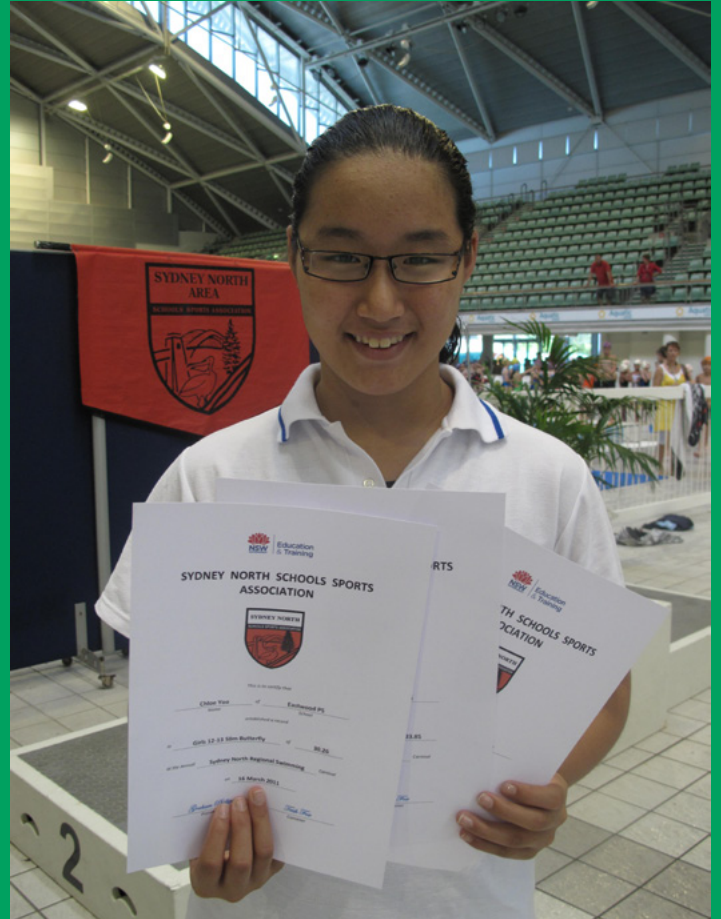
# Chloe makes a Splash!!

Chloe Yoo is a Year 6 student at Eastwood Public School and is an extraordinary swimmer. Recently she participated in the Ryde PSSA Zone Carnival which 16 schools attend. She won all 7 races that she entered and established 8 new zone records out of a possible 10 event in all four strokes and the individual medley. She also helped our school's Senior Girls relay team come 1st and was named girls 12 Year Old Champion.

Chloe then attended the Sydney North Area Swimming Carnival where she competed in 6 events plus the relay. Once again she finished first in all 6 events and established 4 new area records in Senior Girls Butterfly, Backstroke, 200m Individual Medley and 100m Open Freestyle. The Eastwood Girl's senior relay team also came first and in doing so are competing in the State carnival. Chloe was also named "Swimmer of the Meet" and Senior Girls Age Champion.

Chloe is very humble and modest in her approach but admits she has the Nationals in her sight in the coming months. If previous years are any indication for this year she has won gold at those events in the past 2 years.

*Christine Dundas, Teacher and Sport Coordinator at Eastwood Public School*



*Chloe Yoo*

## We want to know what you think Council should do about improving our parks and open spaces.

Council is reviewing its provision of parks and open spaces as it writes a new Integrated Open Space Plan.

We are holding three discussion sessions which will focus on the how Council can improve its parks and open spaces and we want the know what the community needs, likes and how we can meet the needs for the Ryde Community.

The discussion sessions will be held at the following times:

- Wednesday 18 May at 2.30pm
- Wednesday 18 May at 6.30pm
- Saturday 21 May at 10am

Each session will run for approx 2 hours and they will be held at Civic Centre or Argyle Centre.

Please register your interested to attend one of these sessions by email [openspace@ryde.nsw.gov.au](mailto:openspace@ryde.nsw.gov.au) or go [www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/iosp](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/iosp).

Come along to one of these sessions and join the discussion.

# Rabbit control measures

Recent meetings of the Sport and Recreation and Advisory Committee have highlighted issues with rabbits impacting on the playing surfaces at a number of sportsgrounds in Ryde.

