



PITTWATER COUNCIL

Plan of Management for SPORTSGROUNDS



November 2000

**Prepared by Pittwater Council
Reserves and Recreation Section**

FOREWORD

Pittwater Council is pleased to present Council's Plan of Management for Sportsgrounds. This Plan has been prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act (1993) and the Crown Lands Act (1989). This is a Plan that covers all sportsgrounds in Pittwater as follows:

- ❖ Boondah Reserve, Narrabeen
- ❖ North Narrabeen Reserve, Warriewood
- ❖ Kitchener Park, Mona Vale
- ❖ Newport Oval, Newport
- ❖ Spurway Park, Newport
- ❖ Porter Reserve, Newport
- ❖ Dunbar Park, Avalon
- ❖ Careel Bay Playing Fields
- ❖ Hitchcock Park, Careel Bay

Individual Plans of Management are being prepared for North Narrabeen Reserve, Dunbar Park, Careel Bay Playing Fields and Hitchcock Park to address specific management issues. These Plans, and other Plans of Management that may be prepared in the future for individual sportsgrounds, will be incorporated under the umbrella of the Plan of Management – Sportsgrounds.

Sportsgrounds are an important component of the overall open space system in Pittwater, and as such, are a valuable community asset, which provide opportunities for a range of sporting activities, as well as informal and/or passive recreation.

The Plan is divided into four sections with appendices. The first section is a policy document which covers overall planning and management issues for sportsgrounds within Pittwater. The second section is a strategic planning document which deals with forward planning issues. The third section comprises an inventory of the specific details, issues and future plans for each individual sportsground. The fourth section includes Plans of Management prepared for specific sportsgrounds in Pittwater.

This Plan of Management is a significant document which provides clear guidelines for the present and future management of sportsgrounds by Council. It demonstrates Council's commitment to provide the best possible sportsgrounds for the Pittwater community, within the limitations of the location and previous uses of the existing grounds, the natural environment of Pittwater, the recreational needs and priorities of residents and budgetary constraints.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

This document is a Plan of Management for all Sportsgrounds within the Pittwater Council area. It includes background information and management issues that apply to all sportsgrounds in Pittwater.

Council has a rolling five-year program for preparing Plans of Management for individual reserves for which specific management issues need to be addressed. An individual Plan of Management has been prepared for Lakeside Park and North Narrabeen Reserve, Plans of Management are currently being prepared for Careel Bay Playing Fields, Hitchcock Park, and Dunbar Park. Council intend to prepare Plans of Management for the remaining sportsgrounds over the next five years.

Where a Plan of Management for an individual sportsground has been adopted by Council, the specific Plan of Management will override this Plan of Management as it applies to the particular sportsground. As Plans of Management for individual sportsgrounds are adopted by Council, they will be inserted as stand-alone documents into this Plan of Management.

The main objectives of this Plan of Management are to achieve:

- better overall management of sportsgrounds.
- more efficient use of sportsgrounds as a resource for the community.
- improved opportunities across the recreation spectrum.
- financial assistance towards capital improvements and cost recovery.

1.2 Planning context

Sportsgrounds in Pittwater are on community land owned by Council and/or Crown land.

1.2.1 Community land

As a requirement of the *Local Government Act, 1993*, Councils must prepare a Plan of Management for public land that is classified as community land. Under the Act, more than one area of land may be covered by a single plan. Due to the relative similarity in the values, functions, key management issues and management policies for sportsgrounds in Pittwater, they have been designated to be covered in a "generic" Plan of Management. This Plan will be used as the basis for detailed recreation and landscape planning that will be documented in a Plan of Management for each individual sportsground.

Under the *Local Government Act, 1993*, the requirements for Plans of Management that apply to more than one area of community land are outlined below.

A Plan of Management needs to identify:	How this Plan of Management satisfies the Act:
The category of the land.	Section 1.2
Objectives for categories of land.	Section 2.3
The objectives and performance targets of the land.	Section 2.3, Section 4
The means by which Council proposes to achieve the plan's objectives and performance targets.	Section 4
The manner in which Council proposes to assess its performance in achieving objectives and performance targets.	Section 4
Permitted future uses of the land.	Section 2.4
Leases, licences and other estates that can be granted.	Section 3.14

"Sportsground" is one of five categories of community land defined in the *Local Government Act, 1993*. The *Local Government (General) Regulation 1999* sets out guidelines for categorising land as "sportsground", if the land is used or proposed to be used primarily for active recreation involving organised sports or playing of outdoor games. Sportsgrounds may incorporate facilities such as playing fields, tennis courts, bowling clubs and golf courses.

1.2.2 Crown land

Management of Crown land is subject to the *Crown Lands Act, 1989*. However, land that is vested in or under the control of a Council is taken to be classified as community land by the operation of Clause 6 of Schedule 7 of the *Local Government Act, 1993 (Savings, Transitional and Other Provisions)*.

A Plan of Management that satisfies the *Local Government Act, 1993* will also satisfy the *Crown Lands Act, 1989* if the following points are addressed:

- ❖ the Plan of Management and its outcomes must incorporate the principles for Crown land management.
- ❖ any proposed uses, developments and management practices must conform to the public purpose for the reserve.
- ❖ in addition to incorporating the requirements of Section 36 of the *Local Government Act, 1993* the Plan of Management must address any matters required by the Minister for Land and Water Conservation.
- ❖ submissions regarding draft Plans of Management will need to be referred to both the Minister for Land and Water Conservation and Council for consideration prior to adoption.

1.2.3 Open space planning guidelines

In line with other Councils, Pittwater Council has adopted the Department of Planning's open space settings of "sportsground" and "structured sports area". Under these guidelines, "Sportsground" is defined as "Open space of predominantly mown grass incorporating either an oval, playing field, athletics track or area for organised sports." "Structured sports area" is defined as "Open space either leased or permanently allocated to one sporting activity, and embellishments supporting that activity. e.g. tennis courts, bowling greens, golf courses, etc. and includes clubrooms, change rooms, equipment storage, etc."

1.3 Scope of Plan

The scope of the study areas covered by this Plan are as follows:

Reserve Number	Name	Area. Ha.	Council Category
0143	Boondah Reserve (east) Warriewood	5.8432	sportsground
0144	Boondah Reserve (west) Warriewood	2.1853	sportsground
0142	North Narrabeen Reserve, Warriewood	27.0785	sportsground
0135	Kitchener Park, Mona Vale	6.0702	sportsground
0085	Newport Oval, Newport	2.2004	sportsground
0083	Spurway Park, Newport	1.3398	structured sports area
0080	Porter Reserve, Newport	2.0234	sportsground
0047	Dunbar Park, Avalon	2.4281	sportsground
0030	Hitchcock Park & Careel Bay Ovals	8.9030	sportsground

TOTAL 58.0719 ha

See Figure 1: Location Map, for location of Sportsgrounds in Pittwater.

For more detailed information regarding these parcels of open space, refer to the Inventory Section of this document.

Sportsgrounds in some of the above cases incorporate facilities such as tennis clubs, scout and guide halls and bowling clubs, as well as playing fields or ovals.

Mona Vale Golf Course and Avalon Golf Course, have also been designated by Council as 'Structured Sports Area'. These are addressed in two separate significant area plans of management. (The final plan for Mona Vale Golf Course was adopted in 1996. A Plan of Management for Avalon Golf Course is currently being prepared).

Lakeside Park, North Narrabeen, which includes a sportsground which is utilised for cricket, rugby and touch football, has already been addressed by a significant area plan of management due to the

regional importance of this park. (For further information, see Lakeside Park, POM).

Bayview Tennis Courts (which are part of Bayview Park), and Elanora Tennis Courts (which are part of Epworth Park) are addressed in the generic Parks and Playgrounds Plan of Management. A separate Draft Plan of Management for Bayview Park was placed on exhibition in December 1997.

Tennis Courts at Narrabeen Community Centre are not included in this Plan of Management

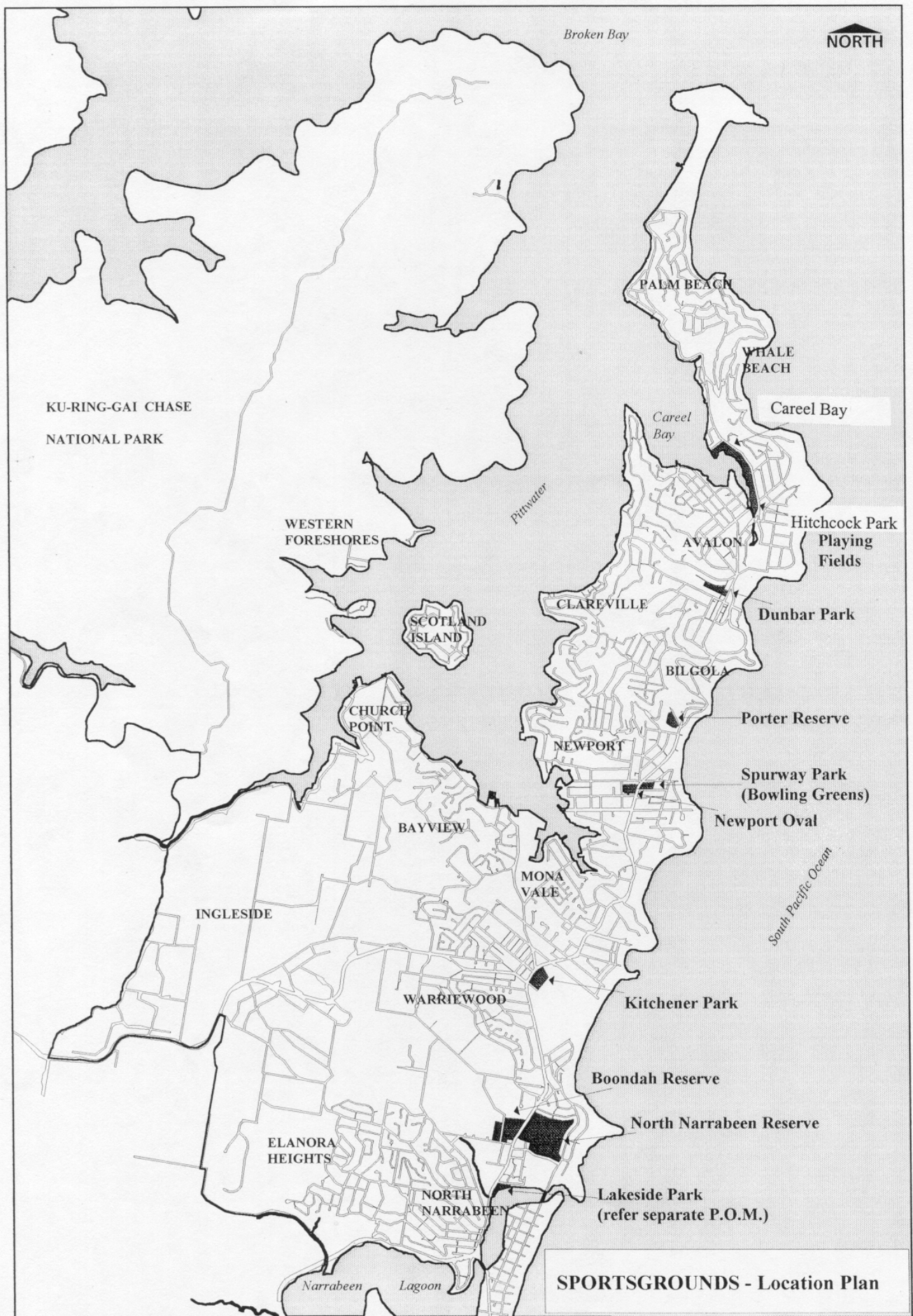


Figure 1 – Location of Sportsgrounds

1.4 Background Of Existing Sportsgrounds

Historically most of the sportsgrounds in Pittwater, (as in many other Council areas), evolved from old landfill areas and tip sites. This has resulted in an ongoing problem with subsidence, fill and drainage.

Pittwater's topography has had a direct impact on the distribution of sportsgrounds, as there are few large level areas of land in the northern parts of the peninsula. Whilst sportsgrounds are distributed throughout the Pittwater area, the North Narrabeen/Warriewood area (at Pittwater's southern extremity), has by far the largest concentration of available playing fields.

Traditionally, playing fields have principally been the domain of active, organised, team sports for young males (rugby codes and soccer) and to a lesser extent for young females (hockey and netball). However, the scope of this Plan also covers bowling greens, which are predominantly used by older people, both male and female, and tennis courts, which are a popular facility for males and females over a range of age groups. In its forward planning, Council needs to ensure that the broadest possible range of activities are provided for, which cater for all sections of the community.

Changes in the physical lay-outs of playing fields have taken place, as new sports (such as baseball), make inroads on the more traditional sports (such as rugby), and also due to the relative growth of modified/junior codes. Council needs to continue to be aware and responsive to the changing recreational needs of the community it serves. This could be signalled by changes in the demographic make-up of the community, changes in the registration levels of sporting clubs, or recreation statistics.

Most of Pittwater's sportsgrounds facilities, such as toilets and club-rooms, are very basic, both in design and function. Future community and ancillary facilities should have architectural/artistic merit, reflecting the needs and values of the Pittwater community, as well as taking into account factors such as usage, functionality and maintenance costs.

In the past, the various issues related to sportsgrounds have been addressed by the relevant sections within Council. This Plan of Management is significant, as it takes the different perspectives into account, and looks for the first time at the overall picture of sportsgrounds in Pittwater.

1.5 Community Profile

The population of Pittwater was 51,450 at the 1996 Census, with the population increasing 6.3% over the previous 10 years. Australian born people make up 74% of the population of Pittwater. Only 8% of Pittwater's population come from non-English speaking countries. Pittwater residents have a considerably higher level of household income, home and vehicle ownership, when compared with Sydney as a whole, and has a high percentage of qualified tradespersons and managers/administrators living in the area.

The Pittwater area is characterised by established families. The greatest number of people are aged 35 - 49 years (24%), and a high proportion of older people over 60 years of age (17%). Although the number of young children (aged 5 - 9 years), and of young people (aged 10 - 14 years) have decreased, there has been an increase in the numbers of young people aged 15 - 24 years.

The majority of residents live in the southern part of Pittwater, where the main concentration of Pittwater's sportsgrounds are located. This part of Pittwater also has the largest proportion of families and young people.

It is projected that the future population of the Warriewood release area will comprise a significant number of young families plus an above average percentage of older people (Travers Morgan: 1994).

1.6 Recreation Needs

Overall, Pittwater is characterised by residents with a recreation focus on outdoor activity, particularly centred around the beach environment. Sportsgrounds and structured sports areas are both used by approximately 60% of the population (WSC, 1991 - A riding).

The principal users of sports fields are males aged between 14 and 39 (NRPS, 1991). (Note: There are no comparable statistics for children aged 14 years & under). These recreation statistics when aligned with the community profile point towards a fairly consistent demand for sportsfields in the Pittwater area.

There is a marked decline in the use of sportsfields both as participants and as spectators, as people age. However, lawn bowls are predominantly played by older people, both male and female (aged 55 years and over), and they also well utilise Council's golf courses. The main participation rate with regard to open space by older people is walking for pleasure, for both males and females (NRPS, 1991).

The large number of residents in the 35-49 year age

group are likely to be involved and interested in sportsfields through their children's sporting interests and activities, but also are users of tennis courts and golf courses. The older age grouping principally utilise Council's golf courses and bowling greens.

An ageing community, such as Pittwater's, will over time, have a significant impact on the numbers enrolled in team sports. Overall, in terms of recreation, there is also a shift away from team and competitive sports, and an increase in passive and/or individual pursuits, and recreation at home.

It is envisaged that Pittwater's ageing population could be more attracted to sportsgrounds for informal or passive recreation, such as walking or relaxing, if the areas were made more conducive for these past-times, with the addition of park furniture, walking paths and landscaping improvements, including shade-trees. This would encourage increased and compatible use in off-peak times, and facilitate multi-functional recreational opportunities.

Historically there may have been several horse trails throughout Pittwater. These are an important recreational resource and in some instances link to sportsgrounds.

Currently, because of its location adjacent to the sports fields at Careel Bay, this plan includes the Unleashed Dog Exercise Area which is used by numerous local residents and regional visitors. Many of these are women, either single or accompanied, other users include older people and children. It should be noted that the usage of this particular area is significantly different to that of the adjoining sportsground.

