



GLEN EIRA
CITY COUNCIL

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GET ACTIVE

THE FUTURE OF RECREATION AND SPORT

Adopted by Council | 16 October 2019

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1. Introduction

Background

The City of Glen Eira boasts a range of high quality sporting and recreation facilities throughout the municipality. Council's active open space includes 45 sports grounds, and currently accommodates more than 230 teams (spanning across both winter and summer seasons) each year. Other sporting facilities include a regional athletics track, bowling greens, tennis courts, netball courts, indoor sports courts, aquatic and leisure facilities and a cycling velodrome.

Beyond organised sporting facilities, open space accommodates a range of multi-purpose sporting opportunities, outdoor fitness equipment, golf birdie cages, climbing walls and a skate facility. These spaces provide informal play and social opportunities for a range of age groups and abilities.

Providing welcoming and attractive spaces, which are conducive to a range of recreational activities, assists in promoting physical activity and other health-affirming behaviours, improving the overall health and well-being of residents. Achieving better community health outcomes has become more complex and challenging with population growth, lack of or often conflicting competition for open space, changes in social and family structures, and increasing global economic and environmental challenges which impact on housing choice and affordability¹.

Provision of parks and leisure services is often cited as an important factor in 'healthy place-making'. A focus of this is shaping the built environment so that healthy activities and experiences are integral to people's everyday lives and therefore help to tackle preventable diseases². A positive environment can make a place more liveable, walkable and sustainable³.

Research demonstrates that access to good quality green spaces (i.e. parks and public spaces) that are well-connected and attractive, have significant benefits to individuals and communities. These spaces play a vital role in the social and economic life of a city; and it is critical that people are able to be physically active, connect with nature, interact with their community and maintain physical, mental and social wellbeing. Overall the health, cultural and economic contribution sport and recreation makes to our community is significant.

Need for an Updated Study

The Glen Eira Recreation Needs Study 2006 was developed to evaluate the provision of recreation services and facilities within Glen Eira and provide direction in relation to the ongoing provision of recreation resources. The 2006 study was developed with the assistance of extensive community consultation involving residents, sports clubs and other key stakeholders.

Many sports and recreation facility upgrades and developments subsequently undertaken are the result of the directions and recommendations contained in Council's Recreation Needs Study 2006. These include major redevelopments of pavilions such as the Caulfield Park Pavilion, Duncan Mackinnon Reserve Pavilion, Centenary Park Pavilion, and two pavilions at Princes Park, redevelopment of the Duncan Mackinnon Reserve athletics track to meet International Association of Athletics Federation standards, the construction of two new netball courts at Duncan Mackinnon Reserve, and a number of new multi-purpose sports courts and spaces.

¹ Health and Wellbeing Position Paper, Parks and Leisure Australia, 2018.

² Design Council UK(2018) Healthy Placemaking.

³ Dept of Infrastructure & Transport: Major Cities Unit, Our Cities, Our Future: National urban policy 2012, Aust Govt

In addition, since 2006 there has been a number of open space, sport and recreation related policies and strategies developed. These include the Glen Eira Open Space Strategy (2014), Pavilion Redevelopment Strategy, Tennis Strategy, Sportsground Lighting Policy, Community Sport – Management of Grounds Policy, revised park master plans, Leisure Needs Study (aquatics) and the Integrated Transport Strategy.

In 2015 officers presented an update to the 2006 report with the 'Recreation Needs Study Appendix – Sporting Trends Review'. This report merely provided a statistical update on sports, and did not provide Council with any new actions or opportunities.

At the time of commencing the 2006 study it was estimated that by 2031 the City of Glen Eira would grow to in excess of 136,000 residents. This figure has recently been revised with the forecast population now expected to be closer to 174,000 residents (a 38,000 person difference) by 2031. The 2019 estimated population for the City is 155,352 which is already far beyond the 2006 forecast for 2031.

Council has also long advocated for increased community access to the infield of the Caulfield Racecourse Reserve, particularly the opportunity to use sections of the infield for sport and active recreation. In 2017, the State Government altered the management arrangements for the Reserve, and current structure planning is underway for the Caulfield Station precinct and Caulfield Racecourse Reserve.

Based on these changes Council resolved to review the 2006 Recreation Needs Study, outlining changes in sporting demand and opportunities with consideration given to existing passive and active open space uses. GET ACTIVE – The Future of Recreation and Sport Study 2019 provides an opportunity to assess all changes that have occurred since 2006 and provide refreshed information to assist decision making regarding future open space and recreation facilities.

Purpose / Objective

GET ACTIVE – The Future of Recreation and Sport Study 2019 will provide a framework for the planning, management and investment of sport and active recreation facilities throughout the City of Glen Eira.

The Study consolidates key local, state and national policy and planning recommendations relating to sport, recreation and leisure into a single document. It presents a snapshot of current participation and considers local demand for a range of sports and active recreation pursuits, now and into the future.

The objectives of this Study are to:

- Provide up-to-date organised sports participation data;
- Review the existing provision of organised sport facilities;
- Identify trends and future demand for organised sport;
- Provide pragmatic recommendations to meet demand for sports facilities;
- Highlight management opportunities to assist provision and capacity; and
- Identify opportunities to improve access, diversity and integration of active recreational opportunities.

Definition and Scope

For the purpose of this Study, '*organised sport*' is defined as structured, competitive activity; whilst '*active recreation*' is defined as leisure time physical activity undertaken outside of structured, competitive sport.

The scope of the Study includes all sport and recreation facilities provided by Council for residents to undertake organised sport and/or active recreation to achieve health and wellbeing benefits.

A separate strategy for aquatic and leisure facilities in Glen Eira will be prepared. As such, future provision and development of Carnegie Swim Centre, Caulfield Recreation Centre and Glen Eira Sports and Aquatic Centre is not included in this Study.

Additionally, while the provision of on-road bicycle paths, playgrounds and dog-off leash areas provide a high level and diverse range of recreational opportunities, they are considered in other Council strategies and policy documents.

2. Strategic Context

The following plans and strategies provide important context, background and direction for the study:

- Glen Eira Council and Community Plan 2017-2021
- Glen Eira Open Space Strategy 2014
- Recreation Needs Study 2006 and Recreation Needs Study Appendix – Sporting Trends Review (2015)
- Active Victoria, State Government 2017-2021
- National Sport Plan: SPORT 2030, Australian Federal Government, 2018

The Study is also considerate of other related plans including the Pavilion Redevelopment Strategy, Tennis Strategy, Disability Action Plan, Municipal Public Health Plan, Bicycle Strategy, Playground Strategy, Sportsground Lighting Policy, Community Sport – Management of Grounds Policy, Biodiversity in Glen Eira and local park master plans.

Glen Eira Council and Community Plan 2017-2021

The Community Plan aims to ensure that the City of Glen Eira remains amongst the most liveable, accessible, healthy and safest municipalities in the state. Glen Eira is a popular place to live and the Community Plan provides strategic direction on how to enhance quality of life and amenity; not only for current residents, but also for our resident population of the future.

The themes encapsulated in the 2017-2021 Community Plan broadly reflect the planning trends, challenges and community aspirations across Melbourne. It is anticipated that as the Community Plan is updated each Council term similar themes would be developed.

In particular themes around creating a liveable and well-designed city, helping communities to be safe, healthy and inclusive, and being a clean and sustainable city. These have been consistent over recent plans.

Glen Eira Open Space Strategy 2014

The Open Space Strategy has guided the future planning, provision, design and management of public open space in Glen Eira since 2014. The Strategy has the following principles and aims:

Equitable - Located within easy walking distance of the Glen Eira community.

Accessible - Designed to be accessible for people of all ages, abilities, health, gender and cultural background.

Adaptable - Able to be added to and change over time to adapt to changing recreational, social and environmental conditions.

Networked - A system of spaces that in combination meet the recreational, environmental and social needs of Glen Eira

Diverse - Providing a diversity of character and sizes of open space to maximise accessibility to the community and contribute to sustainability.

Sustainable - Maximise opportunities to mitigate climate change, sustainable design and management practices and, where feasible meet improved ecological outcomes

The Strategy recommends that new or revised landscape master plans be prepared for a number of Council reserves, with a particular emphasis on creating opportunities for unstructured and

informal recreation pursuits, and to improve the use and accessibility of reserves by people of all ages and abilities.

The Strategy also provides guidelines in relation to the development of unstructured recreational infrastructure in open space and support for structured community sport and recreational use of open space.

Active Victoria - State Government 2017-2021

Active Victoria is the State Government's plan to strengthen the sport and recreation sector in Victoria, and to boost participation. The Government's vision for sport and recreation is:

- **More active** - An increased proportion of Victorians regularly participate in sport or active recreation.
- **More diverse and inclusive** - Inclusive sport and active recreation that provides all Victorians with opportunities to be involved.
- **Robust, flexible, sustainable and affordable** - A sustainable and efficient system that responds to changing demands and provides flexible and affordable choices.
- **Broad-based and connected** - A system that addresses the different demands, contributors and structure of sport and active recreation and maximises connections across the system.
- **Collaborative** - Well-planned and connected investment that maximises participation and health, economic, community and liveability benefits.

Active Victoria is underpinned by six strategic directions to drive the future planning for sport and recreation. Three strategic directions and their respective areas of change directly inform sport and recreation facility development in Glen Eira:

- Meeting Demand;
- Broader and More Inclusive Participation; and
- Additional Focus on Active Recreation.

National Sport Plan: SPORT 2030 - Australian Federal Government

SPORT 2030 outlines the Australian Government's first ever national sports plan which outlines a range of strategic actions to make Australia the most active and healthy sporting nation by 2030.

The long term target of SPORT 2030 is that people of all ages should have the opportunity to be engaged in sport and physical activity throughout every stage of their lives. Every individual and their communities should be able to reap the benefits of an active lifestyle.