As part of an ongoing rabbit control program being undertaken by public authorities in public open space in northern Sydney, the Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease Virus (RHDV) is being released in the following parks:

- Christie Park
- Dunbar Park
- Eastwood Park
- Field of Mars Reserve
- Glades Bay Reserve
- Marsfield Park
- Pembroke Park
- Pioneer Park
- Pidding Park



This will involve The RHDV virus being applied to normal chopped carrots which will be dyed green to identify them and then placed in the designated areas. Please do not disturb carrots at the bait stations. RHDV is not harmful to humans, native animals, or domestic animals other than rabbits but proteins in the solution

may cause irritation or allergic reaction in some individuals. Pet rabbits can be affected but a vaccination is available via your vet.

If you would like any further information on this, please contact Council's Coordinator Natural Areas on 9952 8222.

# A stellar year for Sydney Cricket Club

It has been a successful year so far for Sydney Cricket Club whose teams have reached finals in no less than seven competitions in grade cricket - a wonderful achievement. This is not the only notable achievement this season

- Captain of First Grade won the O'Reilly Medal. The O'Reilly Medal is an annual award named after former, NSW and Australian leg-spinner, Bill O'Reilly.
- Sydney Cricket Club won the T 20 Competition.
- There are two Test players within Sydney Cricket Club's Women's First Grade Team.
- 1st Grade and Brewer Shield Women are in the Finals as well as 1st Grade Men's, 2nd Grade Men's, Creer and Metro Cup.
- Fourth Grade Men's were Minor Premiers this season.
- A total of 18 players have been selected in Representative teams.
- The Club has finished equal 6th in the Club Championships.



*The winning T20 side from Sydney Cricket Club*

# Eastwood Croquet Club breaking New Ground

## Gateball

Eastwood Croquet Club is introducing Gateball, which is very popular in Korea, China and Japan. On Sunday, 13 March, Gateball champion players, Penny and John Park, travelled from the Blue Mountains to Eastwood to help initiate us into the game. It is very fast, only 10 seconds being allowed to play a ball, has 2 teams of 5 who play in numerical order, only 3 hoops instead of the usual 6, promotes strategic play and the smaller balls and mallets are metal instead of wood. A game takes about 30 minutes.

Epping Croquet Club players also joined us for the day as some members there play Gateball several times a month and have travelled to Korea and China to play. Any interested prospective players are welcome to come and join us in a game.

Eastwood Croquet Club has 4 members who have gained accreditation as Primary School Coaches and we plan to take our Gateball skills to the After School Community Programs in local schools. We hope we can keep up with the children!

## Australia Day

The Club celebrated Australia Day with twilight croquet play and a BBQ afterwards. Members were encouraged to wear National colours or decorations and we saluted Australia with a sausage sizzle and lamingtons.

## Ryde Sports Foundation Tournament

Our annual Ryde Sports Foundation Tournament took place on Saturday, 2 April and as always was keenly contested by members. It is a round robin format for pairs playing Golf Croquet. Each game is timed for 30 minutes with the teams making the most number of hoops winning a game.

The presentation of awards by President of the Foundation, Mr Jim Hull and Secretary, Mrs Neita Matthews, will take place on Saturday 30 April 2011.

*Shirley McLachlan, Secretary – Eastwood Croquet Club*



# Ryde Community Sports Centre

The Ryde Community Sport Centre is nearing completion at ELS Hall Park in North Ryde. The new centre boasts a two court basketball facility with the capability to host a number of other sporting activities together with administration areas and meeting rooms. Incorporated in the facility are the amenities required for outdoor users of the adjacent sporting fields. The centre looks out onto Field 2 and the area is shaping up as a great place to view sport. Council is well down the path of negotiations with the YMCA of Sydney for the management of the centre and a final decision is anticipated over the coming weeks.



## Improvements to Remote Access Floodlighting

Council's floodlighting remote access system has recently been upgraded to a web based format which will further improve the reliability of the system. The system enables designated users to activate and deactivate floodlights via their mobile phone during the period of their ground hire.

Further to requests from users, an additional feature has now been included which enables users to pre-program lights ahead of time to come on at the commencement of their hire period as opposed to having to activate them at the specific time the lights are required.

Details of how to use this additional feature, along with all other aspects of operating the system are available on Council's website at <http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/sportsnews>



# Winter Season Netball News

Netball is the largest female participation sport in Australia and Eastwood Ryde Netball Association (ERNA) has provided sporting amenities and opportunities to thousands of young girls and not so young in the City of Ryde footprint. Netball's popularity amongst men has seen a rise in recent years and ERNA has responded accordingly inviting clubs to register mixed teams. While this competition was not able to be held this year, Mixed Netball teams will be encouraged to compete in 2012.