A needs study for the Ingleside-Warriewood release area projected that recreation needs in terms of sportsgrounds for the release area (using the lowest density scenario), is 4 sportsgrounds on 15.7 ha. Sports for which grounds/facilities may be required are baseball/softball, lawn bowls, cricket, rugby league, soccer, netball, tennis and basketball (Travers Morgan, 1994:306)

2.0 SPORTSGROUNDS

The Sportsgrounds covered by this Plan form a network of active recreational facilities which are an important component of overall open space in Pittwater. Sportsgrounds (58 ha) comprise approximately 9% of the total open space (629 ha).

They range from relatively small, single purpose grounds, such as Porter Reserve, to large, multi-purpose, high profile grounds, such as North Narrabeen Reserve. Existing sportsgrounds are bordered by other open space areas, including natural bushland and foreshores, and/or residential housing.

This Plan applies to the actual playing fields or surfaces, as well as to the structures and facilities built on them, or have some association with them. The sportsgrounds cater for a range of active, organised sports, including rugby codes, soccer, netball, hockey, baseball, tennis and bowls. Associated facilities include clubrooms, toilets and change rooms, seating, floodlights and goal posts. Sportsgrounds are also used for unstructured recreation such as walking, informal social sports, and community and special events.

In order to best serve the Pittwater community, Council will need to address the increasing costs associated with the acquisition, maintenance and improvements to sportsgrounds, and the needs and expectations of sporting groups to have quality grounds and facilities. This will most likely involve the sharing of playing fields, dual or multi use of club rooms and joint initiatives for the development of new facilities.

Due to the fact that Pittwater Council is relatively new, there is little likelihood of Council being able to finance the building of clubhouses for sporting groups in the foreseeable future. Council however has an important role to play in encouraging and assisting sporting groups to create such facilities. There should be full cooperation and liaison between Council and sporting groups in seeking grant funding from sporting organisations, government departments and other sources.

The general issue of risk management at or on sportsgrounds also needs to be adequately addressed by Council.

2.1 Council's Overall Management Policy

The Pittwater Council Management Plan (1997-2000) objective for open space and recreation is to:

'Provide planning direction to guide and promote best use of Pittwater open space system'.

A key performance outcome is the development of opportunities for multi-use in open space.

Council undertook a Recreation Needs Study during 1994. A comprehensive Open Space and Recreation Plan (draft) for Pittwater was placed on public exhibition in August 1997, but was not adopted by Council. An Open Space, Bushland and Recreation Needs Strategy was adopted by Council in June 2000, which sets out management strategies for sportsgrounds.

2.1.1 Section 94

The purpose of Council's Section 94 Contributions Plan No 2: Embellishment of Open Space is to levy monetary contributions from residential development so that the recreational needs of the expected population are met. Pittwater has a very high ratio of open space to population relative to other local government areas and there is no contributions plan at this stage for the acquisition of additional open space areas. Embellishment is carried out in the vicinity of the development and in accordance with Council's Works Program and adopted Plans of Management. The three main types of embellished open space are small developed parks, large developed parks and sportsgrounds. The monies must be used for capital works (including embellishment), not maintenance.

2.2 Values

Council is the main provider of sportsgrounds in Pittwater, which give residents and visitors the opportunity for a diverse range of organised and informal sports. Active involvement in sporting groups encourages physical fitness, the development of skills, commitment to a team or club, a sense of belonging, the development of team/club/community identity and pride, and the development of a potential life-long interest in a healthy, active lifestyle.

Local residents use and value sportsgrounds for the open space they provide, and can add to their quality of life. They provide opportunities for informal and/or passive recreation, and also provide linkages with other open space areas (such as beaches) and/or community facilities.

Sportsgrounds also have scenic values which are important to the community. These open spaces which contain trees, shrubs and grassed areas provide amenity to the surrounding locality. Some Sportsgrounds also incorporate environmental values and an appreciation of Pittwater's natural heritage, when sited along foreshores (such as Careel Bay) or adjacent to bushland (such as Porter Reserve).

Sportsgrounds and associated facilities also provide opportunities for socialisation, within and between sporting groups, the local community, and with family and/or friends. Spectators can also derive much enjoyment from watching a competitive or social game.

Special or larger events which are held at sportsgrounds can bring benefits to the local economy, through expenditure with local services (eg. food, drink, petrol). Visitors can also acquire knowledge of the other attractions of Pittwater, and thereby benefit the local economy via tourism (eg. beaches, boat hire, cafes, accommodation).

Sportsgrounds which have adjacent dog and other animal exercise areas such as horses provide a range of activities which enable a broad range of the community to benefit from these spaces, although health concerns for those using the playing fields for sports need to be considered.

Sportsgrounds provide opportunities for solitude and quiet relaxation during "off peak" periods. The community may benefit from opening up sportsfields for other uses during these periods.

2.3 Objectives

The core objectives for community land categorised as "sportsground" under the *Local Government Act, 1993* are to:

- ❖ encourage, promote and facilitate recreational pursuits in the community involving organised and informal sporting activities and games, and
- ❖ ensure that such activities are managed having regard to any adverse impact on surrounding or nearby residences.

The philosophy of the Department of Land and Water Conservation regarding land management directly relates to the principles of Crown land management listed in Section 11 of the *Crown Lands Act, 1989*, which are to:

- ❖ observe environmental protection principles in relation to the management and administration of Crown land.

- ❖ conserve the natural resources of Crown land (including water, soil, flora, fauna and scenic quality) wherever possible.
- ❖ encourage public use and enjoyment of appropriate Crown land.
- ❖ encourage multiple use of Crown land, where appropriate.
- ❖ use and manage Crown land in such a way that both the land and its resources are sustained in perpetuity, where appropriate.
- ❖ occupy, use, sell, lease, licence or otherwise deal with Crown land in the best interests of the State, consistent with the above principles.

In accordance with Council's broad management goals and through identification of the functions, use and key issues relating to Sportsgrounds, the following objectives have been established.

- ❖ To provide a network of sportsgrounds which offer a wide range of appropriate sporting opportunities within Pittwater.
- ❖ To provide and maintain high quality sportsgrounds within the limitations of budgetary constraints.
- ❖ To improve the functionality of existing sportsgrounds.
- ❖ To provide further opportunities for informal, unorganised and passive recreation for the local community.
- ❖ To be responsive to the changing recreational and sporting needs and preferences of the community.
- ❖ To ensure that opportunities for the use of sportsgrounds are made on an equitable basis.
- ❖ To encourage and facilitate joint or multiple use of sportsgrounds and associated facilities, where the usage is appropriate to and complements Council's LEP and does not render fields unplayable.
- ❖ To provide the safest possible environment for the public use of sportsgrounds and their associated facilities.
- ❖ To improve linkages with other open space areas and community facilities, such as schools and shops.
- ❖ To take a consistent approach to the overall management (including lease arrangements) and

maintenance of sportsgrounds and associated facilities.

- ❖ To provide appropriate access to sportsgrounds for people with disabilities
- ❖ To provide information on sportsgrounds and sporting groups within Pittwater.
- ❖ To better facilitate the allocation of sportsgrounds and associated facilities.
- ❖ To implement a contribution system which recognises the need for sporting groups to assist with improvements to sportsgrounds.
- ❖ To permit community and special events to be held on sportsgrounds, provided the Reserve Booking process is followed and approval conditions adhered to.

2.4 Use of Sportsgrounds

Uses of sportsgrounds in Pittwater must be consistent with the reservation of Crown land and the principles for management of Crown Land under the *Crown Lands Act, 1989*, and/or the guidelines and core objectives for community land categorised as sportsground under the *Local Government Act, 1993*.

In addition, uses of sportsgrounds that are zoned 6(a) (Existing Recreation "A") must be consistent with the objectives and land uses outlined in the *Pittwater Local Environmental Plan 1993* (as amended). Council has also adopted a Landuse Planning Table for Sportsgrounds, which specifies permissible and prohibited uses of sportsgrounds (refer to Appendix 2).

Any proposed uses or development and building works (excluding those activities permitted without development consent under the *Pittwater Local Environmental Plan, 1993* and in the Landuse Planning Table for Sportsgrounds), would be subject to normal development and building applications in accordance with the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* and the *Pittwater Local Environmental Plan, 1993*. Once amendments to the LEP are gazetted, the landuse planning tables will take precedence.

Use of sportsgrounds may be formalised by a lease or licence arrangement (refer to Section 3.14).

2.5 Key Management Issues

A range of issues which affect Sportsgrounds overall have emerged from discussions with Council staff, the Manly/Warringah/Pittwater Sporting Union, representatives of various sporting groups, the results of other related focus groups, interviews and consultations, and a review of relevant literature and

correspondence to Council. The issues which have been identified as key issues for management to address are as follows:

- ❖ Number and Configuration of Grounds
- ❖ Maintenance
- ❖ Risk Management
- ❖ Funding
- ❖ Facilities - Community and Ancillary
- ❖ Allocation of grounds
- ❖ Signage
- ❖ Linkages/Open Space Corridors/Linear Recreational Areas
- ❖ Access & Parking
- ❖ Dog/ Animal Exercise Areas
- ❖ Recreational Usage
- ❖ Environment/Landscape
- ❖ Neighbourhood Amenity
- ❖ Leases and Licences

3.0 MANAGEMENT POLICY

The following section addresses the key management issues for Sportsgrounds within Pittwater.

3.1 Grounds - Number & Configuration

The number of Sportsgrounds within Pittwater is considered inadequate to cater for existing needs. Many sporting groups find it is necessary to go outside the Pittwater area to play and/or train. The shortage of playing fields also leads to many grounds suffering from over-use, with little or no opportunity for resting between sporting seasons.

Sporting codes which require new or extra fields include cricket, hockey, athletics, soccer, baseball and netball (hard courts). According to the Sporting Union the needs of all codes are rising, and they consider that there is an overall need for at least ten more playing fields for the winter season in the Manly/Warringah/Pittwater region. Soccer are wanting to establish a summer code.

There is little opportunity for Council to acquire land for additional sportsgrounds, due to budgetary constraints, and to the lack of available suitable, flat land in Pittwater. The Warriewood land release could provide opportunities for additional sports fields, as could State Government land at Winereremy Bay. A decision regarding the Bay is in the hands of the State Government.

It should be noted that in 1985, Pittwater RSL Junior Rugby League Club sought to establish a home ground playing field at Bangalow Reserve, Mona Vale. Resident opposition resulted in this reserve being designated exclusively for passive recreation in 1987, despite a 1986 study which demonstrated the need for active recreational open space in Mona Vale. More recently, resident opposition to a potential sportsground at Whitney Street, Mona Vale, also resulted in its designation as passive use. These examples highlight the difficulties faced by Council in attempting to increase the number of grounds for active sports use.

A number of school grounds are currently used by sporting groups for both weekday and weekend use. These grounds are allocated through the Sporting Union. There is potential for increased use. Sporting groups need to discuss this possibility with the Sporting Union and the Principal of the school concerned.

Council will facilitate these arrangements, and will assist with line-marking as well as basic maintenance at the commencement of each season.

There also may be opportunities to use small areas of open space in either existing sportsgrounds or in the parks system (see Parks and Playgrounds, Plan of Management), for training purposes or mini-fields.

Where appropriate, the upgrading of flood-lights for night games and training gives the opportunity to extend the availability and use of grounds. However, this is only feasible when grounds are not suffering from over-use. The impact of any proposal for flood-lighting on the amenity of neighbouring residents, also needs to be evaluated. Development consent is required for new lighting.

To increase the opportunities for a range of sporting activities in Pittwater, there is a need for the design of sportsgrounds to be able to be configured in such a way as to accommodate (where feasible), as many different activities as possible, or to provide flexibility, depending on the number of registrations for the year in particular age groups. For example, Kitchener Park was reconfigured at the beginning of the 1995 winter season to allow the conversion of a three-quarters field to two mini-fields. Marking fields in different colours for different sports, can also extend opportunities, as can the facility to change goal posts to soccer nets etc. It is imperative that the uses are compatible, and do not add to the issue of over-use and degradation of the playing surface.

For the different dimensions/configurations of fields for different sports, see "Sporting Area Dimensions Sheets" supplied by the NSW Department of Sport and Recreation.

It is also important for Council to be easily able to identify where grounds are not being used to capacity. From observation, there are often times when no-one is playing on 'Allocated Grounds', perhaps with good reason, such as an 'away' game. On the other hand, from observation, there often appears to be organised sports (particularly training) taking place where there are no bookings or allocations.

Council may be obliged to reconfigure grounds to alleviate issues related to risk management, including risk of injury or sickness from adjoining activities. Examples include the golf driving range at North Narrabeen and the unleashed dog exercise area at Careel Bay Playing Fields.

Reconfiguration or amalgamation of playing fields, amenities and/ or built facilities (including car parks) which result in reducing the overall built area and alienation of of 6(a) Open Space should be encouraged.

Council needs to look at the overall provision of sportsgrounds in the region, in conjunction with Manly and Warringah Councils. Pittwater Council should work more closely with these Councils to identify:

- ❖ sports which are poorly catered for in terms of playing areas
- ❖ potential sites in the region (eg Belrose Waste Management Site) which could be developed as sportsgrounds
- ❖ any sports with overall declining registrations

3.2 Maintenance

Sporting groups have high expectations of Council, with regard to the quality of maintenance of sporting grounds and their associated facilities (Pittwater Recreation Needs Study, 1994).

Historically, most of the sportsgrounds previously were garbage tips. This factor often causes difficulties for their present function, with on-going maintenance due to subsidence of fill material. The ground is constantly sinking or moving, causing holes and puddles in wet weather. Sporting clubs are unhappy when grounds are unavailable. They sometimes play regardless of Council's advice, resulting in more damage to the grounds. Alternately, the competition gets behind, which creates other issues, such as the overlap of winter/summer playing seasons. Council needs to ensure that ovals and playing fields are maintained in as best possible condition as possible, so as to ensure grounds are useable for as much as the season as possible.

Most of the complaints to Council regarding maintenance are with regard to the wear and tear on grounds over the winter season, and this is an ongoing issue. Other Councils, such as Ku-ring-gai, allow no extension on the grounds once the season is over, to enable grounds to fully recover.

Council's Reserves Section is responsible for maintenance standards and priorities. There are regular maintenance regimes in place for mowing, re-turfing, watering, aerating, herbiciding, fertilising grounds and surface repairs.

Council also has regular maintenance regimes in place for cleansing of toilet amenities (daily), garbage collection, electrical and plumbing repairs, and repairs and replacement of equipment such as goalposts. Line-marking for the various sports is undertaken by Council at the start of each season. Council endeavours to rest one field each season to allow major works such as sub-soil drainage, levelling and re-turfing, to take place.

Extra garbage receptacles (mobile bins) are provided at sportsgrounds, when grounds are booked for large sporting and community events. Opportunities to provide a recycling service and encourage recycling at sportsgrounds should be investigated. This is of particular importance where sportsgrounds are located adjacent to bushland.

Sportsgrounds with adjacent dog exercise areas may need to be managed to provide adequate facilities for the disposal of faeces by dog owners at all times as well prior to the particular game or event.

There is a need to balance the implications and associated costs of water usage in drought conditions, with the need to water sportsgrounds, to enable them to be maintained in a playable condition.

In the long term Council needs to investigate the options of irrigation systems for sportsgrounds. Watering is generally carried out by club members using equipment supplied by Council.

One of the major factors related to maintenance is that of vandalism. For example, the replacement of goal posts at Dunbar Park, and vandalism to toilets, cause much inconvenience and cost to Council and the community. It is important that vandalism is reported quickly, and Council attends to the problem as quickly as possible. Facilities which are in good condition are less likely to attract vandals. Neighbouring residents and regular users of sportsgrounds should be encouraged to take 'ownership', which also acts as a deterrent.

With regard to staffing, Council's day labour carries out the bulk of work for both construction and maintenance with contractors providing specialist services eg turf and drainage. Summer/Autumn is the peak demand time.

3.3 Risk Management

It is necessary for Council to have risk management strategies in place, to improve safety on and around sportsgrounds, in order to minimise potential losses which may result from accidental risk. Sports injuries are one of the main disadvantages of sport, to the individual and/or the community.

As a legacy of most sportsgrounds being previous tip sites, grounds subside and result in uneven playing surfaces.