The following key actions underpin SPORT 2030:

- Drive movement for life through sport and physical activity participation for all Australians,
- Ensure all Australian children have the skills, confidence and motivation to be active for life,
- Reduce barriers to sport and physical activity participation, and actively promote incentives for participation; and
- Coordinate investment in sport and recreation facilities to achieve sustainable outcomes for communities, with a focus on universal design to ensure sport is accessible to all Australians.

3. Guiding Principles

The following guiding principles reflect best practice in the provision of open space, sports facilities and active recreation facilities. They provide guidance to future decision making and investment in sport and recreation, with an integrated and flexible approach. Most importantly they align and complement Council's Open Space Strategy and Pavilion Redevelopment Strategy.

- **Sport for Everybody** – Sporting and active recreation facilities will be accessible, diverse and flexible to encourage people of all ages, genders, abilities and cultural backgrounds. This will be achieved by incorporating Universal Design principles, providing gender neutral amenities (female friendly), and appropriately distribute them throughout the municipality.
- **Beyond Sport** – Optimise and prioritise the provision of sporting facilities that are multi-use and can support shared use. Single-use facilities will generally not be supported except where there is a specific need. Explore opportunity to consolidate built infrastructure within reserves to maximise efficiencies and to improve the visual amenity of reserves. Support infrastructure, such as BBQs, playgrounds, shelters, seating and walking paths, will be incorporated to encourage broader informal recreational use.
- **Place Making** – Sporting and active recreation facilities contribute strongly to the identity and connection to our parks and open space. Opportunities to strengthen local character and the natural environment will be ingrained into recreation facilities and landscape designs. This will foster local identity, sense of place and community ownership.
- **Partnerships** – Where appropriate, consider opportunities for collaborating and partnering with other public and private sector organisations, agencies, clubs and groups for the provision and management of sporting and recreation facilities.
- **Sustainable** – Open spaces contribute to the green and treed character of Glen Eira and increasingly will be relied upon to provide access to natural spaces and as an escape from the built environment. Development of sport and recreation facilities will seek to mitigate climate change through sustainable design and management practices, and where feasible deliver improved ecological outcomes.
- **Financially Responsible** – Ensure the financial viability and cost effectiveness of sporting facilities will be considered in all aspects of their planning, development and on-going management.
- **Safety and security** – Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles will be applied when developing facilities; with a specific focus towards attracting people, activating spaces and improving passive surveillance.
- **Future Planning** – As our population continues to grow, more pressure will be placed on the existing open space network to provide not only recreational and sporting facilities, but also passive areas, social hubs and events spaces. Planning will be cognisant that development can meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- **Strengthen Home Base** – Seek opportunities to improve the social amenity around sports facilities for clubs and casual spectators, who are central to transforming sport from a sole activity, into a community asset.

4. Demographics and Population

The information below provides an overview of relevant demographic information for the Glen Eira community. Note that 2016 figures are based on the Estimated Residential Population (ERP) from the 2016 Census, with forecast population data provided by Community iD.

Demographic Snapshot

A brief overview of the Glen Eira population is outlined below:

- The total population at Census 2016 was 149,012 (2019 estimate 155,352);
- The median age was 37 years old, which is comparable with the Victorian median;
- Couples with children accounted for 33% of the housing type, which was slightly higher than the Victorian figure of 31%;
- Medium and higher density housing accounted for 50% of housing which was higher than the Victorian figure of 27%;
- The median weekly household income of \$1,735 was higher than the Victorian median value of \$1,416; and
- 36% of the population was born overseas which is higher than the Victorian value of 28%. Of these, approximately 13% of the population was born in China, India or the United Kingdom.

Population Trends

- Glen Eira's population increased by 8.6% from 137,152 in 2011 to 149,012 in 2016;
- It is projected to increase by 34,000 people between 2018 and 2036 – to 186,000 people;
- The five year age cohorts from 20 to 24 years old to 45 to 49 years old had the highest representation with each accounting for over 7% of the 2016 Glen Eira population;
- Since 2011, the major age cohort growth occurred in the 65 to 69 year old age group with a 39.2% increase followed by the 30 to 34 year old age group with an 18.4% increase;
- There will be an estimated 11,400 additional residents in the active age cohort of 5-39; years by 2036. Generally people who are actively involved in organised sporting activities will fall within the 5-39 year age range;
- Caulfield North, Caulfield East, Bentleigh East and Carnegie are projected to experience the highest population growth to 2036 and the highest increase in the number of people aged 5-39 years. The increases for Caulfield North, Caulfield East and Bentleigh East will be largely as a result of the new communities established within the Caulfield Village and East Village residential developments.

5. Trends – Sports and Recreation

Sport and Active Recreation Trends (National)

While not locally specific, national and state trends provide a context for the future provision of sporting and recreation facilities in Glen Eira. The Australian Sports Commission's AusPlay Report (2016)⁴ states that:

- While sport remains an important form of activity throughout life, non-sport related physical activity becomes more important as we age;
- Adult men and women participate at similar levels in physical activity and sport across life stages;
- Adults tend to play sport for longer durations than non-sport related physical activity, however, they participate in non-sport related physical activity more often than sport;
- For adults up to middle-age, time pressure is by far the main barrier to participating in sport or physical activity;
- Sports clubs are the primary avenue for children to be active, although sports clubs are not the main choice for adults, who have high participation rates in non-sporting pursuits, such as walking, swimming and fitness gymnasiums; and
- Whilst sports clubs are the primary avenues for children to be active, boys (50%) are more likely to be active through a club than girls (33%).

'The future of Australian Sport: Megatrends shaping the sports sector over coming decades' was research undertaken by The Australian Sports Commission, in partnership with the CSIRO, and looked at key influences and trends impacting sport and recreation. A megatrend is defined as a major shift in environmental, social and economic conditions that will substantially alter the way people live. Megatrends occur at the intersection of multiple trends.

- Individualised sport and fitness activities are on the rise (*Standing Committee on Recreation and Sport, 2010*). People are fitting sport into their increasingly busy and time-fragmented lifestyles to achieve personal health objectives.
- Expenditure on healthcare as a proportion of total expenditure has been and is forecast to continue rising (*Australian Government, 2010*). Australians are becoming more health conscious. We are increasingly playing sport to get fit rather than getting fit to play sport.
- The broader benefits of sport are being increasingly recognised by governments, companies and communities. Sport can help achieve mental and physical health, crime prevention, social development and international cooperation objectives (*Cameron & MacDougall, 2000; Schmitz et al., 2004*).
- As we become increasingly time poor, sport is being tailored to meet personal needs. This is largely being influenced by the increased use of online tools and applications to individualise sport. Health, rather than competition, is becoming a major driver for participation in sport.

The *VicHealth Sport Participation Research Project (2016)*⁵ reports that:

- Males (20.4%) are twice as likely to participate in organised sport as females (10.5%);

⁴ AusPlay - Participation Data for Sports Sector. (2016). [ebook] Australian Sports Commission.

⁵ VicHealth Sport Participation Research Project (2016) analysed sports participation trends using data consolidated from the 2015 membership and participation data from the following 11 Victorian state sporting associations only: Australian football, basketball, bowls, cricket, soccer, golf, gymnastics, hockey, netball, sailing and tennis.

- Young children (aged 5–14 years) have the highest sport participation of any other age cohort at 67%; and
- Sport participation rates drop significantly during adolescence: participation rates of 15–19 year olds are less than half that of children aged 5–14 years (29% compared with 67%).

National Research into Sport and Active Recreation Trends (Glen Eira)

The *VicHealth Sport Participation Research Project (2016)* reports that Glen Eira is ranked 14th of the 32 Melbourne Metro LGAs in the rate of participation by residents in club based physical activity (16.1%). The highest participation rate for a Melbourne Metro LGAs is 29.0% (Bayside), and the lowest is 6.3% (Greater Dandenong) and 6.1% (Melbourne).

The *VicHealth Indicators Survey (2015)*⁶ provided research data relating to Glen Eira residents' participation in physical activity and compared it to all Victorians. As shown in Table 1 below, participation rates within Glen Eira are typically higher than the average Victorian rates.

	GLEN EIRA	VICTORIA
Participation in any organised physical activity	35.2%	28.7%
Participation in physical activity organised by a club or association	9.6%	9.8%
Participation in physical activity organised by a fitness, leisure or indoor sports centre	10.5%	9.2%
Participation in non-organised physical activity	72.4%	70.5%
Participation in walking	49.7%	51.2%
Participation in jogging/running	16.2%	14%
Participation in cycling	12.4%	11.8%

Table 1: Participation rates in Glen Eira compared to broader Victorian participation rates

A detailed snapshot of National Sports Participation Trends is provided in **Appendix 1**.

Sports Participation Trends (Glen Eira)

Almost 24,000 Glen Eira residents were members of sporting clubs in 2017. Table 2 below, compiled from club membership information, and demonstrates the membership base of each sport within Glen Eira from 2004 to 2017.

Sport	2004	2014	2017	% change 2004-17	% change 2014-2017
Athletics	724	542	556	-23	3
Australian Football	3,217	3,468	4,349	35	8
Baseball	158	93	160	1	72
Basketball	880	1,750	4000	355	129
GESAC (other indoor courts)	-	-	2,327	N/A	N/A
Cricket	2,481	3,379	3,540	43	5
Cycling	376	326	368	-2	13
Lacrosse	200	115	166	-17	44
Lawn Bowls	1,252	1,176	1,150	-8	-2
Croquet	43	35	35	-19	0

⁶ VicHealth Indicators Survey (2015) is a Victorian community wellbeing survey, which focuses on the social determinants of health. The Survey includes a snapshot of wellbeing indicators for each local government area in Victoria

Netball	992	1,597	2,088	110	61
Soccer	1,332	2,127	2,909	118	37
Softball	230	139	147	-36	6
Tennis	2,520	2,249	2,162	-14	-4
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	14,405	16,996	23,957	66	41

Table 2: Spread of sporting club membership numbers within Glen Eira

Notable information of club membership in 2017 includes:

- Football had the highest participation of all sports at 4,349 people, followed by basketball (4,000) and cricket (3,540).
- The largest club or group is the McKinnon Basketball Association (4,000 members) followed by the Caulfield & District Netball Association (1,838).
- There has been significant overall growth in sports club membership since 2014 (41%), and since 2004 (66%), with basketball experiencing the largest growth having 3,120 additional players since 2004.
- The main field-based sports of football, soccer and cricket have all experienced membership growth since 2004, with more than 1,000 additional players for each sport
- Of significance is the growth of football and soccer between the four year period of 2014 to 2017: football club membership increased by 881 people, and soccer club membership by 782 people.
- Netball was the other growth sport during the same period, with almost 500 additional players.

