FENCING OF COUNCIL RESERVES POLICY

Policy Reference No.  POL/166
File No. HCC05/598
Strategic Objective 4.2 Create community pride through a well-designed and maintained City
Adopted by Council February 1997
Re-Adopted 09 February 2015
Date for Review 09 March 2019
Responsible Officer Manager Leisure Centres & Sport
Department Leisure Centres & Sport
1  POLICY STATEMENT

1.1 Council as owner/manager of public open space will determine the appropriateness of fencing Council reserves containing sportsgrounds for the purpose of major sporting events to ensure members of the community have appropriate access the open space network.

1.2 Regional Active Recreation Reserves hosting a sporting club will be deemed appropriate to provide permanent spectator fencing (generally 1.8m) if it is leased and generally occupied by one club.

1.3 Sporting clubs will be able to apply to Council to erect temporary fencing for major sporting events at active recreation reserves (e.g. finals) but all costs will be the responsibility of the club.

2  PURPOSE

2.1 Provide guidance on the erection of fencing at Council owned or controlled active recreation reserves for the purpose of major sporting events.

3  SCOPE

3.1 Fencing of Active Recreation Reserves (either permanent or temporary) for the purpose of major sporting events will be determined based on the hierarchy of Active Recreation Reserves, whether the site is leased, and/or the function of the reserves facilities.

3.1.1 Given the nature and function of Regional Active Recreation Reserves such as Highgate Recreation Reserve (Craigieburn) and John Ilhan Memorial Reserve (Westmeadows): permanent fencing (1.8m) will be considered.

3.1.2 District Active Recreation Reserves such as Greenvale Recreation Reserve (Greenvale), Clarke Oval (Sunbury) and Jacana Recreation Reserve (Jacana): permanent fencing will not be permitted, however clubs with seasonal agreements to use a Council reserve may request to temporarily fence the reserve.

3.1.3 Sub District Active Recreation Reserves such as D.S. Aitken Reserve (Craigieburn) and Anderson Reserve (Broadmeadows): permanent fencing will not be permitted, however consideration will be given to temporary fencing upon request from a seasonal club. This includes all other sporting reserves.
4 OBJECTIVE

4.1 To preserve community access to a variety of open spaces.

4.2 The community may be restricted from accessing public open space for the purpose of major sporting events no more than 3 days prior to and 3 days following the conclusion of the event. The community must be provided reasonable notice where temporary fencing has been approved.

5 POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

5.1 Hume based seasonal clubs tenanting Active Recreation Reserves owned or controlled by Council may apply to Council to erect temporary fencing for major sporting events during the year.

5.2 Council will review reserve classifications with the development of new venues, giving consideration to sports and wider community open space needs as well as working with peak sporting bodies and leagues to identify the need and opportunity to develop further fenced regional active facilities as the municipality grows.

6 DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

6.1 Public open space – All parks, gardens, reserves and other parcels of land accessible to the public, managed by Council or other public authorities, and used for passive, active, formal and/or informal recreation.

6.2 Active Recreation Reserve – Open space designed and used for the purpose of playing sport.

6.3 Regional Active Recreation Reserves - provide for high levels of competition, such as Football Federation of Victoria’s State League, or AFL Victoria Football League or TAC competition. Infrastructure at these venues are developed to the highest level of provision and provide for a range of users including a principal tenant, clubs who may train elsewhere and league/associations representative fixtures or competition. A regional facility would generally attract people from the whole municipality or beyond.

6.4 District Active Recreation Reserves – generally provide for local competitions for a range of functions/sports. In some cases District Active Recreation Reserves provide for a higher standard of competition, but the sports' requirements do not warrant a higher level of infrastructure e.g. Cricket Victoria’s Premier Cricket competition. A District Active Reserve catchment covers a catchment of 3,000 households.
6.5 **Sub District Active Recreation Reserves** – are usually reserves located in sub district open spaces and covers a catchment of three neighbourhoods. Generally, sub district reserves provide one sports playing field.

6.6 **Hierarchy of open space** – The levels of provision of open space ranging from neighbourhood (or local) to state significance.

6.7 **Seasonal clubs** – are clubs who have an agreement with Council to use a reserve for a season (1 April – 30 September or 1 October – 31 March)

6.8 **Leased venues** – provides the right to exclusively possess property for an initial 10-year term.

6.9 **Sportsgrounds** – reserves where organised outdoor sport is played, such as athletics, hockey, baseball, Australian Rules Football and cricket.

6.10 **Major sporting event/carnivals** – an organised sporting event which is not part of the standard weekly competitions/events e.g. finals, carnivals, not for profit shows.

6.11 **Fence** – for the purposes of this policy, fence or fencing refers to a permanent fencing, generally 1.8m – 1.9m in height erected around a reserve for the purpose of controlling access.

6.12 **Temporary fencing** – is generally 1.8m to 1.9m high fencing temporarily erected to control access for a limited time and removed within 3 days once it has served its purpose.

7 **RELATED DOCUMENTS**

7.1 Hume City Council Leisure Strategy 2013-2018

7.2 Hume City Council Open Space Strategy 2010-2015