

# Sports Ground Allocation Policy

## Scope

This policy applies to sports grounds located in the City of Ryde that are owned or managed by the Council. The policy must be adhered to by all current seasonal and casual hire groups wishing to use any sports ground. Broadly the goal of the policy is to ensure the sustainable and equitable use of Council's sporting fields and provides the guiding principles for how use of those facilities will be managed.

While the policy will largely be applicable to seasonal sporting clubs, associations and schools, it will also apply to other community groups, private and commercial organisations who wish to apply for allocated use of a sportsground and/or associated facilities.

This policy does not apply to special events or activities booked as an event function. Special event organisers must complete a special event form and comply with all the requirements on that form. The policy also does not apply to any sportsground or amenity building that is occupied by a user group under a licence agreement.

## Purpose

The introduction of this policy aims to assist Council in managing the increasing and competing demands from Sporting Clubs and the wider community to access the City of Ryde's sporting grounds. The development of this document will also help in determining Council's position on a number of different sports ground use and management issues. Specifically Council intends to achieve the following:

- To provide a responsible, consistent, transparent and equitable process for the use of Council sportsgrounds and associated facilities.
- To provide agreed principles to prioritise use and management of the sportsgrounds and associated facilities.
- To assist Council in the allocation of Sports Grounds when competing requests are submitted.
- To provide a Policy that is consistent with other Council policies, relevant local laws and other relevant legislation.

The City of Ryde has a number of operational documents that are used to manage sportsground allocation. These include but are not limited to:-

- Application for Casual or Pre-season Use of Sporting Facilities Form
- Seasonal Use of Sporting Fields Form
- Application for Regular use of Sportsground for Schools Form
- Major Event Application for Booking Form
- Social Recreation Application Form

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## Guidelines / Procedures

Sportsground allocation is the process which Council undertakes to hire out its sportsgrounds to a variety of community and commercial user groups. Council has identified the following principles to guide them in meeting the objectives outlined in this policy:-

- 1.1 Seasonal bookings have priority over casual bookings.
- 1.2 City of Ryde based user groups will have priority over out of area user groups.
- 1.3 In the event that there is a need to prioritise contested use of sportsgrounds, the applications will be considered utilising the Priority Matrix (see attachment A) as the method for determining priority.
- 1.4 The City of Ryde is committed to ensuring a diverse range of sporting activities are welcome and catered for within our community. As such, any existing City of Ryde based organised sporting code requesting an allocation in-season will always have access to a minimum of one allocation.
- 1.5 Council recognises the heavy demand for use of its sportsgrounds and the impact this has on maintaining a sustainable and fit for purpose playing surface. As such, Council will not allocate natural turf fields beyond a threshold of 30 hours use per week unless historically they have been booked beyond that amount. In this instance Council will work with the schools and sporting community to reduce the allocation on those fields on an equitable basis.
- 1.6 Where Council constructs new synthetic playing surfaces, historical use of the facility will not be considered in the initial allocation process.
- 1.7 Allocation requests from commercial providers will only be considered where no community user group is contesting the allocation and where there is less than 30 hours per week use of the field.
- 1.8 New applications for grassroots sports will be prioritised over any representative sport application when training space becomes available and there is less than 30 hours per week use of the field.
- 1.9 Seasonal sportsground hirers will be required to provide Council with an official membership list confirming the residential suburb details of its members. This information is to be submitted by the user groups each year and Council may ask for this information to be verified.

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- 1.10 Council will arrange for a meeting of the relevant user groups prior to finalising the seasonal ground allocations. This policy will guide Councils approach to those discussions.
- 1.11 All requests for bookings must be made on the relevant Application Form. Requests for seasonal bookings must be made by the due date specified by Council. Bookings are not confirmed until the user group receives a permit from Council. All applicants must comply with the terms and conditions outlined on the application form.
- 1.12 Casual bookings and bookings made by user group from out of the area will only be considered where there is no existing booking request.
- 1.13 Casual bookings will not be confirmed until payment is received.
- 1.14 Council will only consider an application if the ground is in a satisfactory condition, which will be determined after consultation with the relevant Council maintenance staff.
- 1.15 Season draws must be provided to Council once confirmed by the sporting associations to allow Council to hire out unused sports fields. Blanket bookings are not permitted and associations must ensure every effort is made to notify Council of any unused dates in advance.

## DEFINITIONS

<b>Application Form</b>	The 'Application for Hire Form' provided by Council Officers for user groups to complete.
<b>Casual Bookings</b>	Irregular one off booking for a sportsground(s) made by a user group.
<b>City of Ryde Based</b>	<p>Organisation must be named or based in a suburb within the Ryde Local Government Area and/or or plays in a competition which is centred in the City of Ryde Area.</p> <p>Out of the area Club – Does not meet the criteria detailed above.</p>
<b>Grassroots Sport</b>	Organised sport practiced by amateur sportspeople in the lowest available level of local competition.
<b>In Season Sports</b>	<i>Winter codes are:</i> Football (Soccer), Netball, Rugby

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League, Rugby Union, Australian Rules Football, and Hockey.