Sports Participation Trends for Females

Women and girls make up just over half the Victorian population, however males have double the sport participation rate of females. Recent research has highlighted the gap and suggests how this might be closed. These include the State Government's 'Inquiry into Women and Girls in Sport and Active Recreation' and VicHealth's 'Changing the Game: Increasing Female Participation in Sport' program.

The spotlight on female participation has increased in recent years on the back of AFLW. The rapid increase in female participation in Australian Rules football in the past 3-4 years confirms football as one of the fastest growing female sports in Victoria. In 2015, there were 63 female teams, in 2016 it was 100, in 2017 there were over 350 teams, and there are now over 1,000 dedicated female teams across the State.

There has also been a concerted promotion by other sports to attract women. In Victoria, soccer is still seeing an increasing number of female players each season. The total number of female soccer players increased from 10,650 players in 2014 to 12,100 players in 2016 and in 2018 there are 13,800 females who choose to play soccer.

Cricket Victoria's Strategy (2015 – 2017) is committed to having a diverse participant base that reflects the Victorian population in terms of gender, ability and cultural background, and includes a target of 30% of all cricket participation in 2017 being female. Data suggests that the sport is on target: in 2014/15, female participation in cricket grew to 19% of total participation, and in 2015/16 increased to 24%.

Active Recreation Trends

Active recreation can be defined as an activity that people engage in during their free time and provides positive physical, social and emotional wellbeing outcomes.

For the purpose of this Study, active recreation is specific to activities in open space that requires specific infrastructure. This could include basketball hoops, hit-up walls, golf birdie cages, climbing walls, netball rings, court space, parkour, outdoor fitness equipment or skateboard/scooter parks. As highlighted in Table 3 (p.15) in the following section, Glen Eira provides a significant number of active recreation facilities throughout our parks and reserves.

In Australia data suggests a shift in recent years away from organised sport towards non-organised, informal recreation, with informal participation becoming an important aspect of the lifestyles of young people⁷. Possible explanations are the increasing work hours, less recreation time⁸, and generally people seeking options that do not rely on rigid times, a certain skill set, rules or competition. Whilst the change is not rapid, the expectations of the community to have informal active spaces will continue to grow, especially as housing densities rise.

In Glen Eira there has been increasing demand and requests for a range of informal, casual, multi-sport type facilities. Anecdotally, it is understood all facilities are well used (especially on weekends) and are highly valued by the community. As referenced in the VicHealth Indicators Survey (2015), Glen Eira residents participate in unstructured physical activity at a higher rate compared to all Victorians (72.4% to 70.5%).

Given the diverse range of active recreation facilities there is no specific data on how to deliver each type of facility in a pragmatic way. Opportunities should be sought to combine active recreation, sporting and passive open space areas to allow more interaction and engagement with other programs and activities⁹, which is achievable within Glen Eira. These facilities can be responsive and adaptable to participation needs and the associated health and well-being demands.

Skating

Glen Eira has only one skate park which is located at Bailey Reserve. It was recently redeveloped and enlarged to provide additional skating features and elements. Of the 10 inner metro councils benchmarked, Glen Eira has the 3rd highest population, but is the lowest provider of skate parks. For all inner metro councils, the overall average provision of skate parks is 1 per 45,000.

Providing for skate activity can be flexible, it does not necessarily require a large, permanent facility or strict footprint shape, such as the Bailey Reserve skate park. Small to medium size spaces can be utilised, with skating elements integrated into the urban environment, and a range of activities catered for.

Councils are now recognising the importance of catering for a broader range of young people when providing recreation spaces which has led to the development of integrated 'youth precincts' in a number of municipalities. These facilities provide a range of activities which cater for a much broader spread of young people and their individual recreation needs, whilst integrating skate

⁷ Ruth Jeanes, Ramón Spaaij, Dawn Penney & Justen O'Connor (2019) Managing informal sport participation: tensions and opportunities, International Journal of Sport Policy and Politics.

⁸ The Future of Australian Sport: Megatrends shaping the sports sector over coming decades: A Consultancy Report for the Australian Sports Commission. CSIRO, Australia.

⁹ Casas Valle, D, Kompier, V (2012), Sport in the City, Research on the relation between sport and urban design.

function into the design. Within Glen Eira we acknowledge this need and are currently (or in the near future) constructing responsive facilities at Joyce Park, Hodgson Reserve and McKinnon Reserve.

Parkour

Parkour is an attitude and training method for movement through any environment at speed. The concept is to overcome all physical and mental obstacles in your path by using your body and mind to run, climb, jump and vault¹⁰

The first dedicated parkour course was built by Maroondah City Council in 2014 at Croydon Park. Another less challenging course was opened at Ballam Park in 2016 by the Frankston City Council, and Parkour Geelong was established recently.

Bouldering Walls

Bouldering represents a highly accessible activity, offering physical challenges and enjoyable recreation for a wide range of ability levels. Outdoor bouldering walls can be fixed to existing walls of buildings, or be free-standing in open space areas. Bouldering walls will soon be constructed at McKinnon Reserve and Hodgson Reserve.

Indoor Courts

Indoor sports courts have the ability to cater for a range of sports and activities – these include primarily basketball and netball, but also volleyball, badminton, table tennis and futsal.

Basketball Victoria's Facility Master Plan 2017 report estimates 4.0% of the population that are seeking to participate in basketball in areas if there is adequate facility provision, based on the current Glen Eira basketball participation that rate is 2.8%. The number of additional basketball participants by 2036 is estimated to be 900 players, or the equivalent of approximately 100 teams.

Current demand for indoor courts for basketball use in Glen Eira is not being adequately met (current shortfall is determined to be up to nine courts). However, when the impact of the continued growth in popularity of basketball and netball is factored-in, the shortfall is most likely higher. The existing six indoor courts in Glen Eira are at capacity for basketball.

Regionally, three significant indoor stadium developments in adjoining municipalities are well advanced in their planning: a new four court stadium in East Malvern; the redevelopment of the Oakleigh Recreation Centre will add a fifth court to the existing four courts; and the expansion of the Sandringham Family Leisure Centre will add four new courts to the existing four courts. However, it is expected that the additional courts are responding to demand within these respective LGAs. As a result, it is unlikely that there will be any significant capacity to absorb unmet current or future demand for indoor courts generated by Glen Eira residents.

¹⁰ Definition from the Australian Parkour Association

6. Glen Eira Sport and Recreation Facilities

Glen Eira City Council owns or manages just over 173 ha of public open space. This consists of 19 sporting and recreation reserves¹¹, including 45 sportsgrounds and 26 sporting pavilions.

While traditionally used by sporting clubs for organised sport, pavilions have evolved into adaptable community hubs used for a range of other organised or casual use – with over 7,500 annual community room bookings in pavilions outside of sporting use. Open space sites accommodate over 750 annual bookings for facilities such as rotundas, grassed areas or special areas.

Sports Facility	No.	Recreation Facility	No.
Athletic track	1	Outdoor basketball rings	10
Football ovals	18	Outdoor netball rings	9
Baseball fields	2	Bowling/ Bocce	2
Bowling greens	18	Outdoor fitness gyms	10
Cricket ovals	37	Golf practice cages (Birdie cage)	11
Croquet greens	2	Skate parks	1
Cycling velodrome	1	Swimming Centres	2
Indoor courts (Includes courts at 3 schools)	7	Outdoor table tennis tables	1 <i>1 being installed</i>
Lacrosse fields	2	Community tennis courts	2 courts
Netball courts	10	Tennis hit-up walls	5
Soccer fields	20	Small-sided soccer	5
Softball fields	4	Petanque pistes	2
(Club) Tennis courts (excludes courts at churches and private facilities)	79	Climbing walls	2 to be constructed in 2019/20

Table 3: Current provision of sports and active recreation facilities within Glen Eira

Glen Eira also has several major sporting and recreation facilities which have user catchments that extends beyond the municipality, or have been developed to a standard above local municipal need. These include the following Council facilities:

