



East Geelong Football & Netball Club

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CLUB STATEMENT IN RELATION TO FUNDING FOR THE SECOND NETBALL COURT AT RICHMOND OVAL RESERVE.

Since late 2020 East Geelong FNC has worked closely with City of Greater Geelong to plan and document a much needed second netball court at our Richmond Oval precinct. We have followed due process and have ticked every box asked of us to make this happen.

Last week, COGG released the draft budget for the 24/25-27/28 financial years. We were not included in the budget. Other sporting club projects were given priority over ours, notably projects not subject to the same rigorous process. We are disappointed that we have been overlooked despite the clear need for upgraded netball facilities. The club will continue lobbying to be included in the final budget.

We believe our project should be funded because.

- We are at capacity with one netball court and cannot meet the demands of our community to take on more teams. We turn away participants every year.
- We are one of the few clubs in the local government area with one court, despite the fact that our thriving netball program has more members and teams than other neighbouring clubs that are prioritized for netball funding upgrades.
- The Councils own Facility Development Plan for the precinct identifies that the most pressing need at Richmond Oval is a second netball court.
- It's an OHS hazard to use a poorly lit bitumen carpark for training and on match days in lieu of not having a second court at the precinct.

The budget is not final and there is a possibility we could be considered before it's finalised in June. I urge you to contact your local council members using the email addresses below to press our case for funding. Please respectfully state why we need the upgrade and cc me in.

Click here to join the online petition.

<https://chnq.it/7h4NsNXTG7>

Brownbill Ward

Cr Peter Murrhy pmurrhy@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

Cr Melissa Cadwell mcadwell@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

Cr Eddie Kontelj ekontelj@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

General Councillors councillorenquiry@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

As one club we have a big voice. Let's ensure we use that voice to press our case for what is the right and fair decision.

Daniel Payne

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EAST GEELONG FOOTBALL & NETBALL CLUB – SECOND NETBALL COURT PROJECT

BACKGROUND

AS IDENTIFIED IN THE STRATEGIC PLAN AND THE FACILITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN, THE HIGHEST PRIORITY FOR THE CLUB IS TO CONSTRUCT AN ADDITIONAL NETBALL COURT AT RICHMOND OVAL.



THE PROJECT

TO CONSTRUCT A SECOND NETBALL COURT WITH COMPLIANT RUNOFF AREAS, NEW LIGHTS, SHELTERS AND FOOTBALL GOAL SAFETY NETTING. TO INCORPORATE IMPROVED SPECTATOR VIEWING AREAS.



FUNDING

FUNDING WILL COME FROM A MIXTURE OF STATE (SPORTS AND RECREATION VICTORIA) AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (COGG). FUNDING APPLICATION AND SUPPORT IS A COMPETITIVE PROCESS AND NEEDS CONSTANT LOBBYING AND COMMUNICATION.



HOW?

WE NEED EVERYONE TO TALK TO ANYONE WHO WILL LISTEN ABOUT HOW IMPORTANT STAGE 2 OF THIS PROJECT IS FOR OUR CLUB. SHOW THEM THIS DOCUMENT



WHAT IS NEXT?

STAGE 2 IS THE CRITICAL PART OF THE PROJECT. THIS IS THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SECOND COURT AND ASSOCIATED LIGHTS AND FENCING, MAKING THE CURRENT COURT RUNOFF AREAS COMPLIANT AND IMPROVED SPECTATOR PATHS AND VIEWING AREAS. THE PLAYGROUND WILL BE RELOCATED.



WHERE ARE WE AT?

THE DOCUMENTATION IS COMPLETE AND THE PROJECT IS "SHOVEL READY"

STAGE 1 IS FULLY FUNDED BY SPORTS AND RECREATION VICTORIA, SECURED THROUGH THE HELP OF CHRISTINE COUZENS. THIS INCLUDES NEW LIGHTS AND SHELTERS TO THE EXISTING COURT AND FOOTBALL SAFETY NETTING BEHIND THE GOALS. THIS WILL BE CONSTRUCTED AT THE END OF THE 2024 SEASON.

STAGE 2 IS NOT YET FUNDED

WHY IS THIS SO IMPORTANT?

WE HAVE OUTGROWN OUR CURRENT FACILITIES.

- 100+ Netballers training and playing on one court is impossible to manage
 - Currently netballers warm up on the carpark, risking injury
 - Training nights are congested, multiple teams on one court
 - Training times extended to beyond 8:30pm for A Grade
 - Non-compliant lighting and runoff areas
 - One of only a few clubs in region with only one court
 - No ability for E-grade competition to assist with player retention
 - Having to turn away players as cannot accommodate additional teams
- EGFNC Juniors having to leave the club as no space in Senior squads, some lost to netball all together.
- Having to hire external courts for pre-season training and trials as no space