Where grounds are used for both cricket and winter sports such as rugby codes, the playing season can overlap, with for example, pre-season grading for rugby and cricket practice for teams in finals, or making up games, cancelled due to wet weather. This situation creates a potential risk from loose

cricket balls or footballs. Council should minimise this risk, by controlling the length of each season.

Ancillary facilities such as playground equipment must adhere to Australian standards (see Parks and Playgrounds Plan of Management).

Overall, Council needs to investigate the adequacy of its risk management strategy for sportsgrounds, and provide a safe environment for sports players, spectators, casual users and other visitors.

The risks of injury or sickness from adjacent activities on sports fields, such as dog exercise areas needs to be continually assessed. Provision of barriers may be required to clearly delineate designated animal exercise areas as well as access to these areas from carparks

Risk management issues arising from golf balls from the Golf Driving Range at North Narrabeen Reserve hitting cars and pedestrians on Pittwater Road are currently being investigated as part of a safety audit.

3.4 Funding

The capital requirements and maintenance needs of sportsgrounds often place a great demand on Council's resources especially in comparison to other categories of open space.

Council applies various fees/ charges (with conditions of use) for use of sportsgrounds, for special events, community functions, social use etc. There are particular non-profit groups who, at Council's discretion, are not charged.

Council does not charge sporting groups or schools for the use of grounds for regular games or training sessions. Sporting and school groups take up about 90% of the use of sportsgrounds. Other Councils, such as Ku-ring-gai, charge fees for use by all groups in the community, including sporting groups, and schools (apart from weekly PSSA sport).

Pittwater Council, in most cases, also pays for the power used at sportsgrounds, for night lighting and club use. Council should investigate the option of installing meters for power at sportsgrounds. This would encourage clubs to only use power/lights when grounds or facilities are in use, and would also encourage the casual use of grounds at night by groups for activities such as touch football. It is recommended that when a club has sole usage of grounds and/or clubhouse, the agreement between Sydney Electricity and the user be the particular Club, to alleviate double billing and accountancy.

Council through SHOROC recently supported an initiative in cooperation with the Manly-Warringah-Pittwater sporting union for the contribution of funds

towards improvement works to sportsgrounds throughout the SHOROC area. This system will contribute towards improvements to grounds and the costs of maintenance, thereby improving the quality of sportsgrounds in Pittwater, and will also regulate and improve equity of use. Grounds should be put to their optimum capacity of use, in order to recover some capital and maintenance costs.

Where appropriate, sporting groups are to be encouraged to continue to take on additional responsibilities, such as line-marking at the commencement of the season, and watering of new turf to further assist Council in better managing facilities.

Council (and sporting groups with the assistance of Council) should actively seek and pursue funding opportunities, such as grants and corporate sponsorship. While Council has responded to requests in the past, there has not been a particularly planned approach to addressing funding and other needs of sporting groups. As recommended in the Pittwater Recreation Needs Study, a forum should be established by Council to coordinate the needs and priorities of sporting and recreation groups. Council should also investigate the opportunities of joint development of facilities with schools.

With relation to this Plan of Management, Council is involved in a number of commercial undertakings, as part of its normal business activities (see Leases and Licences, Section 3.14). All of these undertakings attract nominal rent, apart from the Narrabeen Golf Driving Range (North Narrabeen Reserve) and a house at 1596 Pittwater Road, Mona Vale (Kitchener Park), which both attract market value. Council needs to investigate the adequacy of rental returns, when establishing or renewing leases (see Leases and Licences, Section 3.14), whilst taking into account the individual circumstances of the club and community needs.

Asset management of Council's sportsgrounds is linked to the overall asset management of Council, to meet the requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards. This includes accounting for assets such as the grounds, clubhouses and other facilities provided at these locations. Council needs to determine the economic value of its assets at sportsground areas and ensure proper management and maintenance over the life of the asset.

3.5 Facilities - Community and Ancillary

All of the sportsgrounds covered in this Plan also include some community facilities such as toilet amenities, clubrooms, cricket nets, playground equipment and seating. However at some grounds there is also a lack of, or poor facilities, such as toilets and equipment storage, and this is a critical

shortcoming. For example, amenities at Boondah are considered inadequate for the needs of user groups.

A variety of ancillary facilities should be provided within each sportsground area to meet user needs. These include seating, shaded cover for spectators, adequate garbage bins, pavilions etc. These should be appropriately sited, functional and visually aesthetic.

Safe, attractive and functional play equipment is considered a most appropriate community facility, which is ancillary to and consistent with the primary uses of sportsgrounds.

Due to the popularity of basketball and the lack of facilities for this activity within Pittwater, the potential to install basketball half-courts in small, unused areas of sportsgrounds should be investigated.

The placement or upgrading of practice cricket nets should be in consultation with local cricket clubs.

Council approval is required prior to any development on open space or improvements to existing facilities. Council needs to encourage close liaison with sporting and community groups wishing to undertake development and improvement works, in order to coordinate and facilitate the approval process. Designs must take into account the needs of people with disabilities.

At Hitchcock Park, the Football Club is keen to build a clubhouse. Under this Plan of Management, sporting groups such as this are encouraged to submit such proposals for the consideration and support of Council.

Historically, Council and community groups have established community facilities on or adjacent to open space, some of which are categorised as Sportsgrounds. These include Scout and Guide Halls, Tennis Clubs and Community Centres. Due to the shortage of sports grounds and land suitable for further development of active sports in Pittwater, any future facilities on land categorised as Sportsgrounds should be ancillary to and compatible with the existing and projected future uses of the grounds.

In principle, there appears to be a need to maximise the opportunities for dual or multi use of community facilities on community land. It is a way to share the resource and spread the community benefit. Although shared use of facilities is generally more cost effective and efficient, the objectives and needs of sporting groups are not always compatible. If Clubs are prepared to build facilities which Council cannot afford, there remains the issue of the Club requiring possible exclusive use. However, this may be addressed by leasing arrangements and/or the need for community participation in the form of letting

fees, due to ongoing financial commitments. There needs to be further consultation with the community and sporting groups regarding Council's future policy in this regard.

In the long term, Council could consider engaging professional managers for Council facilities, such as sporting clubs, or an employee to coordinate all clubs.

Overall, the standard of community and ancillary facilities at sportsgrounds in Pittwater is fairly poor and of basic design, and it should be noted that the community expects Council to provide higher standards of facilities and equipment than it has in the past (Pittwater Recreation Needs Study, 1994). Future designs should reflect the overall ideals and philosophy of the Pittwater community.

The upgrade, extension or addition of built facilities (including carparks) within sportsgrounds should be considered on an individual merit basis, particularly when related to:

- ❖ Existing use of a particular sportsground
- ❖ Facilitating additional or multi-use recreational opportunities
- ❖ Adjoining community land

Any of these developments should minimise the alienation of 6(a) open space community land. They should not significantly impact on the current use of the sports field, its' values as "open space" or any potential re-configuration for other sporting activities which by their nature require sports fields.

3.6 Allocation of Grounds

The Manly/Warringah/Pittwater Sporting Union and Council share the responsibility for booking Pittwaters' sporting fields and ovals. This Sporting Union is in fact responsible for the allocation of grounds for use by sporting groups within the overall council areas of Manly, Warringah and Pittwater.

This system of allocation of grounds appears to be somewhat unique when compared with Sporting Associations in other Council areas, which have a more advisory and liaison role. In the northern beaches this system has certainly saved the various Councils in terms of time spent and resources necessary to cover this important task.

The Sporting Union is responsible for the allocation of grounds as follows:

Winter Season (April 1 to August 1)

Saturdays and Sundays (all day)

Weekdays from 3.30pm

Summer Season (Sept. 1 to March 31)

Saturdays (all day)

Weekdays from 3.30pm

The Sporting Union considers all applications by sporting groups for seasonal use of the grounds and makes allocations twice a year to the Sporting Associations to cover the two sporting seasons. The Associations then allocate grounds to individual clubs. The sporting clubs usually keep to the same grounds, and according to the Sporting Union, the allocations are amicably done. New groups are assisted in finding grounds.

Pittwater Council's Reserves and Recreation Officer is responsible for the booking and allocation of grounds outside the above days and times, as follows:

Winter Season (April 1 to August 1)

Weekdays before 3.30pm

Summer Season (Sept. 1 to March 31)

Sundays (all day)

Weekdays before 3.30 p.m.

This includes bookings by schools for school sports, other sporting events (eg. triathlons, social cricket), and special events such as market days and fireworks displays. Each application is considered on its merit. Permitted uses of reserves (including sportsgrounds) subject to approval and conditions include weddings; religious services; social use; recreational/sporting uses and commercial uses. Council uses its discretion regarding fees and charges, and bonds (refundable) (see Council's Management Plan for Fees & Charges)

Where clubs, such as tennis and bowling clubs have a lease over a facility, the respective club makes their own booking arrangements.

Major events that take place (such as Boat Shows) are still subject to Council's approval.

A review of permissible uses within land zoned 6(a) Existing Recreation "A" has been carried out, and Council's Local Environmental Plan amended accordingly.

Other Councils have different systems of bookings of sportsgrounds. For example, Gosford City Sports Council allocates grounds for seasonal use and major events, whilst Council handles casual bookings and training. Ku-ring-gai Council handles all bookings of Reserves, and allocates grounds to sporting groups on a first-come, first served basis, from a specified date each season. This system would appear to give Council much greater control over its grounds, and first-hand knowledge of when 'allocated grounds' are not being used. However, it

would require considerable cooperation and liaison between the three Councils - Manly, Warringah and Pittwater. The cost/benefits of such a system would have to be assessed before Council could embark on assigning staff time and resources to this task.

Council should develop a booking system, which capitalises on the Map Information system currently being developed across Council's open space network. This would improve the efficiency of the current booking system, and facilitate Council's maintenance schedules for reserves/sportsgrounds to be directly tied to bookings.

There is a need to maximise opportunities for the use of sportsgrounds, whilst recognising the constraints of over-use, maintenance and compatible uses. For example, Careel Bay Playing Fields and Porter Reserve are not allocated for use in the summer, and there could be opportunities for compatible community use of these grounds.

Sports fields, which are unused, for extended periods (for example in their "off-season") could be made available to other recreational activities, which may benefit a broader section of the community.

3.7 Signage

There is inconsistency in the signage and information regarding sportsgrounds in Pittwater. Some of the Grounds have signage of the adopted standard and colour for Pittwater others are not adequately signed. There should be consistent signage for all sportsgrounds.

It is important to have at least one easily visible name sign at each sportsground. Placement of signage should enable visitors to the area as well as the local community to easily identify each ground's location. It is preferable for information to be unified on one signboard.

Ordinance signs are mostly out-dated, being still under the name of 'Warringah Shire Council'. These signs should be updated and replaced as funding permits.

Signs which indicate non-permissible usage, such as 'No Golfing', 'No Horse-Riding' and signs relating to unleashed dogs, should be appropriately positioned and clearly visible, from all entrances, in order to adequately inform the public and to facilitate the enforcing of regulations by Council.

Temporary signs such as banners must adhere to Council's policy and requirements.

3.8 Linkages/Open Space Corridors/Linear Recreation Areas

Sportsgrounds in Pittwater, also provide a link with other open space areas, with other community facilities such as schools and shops, and adjoining residential areas. It is important for walking and cycling linkages to be established between areas, so that children and teens in particular, can safely get to and from sportsgrounds and their home or schools.

One of the goals of Pittwaters' Open Space, Bushland and Recreation Strategy is to improve linkages within Pittwater, and provide safe pedestrian; cycleway and wheelchair access ways. Council's Bicycle Plan (1996) also addresses safe cycling linkages and linear open space. Improved linkages should also be used as a means to facilitate the expansion of wildlife corridors.

The enhancement and expansion of linkages, also provides more opportunities for other members of the community to enjoy the sportsgrounds on a more informal or passive basis.

This is particularly significant with the aging population, and the emphasis on the importance of walking for exercise for the elderly. Pittwaters' overall topography makes access difficult in many areas, whereas the siting of its sportsgrounds generally provides easy and level access. Council needs to look at each parcel of open space covered by this Plan and examine the practical aspects of achieving good linkages.

3.9 Access & Parking

All sportsgrounds in Pittwater are located close to public transport, which should encourage and facilitate their use, especially for children and teenagers. The grounds also have frontage or close frontage to a main road. Off-street parking is provided at all locations, although there is variance in the quantity of spaces and quality/aesthetics of the parking area. Car parking associated with sports fields needs to be monitored to ensure adequate facilities and reduce possible conflicts with surrounding residents. Whilst there is often a perceived need for more car parking at particular sportsgrounds, it is imperative that car parking does not take up open space which is suitable for passive or active recreation.

Sportsgrounds should be accessible to all members of the community. This principle encapsulates safe access for walkers, as well as ramp and paved access for people in wheelchairs and people with children in strollers. Community and ancillary facilities on or adjacent to sportsgrounds should be

designed with the needs of all members of the community in mind.

At Careel Bay and Hitchcock Park sportsgrounds, opportunities for access path from the tennis courts at the southern end all the way to the unleashed dog exercise area in the north has been identified in the Careel Bay Conservation Area – Estuarine Wetland Strategy (masterplan). This path would provide a paved linkage for bicycles, pedestrians, wheelchairs and strollers across Barrenjoey Road to the southern end of Avalon Beach.

Accessible amenities for the disabled are located at the following sportsgrounds in Pittwater:

- ❖ Boondah Reserve
(Nelson Heather Senior Citizens Centre)
- ❖ Dunbar Park
- ❖ Kitchener Park.
- ❖ North Narrabeen Reserve

It is important to continue to restrict access to playing fields to emergency or maintenance vehicles only. When slip-rails are not secured, or boundary fences not maintained, it appears to encourage some irresponsible people to drive onto the fields, in order to watch games, socialise etc. This practice causes much damage to surfaces, particularly when grounds are wet, is costly and takes time to repair and puts constraints on the ground's availability for active sports.

3.10 Dog/ Animal Exercise Areas

With over 8,000 dog registrations and an estimated 30,000 resident are dog owners, Council recognises the need to have dog exercise areas. They provide a valuable recreational resource for a broad section of the community and alleviate some problems, which may otherwise cause concern for the community. Dog exercise areas allow the dog owners, many of who are away from home for long periods of the day, to exercise and socialise their dogs.

Dogs are not permitted off leash in reserves, unless they are in one of Council's six designated Unleashed Dog Exercise Areas (UDEA). They have only been included in the Sportsground Plan of Management because of their location adjacent to the sports fields at Careel Bay. The community usage, type of recreation they provide and maintenance/ control they require, mean that it may be more appropriate to consider them separately as part of a combined system of animal exercise areas throughout Pittwater. Council is currently preparing a Dog Exercise Area Audit, which may form the first part of this process.

There are however particular issues, which relate to the location of a UDEA adjacent to a sports field.

- Dog and other animal exercise areas such as horses provide a range of activities, which enable a broad section of the community to benefit from these spaces.
- Health concerns for those using the playing fields for sports need to be considered.
- Sports fields which are not used for extended periods (for example in their “off-season”), could be made available to other recreational activities, which may benefit a broader section of the community.
- Sportsgrounds with adjacent dog exercise areas may need to be managed to provide adequate facilities for the disposal of faeces by dog owners at all times as well prior to the particular game or event.

Council encourages dog owners to be responsible for their dogs, with initiatives such as placement of dog litter bins in exercise areas.

Council has been investigating other methods of disposing of dog faeces, such as a 'dog toilet', or 'dog manure bin' (as installed by Hornsby Council), and the release of dung beetles into reserves (as introduced by Warringah Council).

The one designated UDEA - at the northern end of Careel Bay Playing Fields is very popular and is well utilised by residents and their dogs. It is sited between the northernmost soccer field and Careel Bay Environmental Protection Area (EPA). The proximity to these two areas raises the issue concerning the compatibility of unleashed dogs adjacent to a sensitive environmental area and playing fields.

Signs near the wetlands and the sporting fields, which prohibit unleashed dogs, are often not complied with. Council's Rangers are patrolling the area more frequently in order to better manage this area.

Council's Natural Resources Unit have prepared a Draft Plan of Management for Careel Bay Wetlands which recommends actions to address issues related to the proximity of the UDEA to the EPA, in particular the mangroves and the access for dogs to Careel Bay for swimming. These issues include fencing, and parking in Etival Street (see Careel Bay Wetlands Plan of Management).