ERNA has seen an increase this season to 375 registered teams with player ages ranging from 7 years old to 60+ years young. ERNA continues to provide pathways for players, coaches, umpires and administrators encouraging members to participate at club, association, state and national level.

The first event for the season is the Ryde Sports Foundation Gala Day on Sunday 3rd April. Clubs from ERNA and other associations come together to compete and have fun. During the April school holidays (12th and 13th April), a skills session for players will be conducted and this is open to any player under 15 years of age wanting to improve skills and technique.

Our Umpiring Development Program begins in Week 4 of competition and creates an environment of learning with specific aim to develop confidence and ability. The course is popular because of the mentoring partnership and runs for 5 weeks.

Ryde Council's approval to build 4 additional courts at Meadowbank Park brings the total number of courts to 26. This has enabled a reduction in number



of timeslots from 7 to 6, thereby allowing increased time between games and resulting improvements in parking for players and local residents.

Competition begins on Saturday 2 April at two locations, Meadowbank Park for 11's and above, Brush Farm caters for 10's and under.

Anyone wanting to create new friendships, learn new skills or just have fun should contact ERNA on 9874 2190 or via email at [erna@idx.com.au](mailto:erna@idx.com.au) or via their website [www.erna.netball.asn.au](http://www.erna.netball.asn.au)

## Important Council Contacts

Position	Phone	Email
Manager, Open Space	9952 8250	<a href="mailto:sharrison@ryde.nsw.gov.au">sharrison@ryde.nsw.gov.au</a>
Recreation Coordinator	9952 8239	<a href="mailto:pmontague@ryde.nsw.gov.au">pmontague@ryde.nsw.gov.au</a>
Parks Facilities Officer	9952 8249	<a href="mailto:agibbons@ryde.nsw.gov.au">agibbons@ryde.nsw.gov.au</a>

For all wet weather enquiries call the City to Ryde's Sportsground Advisory Line 9952 8244  
After Hour's and Emergency 9952 8222

# Introducing Andrew Gibbons



Hi, I am Andrew Gibbons, the new Parks Facilities Officer for City of Ryde. I started back in mid December, coming from Bankstown Council where I ran a local community centre.

I am originally from North Carolina in the States, moving here seven years ago. I played a number of sports over the years and collegiate American Football (Gridiron) for the University of North Carolina. My family has a tradition of participation in Highland Games and I have continued this albeit on an irregular basis and am writing a book on my family's association with the sport.

I will be dealing with all administration and enquiries relating to the hire of sportsgrounds and parks including items such as keys and floodlights access and I can be contacted is 9952 8249.

I look forward to working with you all in the future.

## Sports Grants 2010/11

Available only to sporting organisations, the aim of the program is to develop initiatives that enhance existing activities to support sustainable, community orientated, specific local projects that increase the opportunity for participation in sports, recreation and physical activity. Priority Areas for the 2010-11 program were

- Access
- Capacity Building
- Volunteer Education/Development
- Participation

Council recently adopted the following successful applications through the 2010/11 Sports Grants category of the Community Grants Program:

<i>Project Name</i>	<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Project Description</i>	<i>Funding</i>
Croquet for the Community	Eastwood Croquet Club	Advertising Club's activities in Chinese, Korean and local newspapers; offering free open come & try days; attending CALD groups to invite visitors to the Club; distributing leaflets; Promotion of club's activities to the Chinese and Korean communities.	\$3,500
Net Set Go	Eastwood Ryde Netball Association	Activities to develop basic skills; fun based games; building teamwork; introducing pathways to participating in team sport. Introduction of a weekly program at Brush Farm Park to learn and develop basic netball skills for children 5 - 10 years - modified games providing a pathway to participation.	\$3,000
Purchase of riding helmets and boots	Riding for the Disabled NSW - Ryde Centre	To enable access for riders with disabilities to equestrian activities in a safe & fun environment. Purchase of certified Australian Standard riding helmets and boots	\$3,000
QuickCric	Ryde Hunters Hill Cricket Club	Develop an interest & awareness of sport being fun and healthy. Implementation and promotion of a new one hour of multisport games with a cricket focus and including some dance/music targeting children 3 years and over.	\$3,500