*Summer codes are:* Athletics, Baseball, Cricket, Ultimate Frisbee, Oz Tag, and Touch Football.

#### **No Allocation**

No booking for the use of a sportsground is provided to the applying organisation or individual.

#### **Representative Sport**

Organised sport participated in at a higher level of competition than is readily available at the local level.

#### **Seasonal Bookings**

Booking for a sportsground(s) made for a summer or winter period and can relate to training or competition use by a user group.

#### **Season Draws**

Official competition draws provided by the relevant governing association for that particular sport. These competition draws will cover the period that the booking is requested.

#### **Summer Season\***

2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in September to the 2<sup>nd</sup> last weekend of March

#### **Winter Season\***

2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in April to the 2<sup>nd</sup> last weekend of August

\*Exemption may be made by Council, giving consideration to level of competition and competitions played across multiple areas.

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#### **References - Legislation**

Updating of this policy is required to be done in consultation with representatives of the City of Ryde Sporting Group community.

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#### **Review Process and Endorsement**

This Policy should be reviewed biennially.

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#### **Attachments**

<i>Title</i>	<i>Trim Reference</i>
Priority Matrix	Attached
Sportsgrounds in the City of Ryde	Attached

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## Priority Matrix

The total playing membership of clubs will form a major consideration when making ground allocations. In the first instance, the allocation of sportsgrounds will be made based on the need of the sporting group and the membership numbers within that group. Where there is a change in membership numbers (either an increase or a decrease) and this can be substantiated by Council, this will be reflected in the field allocation made.

Where two or more user groups have applied for an available sportsground and Council officers are unable to facilitate shared use, the following assessment criteria shall be used. The highest scoring user group will be given the priority allocation. An application will not be considered for allocation where a club's application receives a 'no allocation' score.

Principle	Scoring	Assessment Guide	Specific Criteria	Strategy
Historical use of facilities	10	Historical home ground of CoR based club (i.e. no other club has ever been based there)	Recognition of the social and cultural importance of a club's historical connection with a home ground and will give priority to a home ground application over a non-home ground application.  Clubs base determined as per the definitions provided in the 'Sportsground Allocation Policy.'	Council will give preference to CoR based clubs over non CoR clubs. The length of club's past tenure of a sportsground will be considered when assessing an application.
	5	CoR home based club for more than 5 years		
	3	CoR home based club for less than 5 years		
	1	Non CoR home based club for over 5 years		
	0	All other clubs		

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Current hours allocated per member	10	Over 35 members per field per hour	The ratio of registered participants to existing allocated hours.	Council will give preference to user groups who currently accommodate a greater number of participants into their existing allocated hours. This will ensure the most efficient use of Council's sportsgrounds
	5	Between 25 - 35 members per field per hour		
	3	Between 15 - 25 members per field per hour		
	1	Less than 15 members per field per hour		
Tenancy Record	5	Good Record – no breaches in the previous 5 years	Council will take into account the pattern, number and severity of tenancy breaches, unpaid or late payments of fees to Council and upheld complaints over the previous five years when assessing seasonal allocation applications.  New Clubs – Clubs or groups that do not have a prior history with Council are able to provide references from organisations to confirm tenancy record. Scoring will be the same as indicated.	Council recognises the social and cultural importance of a club's having a good relationship with Council, co-tenants and the local community.  Council will provide the club with written advice of upheld complaints and tenancy breaches.
	3	Fair Record – no breaches in the previous 2 years		
	No Allocation	Where there has been non-compliance with 3 or more of Council's terms and conditions		

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Division of Sports Season	5	In season application	<p>The definition for 'in-season sports' as outlined in the Councils 'Sportsground Allocation Policy'.</p> <p>In the absence of an application from an in-season club, Council may consider an 'out of season' application where there is sufficient sportsground capacity.</p>	Ensuring a diverse range of activities is available and use is not dominated by one activity.
	3	Out of season application with no in season club contesting allocation		
	No allocation	Out of season application against an existing in season sport booking.		
Contribution Towards Council Infrastructure	10	Capital investment over \$50,001	<p>Recognition of organisations who have contributed toward facility improvements at the sportsground in question within the last 10 years and the resulting benefits to other facility users.</p>	<p>Providing incentive and recognition to sport and recreation organisations to contribute toward facility upgrades.</p> <p><i>Note. Council will 'cap' use of sportsgrounds by allocated users where appropriate.</i></p>
	6	Capital investment between \$30,001 and \$50,000		
	2	Capital Investment between \$10,001 and \$30,000		
	1	Capital investment under \$10,000.		

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Club Development	5	Clubs with documented policies, and initiatives to support volunteers.	Recognition of clubs and organisations that develop and implement best practice RM practices.  Examples are established policies for member/child protection, anti-harassment, facility management, succession planning, constitutional review etc.	Council Working in partnership with users to ensure good risk management (RM) principles are incorporated into sports development and initiatives to ensure a safe environment for all participants.
	3	Policies in development.		
	0	No documented policies or plans score in place.		
TOTAL				

\*Winter codes are: Football (Soccer), Netball, Rugby League, Rugby Union, Australian Rules Football, Hockey.