Due to unprecedented interest in this issue and the need for further community consultation, resolution of plans for the unleashed dog exercise area at Careel

Bay adjacent to Hitchcock Park, will be dealt with as a separate issue in conjunction with the Careel Bay Wetlands Plan of Management.

3.11 Recreational Usage

It is important to recognise that there is a wide spectrum of recreation and sporting interests within the Pittwater community. Council needs to look at the overall picture and should endeavour to offer a broad range of recreational opportunities to address the needs of the whole community.

Within Pittwater, sports are played at local and district levels, for competition and training, organised social games and informal games. Council should encourage the off-peak weekday use of sportsgrounds by schools and local businesses.

Sportsgrounds have traditionally catered for active, organised sports, such as rugby codes, cricket and soccer. Although these sports remain very popular, there is also a change in preferences and increased demand for the provision of facilities for baseball and softball. Clubs also have requirements for change-rooms, equipment facilities storage etc.

There are four tennis court complexes within Pittwater (Bayview, Careel Bay, Elanora and Mona Vale) and two of these - Careel Bay and Mona Vale - are addressed in this Plan of Management. The Pittwater Tennis Liaison Committee comprises of representatives of each of these tennis clubs, who liaise with Council regarding improvements to the complexes and lease arrangements (see Section 3.14). The respective clubs organise their own bookings. Clubs are required to provide court time to the public as detailed by the Liaison Committee and club leases. (It should be noted that there are also two Council courts at Narrabeen Community Centre, which can be booked through the Centre).

Three bowling clubs complexes are included in this Plan - at Mona Vale, Newport and Avalon. The respective clubs are all on expired leases from Council. They book their facilities out to other community groups, for meetings, parties, community events etc. Within bowling clubs there are also changing preferences towards mixed (mens & womens) clubs, and a need for rationalisation of resources. Although the population is ageing, there are declining numbers at some clubs. A croquet lawn has been established at Avalon. Council should assist bowling clubs to increase membership and utilise their facilities more fully.

Recreational opportunities at sportsgrounds can be greatly enhanced by the addition of appropriately sited facilities as seats, picnic furniture, barbecues, shade trees, shelter and pathways

These can facilitate the more informal recreational needs of users and visitors, including parents watching or waiting for children at sport training, casual observers, and older people who enjoy watching children at play. Pathways also address the major need for safe walking paths in Pittwater. Playground equipment can be used on a casual basis or by siblings of children involved in team sports.

Community and special events are held at sportsgrounds. These have been determined on availability of the ground, and evaluated as to their benefits/disadvantages to the local community. Events have traditionally been triathlons, social cricket, market days, circuses etc. (see Inventory for uses at each specific Ground). (It should be noted that Pittwater Council no longer permits circuses with wild or exotic animals).

Council should actively promote sportsgrounds as possible venues for community/special events (see section 3.6).

The Recreation Needs Study identified that there was a need for more information on Pittwaters' open space network, in order to increase community awareness of the range of recreation and sporting opportunities available in Pittwater. This may take the form of printed information, such as brochures, to be available at Council offices, the Coastal Environment Centre, libraries, and PALS information centre, and improved and consistent signage (see Section 3.7).

3.12 Environment/ Landscape

Natural, visual, landscape and heritage qualities exist at or adjacent to sportsgrounds. Council's Landscape Management Policy gives recognition to natural systems and provides for further enhancement of these systems. The Policy also encourages increased usage of endemic planting. Overall the underlying issue for landscape improvements at sportsgrounds is drainage.

There are opportunities to increase wildlife corridors between sportsgrounds and other areas of open space in Pittwater.

Urban bushland areas are the subjects of a separate Plan of Management, (see Urban Bushland Plan of Management).

The proximity of sportsgrounds to bushland and foreshores can result in damage to the environment from nutrients from fertiliser; toxins from weed spray, and leachate from former tip sites. Management of these areas would include maintaining a buffer zone

of native planting around the main edges and ensuring lawn clippings are disposed of appropriately.

Spectators, in particular siblings of children playing on the sportsgrounds, often "play" in the Environmental Protection Areas and other bushland areas which may cause damage to vegetation and disturbance to habitat. Greater effort may be required to educate sports groups on the sensitivity of the adjoining area. In some instances physical barriers may be required to prevent/ delineate access.

The main areas for environmental concern in this Plan of Management are:

- ❖ Hitchcock Park/Careel Bay Playing Fields, proximity to the Environmental Protection Area, zoned 7 (a) at Careel Bay.
- ❖ Porter Reserve, surrounded by bushland.
- ❖ Boondah Reserve, proximity to creek, and potential environmental creek line corridor.

There are many opportunities to make landscape improvements to sportsgrounds in Pittwater, however these are governed by the amount of funds available. Areas should be enhanced for both active and passive recreation, as well as for participants and spectators.

As identified earlier in this Plan, it is important for the changing demographics and needs of the community that sportsgrounds provide opportunities for flexible and multi-functional use.

Landscape improvements include the provision of trees, shrubs, shade, shelter, park furniture, bubblers, fencing and pathways. In line with the community's identified desire for more protection from the sun in open space areas, where possible future improvements should include the provision of more shade for spectators. Landscaping can enhance sportsgrounds by softening the hard lines of structured sports areas, playing fields, and car parking areas, but still ensuring risk management issues are addressed, and 'sight lines' are clear.

3.13 Neighbourhood Amenity

There are both positive and negative impacts of sportsgrounds on neighbouring residents and neighbourhood amenity.

Positive impacts include:

- ❖ Close amenity and visual benefit of open space

- ❖ Close proximity, access and opportunity to enjoy active sport, informal recreation, and community/special events.

Negative impacts at particular times include:

- ❖ Noise, parking problems and rubbish generated by large numbers of people
- ❖ Possible glare or reflection from floodlighting
- ❖ Vandalism which may be associated with reserves/sportsgrounds.

Due to the proximity of neighbouring residences, Newport Oval, Dunbar Park and North Narrabeen Reserve, are the subject of most complaints regarding adverse affects on neighbourhood amenity. At Newport Oval, very limited off-street parking exacerbates this.

Neighbourhood amenity should be evaluated when bookings are requested for community or special events. It may be more appropriate to recommend that the function should be held at a different venue.

As an overall policy, Council should encourage neighbours to take ownership and become more involved with the management of their local reserve, including parks and sportsgrounds. Council has established a joint Reserves and Bushland Management Committee to facilitate this process.

3.14 Leases and Licences

3.14.1 What are leases & licences?

A lease will be typically required where exclusive use or control of all or part of a sportsground is desirable for effective management. A lease may also be required due to the scale of investment in facilities, the necessity for security measures, or where the relationship between a major user and facilities on the sportsground justify such security of tenure.

Licences allow multiple and non-exclusive use of an area. A licence may be required where intermittent or short-term use or control of all or part of a sportsground is proposed. A number of licences for different users can apply to the same area at the same time, provided there is no conflict of interest.

3.14.2 Existing and future leases and licences

Existing leases applying to sportsgrounds in Pittwater are outlined in Table 1. This Plan of Management authorises current lease agreements. No licence

agreements are currently in place for sportsgrounds covered by this Plan.

Crown land

All tenures over part or all of a Crown reserve are made between the Reserve Trust and the lessee/licensee, and are subject to the provisions of the *Crown Lands Act, 1989*. Lease agreements should be modelled on the standard Crown lease conditions applying to the leasing of Crown land under Section 34 of the *Crown Lands Act, 1989*.

A lease or licence over a Crown public reserve must be consistent with the purpose of the land's reservation or dedication, otherwise the Minister cannot approve any leases or licences granted by the Reserve Trust.

Under any lease, the construction of facilities on Crown land will be permitted, provided:

- ❖ the facilities that are proposed to be constructed are in accordance with a Plan of Management adopted for the reserve under the *Crown Lands Act, 1989*.
- ❖ any lessee will obtain the consent of the both the Minister and the Reserve Trust for any development applications or proposals for activity made by it to enable the construction of the premises.

Consent must be obtained from the Minister for Land and Water Conservation before any long-term licence on Crown land is granted. A temporary licence can be granted only for the purposes prescribed under the *Crown Lands Regulation, 1990*. A temporary licence does not require the Minister's consent, but can only be granted for a maximum period of one year.

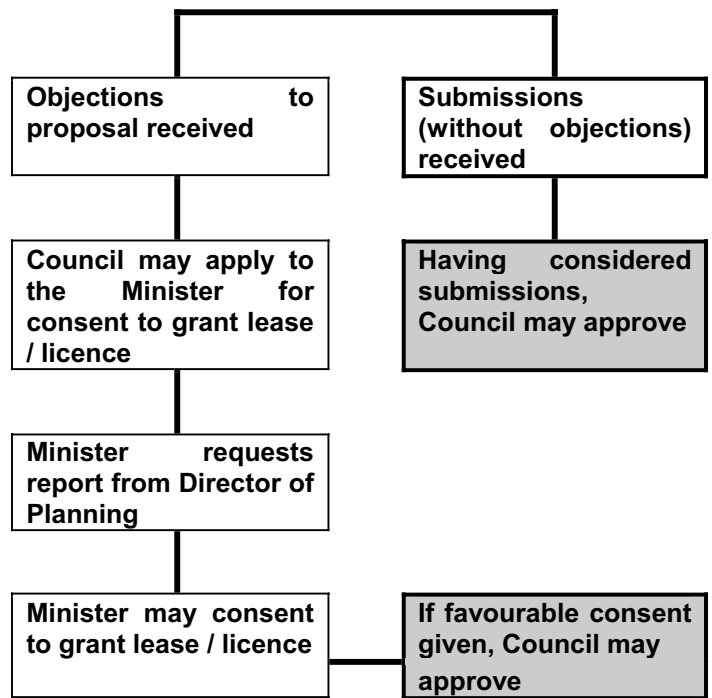
Council must register any leases and licences on Crown land with the Department of Land and Water Conservation.

Community land

To comply with the *Local Government Act, 1993* and its amendments, a Plan of Management must clearly specify the leases, licences and other estates that are authorised on community land. Terms and conditions of a lease or licence should reflect the interest of the Council, protect the public, and ensure proper management and maintenance.

Occupation of community land by leases, licences and other estates that apply to sportsgrounds are set out in the *Local Government Act, 1993*. In respect of community land in general, a lease, licence or other estate may only be granted for:

- ❖ provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities.
- ❖ a purpose expressly authorised in this Plan of Management, for purposes including:
 - the provision of goods, services and facilities, and the carrying out of activities, appropriate to the current and future needs of within the local community and of the wider public in relation to public recreation.
 - purposes which are consistent with the core objectives for the category of sportsground in relation to organised and informal sporting activities and games.
 - for short-term casual purposes if the activity does not involve erecting a permanent building or structure.
 - for the purpose of providing underground pipes, conduits or other connections to connect premises adjoining the community land to a Council facility or other public utility provider located on the land.



The Act specifies that Council must not grant a lease or licence for a period exceeding 21 years, including any period for which the lease or licence could be renewed by the exercise of an option.

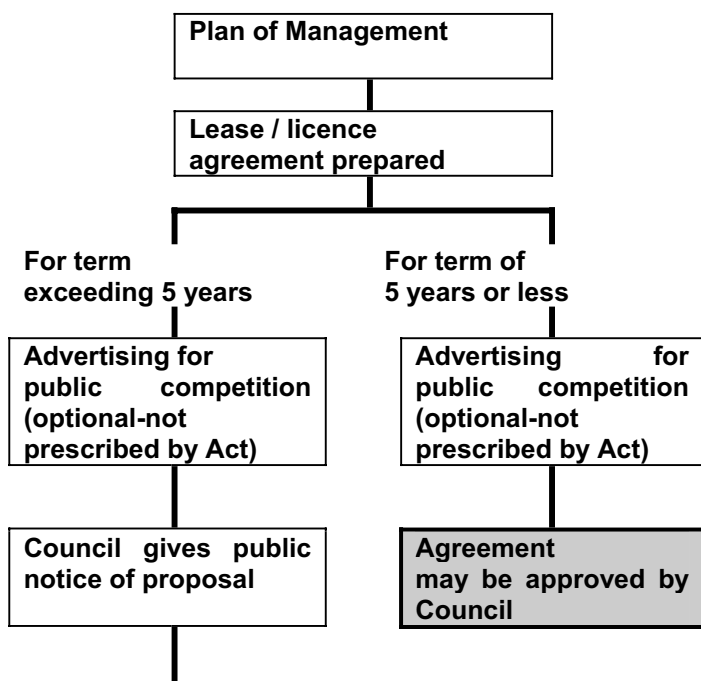
Under Section 47, Council may grant a lease, licence or other estate exceeding 5 years if it gives public notice of the proposal to the owner, the public and all stakeholders, and invites and considers public submissions. If an objection to the proposal is made, Council may not grant a lease, licence or other estate without consent of the Minister for Local Government.

For proposed leases, licences and other estates of 5 years or less, Council must publicly advertise the proposal in the same way as for leases, licences and other estates over 5 years. Final approval of the lease rests with Council, but the Minister for Local Government has the discretion to call in a proposed lease and determine the matter in place of Council. However, some short-term and other types of leases, licences and other estates, such as providing underground pipes and connections, are exempt from the need to advertise.

Section 46A of the *Local Government Act, 1993* requires that Plans of Management must specify purposes for which a lease, licence or other estate may be granted only by tender. However, Council may apply a tender process in respect to granting any particular lease, licence or estate.

Under Section 47C, land within the reserves subject to a lease cannot be sub-let for a purpose other than the purpose for which the land was to be used under the lease, or refreshment kiosks, dances and private

The following chart summarises the procedure for leases and licences under the Local Government Act.



parties in the case where land is leased to a sporting club.

3.14.3 Issues regarding leases of sportsgrounds

Rate charges for all land should be in accordance with the Local Government Act (1993) Part 6. Where they are due, the inclusion of rates in the lease fees is subject to the individual lease agreement.

Leases at the four Bowling Clubs were granted in the 1950s and 1960s, and all expired some years ago. Leases are carried over on an annual basis. The Clubs pay nominal rent. A significant increase in rent would be untenable for these Clubs, which tends to be relatively poor, with declining memberships.

This situation is unsatisfactory for both Council and the Bowling Clubs - Council is not receiving sufficient return on its land, and the Clubs are reluctant to make capital improvements, as they do not have security of tenure.

On the other hand, long leases with Warringah Rugby and Sidiff (Golf) raise concerns about the monopoly on facilities at North Narrabeen.

All Tennis Clubs have leases. Two of the four clubs, Careel Bay and Mona Vale are covered by this Plan of Management. Both Clubs have made a number of improvements over the past few years, including re-surfacing and floodlighting.

There are a number of other issues for Council to address regarding leases for sporting clubs, as follows:

- ❖ Generally the sporting club has contributed financially to the building, particularly when there has been long-term occupation.
- ❖ There is limited general community use.
- ❖ Recognition of 'ownership' of building.
- ❖ Clarification of responsibilities.
- ❖ Opportunity for 'hand over' of maintenance responsibilities.
- ❖ Need for Council to provide facilities which provide community benefits.
- ❖ Sports clubs generally operating in a similar way to licensed clubs.
- ❖ Council needs to receive a return on its investments or services in kind, whilst providing public benefits to the community.

It is recommended that the overall issue of leases with sporting clubs needs to be investigated by Council. There is a need for consistent policies regarding leases at sportsgrounds and at other reserves in Pittwater.

Operators such as food vendors often approach council regarding licences for trading on reserves and beaches.

Within this Plan of Management, the possibility of lease and/or licence arrangements for facilities within the respective sportsgrounds will be considered on a merit basis. This is provided that this is within the context of the particular sportsground and/or sportsgrounds overall.

