



NORTHERN DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

P.O. Box 154, Hornsby, NSW 2077

(Founded 26th May, 1925)

ABN: 44 383 144 829

Mr Steven Head
General Manager
Hornsby Shire Council
296 Peats Ferry Road
HORNSBY NSW 2077

via email: SHead@hornsby.nsw.gov.au

1st October 2022

Dear Steven,

Re: Lease of the Mark Taylor Oval Indoor Cricket Centre

I write to request that a lease be negotiated for use of the Mark Taylor Oval Indoor Cricket Centre.

This letter follows a series of discussions between officials of Northern District Cricket Club (“the Club”) and Hornsby Council (“Council”) about the lease. Those discussions began late in 2021.

It also references details about the Mark Taylor Oval Redevelopment Project from my letter to you from 1st December 2020 (“Request for Funding for the Mark Taylor Oval Redevelopment”).

Mark Taylor Oval Redevelopment

The Club established a Redevelopment Committee and in 2018 designed a masterplan for the new Mark Taylor Oval, costed at \$10m (using 2018 costings).

PRESIDENT

Mr Jeremy Hook
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

HON SECRETARY

Mr Graham Gorrie
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

HON TREASURER

Mr Peter Vilimaa
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

The key components of the successful 2018 plan were: (in order of proposed works, and as shown on Figure 1):

- 1) **Fully upgraded playing surface:** with a reshaped oval and centre square, new drainage, new irrigation, new covers system
- 2) **New indoor cricket centre:** 4 lane synthetic wickets on the site of the then practice area;
- 3) **Fully renovated turf nets**
- 4) **New pavilion/grandstand:**
 - a. Ground floor: fully universal use changerooms, storage rooms, canteen,
 - b. First floor: clubrooms for NDCC and HJRU/HRU
 - c. Second floor: scorers' room; camera area and commentary box; cricket museum; meeting rooms for cricket coaching, umpiring training and administration, and for community usage
- 5) **New scoreboard:** electronic panel for cricket and rugby usage
- 6) **New groundsman's shed**



Figure 1: Masterplan of works for Mark Taylor Oval

The Club funded the early investigative work on the Project from its own resources, and a grant from CricketNSW.

State Government Grant

In March 2019, it was announced that the Club was successful in receiving a \$9m grant from the NSW Government.

The grant was the result of a work of a long process of discussion between the Club, Council and the local State Member for Hornsby Matt Kean.

Undertaking the work

Since the announcement of Government funding the Club has worked cooperatively with Council management and especially its Parks team through a Project Control Group (PCG), whose operations and governance are explained in the Sub-Funding Agreement which was signed in 2021. The Club is represented on the PCG by Jeremy Hook and Graham Gorrie, who both act in a volunteer capacity.

Indoor Centre

The work on the Indoor Centre commenced in May 2022 and at time of writing is approaching completion.

The Club's Management Committee has established a Sub-Committee to manage the Indoor Centre. This Sub-Committee comprises five members, who have a range of business skills and experience and we believe will properly represent the interests of the Club and community in managing the Indoor Centre.

The following are members of the IC Management Sub-Committee (with references to club position and history, and occupation)

- **Jeremy Hook (Chairman)**
 - NDCC President, Life Member, club member since 1991.
 - Investment Director
- **Mike Langford**
 - NDCC Vice President, Life Member, former President, club member since 1999
 - Finance Manager (retired)
- **Graham Gorrie**
 - NDCC Honorary Secretary, Chairman Sydney Cricket Association, club member since 2007
 - Solicitor
- **Peter Vilimaa**
 - NDCC Honorary Treasurer, Life Member, club member since 1973
 - Chartered Accountant
- **Matthew Johnson**
 - NDCC Vice President, Life Member, club member since 1999
 - Company Director, Finance Broker

Further the Club has appointed (subject to lease contract documentation) a **Consulting Manager**, Austin Morey. Austin has had three decades of experience in managing similar facilities, including the Action Indoor Sports Centre at Mt Kuringai (which closed in April 2020), and before that the Thornleigh Indoor Sports Centre on Sefton Road, Thornleigh. The Club will finalise a management team after the lease contract has been resolved.

Lease

The Club is seeking a long-term lease to provide tenure over the facility.

We believe the Club is best-placed to manage the facility for the betterment of the sport in conjunction with the long-standing use of the Oval.

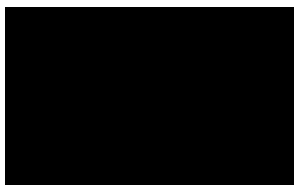
The Club is seeking a lease that is consistent with the purpose of the funding, namely, to develop cricketers of the Club and the local community; to become a Centre of Excellence for cricket and a hub for cricket in northern Sydney; and specifically, to grow and develop Women's cricket.

The facility was designed by the Club and Cricket NSW in consultation with Council, and the lease should reflect the Club's immense contribution to the project.

The funding for the Indoor Centre has drawn on Project funds achieved through the State Government grant.

The Club welcomes the opportunity to work with Council on the lease for the Mark Taylor Oval Indoor Centre.

Yours faithfully



Jeremy Hook

President