
12.2 MAITLAND REGIONAL SPORTS COMPLEX NAMING PROPOSAL

FILE NO:	37412
ATTACHMENTS:	Nil
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Judy Jaeger - Group Manager Culture, Community & Recreation Laurie D'Angelo - Manager Community and Recreation
AUTHOR:	Kelly Baldwin - Team Leader Major Venues & Facilities
MAITLAND +10	Outcome 2. Community and recreation services and facilities
COUNCIL OBJECTIVE:	2.1.1 To plan for a broad range of community, recreation and leisure infrastructure and services that meets the needs of a growing community

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In line with Council's Naming and Renaming of Buildings, Parks and Reserves policy, and due to the significant investment made to the sportsground and athletics centre located at Lot 7007 DP1126284, Lot 1 DP329996, Lot 1 DP722550, Lot 7006 DP1126284, Lot 7306 DP1154271 and Lot 7307 DP115427, a review of the naming hierarchy of each facility and the broader precinct has been completed. The review has highlighted the need for consistent identification of each facility and the broader precinct at both a local and regional level. In addition, recognition of both Paul Critchley and Mr Smyth's contributions to the precinct need to be considered as part of the naming hierarchy.

As such, Council officers recommend the following naming hierarchy for the sports and recreation precinct:

- *Individual facility names - Maitland Regional Sportsground, Maitland Regional Athletics Centre and Harold Gregson Park*
- *Whole facility name - Maitland Regional Sports Complex*
- *Meeting room within the Athletics Centre name - Paul Critchley Meeting Room*
- *Private entry road to the shared car park name - Smyth Way.*

All new or amended names for facilities or roads will be placed on public exhibition for 28 days for comment and a submissions outcomes report will be returned to Council before a proposal is forwarded to the Geographic Names Board for their consideration.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

THAT

1. **Council resolve to place the naming proposal for 'Maitland Regional Sportsground' for the reserve known as Lot 7007 DP1126284 and Lot 1 DP329996 on public exhibition for 28 days for comment.**

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2. **Council resolve to place the naming proposal for 'Maitland Regional Athletics Centre' for the reserve known as Lot 1 DP722550 and Lot 7006 DP1126284 on public exhibition for 28 days for comment.**
3. **Lot 7306 DP1154271, Lot 7307 DP1154271 be identified as 'Harold Gregson Park' as per the current registered place name on the Geographical Names Board.**
4. **Council resolve to place the naming proposal of the whole facility identified in recommendations 1, 2 and 3 of this report as the 'Maitland Regional Sports Complex' on public exhibition for 28 days for comment.**
5. **Council resolve to place the naming proposal for 'Smyth Way' for the entry road to the shared car park connecting to James St on public exhibition for 28 days for comment.**
6. **A submissions outcomes report for recommendations 1, 2, 4 and 5 of this report be returned to Council before a proposal is forwarded to the Geographic Names Board for their consideration.**
7. **Council resolve to name the meeting room within the Athletics Centre the 'Paul Critchley Meeting Room' to recognize Paul Critchley's contribution to the Athletics in the Maitland community.**

REPORT**Background**

In line with Council's Naming and Renaming of Buildings, Parks and Reserves policy, and due to the significant investment made to the sportsground and athletics centre located at Lot 7007 DP1126284, Lot 1 DP329996, Lot 1 DP722550 and Lot 7006 DP1126284, there is a need to review the naming of these community assets. In addition, there is a need to review the name of the reserve located at Lot 7306 DP1154271 and Lot 7307 DP1154271 to ensure the naming of the reserve is consistent with the intent of future planning for the site as part of the broader precinct.

Maitland City Council, together with the State Government funding from the Hunter Infrastructure and Investment Fund (\$5.6 million), the Restart NSW Hunter Infrastructure and Investment Fund (\$5.5 million) and the Regional Sports Infrastructure Fund (\$5.2 million) will see an investment of up to \$19 million upon the completion of Stage 1, Stage 2 and Stage 3 of what is currently referred to as the Maitland Regional Sports Hub located in Central Maitland. Figure 1 below details the lots referred to in this report.