Table 1: Leases and Licences

Facilities on Reserve/ Adjacent community land	Existing Lease Details	Future lease/licence
Boondah Reserve		
Change room facility (east) Playing fields east Nelson Heather Senior Citizens Centre and Food Services Building (east 5(a) Special Uses – Community Centres) Change room facility (west) Playing fields (west)	Part of Nelson Heather Centre leased to Peninsula Bridge Club	This Plan authorises the possible future lease/licence arrangements for existing facilities on the reserve to user groups. This plan authorises the possible future lease/ licence arrangements for existing and future facilities on adjoining community land such as the Nelson Heather Centre and food services building.
North Narrabeen Reserve		
Sports stadium (grounds, grandstand, club facilities)	Warringah Rugby Club 2/2/71 for 30 years Lot 1 DP547505 Volume 11563 Folo 33	This Plan authorises the re-negotiation of future lease arrangements for sports stadium
Golf Driving Range	Sidiff Pty Ltd (Golf Range/Mini Golf) 28/10/91 for 10 years DP 806434	This Plan authorises the re-negotiation of future lease arrangements for golf driving range and re-configuration of lease areas to reduce risk management issues.
Playing Fields Change rooms, amenities and canteen Clive Rogers Equestrian buildings	Nil	This Plan authorises the possible future lease/licence arrangements for existing facilities on the reserve to user groups
Kitchener Park		
Tennis Complex Lawn Bowls Facility House	Mona Vale Tennis Club 21 year lease from year 2000 Mona Vale Bowling Club- expired	This Plan authorises the re-negotiation of future lease arrangements for the tennis complex, lawn bowls facility and house
Kitchener Park Sports Centre Playing Fields	Nil	This Plan authorises the possible future lease/licence arrangements for existing facilities on the reserve to user groups
Newport Oval		
Scout Hall Canteen Playing Fields Newport Community Centre/ Pittwater Family Day Care Centre Amenities block	Nil	This Plan authorises the possible future lease/licence arrangements for existing facilities on the reserve or adjoining community land to user groups.
Spurway Park		
Lawn Bowls complex 1 Lawn Bowls complex 2	Newport Central Recreation Club Inc. has incorporated Newport Womens Bowling Club – New lease on public exhibition	This Plan authorises the re-negotiation of future lease arrangements for the lawn bowls complexes

Porter Reserve		
Club house building	Newport Rugby Club Currently under negotiation part of R 100179	This Plan authorises the re-negotiation of future lease arrangements for the club house building
Change room facility Playing fields	Nil	This Plan authorises the possible future lease/licence arrangements for existing facilities on the reserve to user groups
Dunbar Park		
Lawn bowl complex Girl Guides Hall	Avalon Beach Bowling Club- expired Girl Guides expired	This Plan authorises the re-negotiation of future lease arrangements for the lawn bowl complex and Girl Guides Hall
Scout hall Playing fields	Scouts expired	This Plan authorises the possible future lease/licence arrangements for existing facilities on the reserve to user groups
Hitchcock Park/Careel Bay		
Tennis complex	Careel Bay Tennis Club 21 year lease from year 2000	This Plan authorises the re-negotiation of future lease arrangements for the tennis complex
Canteen/Change room (north) Playing fields (north) Canteen/Change room (south) Playing fields (south)	Soccer Club (Careel Bay) Avalon Rugby League (Hitchcock Park) Leases to be negotiated	This Plan authorises the possible future lease/licence arrangements for existing facilities on the reserve to user groups

4.0 FUTURE DIRECTIONS/STRATEGY

Issues & Strategies	Action	Performance Assessment	Responsibility
1. Grounds - Number & Configuration			
To provide a network of sportsgrounds with a wide range of sporting opportunities	Workshop with Manly and Warringah Councils, and Sporting Union to determine the needs of sporting groups from a regional perspective.	Needs of sporting groups for sportsgrounds in Pittwater, Warringah and Manly determined	Reserves & Recreation
To improve the function of existing grounds	Identify opportunities for mini fields/training areas in open space system.	Additional mini-fields/training areas identified	Reserves & Recreation
	Liaise with the Sporting Union, and sporting clubs re overall current and projected needs	Current and projected needs of sporting groups identified	Reserves & Recreation
	Liaise with sporting clubs re possibilities for re-configuration of grounds to address needs	Agreement by sporting clubs regarding configuration of grounds	Reserves & Recreation
	Assess adequacy of night lighting at grounds	Assessment of adequacy of lighting at grounds completed	Reserves & Recreation
2. Maintenance			
To maintain sportsgrounds and facilities to a high standard within budgetary constraints	Increase ranger patrols to reduce dog faeces on sports fields	Reduction in complaints to Council about dog faeces on fields	Reserves & Recreation
	Review waste management practices on and prior to sports events	Review of waste management practices at sportsgrounds completed	Reserves & Recreation/ Compliance
3. Risk Management			
To provide a safe environment at sports grounds	A program of systematic monitoring of sportsgrounds to be developed to minimise risk	Sportsground risk monitoring program in place	Reserves & Recreation/ Property & Commercial
	Consider re-configuration with view to minimise risk from adjacent activities	Reduction in???????	Reserves & Recreation/ Property & Commercial
	Investigate management of UDEA with regard to impacts on sportsgrounds	Reduction in incidences of conflict between UDEA's, sportsgrounds and sporting activities	Reserves & Recreation/ Property & Commercial
4. Funding			
To initiate a system of cost recovery in order to improve the quality of sportsgrounds	Consult with sporting organisations, general community and sports players re pricing policy for sportsgrounds	Pricing policy for sportsgrounds agreed to by sporting groups, the community and Council	Reserves & Recreation
	Seek and pursue grants, corporate sponsorship and opportunities for joint initiatives. Assist sporting groups to do same	Increase in funding for sportsgrounds received by Council and sporting groups	Reserves & Recreation/ Accounts
5. Facilities-Community & Ancillary			
To improve existing facilities at sportsgrounds.	Identify and prioritise needs for additional ancillary facilities	Prioritised program for additional ancillary facilities at sportsgrounds developed	Reserves & Recreation
To identify and prioritise current and projected needs	Identify areas suitable for basketball half courts	Suitable areas for basketball half courts identified	Reserves & Recreation
	Liaise with cricket clubs re location of cricket nets	Location of cricket nets agreed by cricket clubs and Council	Reserves & Recreation

	Assist sporting groups to undertake improvement and development works	Increase in financial and in-kind assistance to sporting groups to undertake improvements and development work	Reserves & Recreation/ Property
To protect sportsgrounds from over development and incompatible community use	Determine community facilities which are suitable and compatible with sportsground usage	Community facilities that are compatible with sportsground usage are identified	Community & Library Services/Reserves & Recreation/Property & Commercial
To gauge community opinion regarding community/exclusive use of buildings	Consult with community and sporting groups	Consultation program with community and sporting groups regarding community/exclusive use of buildings is complete	Community & Library Services/Reserves & Recreation/ Property & Commercial
6. Allocation of grounds			
To better manage and control use of sportsgrounds	Investigate booking systems used by Councils for sportsgrounds. Assess as to their viability for Pittwater	Investigation of booking systems used by other Councils completed Viable booking system for Pittwater developed	Reserves & Recreation
	Workshop with Manly and Warringah Councils re the feasibility of Councils developing their own comprehensive booking system	Workshops held	Reserves & Recreation
	Develop computerised booking system	Computerised booking system for Pittwater developed	Reserves & Recreation/ MIS
	Evaluate role of Sporting Union	Role of sporting union defined	Reserves & Recreation Accounts
	Do a cost/benefit analysis of Council undertaking all grounds allocations and bookings for sportsgrounds	Cost-benefit analysis completed	Reserves & Recreation
	Investigate opportunities for light social/community use of grounds at off-peak times.	Investigation completed	Reserves & Recreation
	Review permissible uses within 6(a) land with view to amending the LEP accordingly for sportsgrounds	Permissible uses on 6(a) land identified LEP amended	Reserves & Recreation/ Planning
	Examine potential multi-use of sportsgrounds particularly in "off-season"	Increase in multi-use of sportsgrounds particularly in the off-season	Reserves & Recreation
7. Signage			
To have clear, consistent signage at sports grounds.	Develop an inventory of signage; assess for adequacy, clarity and uniformity.	Signage inventory completed Signage at sportsgrounds is adequate, clear and uniform	Reserves & Recreation/ Compliance
To inform the public of the location of sports grounds and permitted uses.	Prioritise, design and installation of new signage.	New signage installed	
8. Linkages/Open Space Corridors/Linear Recreation Areas			
To improve linkages to sports grounds and increase recreational opportunities.	Identify opportunities to improve linkages with walking tracks and multi-use access ways.	Increase in linkages between sportsgrounds, walking tracks and multi-use accessways	Reserves & Recreation
9. Access and Parking			
To improve access and parking arrangements at sports grounds.	Assess adequacy of parking arrangements at sports grounds. Identify areas where access can be improved.	Assessment of adequacy of parking at sportsgrounds completed Positive feedback from sportsground users	Reserves & Recreation/ Community and Library Services
To restrict vehicular access.	Ensure slip-rails are well maintained and secured.	Regular inspection of sliprails	Compliance
Reduce impact of parking on neighbours	Consider opportunities to improve linkages, walkways, bike paths and disabled access	Increase in number of sportsground users walking or cycling to facility	Reserves & Recreation
10. Dog/ Animal Exercise Areas			

Plan of Management – Sportsgrounds

To address issues concerning the compatibility of unleashed dogs adjacent to a sensitive environmental area and playing fields	Ensure adequacy of interpretative signage re dogs.	Interpretative signage meets legal requirements Reduction in incidents regarding dogs reported by Rangers	Compliance
	Continue to educate and encourage the community re "poop and scoop".	Reduction in complaints to Council about dog faeces on sportsgrounds	Compliance
	Implement systems for disposal of dog faeces.	Dog waste disposal systems in place	Compliance
	Consider delineation between UDEA, their access ways and sportsground	Plans of separating UDEA, accessways and sportsgrounds determined	Reserves & Recreation
11. Recreational Usage			
To increase community awareness of recreation and sporting opportunities in Pittwater.	Develop an information brochure re contacts for different sports in Pittwater.	Information produced and distributed	Reserves & Recreation
	In conjunction with Tennis Liaison Committee, develop a brochure re tennis courts in Pittwater to encourage bookings.	Brochure on tennis courts produced and distributed	Reserves & Recreation
	Liaise with PALS information centre re inquiries/information needed re sports grounds and reserves in general in Pittwater.	Information required by the community regarding sportsgrounds is determined	Reserves & Recreation
	Promote sports grounds as a venue for community/special events.	Increased use of sportsgrounds for community and special events	Reserves & Recreation
	Assist bowling clubs in promotion of lawn bowls and clubs facilities.	Increased use of bowling club facilities	Reserves & Recreation
12. Environment/Landscape			
To enhance the amenity and function of sports groups with landscape improvements.	Develop an inventory of recreation and landscape needs.	Inventory of recreation and landscape needs developed	Reserves & Recreation
	Identify priorities for landscape improvements.	Priorities for landscape improvements identified	Reserves & Recreation
	Prioritise drainage and irrigation requirements.	Drainage and irrigation requirements determined and prioritised	Reserves & Recreation
	Investigate opportunities to educate sporting groups on sensitivity of adjoining bushland	Increased awareness of the sensitivity of adjoining bushland by sporting groups Reduction in damage to adjoining bushland by sporting groups	Reserves & Recreation/ Natural Resources
	Review waste management practices on sporting days	Review of waste management practices completed	Reserves & Recreation/ Compliance
13. Neighbourhood Amenity	Seek opportunities to extend wildlife corridors.	Increase in land suitable for wildlife corridor	Natural Resources
	Evaluate suitability of venue for community/special events.	Suitability of sportsgrounds for community and special events is determined	Reserves & Recreation
	Consider opportunities to improve linkages, walkways, bike paths and disabled access	Increased opportunities for pedestrian access to sportsgrounds	Reserves & Recreation
	Monitor parking with view to providing adequate parking without using residential streets	Reduction in incidents of sportsground users parking in residential streets	Reserves & Recreation
14. Leases and Licences	Encourage neighbours to become more involved in ownership of grounds.		Reserves & Recreation
	Investigate overall lease situation with relevant clubs.	Relevant clubs consulted regarding leasing arrangements	Property & Commercial
	Develop a consistent approach and policy re leases.	Lease policy developed	Property & Commercial
	Renegotiate leases with bowling clubs to give tenure.	Leases renegotiated with bowling clubs	Property & Commercial

Plan of Management – Sportsgrounds

	Investigate opportunities for further leasing arrangements. Review rental payments.	Increase in appropriate leasing arrangements Review of rental payments completed	Property & Commercial
	Confirm land which is subject to rates and identify which party is responsible for rate payment in existing and future lease agreements.	Land subject to rates is confirmed Lease agreements specify the party responsible for payment of rates	Property & Commercial

5.0 SPORTSGROUNDS INVENTORY & RECREATION/LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT

The following section of this Plan of Management is an inventory of each specific Sportsground, which is covered by the Plan. This includes a site plan, location details, usage, particular issues and future plans. It should be noted that 'Other Usage', only includes bookings made at Pittwater Council, over the last two-three years. The grounds may be used for other purposes of which Council has no knowledge. For plans of the sports fields refer to Appendix 1.

5.1 Boondah Reserve (East and West)

Location:

Boondah Road, Jacksons Road and Pittwater Road, Warriewood

Zoning:

6(a) Existing Recreation
5 (a) Special Uses (Community Centres)

D.P. and Lot Nos.

Lot 15 D.P. 26902 (East)
Lot B D.P. 26902 (East)
Lot 2A C.R. 29376 (West)
Lots 3-9 PT 1-8 D.P. 8561

Description:

Sportsground with four separate playing areas, divided by Boondah Road, and Narrabeen Creek. Areas cater for baseball, netball and soccer. Adjoining Senior Citizens Centre, Ted Blackwood Building, Meals on Wheels and Interchange.

History:

Previous tip site

Ted Blackwood (Chairman of Narrabeen Youth Club) bought an old building from Narrabeen RSL for \$1, had it transported to the site, where it was established as a Clubhouse for the NYC. The building is also used for jazzercise, gym, meetings etc. and by a Church on Sundays. Pittwater Council conducts a Children's Vacation Care Program at this site.

Nelson Heather Senior Citizens Centre was established with HACC funding, primarily for the use of older people and people with a disability.

Interchange, on the corner of Pittwater and Jacksons Road is also a HACC facility.

Meals on Wheels is a purpose built building, from which 8,000 meals are distributed per month, within Pittwater and Warringah.

Community Facilities on Open Space or Adjacent to Open Space

Nelson Heather Senior Citizens Centre
Meals on Wheels
Northern Beaches Interchange - Administration Building
Ted Blackwood Narrabeen Youth & Community Centre
Childrens Playground

Ancillary Facilities on Open Space:

Ground 1 - canteen/toilet building, 2 picnic tables adjacent, baseball facility, (summer), soccer fields (winter), kicking wall, 2 tin storage sheds

Ground 2 - soccer posts, baseball facilities (2), floodlights

Ground 3 - baseball facility (summer), soccer field (winter)

Ground 4 - amenities block, cricket net, netball posts and goals (10 courts), baseball practice net, floodlights, some landscaping and seating - adjacent to community buildings

Overall - taps, bubblers, bins

Leases:

Nil

Main Uses:

Netball
Baseball
Soccer

Vacation Care

Allocated Usage:

Competitive Sport - Weekend Allocations

Summer (Saturday, all day) Jnr Baseball (Grounds 1-4)

Winter (Sat & Sun, all day) Soccer (Grounds 1-3)

Training - Weekday Allocations (after 3.30pm)

Summer Grounds 1-3

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Softball	Softball share Jnr Baseball	Softball share Jnr Baseball	Jnr Baseball	nil

Winter Grounds 1-3

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Soccer	Soccer	Soccer	Soccer	Soccer

Winter Ground 4

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Netball (NYC)	Netball (NYC)	Netball (NYC)	Netball (NYC)	Netball (NYC)

Other Usage :

Narrabeen Sports High - School Terms, all year - Grounds 1 & 2 - school sport - Tuesdays, 7.30am - 3.15pm

School terms, all year - Grounds 1 & 2 - Soccer - Thursdays, 1.15pm-4pm

Nth Narrabeen Primary - School terms - All year - Fridays, 12.30pm-2.30pm

Mater Maria School - Netball - Terms 2,3 & 4 - Thursdays, 1pm - 2.30pm and/or Tues 2-3pm

Oxford Falls Grammar School - School sport - occasional Friday afternoons

Barrenjoey High school sport occasional

Pittwater Council - Vacation Care - School Holidays, Weekdays - Ground 1 - 7.30am to 5.30 pm (approx. 12 weeks per year - 4 days Easter, 2 weeks July, 2 weeks October, 5 1/2 weeks Dec/Jan)

Pittwater Junior Baseball - Grounds 2 & 3 - Baseball Clinic - 2 days, July and Jan school holidays. 8am - 4pm

Pittwater Baseball Club – Gala days

Baseball Tournament - 4 days (Nov 96/Mch 97)

M/W Soccer Assn - Soccer Trials - Sundays (March 97)

Christian Life Centre - Fete

Brookvale Disabled Living Skills - Softball

Stardust Circus

Scouts – Information/promotion/enrolment day

Warringah Tri Club - Triathlons (part of circuit)

St. Josephs School - Sports Days

Nth Narrabeen Primary - Gala Days

Membership Details:

Narrabeen Youth Club

Soccer - 300 players - 28 teams - ages U6 to all age

Netball - 10 teams - ages 9 years ('Netta Netball') to all-age (Note: Netball teams practice at Boondah and Narra. Sport & Rec, and play at Curl Curl - where competition is based)

Cricket - 10 teams - ages 8 ('Kanga Cricket') to all-age (Note: Cricket teams practice and play at Lakeside, not Boondah)

Pittwater Baseball Club 550 players/active members (300 - 5years ago)

M/W Softball uses Boondah 600 active/100 social aged 10-60 50% Pittwater residents 'fastest growing sport in world'

Access:

Level access from roads, parking and transport - rough in sections

Accessible unisex toilets - Nelson Heather Centre

Designated disabled parking - Nelson Heather Centre

Public Transport on Pittwater Road and Jacksons Road

Linkages:

North Narrabeen Reserve

Narrabeen Sports High School

Narrabeen North Public School

Warriewood Square Shopping Centre

Vuko Place, Warriewood - Pittwater Council,

Restaurants, Medical Centre

Progress Park, North Narrabeen

Parking:

Off-street parking (900 - informal) on Boondah Road.