\*Summer codes are: Athletics, Baseball, Cricket, Oz Tag, and Touch Football.

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## SPORTSGROUNDS IN THE CITY OF RYDE

Park	Address	(April – August)		(Sept – March)
		Oval	Winter Usage	Summer Usage
<b>BILL MITCHELL</b>	Morrison Road Tennyson Point	1 2	Soccer Soccer	Cricket – Synthetic Wicket Cricket - Junior Concrete
<b>BRUSH FARM Oval</b>	Lawson Street Eastwood	Oval	Netball – 14 grass courts	Cricket – Synthetic Wicket
<b>BRUSH FARM Netball</b>		Oval	Dog Training (Sunday)	Dog Training (Sunday)
<b>BREMNER</b>		Netball	Netball – 4 Courts	Netball – 4 Courts
<b>CHRISTIE</b>	Morrison Road Gladesville	1	Soccer	Cricket – Junior Synthetic
<b>CHRISTIE</b>	Christie Road Macquarie Park	1 2	Synthetic Field Synthetic Field	Synthetic Field Synthetic Field
<b>CLEEVES</b>	Douglas Street Gladesville	1	NIL	Cricket – Junior Concrete
<b>DARVALL</b>	Chatham Road West Ryde	1	Soccer	Cricket – Junior Concrete
<b>EASTWOOD</b>	Lakeside Ave Eastwood	Upper Lower	Soccer Soccer	Cricket – Turf Wicket Community Use
<b>E.L.S. HALL</b>	Kent Road North Ryde	1	Synthetic Field	Synthetic Field
		2	Soccer	Baseball
		3	AFL	Cricket – Turf Wicket
<b>FONTENOY</b>	Fontenoy Road North Ryde	1	Mini Soccer	Community Use
<b>GANNAN</b>	Buna Street Ryde	1	Baseball	Cricket

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<b>MAGDALA</b>	Magdala Road North Ryde	1 2	Soccer Soccer	Baseball Baseball
<b>MARSFIELD</b>	Vimiera Road Marsfield <i>Cricket Wicket in the middle of Nos. 1 &amp; 2 Ovals</i>	1 2	Rugby Union, Soccer, Oztag Rugby Union, Soccer, Oztag	Cricket – Turf Wicket Oztag Cricket – Turf Wicket Oztag
<b>MEADOWBANK</b>	Constitution Road Meadowbank – <b>MAIN ENTRANCE</b>  ENTRANCE in Ross Smith Avenue “ “ “ MAIN ENTRANCE in Constitution Rd “ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ “  ENTRANCE in Adelaide Street ENTRANCE in Andrew Street	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 12 13 Netball	Soccer Soccer Soccer Soccer – Mini Oval Soccer – Mini Oval Soccer Soccer Soccer Soccer Hockey Hockey Netball – 26 Courts	Cricket – Synthetic Wicket Cricket – Synthetic Wicket Oztag Community Use Community Use Cricket – Synthetic Wicket Cricket – Synthetic Wicket Frisbee Cricket – Synthetic Wicket Cricket – Synthetic Wicket Community Use Netball – 26 Courts
<b>MONASH</b>	Cnr Ryde Road & Westminster Road Gladesville	1	Soccer	Cricket – Synthetic Wicket
<b>MORRISON BAY</b>	Morrison Road Putney	1 2 3 4 5 6	Soccer - Mini Field Soccer Soccer Soccer Soccer – Mini Field Soccer	All Fields Soccer and Touch Football  2/3 Cricket Synthetic Wicket 4/5 Cricket Synthetic Wicket Cricket – Synthetic wicket
<b>NORTH RYDE</b>	Cnr Pittwater Road & Cressy Road North Ryde	1	Soccer	Cricket – Synthetic Wicket
<b>PEEL</b>	Morrison Road Gladesville (Near Stanbury Street)	1	Soccer	Community Use

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<b>PIDDING</b>	Cnr Cressy Road & Wellington Rd Ryde	1	Soccer	Cricket Soccer
<b>PIONEER</b>	Balaclava Road Marsfield	1	Baseball	Baseball
<b>RYDE</b>	Cnr Princes Street & Blaxland Road Ryde	1 3	Rugby Union Community Use	Cricket – Turf Wicket
<b>SANTA ROSA</b>	Quarry Rd / Bridge Rd Denistone East ( 2 ENTRANCES )	1 2	Soccer Mini Soccer	Cricket – Synthetic Wicket
<b>SMALLS ROAD</b>	Smalls Road Ryde	Lower Upper	Soccer Soccer	Cricket – Synthetic Wicket Soccer
<b>TUCKWELL</b>	Cnr Fontenoy & Lane Cove Roads North Ryde	1	Soccer	Cricket – Synthetic Wicket
<b>TYAGRAH</b>	Tyagrah Street Ryde	1	Soccer	Cricket – Junior Concrete
<b>WATERLOO</b>	Waterloo Road Marsfield	1	Soccer	Baseball Soccer
<b>WESTMINSTER</b>	Cnr Ryde Road and Westminster Rd Gladesville	1	Soccer	Cricket – Synthetic Wicket

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