

CITY OF  
CANADA BAY  
POLICY

## SPORTS FIELD ALLOCATION

Date of Adoption: 17 November 2009

Effective Date: 17 November 2009

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## 1. Policy Statement

The provision of shared and equitable access to all sporting fields will be in accordance with Council's core objectives for the management of community land.

Council's core objectives for management of Council and Crown land categorised as Sportsgrounds are:

- a. To encourage, promote and facilitate recreational pursuits in the community involving organised and informal sporting activities and games; and
- b. To ensure that such activities are managed having regard to any adverse impact on nearby residents.

In accordance with Futures Plan20 our twenty year vision to guide planning for a Healthy and Green city - Council will provide and maintain accessible indoor and outdoor sport and leisure facilities and maintain access to open spaces and reserves which cater for the needs of residents and visitors to the area.

## 2. Objectives

The City of Canada Bay has the role of managing the network of open space and sports fields on behalf the wider community. Council's role is to:

- Promote the equitable hire of all Council sports fields for casual and organised use by all sectors within the local community
- Optimise the utilisation of Council's sporting fields by sporting groups from the Canada Bay LGA
- Promote health, wellbeing and enhanced community life by allowing shared access to sporting fields
- Ensure that individual group's use of fields and facilities does not disadvantage regular use by other sporting bodies
- Ensure that priority of access is granted to traditional seasonal sports as outline below;

**Summer:** Cricket; Baseball, Tennis

**Winter:** Soccer; Rugby League; Rugby Union; AFL, Netball, Hockey\*

\*Bookings for tennis, hockey and netball facilities are coordinated by external bodies.

## 3. Scope

This policy applies to all Council employees, Councillors and members of the community utilising sporting grounds within the City. Applications are encouraged which improve the participation of under represented groups in sport e.g. indigenous people, women, individuals with a disability and seniors.

## 4. Seasonal Hire Dates

Within a 12 month period, bookings are categorised by two seasons, the summer and winter season. As winter season sports generally require additional time to select teams, players and registrations days, allowance has been made for pre season allocations which take into account the activities that need to be held prior to the winter season.

The dates for these seasons are as follows\*:

- Summer Season: 1 October to 31 March
- Winter Season: 1 April to 31 August
- Pre season: 1 February to 31 March (Limited dates and fields)

\*Council understands that these dates may vary subject to clubs seasonal competition. Council will make all efforts to accommodate requested dates.

## 5. Approval Conditions

All hirers must adhere to the Sports Field Conditions of Use and Seasonal Sports Handbook. If hirers do not adhere to conditions Council has the right to cancel the booking.

- All hirers must complete the necessary application forms.
- Bookings are not confirmed until Council notifies the sporting body with a confirmation booking number.
- Unauthorised use of Council's sporting fields will result in Council's Law Enforcement Officers taking appropriate action.

## 5.1 Schools Policy

1. Council shall have the right to allocate fields to schools and casual hirers outside those times allocated to clubs seasonal booking times
2. Schools may utilise areas of open space such as parks and reserves for the purpose of passive recreational activities unless it is viewed that the proposed use will;
  - a. interfere with works in progress, or works planned
  - b. adversely affect the condition of the ground or conflict with other activities
3. Between 9am and 3pm, Monday - Friday, within school terms (excluding public holidays), school groups will be granted priority of access over other groups
4. Priority of access will be provided to schools who provide benefits the wider community
5. Saturday and Sunday sporting bodies will have priority use of the sporting fields

## 5.2 Sporting Clubs Policy

1. Sporting clubs which contain a significant membership of residents from the Canada Bay local government area will be granted priority of access; upon application, clubs will be required to provide supporting documentation that specifies the address and post code of all members.
2. Field use is to be undertaken during allocated hours of use;
  - No activity to commence prior to 7:00am on any day;
  - No competitive activity prior to 8:00am on any day;
  - No field activity is to occur after 9.00pm each day
3. Lights are only available winter season on the following times listed below. Lights out of these hours must have approval of Parks Manager
  - Tuesday 4pm - 9pm
  - Wednesday 4pm - 9pm
  - Thursday 4pm - 9pm

## 5.3 Representative/Leases Policy

Applications to use Council sporting facilities that are identified as being outside the scope of this policy may require separate arrangements and negotiation and be subject to the General Managers consent.

## 6. Exclusions

This policy does not apply to:

- Personal trainers organising fitness classes;
- Special events and functions;
- Filming or Professional Photography; and
- Wedding ceremonies.

## 7. Review

This policy is to be reviewed annually and is the responsibility of the Park and Recreation Planner and Manager of Customer Services.

## 8. Appendix

Seasonal Application forms and Seasonal Sports handbook shall be read in conjunction with this policy and form an appendix to this documentation.