Sealed car parking area on corner of Jacksons Road & Boondah Road - shared with users of Community Centre etc.

Visibility:

Grounds 1-3 easily visible from Boondah Road. Not visible from Pittwater Road and Jacksons Road

Ground 4 easily visible from Pittwater Road, and Boondah Road. Not easily visible from Jacksons Road.

Signage:

No signage indicating name 'Boondah Reserve' 'Horse Riding Prohibited' signs on each Ground - mostly faded and illegible

'Ambulance' sign at Ground 1 - no formal ground marking

'Ted Blackwood Youth and Community Centre' and 'Nelson Heather Senior Citizens Centre' - both Pittwater Council standard, and clearly visible

'Northern Beaches Interchange' and 'Meals on Wheels' - clearly visible

Site Specific Issues:

Originally a tip site - undulating grounds and subsidence - creates problems for grounds and sporting organisations/players, and community buildings on open space

Narrabeen Creek bisects both the eastern and western sections of the Reserve

Proximity of Creek to playing fields

Night lighting - poor quality

Inadequate amenities/toilets for sporting groups, and spectators

Storage facilities need for Pittwater Baseball

NYC would like 3 all-weather netball courts to replace the 3 taken for Meals on Wheels, and car parking

NYC's cricket teams practice and play at Lakeside Park, due to inadequacy of playing surface

High demand for play facilities from Vacation Care

Inadequate shade surrounding Ted Blackwood Centre and for playground equipment

Boondah Reserve a significant component of the planning for the Warriewood release area

Environmental flood plain

Recent Improvements:

Re-turfing of Ground 4

Re-levelling of netball courts

Redesign and refurbishment of parking arrangements adjacent to Nelson Heather Centre

Narrabeen Youth Club – canteen building on Ground 1 altered to incorporate toilets and change rooms (with assistance from a Dept. of Sport & Recreation Grant)

Major Maintenance Pending:

Re-levelling on staged basis.

Future Plans Pending:

Nelson Heather Senior Citizens Centre - plans to extend parts of the facility in an easterly and southerly direction to accommodate increasing needs (particularly by Bridge Club), and greater flexibility of usage. Proposal to enter into a lease with the Bridge Club for use of part of the facility and planned extension (to be funded by the Bridge Club).

Narrabeen Creek - proposal to pipe creek and make area level for recreation purposes

Pittwater Baseball Club - plans to make improvements - fence extensions, field dugouts and conversion of existing dressing rooms for storage. Plans on hold due to land use consideration

Ted Blackwood Centre - plans to provide wheelchair access to main hall, and upgrade toilets for disabled access

Tennis Liaison Group –have a proposal for a six court complex.

Proposed multi – use amenities building to service the existing sporting codes which utilises the sportsgrounds.

With the Warriewood land release area there is a commitment to assess the best usage and role for Boondah Reserve. Long term options include:

❖ an environmental creek line corridor;

- ❖ potential role in water management;
- ❖ potential role in a linear park network/cycleway;
- ❖ potential buffer between land uses;
- ❖ potential role for higher use of land, subject to environmental constraints viz. improved community facilities, expanded public use

Recommendations:

With the recent release of the Warriewood Valley for residential development the role of Boondah Reserve as part of the area's open space will need to be considered and included in the overall planning of the release area.

Continue with small and necessary improvements only and continue with the maintenance regime.

Consider upgrading the childrens playground equipment, suitable for children aged 5-12 years

Consider installation of shade sail/structure over play equipment

Install 'Boondah Reserve' signs to Pittwater Council standard, on Pittwater Road and Boondah Road

Develop a separate Plan of Management for Boondah Reserve (due to the number and range of proposals for the Reserve, potential conflicts in the use of the open space, and overall planning issues).

5.2 North Narrabeen Reserve

Location:

Walsh Street and Pittwater Road, Warriewood

Zoning:

6 (a) Existing Recreation

D.P. and Lot Nos.:

Lot 1 D.P. 566522 (north side of Walsh Street only, this section also includes Caravan Park)
Lots 1-14 D.P. 13460 (Pittwater Road frontage)
Within this land, there are two plans:
Lot 1 D.P. 547505 (Rugby Club)
Lot 1 D.P. 806434 (Golf Range)

Description:

Very large open space area, housing Warringah Rugby Club, a privately run Golf Driving Range and Mini-Golf, an Equestrian Area, and playing fields.

History:

Nth Narrabeen Reserve was once called the "Common". Whole area was used for horse riding and was leased by Boots & Saddles Riding School(which was situated on the western side of Pittwater Road) to adjust horses on weekdays. Warringah Pony Club first official Gymkhana 1960
Landfill tip site
Mini-golf facility installed to complement Golf Driving Range - 1994
Flood lights installed at Pittwater Rugby Park - 1995
Portable/temporary buildings erected (incorporating male, female and disabled toilets, clubhouse, change-rooms and canteen) - 1996

Community Facilities on Open Space or Adjacent to Open Space

Clive Rogers Equestrian Ground- Toilets and Clubrooms
Pittwater Rugby Park - Grandstand, Clubrooms, Childrens Playground (fenced off from public use)
Four public playing fields
Amenities buildings (toilets, change-rooms, canteen)
Golf Driving Range and Mini-Golf - private

Ancillary Facilities on Open Space:

Horse tethering rails

Taps, garbage bins
Floodlights - Pittwater Rugby Park and 2 other grounds

Leases:

Pittwater Rugby Park - Warringah Rugby Club - 21 year lease
Golf Driving Range & Mini Golf - Sidiff Pty Ltd - 5 year lease

Main Uses:

Rugby League
Rugby Union
Pony Club activities
Polo
Golf Practice
Mini Golf
Hockey
Baseball

Allocated Usage:

All Year:

Pittwater Rugby Park - Leased to Warringah Rugby Club
Clive Rogers -Manly, Warringah and Pittwater Pony Club - 1st & 3rd Sundays
Northern Beaches Polo Club
Clive Rogers-Temporary Evacuation Area for horses in times of emergency.

Competitive Sport - Weekend Allocations

Summer (Saturday, all day)

Junior Baseball (Grounds 1-3)
M/W District Hockey (Ground 4) to liaise with Jnr Baseball

Winter (Sat & Sun, all day)

Rugby Park - Leased to Warringah Rugby Union
Warringah Junior Union (Grounds 1-3)
M/W District Hockey (Ground 4)

Training - Weekday Allocations (after 3.30pm)

Summer

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Grounds 1-3				
nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Ground 4				
M/W Hockey	M/W Hockey	M/W Hockey	M/W Hockey	M/W Hockey

Winter

Rugby Park Leased to Warringah Rugby Club

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Grounds 1-3				
WJU	WJU	WJU	WJU	WJU

Other Usage:

Narrabeen Nth Primary - Terms 2&3 - Fridays 12.30-2.30pm

Narrabeen Sports High – Baseball diamond area 7.30-9.30am Tues, 1.30-3.30pm Thurs

Clive Rogers - St Josephs School
Terms 2 & 3 Mon & Tues Athletics 8am - 8.30am
Term 2 Tues Athletics 1pm - 3pm
part of Terms 2&3 Wed Athletics 8am - 8.30am

Clive Rogers also used for
Touch Football, Triathlons, Dog Training, Walking groups

Grounds also used for Kanga Cricket & schools Rugby League

Beach Boys Concert
Kite Fair (Clive Rogers)
Perry Bros. Circus
O'Neill's Carnivals
Duathlon Series
Triathlon series
Boat Shows (annual)
Casting Tournament (Equestrian Grounds)

Membership Details:

Manly, Warringah & Pittwater Horse & Pony Club - 40 active ages 8 - 25 years 33% Pittwater residents 'Future depends on Ingleside/Warriewood re-zoning - if it goes ahead, people with rural inclinations will move'

Northern Beaches Polo Club - 29 members male & female 75% northern beaches & north shore only Polo Club and grounds in the northern district hoping to establish their own centre in the future at Argosy Park

Narrabeen Junior Rugby Union 220 active ages 4 - 17 years 85-90% Pittwater residents

Warringah Junior Rugby 1,000 active ages 4 - 17 years 60% Pittwater residents

M/W Winter Baseball Club – 602 players/active members (392 – 5 years ago)

Access:

Level access and sealed service road from Walsh Street
Rough, unsealed service road to back grounds
Limited access from Pittwater Road
One pedestrian pathway from each of Sydney Road and Arnott Cres.
Public transport on Pittwater Road, Narrabeen Park Parade and Sydney Road

Linkages:

Lakeside Caravan Park
North Narrabeen Rock pool
Narrabeen Lagoon
North Narrabeen Beach
Bicentennial Coastal Walkway
Turimetta Beach
Lakeside Park
Walkway/cycleway to Dee Why
Boondah Reserve

Parking:

Central car parking - informal (off sealed road)
Car parking for back grounds - unsealed, informal (off rough access road)
Specified car parking area for Golf activities - sealed
Adjacent roads, particularly on Walsh Street

Clive Rogers – used for overflow parking for large events

Visibility:

Pittwater Rugby Park - easily visible from surrounding roads and residences
Golf Range and Mini Golf - very visible from Pittwater Road

Playing fields - visible from Walsh Street, and partly visible over residences on Arnott Cres. and Sydney Road. Not visible from Pittwater Road.
Equestrian Ground only visible from Walsh Street

Signage:

No signage indicating 'North Narrabeen Reserve' 'Clive Rogers Equestrian Ground', in Pittwater Council standard - clearly visible at Walsh Street entry
'Pittwater Rugby Park', in Pittwater Council standard - partly hidden by trees on Pittwater Road.
Pittwater Rugby's fixtures sign - clearly visible on Pittwater Road
No signage indicating entrance to grounds off Walsh Street
No signage at the eastern end of the Reserve

Golf activities - clear signage on Pittwater Road, Walsh Street entry and direction indicator signs on Pittwater/Walsh, Pittwater/Berry corners
'Golfing prohibited' sign near back grounds

Site Specific Issues:

Previous tip site - undulating

Lack of ancillary facilities (eg. seating, shade, shelter)

Noise, floodlighting and traffic congestion around Rugby Park

Need for holding yards - safety for children and ponies, and for large animals during local emergency (Temporary Evacuation Centre)

Road through to back grounds needs re-surfacing

Some issues to resolve regarding sharing of grounds & facilities, between Horse and Pony Club and Polo activities

Recent Improvements:

Ground 2 - Re-levelling, drainage and turfing - Summer, 1995/96

Clive Rogers - filling and re-levelling - Summer, 1996/97

Portable/temporary buildings erected (incorporating toilets, clubhouse, change rooms and canteen) – 1996

Baseball diamond area installed - 1997

Major Maintenance Pending:

Sub-soil drainage to number three field
Re-levelling number three field

Future Plans Pending:

Council is considering increasing recreational opportunities by positioning a cricket pitch between the two fields used for football and/or the two fields used for hockey.

Council is considering providing netball courts at North Narrabeen Reserve to complement those at Boondah Reserve.

A study was commissioned by Council for North Narrabeen Reserve for a proposed Aquatic Centre. It was recommended that this facility would be more appropriately located at Boondah Reserve.

Horse and Pony Club would like a dressage arena

Polo Club would like improvements, such as seating on hillside for spectators, and low (50 cm) solid timber fencing for safety from polo balls

Recommendations:

Design and construct a permanent facility for users of the playing fields, which incorporates toilet facilities, change-rooms, and equipment storage (as a minimum).

Develop a Recreation and Landscape Masterplan (or separate Plan of Management) to incorporate the needs of users, and potential users and improve the amenity of the Reserve with seating, shade, pathways etc.

Install signage with the name 'North Narrabeen Reserve' to Pittwater Council standard, on Pittwater Road, and the corner of Walsh Street and Narrabeen Park Parade

Investigate possibilities to re-confider grounds to cater for different sports and minimise risk resulting from sporting activities.

Re-surface and seal the access road to the back grounds

Suggested improvements to Equestrian Area, such as holding yards, dressage arena, spectator seating etc to be considered by Council in consultation with Pony Club, Polo Club and any other user groups.

Re-examine linkages for horses from Nth Narrabeen Reserve to other areas of Pittwater.

Re-negotiate leases with Warringah Rugby Club and the Golf Driving Range.

5.3 Kitchener Park

Location:

Pittwater Road and Barrenjoey Road, Mona Vale

Zoning:

6 (a) Existing Recreation
5 (a) Special uses

D.P. and Lot Nos.:

Crown Reserve 15057, and part of Crown Reserve 45244, and an area of road reserve

Lot PT 1, D.P. 251053, Lot 2, FP 110299

Description:

Large open space area which includes playing fields for soccer and cricket, tennis courts, bowling greens and skateboard facilities, and adjoins Mona Vale golf course.

