

CRICKET FACILITIES SUSTAINABILITY CRITERIA

The following criteria are important factors in making decisions on the sustainability of existing Cricket facilities and planning for new facilities;

- Demographics

Population trends for the Perth Metropolitan Region provide an important context for sustainable Cricket facility development. Examining the population projections shown elsewhere in this Report reveals that with few exceptions Perth Metropolitan Region Local Government Authorities can expect population increases. Prudent planning for new pitches and fields, or extensions to existing facilities, should require a trend positive population growth for individual Local Government Authorities.

- Planning Framework

Consideration of sustainable Cricket infrastructure plans and projects cannot be evaluated in isolation. There must be consideration of other stakeholders' goals, plans and interests in the assessment of projects. Issues such as alternative community uses, collocation, are opportunities to be explored in determining facility sustainability. This concept applies to both existing and new clubs.

Desirably, the facility planning framework will also include minimizing ongoing operational and maintenance costs in the Capital budget planning process

- Community Engagement

Community engagement is measured through an individual's sense of belonging and being involved in community organisations such as cricket clubs. There is a sharing and embracing of club traditions and support for a path for future club directions.

For existing Cricket clubs membership numbers are an indicator of engagement and should be expected to at least parallel the percentage increase in Local Government Authority population.

- Extended Community Benefit

Most Cricket club arrangements with Councils require ovals and amenities to be available for hire by the community when not being used for club purposes.

The extent to which this occurs is an indicator of the wider benefits of Cricket club facilities to the community and provides another income stream from the pitches.

- Governance

A history of good governance for established cricket clubs or community committees seeking to establish a new club is a factor that offers comfort to the WACA and related Cricket Associations and Local Government when requests for resource support to develop facilities are lodged.

Indicators of good governance include:

- * Annual general meeting attendance and voting rates
- * Setting of balanced budgets to encompass reserve funds for asset replacement, capital purchases and maintenance
- * Ensuring there is a manageable debt/expense to income ratio
- * Providing for facility maintenance in the club budget
- * Existence of and evidence of working to a business plan appropriate to the size of the club

- Appropriate risk management, insurance and volunteers programs are in place.

- * Use of the Department for Sport and Recreation club support resources such as the "Smart Club" booklet.
- * Club is an incorporated body

* Ongoing support is evident from club's own cricket association

- Usage Patterns

Usage patterns can be influenced by inter-sport programming overlap, however, the following patterns and facility throughput will reflect on the revenue generation opportunities of Cricket facilities:

- * Seasonal or year round

- * All week or weekends

- * Hours per day

- * User number

- * Night cricket

- Environmental Sensitivity

There is a growing recognition that ovals in Western Australia need to be designed and maintained in a water sensitive manner. Cricket clubs as a major users of ovals during the summer period and local Government Authorities need to strike an acceptable balance between pitch and oval quality and ensure sound ground risk management, but show environmental responsibility for water conservation.