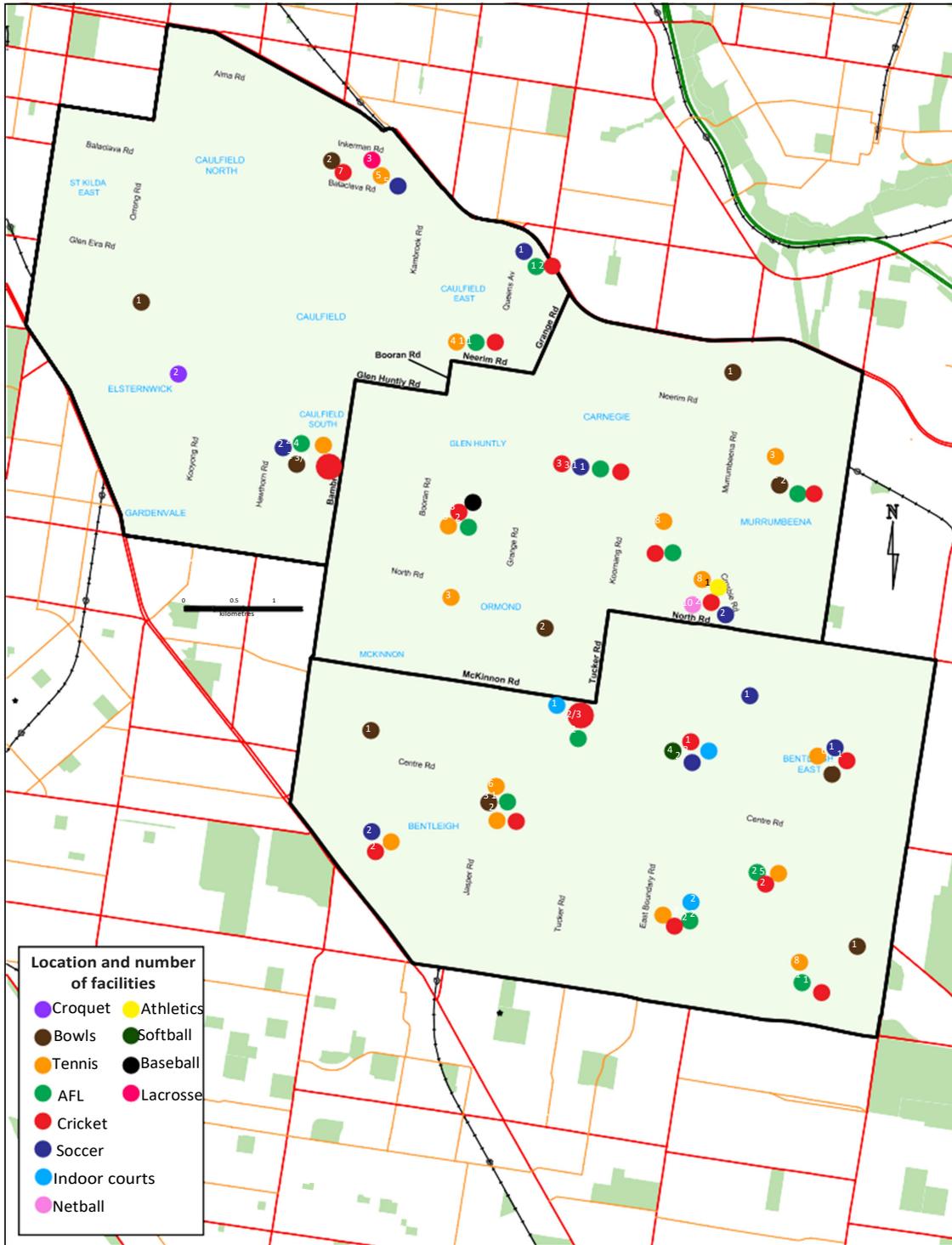
- Glen Eira Sports and Aquatic Centre (GESAC):
- Duncan Mackinnon Reserve Athletics Track; and
- Duncan Mackinnon Reserve Netball Courts.

This extends to facilities owned or managed by others:

- Caulfield Racecourse Reserve (Crown land);
- Yarra Yarra Golf Course; and
- Southern Indoor Bowls Club (currently for sale by Expression of Interest).

¹¹ Sporting and recreation reserves are defined as an open space with at least one turf playing field

The map below shows the type, distribution and number of community sporting facilities available throughout the municipality.



Sports Facility Provision Ratios

Sports facility provision ratios provide guidance on the required number of sports facilities per number of residents within a given municipality. These ratios identify where there may be a shortfall or oversupply of sports facilities in the future. Ratios were used for Council's Recreation Needs Study 2006 and also for the Recreation Needs Study Appendix – Sporting Trends Review 2015 and are often used in planning as a guide for the provision of sports facilities.

Table 4 indicates that many ratios have been adjusted since the previous Recreation Needs Study and subsequent review to reflect provision ratios incorporated into state facility plans developed during the past 3-4 years by state sporting associations.

Sport	Rec Needs 2006	Rec Needs Study Appendix Review 2015	Most Recent Sporting Reference
Athletics	-	-	1 track: 100,000
Australian Football	1 oval: 4,500	1 oval: 4,500	1 oval: 5,000
Baseball	-	-	1 field: 40,000
Bowling	1 green: 10,000	1 green: 10,000	1 green: 10,000
Cricket	1 oval: 3,000	1 oval: 3,500	1 oval: 4,000
Hockey	-	-	1 pitch: 75,000
Indoor	1 court: 7,000	1 court: 15,000	1 court: 10,000
Lacrosse	-	-	1 field: 60,000
Netball	-	1 court: 7,500	1 court: 8,000
Rugby League	-	-	1 field: 60,000
Soccer	1 pitch: 3,000	1 pitch: 3,500	1 pitch: 4,000
Softball	-	-	1 field: 30,000
Tennis	1 court: 1500	1 court: 2,000	1 court: 2,000
Touch	-	-	1 field: 62,500

Table 4: Sports Facility Provision Ratios

The use of provision ratios in the Glen Eira (and inner city Melbourne) context is becoming increasingly unsustainable and unrealistic. Limited available land, urban development and densification means that the opportunity to provide new facilities to meet population growth is rare – and certainly not to a capacity to meet provision ratios.

This is compounded by the need to provide a range of other opportunities in open space, specifically to meet the changing demands of sports and recreation interests. As such, there will be a shortfall in the number of facilities in 2036 to meet projected needs, with soccer pitches and football ovals predicted to have the largest shortfall.

Facilities Utilisation

Capacity of a sportsground is based on Council's available resources to maintain grounds to a high standard competition level. An analysis of usage of Glen Eira's outdoor sports fields has confirmed that they are being used at 82% capacity during the winter season. However, this is close to practical capacity as there is only limited opportunity to increase formal allocated use of most sports fields. This is due to Council requiring access to some sportsgrounds to enable it to temporarily transfer fixtures/teams when grounds have to be closed for repair, renewal, upgrade or maintenance.

Additionally, ground allocations need to be balanced to ensure adequate sporting opportunity, sustainable sports grounds and public access. This is vitally important in locations where the sports turf is the only available green space in a park.

The cumulative impact of limited ground allocations is twofold:

1. Constraint on the growth of clubs, particularly junior teams, with some clubs unable to accept all requests to join (capped numbers of teams); and
2. Less than ideal training conditions for many senior and junior teams who are forced to double-up or triple-up on sportsgrounds for training, which reduces the quality and effectiveness of training sessions.

Female Friendly Facilities

Making sure girls and women have access to appropriate sporting facilities, particularly changeroom and bathroom facilities, is a major step towards continuing to attract female participation. Historically, sporting facilities have been designed primarily to meet the needs of male participants.

Key steps have been made across Glen Eira in providing female friendly, unisex sporting pavilions, with some pavilions already meeting this criteria, with others being retrofitted or redeveloped to meet universal design principles. This will continue with investment planned or in progress at a number of facilities, including Victory Park pavilion, Lord Reserve pavilion, Koornang Park pavilion, King George VI Memorial Reserve pavilion, McKinnon Reserve pavilion and Murrumbeena Park Community Hub.

Table 5 below indicates the pavilions within Glen Eira that are used by females and whether they feature female friendly facilities.

Pavilion	Female Friendly Facilities	Females use pavilions
Bailey Reserve Pavilion	Yes - have not had any work done but are fit for purpose	Yes
Bailey Reserve Softball Pavilion	Yes - have had one set of change rooms retrofitted	Yes
Bentleigh Hodgson Dog Club Pavilion	N/A	Yes
Bentleigh Reserve Pavilion	Yes	Yes
Caulfield Park Main Pavilion	Yes - have one set of change / bath room facilities suitable for women however require works to the second set	Yes
Caulfield Park Grey Brick Pavilion	No	Yes
Caulfield Park Pavilion and Community Rooms	Yes	Yes
Centenary Park Pavilion	Yes	Yes
Duncan McKinnon Pavilion	Yes	Yes
East Caulfield Main Pavilion	Yes	Yes
EE Gunn Baseball Pavilion	No	Yes
EE Gunn Pavilion and Grandstand	Yes	Yes
Glen Huntly Reserve Main Pavilion	Yes	No
King George VI Memorial Reserve Pavilion	No - Currently being redeveloped to include female friendly change rooms/bathrooms	Yes
Koornang Park Pavilion & Grandstand	Yes	Yes
Lord Reserve Hex Pavilion	No – Planning of new pavilion in progress	Yes
Lord Reserve Pavilion	No – Planning of new pavilion in progress	Yes
Mackie Road Reserve Pavilion	No	Yes
Marlborough Reserve Pavilion	No	No
McKinnon Reserve Main Pavilion	Yes – Outer oval change rooms currently being redeveloped to include female friendly change rooms/bathrooms	Yes
Moorleigh Pavilion	Yes - have not had any work done but are fit for purpose	Yes
Murrumbeena Park Pavilion	Yes – Design for redevelopment in progress	Yes
Packer Park Pavilion	Yes	Yes
Princes Park - DC Bricker Pavilion	Yes	Yes
Princes Park Multi-Purpose Pavilion	Yes	Yes
Victory Park Pavilion	Yes - have had one set of change / bath room facilities suitable for women, design for redevelopment of remaining change rooms in progress.	Yes

Table 5: Female friendly pavilions within Glen Eira

Improved facility provision is only part of the change required; cultural change is also vital to providing a strong foundation for increasing female participation. This includes the attitudes of sports administrators and club committees, how males embrace female participation and involvement in their clubs, and the extent to how governance structures of community sporting clubs embrace and encourage female involvement.

Facility Development

Council has invested heavily in sports and open space infrastructure to cater for increasing sporting and community needs. The majority of these upgrades are funded by Council (with assistance from grants/funding, typically from state and federal government as well as state sporting associations), which is not necessarily the practice in other municipalities. These types of projects include:

- Upgraded sports surfaces to increase capacity (i.e. Glen Eira is very active in converting sportsgrounds to warm season grasses as part of drought management – water restrictions);
- Improved and upgraded lighting, including lighting to support night time competition;
- Fencing, irrigation and drainage upgrades; and
- Development of shared, flexible pavilions and facilities.

