



SPORT, RECREATION AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY POLICY

**DOCUMENT NO:
A4996094**

1.1 Objectives:

The Sport, Recreation and Physical Activity Policy provides a strategic framework for sport, recreation and physical activity undertakings conducted by Ipswich City Council. The purpose of this Policy is to define Council's position in respect to:

- Sport, recreation and physical activity development, partnerships, facilities, activities, programs and services;
- Supporting community groups that facilitate sport, recreation and physical activity participation by members of the community.

1.2 Regulatory Authority:

- Ipswich City Council – Advance Ipswich Community Plan
- Ipswich City Council - Corporate Plan 2017-2022
- Ipswich City Council – Planning Scheme and Planning Scheme Policies
- Ipswich City Council – Multi-Use Sport and Recreation Facilities Policy
- Ipswich City Council – Sport and Recreation Land Use Management Policy
- Ipswich City Council – Parks and Reserves Site Planning Policy
- Ipswich City Council – Outdoor Nature Based Recreation Policy

1.3 Sport, Recreation and Physical Activity in Ipswich

Sport, recreation and physical activity is an integral part of life in Ipswich City. The City has a proud sporting heritage that has produced many sporting champions participating in a wide range of sports, recreation and physical activities. There are a range of contributors to the quality, access and range of sporting, recreational and physical activity opportunities. Sporting clubs, recreation clubs, associations, community organisations, local residents, the private sector and other levels of government all have a role to play. As such, much of this policy is about positioning Council within the context of a whole of community effort to building an environment that maximises opportunity for all people to participate in a wide range of sport, recreation and physical activity opportunities. Partnerships with a wide range of sporting clubs, recreation clubs, associations, groups and organisations are integral for higher participation in physical activity across the Ipswich region.

1.4 Underpinning Principles

The following principles underpin the objectives of the Sport, Recreation and Physical Activity Policy:

- **Equity of Access** - All residents have *access to quality sport, recreation and physical activity opportunities* regardless of their socio-economic status, ethnicity, age, gender, ability or geographic location.

- **Diversity and Choice** - Support a *variety of participation options* which enable individuals to make *choices based on their needs and interests*.
- **Enjoyment** - provide *residents the opportunity to enjoy* participation, develop skills, interact socially, achieve goals and meet personal challenges.
- **Lifelong Involvement** - Sport, recreation and physical activity *opportunities are available to people across the lifespan* from pregnancy and birth to seniors.
- **Quality** - Support *continuous improvement* in the delivery of sport, recreation and physical activity participation opportunities.
- **Research and Planning** - Support research and planning that *identifies current and future sport, recreation and physical activity needs*.
- **Safety** - Support the development and maintenance of *safe sport, recreation and physical activity environments and activities*.
- **Sustainable** - Support sustainable sport, recreation and physical activity facilities and activities that *minimize adverse individual and environmental impacts*.

1.5 Policy Statement:

Council is committed to the development of high quality planning, policy, programs, facilities, partnerships and services aimed at increasing sport, recreation and physical activity in Ipswich through the objectives of ***Increased Participation; Better Places; and Stronger Partnerships***. Where appropriate, Council will:

Increased Participation

- Undertake research into community sport, recreation and physical activity profiles, participation rates, trends and issues.
- Formulate appropriate policy, guidelines and initiatives to ensure optimum community involvement in sport, recreation and physical activity.
- Provide forward planning for the development and delivery of programs aimed at increasing participation in sport, recreation and physical activity.
- Ensure residents of all abilities and ages have opportunity for involvement and access to sport, recreation and physical activity participation opportunities.
- Facilitate a program of sport, recreation and physical activity education and training workshops to build sustainability of local sport and recreation groups.
- Inform clubs of relevant sport, recreation and physical activity opportunities.

Better Places

- Identify and acquire suitable land for the provision of sport, recreation and physical activity facilities to support a variety of activities.
- Provide forward planning and site based design for the development of new and existing sport, recreation and physical activity facilities to support a variety of activities in Ipswich.
- Ensure all residents have access to sport, recreation and physical activity facilities.
- Allocate and manage the use of sport, recreation and physical activity facilities for to cater for multiple user groups.
- Provide sustainable sport, recreation and physical activity facilities that are safe, optimise community usage and contribute to increased participation in sport, recreation and physical activity.
- Undertake a maintenance program of sport, recreation and physical activity

facilities and associated assets to Council's desired standard of service.

Stronger Partnerships

- Actively seek, plan, establish, support and implement strong working partnerships with key organisations (internal and external to Council) aimed at ensuring the provision of quality sport, recreation and physical activity facilities, programs and services and improved community health and wellbeing for all Ipswich residents.
- Support local groups to share information and increase ease of access to Federal, State and local funding, training and development opportunities.
- Support user groups that commit to enhancing their existing sport, recreation or physical activity by adopting financially sustainable plans and practices.
- Provide sporting bursaries to sports persons who excel by representing Queensland and Australia.
- Provide a variety of sponsorship and donations to a wide range of local sport, recreation and physical activity functions, activities and events.
- Encourage and attract major state and national sport and physical activity events to Ipswich.

1.6 Scope:

The Sport, Recreation and Physical Activity Policy applies to all sport, recreation and physical activity undertakings conducted by Ipswich City Council including the development of high quality planning, policy, programs, facilities, partnerships, activities and services aimed at increasing sport, recreation and physical activity in Ipswich.

1.7 Roles and Responsibilities:

This policy is to be:

- Implemented by all Council staff responsible for the planning, development, delivery, management and maintenance of all sport, recreation and physical activity partnerships, facilities, activities, programs and services conducted by Ipswich City Council; and
- Implemented by all partners involved in the delivery of sport, recreation and physical activity partnerships, facilities, activities, programs and services to the Ipswich community.

1.8 Policy Author:

The Principal Officer (Sport and Physical Activity) will be responsible for the maintenance of this policy.

Date of Review: 2 August 2018

Date of Council Resolution: 21 May 2013

Committee Reference and Date: Policy and Administration Board No. 2013(06) of 7 May 2013 – City Management and Finance Committee No. 2013(05) of 14 May 2013

No. of Resolution: 2

Date to be reviewed: 2 August 2020