History:

Mona Vale Tennis Club - 4th court constructed, other courts re-surfaced, and floodlights installed - 1982

Kitchener Park Sports Centre purpose-built as a clubhouse by Pittwater RSL Soccer Club, and completed in 1984

Skateboard Ramp opened in 1988

Community Facilities on Open Space or Adjacent to Open Space

Clubhouse/Toilets/Canteen/Change-Rooms-2 storey brick building
Scout Hall
Guide Hall
Mona Vale Tennis Club - 4 courts & clubrooms
Mona Vale Bowling Club - 3 greens & clubrooms

Ancillary Facilities on Open Space:

Two cricket pitches
Soccer goal posts (winter)
Skateboard Ramp
Cricket Nets (2)
Kicking Wall
Floodlights on grounds & tennis courts
Power box behind amenities block
Bubblers, taps, bins
Shipping container/s - equipment for groundsmen

Leases:

Mona Vale Tennis Club - May 1982 - 20 year lease
Mona Vale Bowling Club - expired lease

Main Uses:

Soccer
Cricket
Tennis
Bowls
After School Care (building and grounds)
Skateboards

Allocated Usage:

All Year:

Tennis
Lawn Bowls

Competitive Sport - Weekend Allocations

Summer (Saturday, all day) Grounds 1-3 Cricket

Winter (Sat & Sun, all day) Grounds 1-3 Soccer

Training - Weekday Allocations (after 3.30pm)

Summer

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
cricket	cricket	Little Athletics	cricket	cricket

Winter:

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Soccer	JRL to 6pm Soccer after 6pm	Soccer	JRL to 6pm Soccer after 6pm	Soccer

Other Usage:

Mater Maria School - School Sport - Terms 2,3 & 4 - Thursdays, 1pm - 3pm

Pittwater High Wed 1pm - 3pm - Terms 1,2 & 3

Pittwater Council - After School Care Program - school terms only - weekdays 3pm - 6pm - use Clubhouse & grounds

Pittwater RSL Soccer - 6 and 7 a-side over 35s soccer and pre-season grading

Pittwater RSL Soccer - September to December, out of season training - Sundays, 9am - 11am

Pittwater RSL Soccer - July school holidays soccer clinic - 1 week, 9am -12noon

M/W Soccer Assn - Soccer Trials - Sundays Feb/March 1997

Academy of Soccer - Sept. school holidays soccer clinic 1 week, 9am - 12 noon

Pacific Soccer Camps - soccer clinics - Easter & July Hols

Narrabeen Lakes Primary – Occasional

Bilgola Plateau Primary – Occasional

Narrabeen Sports High - Occasional

Pittwater High School - Soccer Afternoon
Mona Vale Public School - Inter-District Cricket - 2 half-days
Barrenjoey High - Cricket Day
Christian Outreach Centre - Gathering
Pittwater Council Social Club - Childrens Christmas Party
Mona Vale Hospital - 'Walk-a-dog-athon'
Christian Life Centre - Carols by Candlelight
Fireworks (annual) (Carols-Village Park)
Surfection - Skateboard Demonstration
Social cricket
Loquat Valley School - Cricket Match
M/W Junior Cricket Assn - Rep. Cricket - 9 Sundays (Nov/Dec 96) and other occasional use
Peninsula Cricket - occasional Sundays
M/W Baseball - occasional Sundays

Skate board ramp - Filming

Kitchener Park Sports Centre also used by:
Pittwater Council - After School Care Program - weekdays - school terms 3pm - 6pm (also casual use of Grounds) and available for meetings

Bowling Club also used by:
Pittwater Bridge - 5 x pw
Pittwater View Club (lunches)- 2 x m
Rob Potter Dance School - 1 x pw

Membership Details:

Mona Vale Tennis Club - 110 active ages 12 - 65 years - 100% Pittwater residents

Mona Vale Bowling Club (Men & Women) 205 active, 252 social ages 18 - 90 years 98% Pittwater residents (increased membership expected)

Pittwater RSL Soccer 2nd largest soccer club in district 800 playing members

Access:

Level access from car parks, public transport and roads

Difficult/dangerous entrances/exits from Pittwater Road to main car park, and Bowling Club car park.

Separate entry and exit to main car park, single access way to Bowling Club
Male and female accessible toilets
Public transport on Pittwater Road and Barrenjoey Road
Designated disabled parking spot
Designated ambulance bay

Pedestrian crossings at Barrenjoey Road/Pittwater Road, and Barrenjoey Road/Golf Avenue intersections

Linkages:

Mona Vale Golf Course
Mona Vale Beach
Mona Vale Shopping Centre
Mona Vale Hospital
Mona Vale Village Park
Mona Vale Memorial Hall/Library/Early Childhood Centre

Parking:

Off street sealed car parking areas, adjacent to playing fields & clubhouse, tennis courts and guide hall, and skateboard area and cricket nets.
Separate informal parking area adjacent to Scout Hall - entry off Golf Ave.
Separate car parking areas for Bowling Club - sealed near Pittwater Road, unsealed and informal near golf course

Main car park is shared with commuters and shoppers. Insufficient parking spaces for sporting functions on Saturdays.

A proposal for the introduction of 'Pay and Display' in 1994, did not proceed.

Visibility:

Park clearly visible from Pittwater and Barrenjoey Roads

Difficult to see entrances, particularly to main car parking area when driving south on Barrenjoey or Pittwater Roads.

Signage:

'Kitchener Park', and 'Entry' and 'Exit' signage in Pittwater Council standard -difficult to see signage from Barrenjoey Road and parts of Pittwater Road, due to curve of road. Clearly visible from Pittwater Road when approaching from Bayview

Two signs indicating the proximity of the entrance when travelling south on Barrenjoey road - clearly visible

Mona Vale Bowling Club - two signs, clearly visible both directions

Mona Vale Tennis Club - signs visible through trees

Site Specific Issues:

Siting of Grounds on the curve of a main road. Risks associated with dangerous exits/entrances to main road, from main car park and Bowling Club car park. Entry point at major intersection, and just beyond main bus-stop.

A suggested 'Bus Interchange' concept would affect Kitchener Park

The toilets have had a 'reputation' for attracting 'unsavoury characters'. This issue has attempted been addressed by Council with the installation of extra toilets upstairs for use by the Soccer Club, After School Care & other hirers, and the thinning out of vegetation/screening of this area.

Soccer Club have almost sole use of club-rooms, apart from After School Care, and some use by Cricket. There is an opportunity to widen use.

Bowling Club - expired lease - no tenure

Bowling Club - difficult entry/exit

There is a safety issue in the parking area, with children and cars.

Recent Improvements:

Floodlights to playing fields (Sport & Rec. Grant and Club funds) - 1995

Field markings re-arranged by Council in consultation with Soccer Club to allow for one 3/4 field and 2 mini-fields - 1995

Barbecue and paved assembly area, adjacent to Soccer Clubhouse - 1996

Major Maintenance Pending:

Upgrade of sub-soil drainage installation.

Future Plans Pending:

Skateboard Bowl proposed for area south of existing Skateboard Ramp - considered a compatible use. Council has received some funding under The Department of Sport & Recreation's capital assistance program. Funding is also provided in Council's 1997-98 capital works program.

Site between Bowling Club and Golf Course to be evaluated by Council re suitability for a child care centre

Site between Bowling Club and Golf Course proposed to be part of the land exchange for purchase of Winnerremmy Bay

Recommendations:

Design, fund and construct Skateboard facility

Expand use of club-rooms to increase financial returns

Investigate options of improving safety of access (eg. widen entry points)

Council's Traffic Committee to investigate the installation of traffic calming devices in the car park.

Investigate a suitable site for a childrens playground at Kitchener Park. Design and install playground equipment. This facility would be a compatible use for the Park, and could be used by After-School Care, as well as siblings of sports players and casual use.

Re-negotiate lease with Mona Vale Bowling Club.

Newport Community Centre dedicated in 1977

Community Facilities on Open Space or Adjacent to Open Space

Newport Community Centre
Scout Hall - scouts, guides, cubs and brownies

Ancillary Facilities on Open Space:

Amenities Block (Toilets & Change-Rooms)
Canteen 'Toby's Tavern'
Cricket Nets (2)
Night lighting
Seats
Flag pole (near Scout Hall)

Leases:

NIL

Main Uses:

Rugby League
Cricket

Allocated Usage:

Competitive Sport - Weekend Allocations

Summer (Saturday, all day) Cricket
Winter (Sat & Sun, all day) Junior Rugby League

Training - Weekday Allocations (after 3.30 pm)

5.4 Newport Oval

Location:

Barrenjoey Road, Bishop Street and Gladstone Street, Newport

Zoning:

6 (a) Existing Recreation

D.P. and Lot Nos.:

18 titles

Description:

Open space area principally used by rugby league and cricket, and a popular venue for social cricket. The Oval is bordered by trees, surrounded by residential area, and is in close proximity to Newport commercial area.

History:

Scout Hall - stone laid 1959

Summer

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Nil	Jnr Baseball	Jnr Baseball	Jnr Baseball	Jnr Baseball

Winter

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
WJU to 7.30pm JRL after 7.30pm	NSU AusRules to 6.30pm JRL after 6.30pm	WJU to 7.30pm JRL after 7.30pm	NSU AusRules to 6.30pm JRL after 6.30pm	WJU to 7.30pm JRL after 7.30pm

Other Usage:

Bilgola Plateau Primary – sport
Girl Guides Thinking Day Celebrations
Newport Playgroup - Childrens Christmas Party
Newport Scouts - Picnic/Social Cricket
RMYC/Water Police - Christmas Cricket Match
Newport Arms Social Club - Cricket

Water Police - Social Cricket
Newport Rugby - Cricket Match
Private - Social Cricket
Mona Vale JRLFC - Presentation Days
Peninsula Cricket - occasional Sundays - Cricket days
M/W Junior Cricket – occasional use
Newport Community Centre - Playgroup facilities, meetings.
Accommodates Pittwater Council's Family Day Care Service and Early Childhood Health Service

Membership Details:

Mona Vale JRLFC – 120 players (growing number of teams)

Access:

Level access from roads, transport
Poor access for people with children in strollers, the elderly and disabled people - no sealed, off-street pathways
Walkways (informal) from Gladstone Street to Reserve
Public transport on Barrenjoey Road and Gladstone Street

Linkages:

Spurway Park (Bowling Club)
Newport Shopping Centre

Parking:

Some unofficial, off-street parking on Bishop Street
Small parking area in front of Scout Hall on Barrenjoey Road - share with group of shops and users of scout hall
Adjacent roads

Visibility:

Easily visible from Barrenjoey Road heading south.
Not visible in advance from Barrenjoey Road heading north, due to surrounding buildings and alignment/curve on road.

Signage:

No signage indicating name of 'Newport Oval'
'Newport Community Centre', 'Pittwater Family Day Care' and 'Newport Early Childhood Health Centre'
- signage in Pittwater Council standard and clearly visible on the corner of Barrenjoey Road and Gladstone Street
Australian Rules Football sign - rusted, but visible travelling north

Site Specific Issues:

Surrounded by residences - single dwellings and blocks of home units

Negligible off-street parking

People driving onto Reserve to have social functions (gate or slip-rail not locked previously)

Noise from events disturbing adjoining residents

Numbers of people with young children needing to access Community Centre.

Recent Improvements:

Sub-soil drainage works completed end of winter 1995. (Field out-of-play for 1995 winter season)

Major Maintenance Pending:

Nil.

Future Plans Pending:

Nil.

Recommendations:

Install signage with the name 'Newport Oval' to Pittwater Council standard, on Barrenjoey Road and Bishop Street

Ensure gate and/or slip-rail is locked to prevent vehicular access to Reserve

Council's Reserves and Recreation Officer to evaluate whether a proposed 'special event' would be more suitable at another location.

Improve opportunities for passive recreation for neighbouring residents and parents watching or waiting for children.

Install suitably located park furniture/seating.

Install pathways around oval to improve linkage with car parking and other community facilities, and provide safe and easy access for people with strollers, disabled people and the elderly, away from Barrenjoey Road.

Investigate the possibility of providing access to off-street parking on Bishop St.

5.5 Spurway Park

Location:

Barrenjoey Road, The Boulevard and Palm Road, Newport

Zoning:

6 (a) Existing Recreation

D.P. and Lot Nos.:

Lots 28-34 D.P. 18415

Lots 1-11 D.P. 10529

Lots 24-25 D.P. 18415 and ROW over land 20' wide

Lots 26-27 D.P. 18415

Description:

Open space area with use restricted to Bowling Club patrons.

History:

Community Facilities on Open Space or Adjacent to Open Space

5 Bowling Greens (for Bowling Club patrons)

2 Club Houses (for Bowling Club patrons)

Ancillary Facilities on Open Space:

Leases:

Expired Leases with Newport Bowling Club and Newport Central Recreation Club.

Main Uses:

Lawn Bowls

Allocated Usage

All Year: Bowls (Men & Mixed)

Other Usage:

Club Rooms used by:

Peninsula Music - 7 x pw

Probus Ladies - monthly

Mona Vale Hospital Auxiliary & Newport Red Cross - fund raising activities when requested)

Retireinvest, Loquat Valley School - annually

Membership Details:

Nil

Access:

Level access from roads, parking and transport

General public are excluded from access.

Concrete pathway at eastern end of Spurway Park from The Boulevard to Palm Road

Public transport on Barrenjoey Road

Linkages:

Newport Oval

Newport Beach

Newport Shopping Centre

Parking:

Two informal car parking areas for use of Bowling Club patrons - entry from The Boulevard and Palm Road

Parking area adjacent to Barrenjoey Road - shared with commuters and shoppers - footbridge link to Newport Bowling Club
Adjacent roads

Visibility:

Visible from Barrenjoey Road, The Boulevard and Palm Road

Signage:

Names of Clubs on Clubhouses, information signs - easily visible, however some of the signs do not reflect the change of name

Directional street sign on Palm Road for Newport Womens Bowling Club

Site Specific Issues:

Two Bowling Clubs on one site - possibility to amalgamate & share in 1994 - not resolved

Newport Bowling Club (previously mens) - have 3 greens, need more

Newport Central & Recreation Club (previously womens) have 2 greens - sufficient

Expired leases, nominal rent paid to Council

Recent Improvements:

Nil

Major Maintenance Pending:

Nil

Future Plans Pending:

Newport Bowling Club - project to extend to south/west corner of Clubhouse

Floodlights

Recommendations:

Establish new leasing arrangements, to give tenure to Bowling Clubs and reasonable return to Council

Leases:

Newport Rugby Club

Main Use:

Rugby Union

5.6 Porter Reserve

Location:

Burke Street, Newport

Zoning:

6 (a) Existing Recreation

D.P. and Lot Nos.:

C.R. 87450

C.R. 9878

C.R. 100179 Por 242 (lease to Newport Rugby, now community purposes)

Description:

Single purpose open space area used for rugby, surrounded by bushland, with views to ocean

History:

Degraded valley - now significant bushland

Community Facilities on Open Space or Adjacent to Open Space

Amenities Block (Toilets & Change-Rooms)

Robbie Porter Stand - Barbecue facility with shelter
'Breakers' Clubhouse - located on northern side of Burke Street

Ancillary Facilities on Open Space:

Taps, bubblers, bench seating

Power boxes in Clubhouse and on amenities block

Goal posts

Allocated Usage:

Competitive Sport - Weekend Allocations

Summer NIL
Winter (Sat & Sun, all day) Warringah Junior Union

Training - Weekday Allocations (after 3.30pm)

Summer - NIL

Winter

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
WJUnion	WJUnion	WJUnion	WJUnion	WJUnion

Other Usage:

Newport Public School - State Rugby Union Finals
La Crosse
Newport JRLFC - Evening function and childrens disco
Avalon JRLFC - Rugby League match

Membership Details:

Newport Breakers Rugby Club
Rugby - Seniors - 90 players, Juniors - 160 players
Touch Football - 46 players

Access:

Level access from Burke Street and car park
Steep incline from Newport & Barrenjoey Road, and bus stops
Difficult/dangerous to access by car travelling south on Barrenjoey Road
Pathway from Neptune Road to Reserve
Public transport on Barrenjoey Road

Linkages:

Attunga Reserve
Walking Trails (being upgraded)
Eric Green Reserve
Bicentennial Coastal Walkway
Newport Beach Reserve

Parking:

Car Parking Area - western side of sportsground
Parking on Burke Street, with some informal off-street parking

Visibility:

Not easily visible from Barrenjoey Road
Difficult to find Burke Street when driving north or south on Barrenjoey Road
Easily visible once on Burke Street

Signage:

'Porter Reserve' signage in Pittwater Council standard - sign not visible in advance of the Reserve, due to vegetation, residences etc. and the fact it is set well back from Barrenjoey Road
Two 'Horse Riding Prohibited' signs - one near car park barely readable, one near eastern end is upside down
'Robbie Porter Stand' and 'Newport Breakers R.C.' signage on buildings - clearly visible

Site Specific Issues:

Previous Tip site

Grounds heavily used by Rugby throughout winter - need time to rest in summer - requires top-dressing and constant patching of holes

Perimeter fencing needs constant repairs.

Recent Improvements:

Mini-ground established on western side of main ground, to be used for training and junior games - 1996. Project initiated by Council, in consultation with Rugby Club.

Major Maintenance Pending:

Nil.

Future Plans Pending:

Bushland walking trails being upgraded behind Reserve, by Newport Bushlink Group (Volunteer group, with assistance from grant funding)

Recommendations:

Provide better signage re location

Investigate opportunities for appropriate community use in summer eg. light, casual or social use.

Repair or replace fencing, as appropriate

Install park furniture (seating/picnic tables), to provide further opportunities for passive recreation, add to options for people using walking trails and capitalise on panoramic ocean views.

5.7 Dunbar Park

Location:

Old Barrenjoey Rd and Bowling Green Lane,
Avalon

Zoning:

6 (a) Existing Recreation

D.P. and Lot Nos.:

D.P. 636526, Lot 200 (Avalon Bowling Club)
D.P. 9151, Lots 15 -19

Description:

Open space with playing fields, bowling greens, other community buildings and facilities, adjacent to Avalon commercial area and residences.