Through necessity of providing other recreational and leisure opportunities, sports facilities have progressively moved away from single function, fenced and anonymous spaces, with little or no relationship to the wider public realm¹². This is the way in which Glen Eira approaches the sporting realm whereby, with the exception of leased facilities, all sportsgrounds and facilities are available for broad community use.

Ground Management

Council officers liaise with clubs and sporting associations to allocate sporting facilities in a process that involves clubs requesting allocation times/days, and officers collating this information and allocating grounds and pavilions accordingly. Many grounds are shared – sometimes between junior and senior sections of the same club, or separate clubs. A number of junior associations schedule mid-week games to avoid peak weekend times or when grounds are fully allocated.

Throughout the season Council officers are in regular contact with clubs and sports associations in relation to issues such as:

- Booking additional facilities for events, training, finals, etc.;
- Maintenance of playing surfaces and ground infrastructure;
- Accommodating changes to fixtures due to ground closures or other works;
- Club development programs, strategic planning or network opportunities;
- Pre-season or out-of-season allocation of fields; and
- Maintenance, safety or essential services of facilities.

Council is shifting to an online allocation process for the upcoming 2019/20 Summer season. This will reduce the burden on both sporting clubs and Council officers at the start of each season.

¹² Casas Valle, D, Kompier, V (2012), Sport in the City, Research on the relation between sport and urban design.

7. Opportunities to Increase Capacity

The following presents a range of actions to assist in meeting the demand for organised sport and active recreation opportunities in Glen Eira. Actions are not prescriptive; instead they are to be viewed in context of other recreational, leisure, social and environmental impacts. It is through pragmatic and considered planning that Glen Eira will continue to have some of the best parks and open spaces in Melbourne.

Sportsgrounds

Strategies to respond to the demand for sportsgrounds need to consider a range of responses, including the elements in the following sections.

Synthetic / Hybrid Surfaces

Synthetic sportsgrounds provide a high standard surface irrespective of weather or maintenance constraints, and can sustain usage up to three times that of natural turf sportsgrounds. Synthetic surfaces provide capability to absorb future growth, especially additional training needs for winter sporting clubs. Glen Eira currently features synthetic sporting facilities at East Caulfield Reserve, Moorleigh Reserve, Duncan Mackinnon Reserve athletics track and netball courts, and use these surfaces in the construction of multipurpose play spaces with hit up walls, basketball rings, etc.

As an alternative, hybrid turf surfaces could also be considered. Hybrid turf is a system where the natural grass is reinforced with synthetic turf fibres, to provide a complementary combination between the playability of natural grass and the durability of synthetic turf. Hybrid turf can accommodate up to 50 hours per week compared to 20-25 hours for natural turf. Where full synthetic surfaces have some constraints for recreational use, hybrid surfaces can be a fully compatible substitute to all-natural turf.

Generally these surfaces also have the following benefits:

- High-quality and consistent surface at all times;
- Require little water or no water, so can be an effective response to a reduction in the availability of potable water due to drought and climate change;
- Tolerant of adverse weather conditions;
- Significant opportunities for multi-use – dual line marking for a range of sports;
- Can reduce the impact on a player's joints and body generally, due to the effect of shock pads and rubber granules;
- Can be used to collect rainwater, so a field can become an integral component of a stormwater harvesting system collecting and storing rain water to irrigate adjacent grass fields or other parkland; and
- Provide flexibility for programming and allocations, particularly during poor weather, pre-season or ground renewals.

While there are significant benefits of the use of synthetic and hybrid turf surfaces, it is also important to acknowledge the disadvantages of these surfaces:

- Can retain heat, and become overly hot during summer (heat island effect);
- Do not break down or absorb organic materials, e.g. food/ drink spillages, blood and dog faeces;
- Cannot be readily recycled – end of life is usually landfill; and
- Do not provide cooling and passive benefits of natural turf (i.e. not ideal to sit and relax).

Both surfaces can be successfully installed in high-wear sections of a sports field to reduce the impact of wear and maintain optimal playing conditions, such as soccer and football goal mouths, and in front of player benches. However, the replacement of natural turf sportsgrounds with synthetic/hybrid surfaces may not be practical in all locations given other types of use and the residential setting of many locations.

Community Use of Education Facilities

Unlocking formal access to sporting facilities located on and controlled by schools is a strategy used by many councils to not only increase the number of sporting facilities available for use by community clubs but to also reduce the cost to council to supply and manage facilities. Glen Eira City Council does not currently have any formal agreements in place with schools to facilitate and guarantee community access to school sporting facilities.

Typically, government school facilities are constructed and maintained at a level significantly below the standard of council-owned and managed facilities. In many cases, facilities do not comply with standards adopted by relevant state sporting associations in relation to field of play dimensions and/or the availability of other associated infrastructure, such as change rooms, amenities and adjacent car parking.

Formal agreements between government schools and councils allowing community access to school facilities generally requires the establishment of a Joint Use Agreement (JUA) between the Department of Education and Training and the council. These JUAs protect any significant investments made by a council to improve school facilities, which is often required to upgrade facilities to a level acceptable for community use. Despite current State Government policy supporting and encouraging community use of school facilities, partnerships between councils and schools for the joint use and development of sporting and recreation facilities, there are still a number of challenges and constraints that restrict the timely establishment and/or effectiveness of JUAs.

Sportsground Lighting

Sportsground lighting is more commonly used throughout the winter sporting season. Typically a sportsground for amateur use would have lighting levels of 50 lux to allow for training and 100 lux for competition, as per Australian Standards; however these requirements vary between sports and level of play. Council has commenced the provision of sportsground lighting to higher lux levels at competition standards to assist in extending the capacity of sportsgrounds. This can greatly assist with both training and match play.

To allow for extended use of sportsgrounds, following endorsement of the 2018 sportsground lighting policy, lighting upgrades have been undertaken or designed for McKinnon Reserve, Bailey Reserve, Bentleigh Reserve, Centenary Park, EE Gunn Reserve and Packer Park. A further benefit of these upgrades is to replace traditional metal halide light fittings with LED technology, energy efficient lighting with an extended lifetime that provides significant electrical and maintenance savings throughout its lifecycle.

Partnerships

There may be opportunity to partner with neighbouring councils to facilitate the upgrade and development of significant metropolitan and regional community sport and recreation infrastructure. Additionally this may assist to provide for sports that are currently not provided in the region. There is limited opportunity to provide for sports not currently provided for in Glen Eira and this is mirrored in many other inner-ring municipalities.

Partnership opportunities could also extend to other tiers of government, private sector organisations, private clubs and other agencies – with the key outcome focused on initiatives that enhance sport and active recreation opportunities for Glen Eira residents.

Sporting Pathways and Elite Sports

Generally the provision of elite sporting facilities requires additional infrastructure and higher usage; this is often to the detriment of other uses. Specifically this infrastructure may include fencing, higher lux lighting, additional pavilion requirements, spectator areas and a minimum number of car parking spaces. Currently there is a balance between grassroots sports and casual use of open space.

Opportunities to provide improved sporting pathways and higher level facilities include:

- Work with peak sporting bodies and associations in relation to facility standards, partnership opportunities and regional responses to facility shortfalls.
- Deliver or facilitate facilities in partnership with other municipalities.
- Shared/flexible Glen Eira facilities that could accommodate multiple clubs at a higher level.
- Seek to incorporate shared higher level facilities within the Caulfield Racecourse Reserve.

Caulfield Racecourse Reserve

The Caulfield Racecourse Reserve presents as the key opportunity to respond to the current and future demand for additional facilities for Glen Eira sporting clubs and to further diversify the range of sporting and recreation options available for the community. Council has been advocating for the use of the Racecourse infield and surrounds for many years.

The following facilities have been identified as potential inclusions within the Caulfield Racecourse Reserve:

- 3 football-cricket ovals with one to be located east of Glen Huntly Reserve oval to enable that reserve to become a two-oval reserve;
- An integrated baseball-softball facility comprising of 1 baseball-only field, 1 softball-only field and 2 shared/multi-use fields;
- 2 cricket ovals overlaid onto four new full-sized soccer pitches;
- 2 multi-purpose synthetic pitches to accommodate hockey and lacrosse; and
- Up to 3 new pavilions and associated car parking.

A benefit of locating organised sport within the Caulfield Racecourse Reserve is that it can be programmed to accommodate race meets and large scale events.

In any future development scenario access to the infield will continue to be limited or restricted. Active recreation and casual activities should be located in easily accessible, visible and connected locations on the perimeter of the Caulfield Racecourse Reserve. This provides continuous community access with no restrictions due to race meets or events. The new Caulfield Wedge dog park is an example of such a facility.

Active Recreation

Council's Open Space Strategy supports the installation and provision of unstructured recreational infrastructure in the public realm to extend opportunities for engagement in physical activity. There is already a diverse range of recreational infrastructure available throughout the municipality designed and used for social, unstructured physical activity. Facilities that fall into this category are detailed in the sections to follow.

Multi-Purpose Spaces

This type of facility encompasses a range of activities, from casual hit-up walls and basketball rings, through to more formal 'game-play' facilities like those located at East Caulfield Reserve or Moorleigh Community Village.

The opportunity to install multi-purpose spaces in open space should be considered as part of park upgrades and master planning, in consultation with the local community. The design and provision would vary at each location based on available space, park character and community needs identified during consultation periods.

Skate Facilities

Urban spaces can contain infrastructure or sculptural components that can be designed to accommodate skating. Any sealed pathway that is used by skateboarders/cyclists as a thoroughfare has the possibility to have sections of it widened to accommodate skateable elements, which can also double as seating or 'hang out' spaces.

An incidental skate element can add value and interest to an existing space, such as a park or playground, and also serve to increase the overall function or recreational opportunity of that space. Incidental skate elements are not facility based, or aimed at any specific skill level, they are elements integrated with and complementary to the existing landscape setting.