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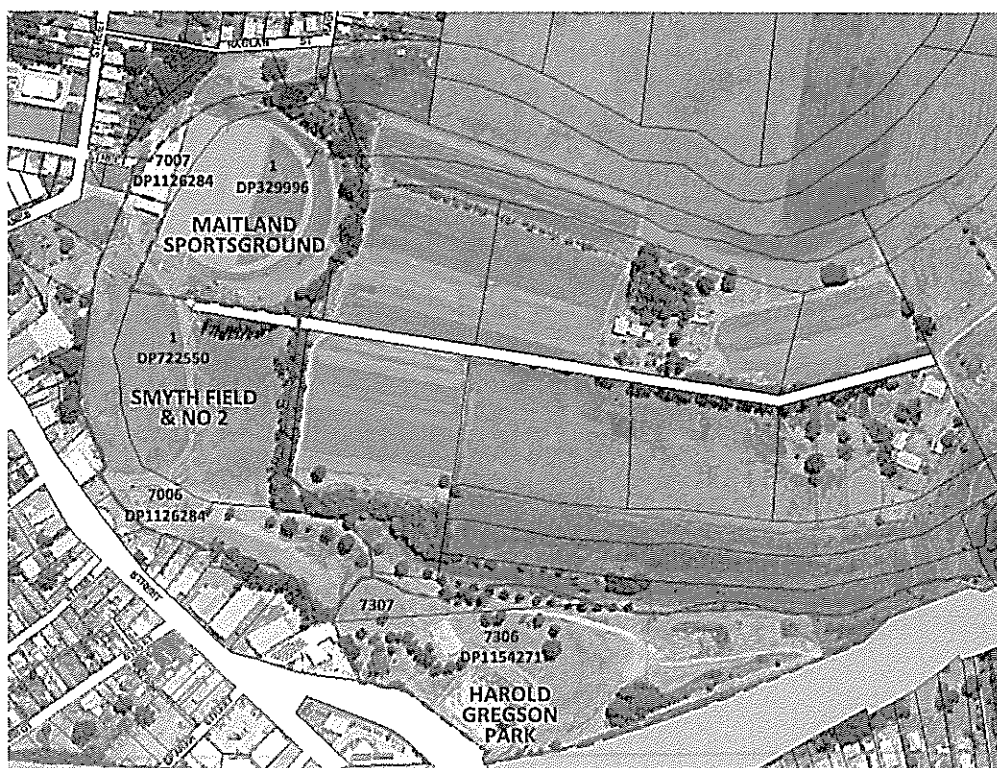


Figure 1 – Sportsground, Athletics Centre and Park Site

Stage 1 of the project saw the redevelopment of what is currently referred to as Maitland No.1 Sportsground. Stage 2 of the project is currently underway with the construction of the Athletics Centre due for completion in 2020. Stage 3 of the project will see further embellishment in the sports precinct to include new fencing, fitness track and equipment, amphitheatre seating, LED scoreboard and lighting upgrades. In addition, due to the proximity of the reserve currently referred to as Harold Gregson Reserve to the sports precinct, recreation planning investigations are underway to determine how the reserve may be developed in the future to further enhance passive recreation in the precinct.

Due to the significant investment and profile of the precinct, a review of the naming hierarchy of each facility and the broader precinct has been completed. The review has highlighted the need for consistent identification of each facility and the broader precinct at both a local and regional level with the site identified as a Metropolitan Sport Facility in the Greater Newcastle Metropolitan Plan 2036. Table 1 below details the current naming inconsistencies across the precinct.

Table 1 – Current naming inconsistencies across the precinct.