History:

The area was a 'swamp' - filled by Avalon RSL (c 1960)
Flagpole erected by Avalon RSL - 1961

Community Facilities on Open Space or Adjacent to Open Space

Avalon Community Centre & Amenities (toilets)
Avalon-Palm Beach Guide Hall
Avalon Scouts Hall
Avalon Bowling Club, Clubhouse, 3 bowling greens and 1 croquet lawn
Childrens Playground

Ancillary Facilities on Open Space:

Cricket Nets (2)
War memorial (landscaped) and large flagpole (from Avalon RSL - adjacent)
Floodlights
Power Box at north eastern corner of ground
Small flagpole adjacent to scout hall
Seating

Leases:

Avalon Beach Bowling and Recreation Club -
Expired Lease

Main Uses:

Soccer
Bowls
Jnr Baseball

School use
Croquet

Allocated Usage:

All Year:

Lawn Bowls
Croquet

Competitive Sport - Weekend Allocations

Summer (Saturday, all day) Junior Baseball
Winter (Sat & Sun, all day) Soccer

Training - Weekday Allocations (after 3.30pm)

Summer

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Nil	Jnr Baseball	Jnr Baseball	Jnr Baseball	Jnr Baseball

Winter:

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Soccer	Soccer	Soccer	Soccer	Soccer

Other Usage:

Barrenjoey High - School sport - school terms - all year - Wed 1-3pm
Maria Regina School Term 2 Wed 9.30am-11.30am Term 4 Wed 1pm - 2pm Childrens Play
Avalon Primary Fri Terms 2 & 3 1.30pm-2.30pm
Maria Regina - School Fetes and other occasional use
Avalon Chamber of Commerce - Market Days
Avalon RSL – Fishing Weigh in
Avalon Girl Guides – Anniversary celebrations
Avalon OOSH – Craft Fairs
Avalon Lions - Cow Lotto
Pittwater LETS - Trading Day
Avalon Creative Leisure - Family Day/Market Day
Avalon Breakers - Touch Football, BBQ/Cricket, BBQ/Touch Football
Avalon Playgroup - Christmas Party
Pittwater Festival - Lifestyle Fair
Community Centre - indoor sports (netball, badminton, basketball), meetings, social functions, theatre, drama, craft workshop, pottery studio.
Bowling Club -
Barrenjoey High - weekly bowls
Avalon Red Cross - monthly meetings

Membership Details:

Avalon Beach Bowling and Recreation Club
200 active, 40 social
ages 55 - 85 years
99% Pittwater residents - static

Avalon Soccer Club – 600 players –growing numbers

Access:

Level access from roads, parking area and transport
Accessible 'Access Key' unisex toilets, at Community Centre
Pathway on southern border from Old Barrenjoey Road, to main car parking area and shops on Avalon Parade
Steps and pathway from school to Park
Unmade pathway/desire line beside cricket nets to playground area
Public transport on Barrenjoey Road, Avalon Parade and Central Road

Linkages:

Avalon Shopping Centre
Schools and Churches
Pathway to 'Pittwater Palms' (Retirement Village)
Avalon Beach

Parking:

Central car park - sealed, informal, shared with Avalon RSL and shoppers
Separate car park for Bowling Club
Ancillary shoppers car park
Extra informal unsealed parking to north of Bowling Club
Limited parking on adjacent streets

Visibility:

Easily visible from Old Barrenjoey Road
Not easily visible from Barrenjoey Road or Avalon Parade
Bowling Club not easily visible from road

Signage:

'Dunbar Park' signage in Pittwater Council standard, on Old Barrenjoey Road
'Avalon Community Centre' and 'Avalon Early Childhood Health Centre' signage in Pittwater Council standard, on Old Barrenjoey Road
Signage at entry to car park, indicating Dunbar Park, Avalon Beach RSL, Avalon Beach Bowling Club, Guides and Scouts Halls, parking and toilets
'Avalon Bowling Club' sign at entry to their site
All above signage - clearly visible
Information board on Old Barrenjoey Road - falling apart

Site Specific Issues:

Goal posts subject to constant vandalism

Vandalism to toilets and amenities

Adjacent to Avalon RSL - late hours/patrons drinking

Bordered by residential housing to the north - issues of noise, parking, amenity

Residents/Chamber of Commerce want Dunbar Park developed as a community village green - (not a sportsground)

Subject to an Avalon Community Plan

Public car parks on zoned open space (for Franklins, Avalon RSL and other commercial activities)

Recent Improvements:

Childrens playground upgraded (with assistance from a Dept. of Sport & Rec grant, and in consultation with the community) – 1996

Landscaping improvement to entry way to Avalon Community Centre

Increased tree planting near Community Centre and around perimeter of park

Major Maintenance Pending:

Nil

Future Plans Pending:

Avalon Commercial Centre - Masterplan - Dunbar Park to have a civic focus and landscaping and a reduction in available space for soccer etc. (Currently the Park has the potential for 4 sub-junior fields, but is configured as 3. Masterplan allows for 2, as the field in the south-east corner, near the Community Centre, is rarely used).

Recommendations:

Investigate the options of portable goal posts which can be safely stored or installing stronger/indestructible posts

Increase security

Improve access, particularly for people with children in strollers, with the installation of a ramp to replace one of the sets of existing steps, from the northern boundary to the childrens playground and playing fields, and/or to follow existing desire lines near cricket nets.

Improve opportunities for passive recreation with landscape improvements, such as seating and pathways.

Investigate whether the needs of soccer can be accommodated at Careel Bay playing fields.

Consult with local cricket club, as to usage of existing cricket nets, and cricket needs. (Cricket is not played at Dunbar Park, and there may be a more suitable location/s for nets).

Re-negotiate lease with Avalon Bowling Club.

5.8 Hitchcock Reserve

Location:

Barrenjoey Road, Careel Bay (Avalon)

Zoning:

6 (a) Existing Recreation

D.P. and Lot Nos.:

C.R. 70736
D.P. 627958

Description:

Large open space area which incorporates playing fields and a tennis court complex, adjacent to Careel Creek.

History:

Area designated for public recreation - 13/11/42
Amenities block extended to provide canteen and storage - 1993

Community Facilities on Open Space or Adjacent to Open Space

Careel Bay Tennis Club - Clubhouse, 5 courts, cabanas, picnic furniture and playground equipment (fenced from general public use)
Amenities Block - Toilets. Change-rooms/canteen for Avalon JRLC
Childrens Playground (swing and slide)
Cricket Nets (2)
Cricket wicket
Two Rugby League fields- 1 Senior, 1 Junior

Ancillary Facilities on Open Space:

Barbecue (wood)
Power box behind amenities block
Floodlights
Bubblers, taps, bins
Picnic table (near playground)
Bench seating at amenities block

Leases:

Careel Bay Tennis Club

Main Uses:

Junior Rugby League
Tennis
Cricket

Allocated Usage:

All Year:

Tennis

Competitive Sport - Weekend Allocations:

Summer (Saturday, all day) Grounds 1 & 2 Cricket
Winter (Sat & Sun, all day) Junior Rugby League

Training - Weekday Allocations (after 3.30 pm)

Summer

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
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Cricket	Cricket	Warringah Touch	Cricket	Cricket
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Winter

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
JR League	JR League	JR League	JR League	JR League

Other Usage:

Barrenjoey High - School sport - All year - Wed. 1-3pm (rugby league, rugby union, cricket, softball, touch football)

Avalon JRLFC – trials

M/W Junior cricket occasional use

Filming

Avalon Public School Fireworks Display

South Pacific Destinations Social Cricket

Private Social Cricket

Sydney Electricity Touch Football

Tennis Club General public 7 x pw Barrenjoey High

1 x pw Aden Tennis School Tuition 7 x pw

Membership Details:

Avalon Junior Rugby League Football Club

280 active ages 6 - 35 years

90 social ages 6 -60 years

98% Pittwater residents

Player numbers doubled since 1992 - forecast increase, slower rate

Careel Bay Tennis Club

178 active ages 13 - 78 years

90% Pittwater residents - static needs

Access:

Level access, from car park, roads and public transport

Difficult to see access from Barrenjoey Road

Separate entry and exit points

Pathways (unsealed, cleared) leading to pedestrian refuge on Barrenjoey

Road, and along creek

Public transport on Barrenjoey Road

Linkages:

Careel Bay Playing Fields

Catalina Park

Barrenjoey High School

Avalon Beach Reserve

Footbridge to John Street, and residences in Careel Bay

North Avalon shops

Pittwater (Careel Bay)

Parking:

Central, sealed car parking area, to service playing fields, tennis courts and other uses

Limited overflow parking on Barrenjoey Road and adjacent streets

Visibility:

Not easily visible from Barrenjoey Road - due to tree screening

Entrance not easily visible

Signage:

'Hitchcock Park' signage to Pittwater Council standard - not visible travelling north on Barrenjoey Road, until past the entrance

Separate 'Entry' and 'Exit' signs

Careel Bay Tennis Club sign at entry - not easily visible

Careel Bay Tennis Club/Aiden Tennis School information on tennis court fence

'No Golfing Allowed' sign

'Keep clear for Ambulance' sign - no designated marking on ground

Site Specific Issues:

Originally a tip site

Avalon JRLFC requires more storage in amenities block, more lights for night training, and require a Clubhouse (Rec. Needs)

Car park considered inadequate when there is a big crowd (eg A grade Rugby League, plus tennis, on Sunday afternoons)

Recent Improvements:

Tennis Club - 5th court installed and floodlights upgraded - 1994/95

Major Maintenance Pending:

Levelling of playing fields

Sub-soil drainage

Future Plans Pending:

Avalon JRLFC proposal for a Clubhouse, to be sited north of the existing amenities block. The Club have funds, and are awaiting Plan of Management. Need DA approval.

Recommendations:

Avalon JRLFC submit DA for Clubhouse to Council

Develop an Landscape Masterplan for the Careel Bay/Hitchcock Park area.

Plan and develop a walkway/cycleway - existing strong desire line along the western boundary - to improve linkage of Careel Bay Playing Fields with Hitchcock Park, and to other surrounding recreation, residential and community areas, and to expand recreational opportunities in the area.

Design for upgrading of childrens playground

Install additional picnic and barbecue facilities

Repair car parking area

5.9 Careel Bay Playing Fields

Location:

Barrenjoey Road, Careel Bay (Avalon)

Zoning:

6 (a) Existing Recreation

D.P. and Lot Nos.:

C.R. 70736
and Road Reserve 20.12 (near Amenities Building)

Description:

Large open space area with playing fields used for soccer, and wooded area to northern boundary which is allocated as an unleashed dog exercise area.

History:

Originally a tip site. Equestrian Activity Area established for Peninsula Pony Club, by Warringah Council in 1978. The Club became defunct due to declining membership, in the mid 1980s and horse riding activities ceased in the late 1980s.

'Three Quarter' size soccer field (which can also be configured as 2 mini-fields), developed on this site - 1990.

Head of Careel Bay zoned 7 (a) Environmental Protection - 1990.

Community Facilities on Open Space or Adjacent to Open Space

Unleashed Dog Exercise Area
Amenities Block and Clubrooms (Avalon Soccer Club)

Ancillary Facilities on Open Space:

Scattered seating in Unleashed Dog Exercise Area
Power Box at Amenities Block
Some bench seating at Amenities Block
Floodlights
Bubblers, taps, bins

Leases:

nil

Main Uses:

Soccer
Dog Exercise (unleashed)/Walking Dog

Allocated Usage:

All Year:

Northern section - designated unleashed dog exercise area

Competitive Sport - Weekend Allocations:

Summer (Saturday, all day) nil
Winter (Sat & Sun, all day) Grounds 1 & 2 Soccer
Training - Weekday Allocations (after 3.30pm)

Summer - NIL

Winter - Grounds 1 & 2

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Soccer	Soccer	Soccer	Soccer	Soccer

Other Usage:

Barrenjoey High Wed 1pm-3pm all year
Mater Maria – occasional
Careel Bay Soccer – trial games
Avalon Soccer Club over 35s Soccer – Sun Sept.-
Dec.
Avalon Public School Fireworks Display
Animal Welfare Group 'Pick-a-Poo' Day
Barrenjoey High - School sport - All year - Wed. 1-
3pm

Membership Details:

Avalon Soccer Club – 600 players, 80 social
(membership 5 years ago – 400 & 60 respectively)

Access:

Level access from roads, parking, transport Single
entry/exit point onto Barrenjoey Road - tight
access, poor visibility Public transport on
Barrenjoey Road

Linkages:

Hitchcock Park
Careel Bay Tennis Club
Pittwater (Careel Bay)
Environmental Protected Area
Careel Shopping Village
Dolphin Park

Parking:

Car parking area, unsealed, informal, some pot-
holes
Etival Street - informal parking adjacent to Dog
Exercise area
Limited parking on Barrenjoey Road

Visibility:

Not easily visible from Barrenjoey Road or Etival
Street, due to vegetation

Signage:

'Careel Bay Ovals' and 'Avalon Soccer Club'
signage to Pittwater Council standard, at
entrance
No entry/exit signage - single access point
'No Golfing Allowed' signage in several locations -
clearly visible
'Horse Riding Prohibited' signage at middle ground
- clearly visible
Signage re 'Illegal Dumping' at entry to northern
field

There are many different signs regarding the
restrictions/boundaries of the area where dogs are
permitted to be off-leash, and warnings on
penalties for 'doggy dos'. These signs should be
adequate to inform dog owners of their
responsibilities.

On Careel Bay - 'Environmental Protected Area
No Domestic Animals' signage to Pittwater Council
standard - clearly visible

Interpretative board re migratory birds etc. at edge
of Careel Bay

Site Specific Issues:

Previous tip site - grounds need upgrading (re-
levelling and re-turfing). Ground 1 (main ground) is
in the worst condition.

Proximity to environmental sensitive area

Noxious weeds, particularly bamboo is very
prevalent. Clearing has been stopped, due to
proximity to environmental sensitive areas and
possibility of endangered species in this area. To
be resolved by Council.

Location of unleashed dog exercise area

Compatibility of unleashed dogs and sporting
events.

Compatibility of unleashed dogs and birdlife

Insufficient litter bins for the disposal of dog faeces

Recent Improvements:

Minor filling and turfing - early 1995

Interpretative signage re Environmental Protection
Area/migratory birds designed and erected at
foreshore boundary of dog exercise area - late
1995

Major Maintenance Pending:

Proposed major upgrading, including sub-soil
drainage, to main field (Ground 1)

Future Plans Pending:

Possibility of introduction of a summer code for soccer

Refer to Careel Bay Wetlands Plan of Management for recommended remedial measures

Recommendations:

Investigate the possibility of providing some more formalised parking at the northern extremity of the reserve on or near Barrenjoey Road, or on Etival Street - to encourage/facilitate dog owners to park in this area.

Investigate opportunities to improve safety of access off Barrenjoey Road. Investigate the possible construction of a small bridge over the drain which runs along the road.

Develop an overall Recreation and Landscape Masterplan for the Careel Bay/Hitchcock Park area.

Plan and develop a walkway/cycleway - existing strong desire line along the western boundary - to improve linkage of Careel Bay Playing Fields with Hitchcock Park, and to other surrounding recreation, residential and community areas, and to expand recreational opportunities in the area.

Investigate the opportunities for increased community use of playing fields, particularly in summer. Consider the following:

- introducing another sport for summer use of the grounds, or the further utilisation of the grounds with a summer code for soccer.
- utilising the northernmost soccer field for UDEA in the "off-season"

Ensure there are adequate measures to remove litter from the sportsground including the following:

- continue to encourage community support for responsible dog ownership with initiatives such as 'poop and scoop' programs and dog litter bins.
- Removal of dog faeces from sports field prior to sports events to reduce health risks.
- Provision of additional litter bins and their removal on sports days to reduce refuse entering EPA.

Increase Ranger patrol of dogs on beach and those not complying with UDEA.

Place information on the back of the two UDEA signs, reminding dog owners of their responsibility to leash dogs when entering the playing field area.

Consider installation of physical barriers such as fences with gates between UDEA and northernmost soccer field.

Encourage users of UDEA to use central Carapook between playing fields to relieve pressure on Evitable St residents.

Consider delineating the access way to dogs from the central carpark to the UDEA such as a post and rail fence which could also provide informal seating for spectators of sporting events. If cycleway is extended from Tennis Courts consider continuing delineation of access way along western side of sports fields in Hitchcock Park.