APPENDIX 1 – National/State Participation Trends for Popular Sports

(AusPlay National participation data 2017)

Athletics

- Participation in club-based senior athletics in Victoria remained relatively stable during the four years 2012 – 2016. In 2016, there were 4,700 registered senior athletes.
- For club-based junior athletics, there was an overall decline of 5.5% in participation in little athletics in Victoria during the four years 2012 – 2016. In 2016, there were 18,700 registered little athletes.
- Average National participation rate in ‘organised’ athletics is 2.7% for adults and 5.5% for children.

Australian Football

- Between 2014 and 2016, the number of club footballers in Victoria increased from 145,000 players to in excess of 160,000 (Ç10.3%).
- Between 2014 and 2016, the number of school footballers increased from 83,000 players to 118,500 (Ç42.2%).
- Between 2015 and 2016, the number of female club footballers increased from 6,600 players to 9,350 (Ç41.0%), and the number of teams increased from 253 to 355.
- Average Victorian participation rate in ‘organised’ football is 2.9% for adults and 15.6% for children.

Baseball

- In Victoria, all Baseball Victoria participation categories have experienced growth since 2003, including Tee Ball, juniors, seniors, masters and women’s.
- Average National participation rate in ‘organised’ baseball is 0.2% for adults and 0.7% for children.

Cricket

- Between 2010 and 2013, the total number of cricketers in Victoria decreased from 112,000 players to just less than 100,000. There was a decrease of 700 club teams, including 536 junior and 173 senior teams.
- However, between 2012 and 2015 there was a 17% increase in participation in all Victorian cricket, including 18% in club cricket. In 2015, there were 124,000 club cricketers.
- There was a 24% increase in female cricket in Victoria between 2014 to 2015, and in 2016, there were 132 new female cricket teams formed. Female participation in 2016 made up 24% of all cricket participation in the state.
- Average Victorian participation rate in ‘organised’ cricket is 2.2% for adults and 6.8% for children.

Croquet

- In Victoria, croquet membership has grown: in 2014 there were 2,760 members, and in 2017 this number had grown to 2,865 members (an increase of 105 players, Ç3.8%).
- The number of croquet clubs throughout Victoria reduced from 92 to 90 during the same period.
- The sport is more popular amongst women than men by approximately 3 to 1, however, the sport has an older age profile, which might impact its continued viability in the long-term.
- Average National participation rate in ‘organised’ croquet is 0.1% for adults.

Cycling

- Between 2014 and 2016, the number of cyclists registered with Cycling Victoria increased from 5,825 riders to in excess of 7,100 (Ç21.9%).

- Racing cyclists in 2016 made up 68% of all registered riders, with recreational cyclists at 23%.
- Average participation rate in 'organised' cycling is 1.2% for adults (Victoria) and 0.7% for children (National).

Hockey

- Participation in hockey in Victoria has remained relatively stable for the past five years.
- In 2014, there were 22,237 registered players, and increased to a Hockey Victoria high of 22,398 in 2016, but reduced slightly to 21,923 players in 2017. Overall, since 2014 there has been a 1.4% increase.
- In 2017, approximately 43% of all players were female.
- Average National participation rate in 'organised' hockey is 0.9% for adults and 2.4% for children.

Indoor Sports (predominantly basketball)

- Between 2012 and 2015, the total number of basketballers in Victoria increased by 24,500 players, from approximately 132,000 to 156,500 (Ç18.5%).
- Victoria has approximately 50% of the National basketball player base.
- Of the 156,500 registered basketballers in 2015, 71% were affiliated with associations in Metropolitan Melbourne, whilst 29% were based in Regional Victoria.
- Average Victorian participation rate in 'organised' basketball is 3.1% for adults and 12.9% for children.

Lacrosse

- Lacrosse participation in Victoria has remained stable since 2012: from 1,522 players to 1,514 players in 2017. The membership in 2017 was an increase of 11 players on the 2016 participation.
- Since 2005 the number of senior players has remained relatively stable at between 600 – 700 players, however, the number of juniors has experienced an overall decline of over 100 players.
- Males have consistently comprised approximately 70% of all lacrosse players in Victoria since 2005.
- The majority of the State's lacrosse facilities are located in Melbourne's inner east, north and west.
- Average National participation rate in 'organised' lacrosse is 0.1% for adults and 0.1% for children.

Lawn Bowls

- Throughout Victoria, participation in traditional club bowls continues to decline: 45% decline between 2010 (83,700 players) and 2015 (46,300 players). The trend is similar for playing members: there was a 27% decline between 2010 (58,200 members) and 2014 (42,200).
- However, when all forms of bowling are considered (club bowling, social bowling and schools bowling programs), there was an overall increase during the period 2010 – 2015 from 127,000 participants to 181,000 (Ç42.5%).
- Of the total participants in 2015, 23% (or 42,200) were playing members, whilst 77% were people who participated in other bowling activities offered by clubs (social, schools).
- Of all participants in 2015, 63% were aged over 60 years, compared to 2011 when an estimated 74% of all lawn bowls participants were aged over 60 years. This shift in the average age of all participants is further evidence of the impact that social bowls is having on the sport by attracting younger players
- Average Victorian participation rate in 'organised' bowls is 1.1% for adults.

Netball

- Between 2010 and 2016, the total number of netballers in Victoria increased from 106,065 players to just less than 114,681. This is an increase of 8,600 players (Ç8.1%). The 2016 participant number represented eight consecutive years of netball growth.
- The introductory program of NetSetGo! increased by 5,000 children (Ç47.7%) between 2012

and 2016, up from 10,400 children to 15,400.

- The Parkville netball competition at the State Netball and Hockey Centre is the largest netball competition in Victoria, with more than 7,000 participants in 2016.
- Average Victorian participation rate in 'organised' netball is 2.8% for adults and 7.3% for children.

Rugby League

- Rugby league in Victoria has experienced significant growth over the last 10 years, with participation rates increasing by more than 300% over that time.
- Between 2015 and 2017, the number of rugby league players increased from 3,470 players to in excess of 3,826 (Ç10.2%), with nearly one in five players being female.
- There are 24 rugby league clubs in Metropolitan and Regional Victoria represented by approximately 205 teams.
- Average National participation rate in 'organised' rugby league is 0.6% for adults and 3.1% for children.

Soccer

- Soccer participation in Victoria has experienced significant growth in recent years. Since 2013, nearly 7,500 more people are playing competition soccer (Ç13.5%).
- The 62,000 players in 2015 were represented by 3,300 teams (up from 2,748 teams in 2013) and 330 clubs (11 more clubs than 2013).
- Just on 13,800 females played soccer in 2018, up from 10,650 in 2014.
- FFV estimated that in Victoria, around 12,500 people missed out on playing the game in 2018 due to the shortage of playing grounds and facilities.
- Average Victorian participation rate in 'organised' soccer is 3.0% for adults and 7.6% for children.

Softball

- Australia-wide, membership declined by 5,700 players between 2010 (30,683 players) and 2017 (24,985 players), or a decline of 18%. Overall, softball has experienced membership decline since a reported peak of approximately 62,000 members Australia-wide in 1996.
- In Victoria, softball membership declined marginally from 2,834 players in 2010 to 2,792 players in 2017 (È1.5%). In 2016, total membership was a high of 2,885 players for the past 10 years, and has continued its growth since 2014.
- Average National participation rate in 'organised' softball is 0.3% for adults and 0.5% for children.

Squash

- In Victoria, squash membership has increased from 4,106 players in 2014 to 4,386 players in 2017 (280 players or Ç6.8%).
- Approximately 85% of registered members are adults and 15% juniors (under 23 years), approximately 75% are male and 25% female, and the majority of members are aged between 30 - 50 years.
- Average National participation rate in 'organised' squash is 0.6% for adults and 0.2% for children.

Tennis

- In Victoria, there were 124,753 registered tennis members in 2017, an increase of 50,500 players since 2012 (Ç68%). This trend of increase has reversed the gradual decline of tennis membership that occurred between 2008 and 2014.
- The number of 'connected tennis participants' in 2017 was 270,600 people. ('Connected' is a term referred to by Tennis Victoria for all club members, Hot Shots participants and court hirers). The 2017 number represented an increase of 140% since 2014.
- The introductory program of Hot Shots increased by 59,300 children (Ç68%) in 12 months between 2016 and 2017, up from 87,200 children to 146,500 participants.

- Average Victorian participation rate in 'organised' tennis is 3.8% for adults and 7.5% for children.

Touch Football

- Between 2014 and 2017, the number of registered touch players in Victoria declined from 8,359 players to 7,391 players, a decrease of 968 players (€11.6%).
- Junior membership contributed mostly to the decline, with 653 less juniors playing in 2017 compared to 2014 (or a decline of 47%). Conversely, during the same period the number of participants in school- based programs and events increased by more 8,000 children (school- based participation is not included in the Touch Football Victoria registered membership data).
- Nationally, junior memberships grew by 15.2% to 80,449 players between 2014 and 2017, whilst senior membership declined by 12,800 (or 9.2%). One in every three players are female.
- Average National participation rate in 'organised' touch football is 1.4% for adults and 2.6% for children.