Site - Sportsground	Site - Athletics Track	Site - Park	Site - Precinct
Maitland Sportsground No.1	Maitland Regional Athletics Complex	Harold Gregson	Maitland Regional Sports Park
Maitland No.1 Sportsground	Maitland Regional Athletics Centre	Harold Gregson Reserve	Maitland Regional Sportsground Precinct

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Maitland Sports Complex	Paul Critchley Athletics Centre		Maitland Regional Sportsground Complex Athletics Centre
The Number 1 Sports Ground	Maitland Regional Sportsground Complex (Athletics Track)		Maitland Regional Hub
Maitland No. 1 Sportsground Complex	Athletics Track		Maitland Regional Sports Complex
Maitland Regional Sportsground Complex	Maitland Athletics Project		Maitland Regional Sports Precinct
No. 1 Sportsground			

Currently, the Geographical Names Board of NSW (GNB) confirms that there are two facilities with registered names. These are:

- Maitland Sportsground – registered in 1973
- Harold Gregson Park – registered in 1996

In addition to the current registered names, at its meeting on 24 July 2007, Council resolved to name Lot 1 DP722550 and Lot 7006 DP1126284 (previously known as Smyth Field and No.2 Sportsground) to the Paul Critchley Athletic Centre due to his contribution to Athletics in the Maitland community. While Smyth Field and No.2 Sportsground are not current registered place names with the GNB, the naming of Smyth Field originated from the transfer of land ownership from the late Mr Smyth to Maitland City Council in 1961. Recognition of both Mr Critchley and Mr Smyth have been considered as part of the naming hierarchy proposed in this report.

Naming Proposal

A consistent name for each facility is required to ensure:

- Accurate venue name registered on the GNB
- Each venue can be identified separately in google maps
- Future grant applications are site specific
- Venue bookings can accurately be managed and booked in accordance with adopted Fees & Charges.

A consistent name for the precinct is required to ensure:

- The site can be promoted and identified holistically for future events bids
- The site can be detailed in strategic documents such as the Community Infrastructure Plan, the Destination Management Plan and other Regional strategies.

The GNB has the role of assigning name to places and natural features. The *Geographical Names Board - Place Naming Policy* states that Geographical names shall be easy to pronounce, spell and write, and preferably not exceed three words (including any designated term) or 25 characters. It is important to note that any consideration to include Regional in the site individual names will fall outside the Geographical Names Board policy

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recommendations. Prior to any submissions of a naming proposal, the application is to be supported by a Council resolution. Council should also supply evidence that they have sought community feedback on the proposal.

New place names seeking to be registered, or alterations to the existing registered names are required to be lodged with the GNB prior to their board meetings where applications are considered and either approved or denied. The GNB are currently scheduled to meet on 14 July 2020.

Taking into consideration the *Geographical Names Board - Place Naming Policy*, Council officers recommend the following naming hierarchy for each facility and the broader precinct.

Individual facility names:

- Maitland Regional Sportsground
- Maitland Regional Athletics Centre
- Harold Gregson Park

Whole facility name:

- Maitland Regional Sports Complex.

Council officers acknowledge that the proposed naming convention may fall outside of the *Geographical Names Board - Place Naming Policy* due to the inclusion of the word 'Regional' in individual site names. Council officers propose to address this in the proposal to the GNB with the rationale detailing the need to acknowledge the significant investment and profile of the individual facilities as regional sports centres in their own right as well, as a broader complex.

In order to recognise both Paul Critchley and Mr Smyth's contributions to the precinct, Council officers recommend the following additional naming proposals:

- The meeting room within the Athletics Centre is named the 'Paul Critchley Meeting Room'.
- The private entry road to the shared car park of the sportsground and athletics centre (connecting to James St) be named Smyth Way.

CONCLUSION

In line with Council's Naming and Renaming of Buildings, Parks and Reserves policy, and due to the significant investment made to the sportsground and athletics centre located at Lot 7007 DP1126284, Lot 1 DP329996, Lot 1 DP722550, Lot 7006 DP1126284, Lot 7306 DP1154271 and Lot 7307 DP1154271, a review of the naming hierarchy of each facility and the broader precinct has been completed. The review has highlighted the need for consistent identification of each facility and the broader precinct at both a local and regional level whilst recognizing the contributions of both Paul Critchley and Mr Smyth to the precinct. Council officers have prepared a naming hierarchy for the facilities and broader precinct and there should now be an opportunity for public comment.

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FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This matter has no direct financial impact upon Council's adopted budget or forward estimates.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This matter has no specific policy implications for Council.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

There are no statutory implications under the Local Government Act 1993 with this matter.