



3/6/2021

RE: Information Sheet – BNA-Myrtle and Macleay Parks Consultation – 2021-05-25

MIS-REPRESENTATION OF THE FACTS:

Sadly there is a current smear campaign against Netballers much of which is based on the mis-leading information provided by Council in the above document. The FACTS are in the documentation which we have submitted to Council numerous times.

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Lighting on Macleay Oval 5
We have explicitly told Council officers and Councillors that we do not want lighting on the 4 courts on Oval 5 Reason: the impact on local residents
“the surface of Macleay Oval 5 being replaced with a hard surface”
- The area required for 4 netball courts including run off is 74.4m x 40.25m. The perimeter of oval 5 is 335m = approx. 100m x 60m. This also depends on the configuration of the court design. - A “hard surface” is not necessarily a negative issue judging by the amount of non-netball use our courts currently attract.
“the number of games & training sessions throughout the week would increase”
We do not play competition (games) during the week other than on Friday after school and Saturdays. This will not increase. The lighting of existing courts WILL allow clubs to train on 8 courts rather than 3 (until 6.30pm)
“this option would result in the inability to program school usage.....”
Most surrounding schools are SUPPORTIVE of the courts as they will ENABLE school usage during the week
“and overflow junior soccer”
- Oval 5 is rarely used – often there are weeks where no ovals are being used. - Oval 5 is used for “junior training overflow” and is not suitable for soccer, AFL, cricket competition – see MMPMPlan

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Option 2 *****whole section
This option has NEVER been discussed with us and was certainly not an option which we have provided. We feel it is inappropriate due to: 1) Displacement of soccer and cricket space 2) Loss of significant trees 3) Significant cost of infrastructure (on a steep slope) In saying that, we don’t mind where the 4 additional courts

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“The ability to program further games and training will likely create additional parking & traffic in the area”
- The one and only reason for lighting the extra 5 existing courts is to allow local community clubs to TRAIN past 5pm. - There is no intention or demand to run mid-week, outdoor competition under lights, something we have stressed throughout the process.

<p>“Sundays are currently used by BNA to support initiatives such as annual tournaments and umpire training”</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) We are unable to run “annual tournaments” due to the size of our venue and facilities available. 2) Sundays are the usual day for Association tournaments so there is no demand for netball competition as teams are playing in other tournaments. 3) We - and Netball Victoria - occasionally run coach and umpire training sessions / accreditation courses on Sundays as people are available due to no competition
<p>“..Sunday usage would require volunteers to support this”</p> <p>Correct – and we would NOT support Sunday competition for many reasons, but NOT due to a lack of volunteers. Reasons include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) As above 2) WE also have family, work and leisure commitments. Sundays are the only opportunity to do other things. 3) Sundays is the usual day for SSN (Vixens / Magpies) competition which many players / families attend 4) We would have thought that local residents would not appreciate disruption from sirens, traffic, whistles etc on Sundays as well as Saturdays 5) Our courts are used significantly for other family activities such as bikes, dancing, electronic cars etc 6) Other sporting codes play on Sundays creating increased traffic etc

SUMMARY

<p>Simplified, our needs are as follows:</p> <p>4 additional netball courts (fully funded)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - we don't mind where in Macleay Park but in good faith we considered that <u>part of Oval 5</u> is the best and least invasive option - the main reason is to cater for our EXISTING membership, providing decent match lengths (not 9 min quarters, soon to be 7) and less byes. - an additional 4 courts will still not satisfy the huge demand for netball (see Netball Vic data) but we want to be able to provide appropriate pathways for our players
<p>Lighting on our existing 8 courts (fully funded)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - we specifically altered the Government grant to change the lighting from the 4 additional courts to our existing courts only for the reasons stated above - this is to enable our local clubs to TRAIN on weeknights past 5pm - there is no demand or desire for outdoor night time winter netball competitions mid week AND it would contravene our licence agreement – this is also clearly documented in our submissions
<p>NO Sunday competition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - as outlined above

Soccer have very recently entered the equation after alleging that they had consulted with us about their “Masterplan” - which for some reason Councillors are aware of even though they have not gone through the appropriate Council protocols as we have. They have illegally included my name and Netball Victoria on their document and have disseminated it around the local community causing much confusion.

We support soccer and any other sport; but we are campaigning for our own sport. We were advised by Council Officers to consider the negative ramifications of supporting the soccer masterplan ie) further consultation, plans, costs and time frames etc. Having been advocating now for 5 years we are not keen to go back to the beginning of this unfulfilling process. As stated above, our proposal does not even impact on soccer or cricket competition.

This is about netballers, predominantly females but with increasing male involvement, in the City of Boroondara and the pathway opportunities we are and will continue to provide for them as best as we can. Hopefully you are privy to the survey responses which our members have been submitting. We have been overwhelmed with their comments and support – and they are all members (3800+) of your local community too. PLEASE at least listen and act on the truth and facts which are supported by accurate data. All we are asking for is a fair and transparent process.