APPENDIX 2 - Sport and Recreation Facilities Inventory

Reserve / Facility Name and Location	Sporting and Recreation Facilities Available (and associated infrastructure)	User Group(s)
Bailey Reserve 200 East Boundary Road, Bentleigh East	1 oval/ soccer pitch – synthetic wicket, floodlit (1 ground floodlit to competition standards in 2019) 2 cricket practice nets 2 soccer pitches, floodlit for training Pavilion 4 softball diamonds (2 with porous in-fields) Softball clubroom 3 indoor courts (GESAC) Swimming pools – indoor and outdoor Birdie Cage, Skate Park, Outdoor fitness equipment	East Bentleigh Soccer Club (Oval 1,2 & 3) Bentleigh Uniting Cricket Club Glen Eira Moorabbin Softball Association (Diamonds 1, 2 & 3)
The Bentleigh Club Yawla Street, Bentleigh	1 bowling green – turf 2 Squash Courts	The Bentleigh Club
Bentleigh Hodgson Reserve Arthur Street, Bentleigh	1 oval – turf wicket, floodlit for training (to competition standards in 2019) 3 cricket practice nets Open space area – floodlit for training 3 bowling greens – 3 turf, 1 floodlit 2 porous tennis courts, all unlit 6 porous tennis courts, 4 floodlit Outdoor fitness equipment	Bentleigh Football Club Bentleigh Junior Football Club Bentleigh Cricket Club Bayside Companion Dog Training School Bentleigh Bowling Club Wattle Tennis Club Bentleigh Recreation Tennis Club
Caulfield Recreation Tennis Club 255 Murrumbeena Road, Murrumbeena	8 porous tennis courts, 4 floodlit	Caulfield Recreation Tennis Club
Centenary Park Bignell Road, Bentleigh East	Oval 1 – synthetic wicket, floodlit for training (to competition standards in 2019/20) Oval 2 – turf wicket, floodlit for training Pavilion 4 cricket practice nets 5 porous tennis courts, 4 floodlit Birdie Cage, Outdoor fitness equipment	St Peter's Junior Football Club (Ovals 1 & 2) Bentleigh Uniting Cricket Club (Ovals 1 & 2) Bentleigh Cricket Club (Oval 2) McKinnon Cricket Club (Oval 1) Monash Gryphons Cricket Club (Oval 2) Centenary Park Tennis Club

Reserve / Facility Name and Location	Sporting and Recreation Facilities Available (and associated infrastructure)	User Group(s)
Caulfield Park Corner Hawthorn and Balaclava Roads, Caulfield North	Oval 1/ 2 lacrosse – turf wicket, floodlit for training Practice wickets (5 turf/ 3 synthetic) Pavilion Oval 2/ 1 lacrosse/ 1 soccer – turf wicket, unlit 3 cricket practice net Ovals 3, 4, 5, 6, & 7/ 5 soccer – synthetic wickets, floodlit for training 2 Pavilions 5 porous tennis courts, all unlit 2 bowling greens – 2 turf 2 petanque pistes 1 small sided synthetic soccer field Birdie Cage, Basketball half-court, Tennis hit-up wall, Outdoor fitness equipment, recreational football goal posts, netball post	Caulfield Lacrosse Club (Ovals 1 & 2) Caulfield Cricket Club (Ovals 1, 2, 3, & 7) Caulfield Park Social Soccer (Ovals 2 & 7) North Caulfield Maccabi Soccer Club (Ovals 3, 4, 5, 6, & 7) Benteleigh ANA Cricket Club (Oval 6) Benteleigh Uniting Cricket Club (Oval 5) Maccabi Ajax Junior Cricket Club (Ovals 3, 5, 6, 7) Mackie Cricket Club (Ovals 4 & 5) McKinnon Cricket Club (Oval 6) Moorabbin Cricket Club (Oval 4) Murrumbeena Cricket Club (Oval 3) Ormond Cricket Club (Oval 5) St Johns Elsternwick Uniting Church Cricket Club (Oval 7) West Benteleigh Cricket Club (Oval 7) Caulfield Park Tennis Club Caulfield Park Sports Club
Duncan Mackinnon Reserve Corner North and Murrumbeena Roads, Murrumbeena	10 netball courts, floodlit North Oval - synthetic wicket (summer), soccer field (winter), floodlit for training South Oval - synthetic wicket (summer), soccer field (winter), floodlit for training 1 IAAF compliant synthetic athletics track Pavilion Outdoor fitness equipment	Caulfield & District Netball Association East Benteleigh Soccer Club (North & South Oval) Benteleigh Cricket Club (South Oval) Benteleigh Uniting Cricket Club (South Oval) Moorabbin Cricket Club (South Oval) Murrumbeena Cricket Club (North Oval) Washington Park Cricket Club (North Oval) Glenhuntly Athletics Club (Athletics Track) Victorian Masters Athletics (Athletics Track) Caulfield Little Athletics (Athletics Track) Maccabi Athletics Club (Athletics Track)
East Caulfield Reserve Corner Dudley Street and Dandenong Road, Caulfield East	Oval 1 – synthetic wicket, floodlit for training Oval 2 – synthetic wicket (summer), soccer field (winter), floodlit for training, Pavilion 3 cricket practice nets Multi-purpose court facility (3 small-sided football, basketball, netball)	Monash Gryphons Football Club (Oval 1) Caulfield Football Club (Oval 1) Caulfield Junior Football Club (Oval 1) Monash Gryphons Cricket Club (Ovals 1 & 2) Ormond Cricket Club (Ovals 1 & 2) Southside East Caulfield Cricket Club (Ovals 1 & 2) Garry Owen Gaelic Athletics Club (Oval 2) Monash Gryphons Soccer Club (Oval 2) Carnegie Cricket Club (Oval 2)

Reserve / Facility Name and Location	Sporting and Recreation Facilities Available (and associated infrastructure)	User Group(s)
EE Gunn Reserve Malane Street, Ormond	Oval 1 – turf wicket, floodlit for training Oval 2 – turf wicket, baseball field (summer), unlit Oval 3 – turf wicket, baseball field (summer), oval (winter), floodlit for training Oval2/3 – synthetic wicket 2 Pavilions 3 cricket practice nets/ 1 baseball practice net 5 porous tennis courts, 4 floodlit Outdoor fitness equipment and Birdie Cage	Ormond Amateur Football Club (Oval 1) Ormond Junior Football Club (Ovals 1, 2 & 3) Moorabbin Cricket Club (Oval 3) Ormond Cricket Club (Ovals 1 & 2 turf and synthetic) Ormond Glenhuntly Baseball Club (Ovals 2 & 3) Ormond Tennis Club
The Elsternwick Club Sandham Street, Elsternwick	1 bowling green - turf	The Elsternwick Club
Glen Eira McKinnon Bowls Club Tyrone Street, Ormond	2 bowling greens – 2 synthetic	Glen Eira McKinnon Bowls Club
Glen Huntly Reserve Neerim Road, Caulfield East	1 oval – turf wicket, floodlit for training Pavilion 2 cricket practice nets 4 porous tennis courts, all floodlit Birdie Cage	Caulfield Grammarians Football Club Caulfield Grammarians North Caulfield Glenhuntly Cricket Club Murrumbeena Cricket Club Glen Huntly Tennis Club
Hopetoun Gardens Parkside Street, Elsternwick	2 croquet courts - turf	Elsternwick Croquet Club
Joyce Park	Multipurpose sports court – tennis hit up wall, basketball rings, soccer goals, table tennis table	
King George VI Memorial Reserve East Boundary Road, Bentleigh East	2 Ovals – synthetic wickets, floodlit for training Pavilion 3 cricket practice nets 8 tennis courts, all floodlit Basketball half-court, netball ring, Tennis hit-up wall, Birdie Cage	Bentleigh Junior Football Club Bentleigh ANA Cricket Club (Ovals 1 & 2) East Bentleigh Central Cricket Club (Oval 2) Moorabbin Cricket Club (Oval 2) Kings Park Tennis Club
Koornang Park Munro Avenue, Carnegie	1 oval – turf wicket, floodlit for training Sports Pavilion Carnegie Swim Centre (outdoor table tennis table) Birdie Cage, Outdoor fitness equipment	Caulfield Football Club Caulfield Junior Football Club Carnegie Cricket Club
Lauriston Tennis Club Rosanna Street Reserve, Carnegie	8 porous tennis courts, 4 floodlit	Lauriston Tennis Club

Reserve / Facility Name and Location	Sporting and Recreation Facilities Available (and associated infrastructure)	User Group(s)
Lord Reserve Munro Avenue, Carnegie	Oval 1 - turf wicket (summer), soccer field (winter), floodlit for training Ovals 2 & 3 – synthetic wickets (summer), soccer fields (winter), floodlit for training 3 cricket practice nets 2 Pavilions	Caulfield Cougars Soccer Club (Oval 1) Glen Eira Junior Soccer Club (Ovals 1, 2 & 3) Carnegie Cricket Club (Oval 3) Carnegie South Cricket Club (Ovals 1 & 2) Murrumbeena Cricket Club (Oval 1)
Mackie Reserve Mackie Road, Bentleigh	1 oval – synthetic wicket (summer), soccer field (winter), floodlit for training 3 cricket practice nets Pavilion 2 bowling greens – 1 synthetic, 1 turf Clubrooms 6 tennis courts, 4 floodlit	Glen Eira Junior Soccer Club Mackie Cricket Club Coatesville Bowling Club Coatesville Tennis Club
Marlborough Street Reserve Marlborough Street, Bentleigh	1 soccer field, floodlit for training Pavilion	East Bentleigh Soccer Club
McKinnon Reserve McKinnon Road, McKinnon	2 ovals – turf wickets, floodlit (to competition standards) Oval 2 also has 2 synthetic wickets floodlit for training 4 cricket practice nets Birdie Cage	St Paul's Bentleigh Football Club (Oval 1) St Paul's McKinnon Junior Football Club (Oval2 1 & 2) McKinnon Cricket Club (Ovals 1 & 2)
Moorleigh Community Village Reserve 90-92 Bignell Road, Bentleigh East	1 oval – turf wicket, floodlit (to competition standards) Open Space training area, floodlit for training 5 cricket practice nets, that convert to multipurpose synthetic facility with goals, Pavilion 8 acrylic tennis courts, 4 floodlit	South Metro Junior Football League Moorabbin Cricket Club Maccabi Tennis Club
Murrumbeena Bowls Club Blackwood Street, Carnegie	1 bowling green - synthetic and clubrooms	Murrumbeena Bowls Club
Murrumbeena Park Kangaroo Road, Murrumbeena	Oval 1 – turf wicket, floodlit for training Oval 2 – synthetic wicket, floodlit for training 3 cricket practice wickets Pavilion 2 bowling greens, floodlit Clubrooms Basketball half-court	Murrumbeena Football Club (Ovals 1 & 2) Murrumbeena Junior Football Club (Ovals 1 & 2) Murrumbeena Cricket Club (Ovals 1 & 2) Murrumbeena Park Bowls Club
Murrumbeena Tennis Club 4 Bute Street, Murrumbeena	3 porous tennis courts, 2 floodlit	Murrumbeena Tennis Club

Reserve / Facility Name and Location	Sporting and Recreation Facilities Available (and associated infrastructure)	User Group(s)
Packer Park Leila Road, Carnegie	1 oval – synthetic wicket, floodlit (to competition standard in 2019/20) 3 cricket practice nets Pavilion Velodrome Basketball half-court, Netball rings, Tennis hit-up wall, Birdie Cage, Outdoor fitness equipment, 2 Bocce courts, 1 Bowling green	Glen Eira Amateur Football Club Bentleigh Junior Football Club Washington Park Cricket Club Carnegie Caulfield Cycling Club
Princes Park Bambra Road, Caulfield South	Oval 1 – turf wicket, floodlit for training Pavilion Oval 4 – turf wicket, floodlit for training 3 cricket practice wickets Oval 2 – soccer pitch, floodlit for training Oval 3 – synthetic wickets (summer), soccer field (winter), floodlit for training 2 bowling greens – 1 synthetic, 1 turf 4 porous tennis courts, unlit 2 acrylic tennis courts, all floodlit, Basketball half-court	Old Haileyburians Amateur Football Club (Ovals 1 & 4) Ajax Junior Football Club (Ovals 1 & 4) Sandringham Dragons (Oval 1) South Caulfield Cricket Club (Ovals 1, 3 & 4) Carnegie Cricket Club (Oval 4) Glen Eira City - South Melbourne Junior Soccer Club (Ovals 2 & 3) Bentleigh Uniting Cricket Club (Oval 3) Maccabi Ajax Junior Cricket Club (Ovals 2, & 3) Armada Bowls Club Glen Eira Tennis Club Brooklyn Avenue Tennis Courts
South Oakleigh Club Victor Road, Bentleigh East	1 bowling green -synthetic	South Oakleigh Club
St Kevins Tennis Club Glen Orme Avenue, Ormond	3 porous tennis courts – 2 floodlit	St Kevins Tennis Club
Victory Park Patterson Road, Bentleigh	2 ovals - synthetic wickets (summer), soccer field (winter), floodlit for training 3 cricket practice nets Pavilion 4 porous tennis courts, all unlit Birdie Cage	Caulfield United Soccer Club (Ovals 1 & 2) West Bentleigh Cricket Club (Ovals 1 & 2) Bentleigh Cricket Club (Ovals 1 & 2) Victory Park Tennis Club

APPENDIX 3 – Number of Sporting Club Members (2017)

<i>(Active Club Members only)</i>				% change	% change
Club	2004	2014	2017	2014-2017	2004-2017
Athletics					
Caulfield Little Athletics Centre	437	300	290	-3%	-34%
Glenhuntly Athletics Club	207	153	157	3%	-24%
Ajax Maccabi Athletics	25	25	52	108%	108%
Victorian Masters Athletics	55	64	57	-11%	4%
	724	542	556	3%	-23%
Australian Football					
Ajax Junior Football Club	500	444	457	3%	-9%
Bentleigh Football Club	90	110	132	20%	47%
Bentleigh Junior Football Club	132	200	355	78%	169%
Caulfield Grammarians Football Club	122	173	250	45%	105%
Caulfield Football Club	55	55	70	27%	27%
Caulfield Junior Football Club	245	229	330	44%	35%
Glen Eira Amateur Football Club	76	125	260	108%	242%
Monash Gryphons Football Club	80	80	35	-56%	-56%
Murrumbeena Football Club	90	62	80	29%	-11%
Murrumbeena Junior Football Club	361	361	315	-13%	-13%
Old Haileyburian's Football Club	65	130	120	-8%	85%
Ormond Amateur Football Club	89	119	208	75%	134%
Ormond Junior Football Club	410	395	435	10%	6%
Sandringham Dragons	120	380	410	8%	242%
St Paul's Football Club	75	75	140	87%	87%
St Paul's Junior Football Club	225	240	250	4%	11%
St Peter's Junior Football Club	431	290	502	73%	16%
Southern Saints Football Club	51	0	0	0%	-100%
	3,217	3,468	4,349	8%	35%

<i>(Active Club Members only)</i>				% change	% change
Club	2004	2014	2017	2014-2017	2004-2017
Baseball					
Ormond Glenhuntly Baseball Club	158	93	160	72%	1%
	158	93	160	72%	1%
Basketball					
GESAC (other indoor sports)	-	-	2,327	0%	0%
McKinnon Basketball Association	880	1,750	4,000	129%	355%
	880	1,750	6,327	99%	619%
Cricket					
Bentleigh ANA Cricket Club	140	127	197	55%	41%
Bentleigh Cricket Club	65	300	295	-2%	354%
Bentleigh Uniting Cricket Club	170	301	240	-20%	41%
Carnegie Cricket Club	160	145	379	161%	137%
Carnegie South Cricket Club	150	130	200	54%	33%
Carnegie United Cricket Club	120	95	0	-100%	-100%
Caulfield Cricket Club	160	341	210	-38%	31%
East Bentleigh Central Cricket Club	25	45	53	18%	112%
Maccabi Ajax Junior Cricket Club	125	150	215	43%	72%
Mackie Cricket Club	163	130	173	33%	6%
McKinnon Cricket Club	195	310	214	-31%	10%
Monash Gryphons Cricket Club	50	103	140	36%	180%
Moorabbin Cricket Club	108	203	155	-24%	44%
Murrumbeena Cricket Club	110	222	92	-59%	-16%
Caulfield Grammarians-Nth Caulfield Glen	55	40	65	63%	18%
Ormond Cricket Club	210	192	260	35%	24%
South Caulfield Cricket Club	96	155	122	-21%	27%
Southside East Caulfield Cricket Club	71	50	50	0%	-30%
St John's Elsterwick Cricket Club	49	30	21	-30%	-57%
Washington Park Cricket Club	134	162	188	16%	40%
West Bentleigh Cricket Club	125	148	271	83%	117%
	2,481	3,379	3,540	5%	43%

<i>(Active Club Members only)</i>				% change	% change
Club	2004	2014	2017	2014-2017	2004-2017
Cycling					
Carnegie Caulfield Cycling Club	376	326	368	13%	-2%
	376	326	368	13%	-2%
Lacrosse					
Caulfield Lacrosse Club	200	115	166	44%	-17%
	200	115	166	44%	-17%
Lawn Bowls					
Bentleigh Bowling Club	143	143	143	0%	0%
Coatesville Bowls Club	115	315	236	-25%	105%
Elsternwick Club	Private - membership data not available				
Armadale Bowls Club	220	278	265	-5%	20%
Caulfield Park Bowling Club	275	223	261	17%	-5%
Murrumbeena Bowls Club	Private - membership data not available				
Murrumbeena Park Bowls Club	139	112	110	-2%	-21%
South Oakleigh Club	Private - membership data not available				
Glen Eira McKinnon Bowls Club	360	105	135	29%	-63%
	1,252	1,176	1,150	-2%	-8%
Croquet					
Caulfield Park Bowling Club	19	19	19	0%	0%
Elsternwick Croquet Club	24	16	16	0%	-33%
	43	35	35	0%	-19%
Netball					
Caulfield & District Netball Association	992	1567	1838	17%	85%
Bentleigh Football Netball Club	0	0	40	100%	100%
Caulfield Football Club	0	0	80	100%	100%
Murrumbeena Football Netball Club	0	0	30	100%	100%
St Paul's Football Club	0	0	10	100%	100%
Glen Eira Amateur Football Club	0	30	90	100%	100%
	992	1,597	2,088	61%	110%

<i>(Active Club Members only)</i>				% change	% change
Club	2004	2014	2017	2014-2017	2004-2017
Soccer					
Caulfield Cougars Soccer Club	40	50	28	-44%	-30%
Caulfield Park Social Soccer	35	30	50	67%	43%
Caulfield United Soccer Club	140	413	161	-61%	15%
East Bentleigh Soccer Club	422	403	700	74%	66%
Garryowen Gaelic Athletic Club	0	60	79	32%	100%
Glen Eira City South Melbourne Soccer	200	265	400	51%	100%
Glen Eira Junior Soccer Club	353	420	991	136%	181%
Monash Gryphons Soccer Club	60	40	35	-13%	-42%
North Caulfield Maccabi Soccer Club	82	446	465	4%	467%
	1,332	2,127	2,909	37%	118%
Softball					
Glen Eira Moorabbin Softball Association	230	139	147	6%	-36%
	230	139	147	6%	-36%
Tennis					
Caulfield Park Tennis Club	216	125	75	-40%	-65%
Bentleigh Recreation Tennis Club *	84	84	90	7%	7%
Caulfield Recreation Tennis Club	245	100	140	40%	-43%
Centenary Park Tennis Club *	120	120	102	-15%	-15%
Coatesville Tennis Club *	230	230	224	-3%	-3%
Glen Eira Tennis Club	263	230	150	-35%	-43%
Glenhuntly Tennis Club	170	150	90	-40%	-47%
Kings Park Tennis Club	294	350	360	3%	22%
Lauriston Lawn Tennis Club *	160	160	167	4%	4%
Maccabi Tennis Club *	250	250	250	0%	0%
Murrumbeena Tennis Club *	117	117	112	-4%	-4%
Ormond Tennis Club	182	170	221	30%	21%
St Kevin's Tennis Club *	59	59	70	19%	19%
Victory Park Tennis Club	103	70	61	-13%	-41%
Wattle Tennis Club	27	34	50	47%	85%
	2,520	2,249	2,162	-4%	-14%