



## Sports Development Plan

Prepared by Simon Leisure Consulting  
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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Mitchell Shire is currently experiencing much change in its growth and development. This has been largely brought about by the rapid population growth occurring in the southern area of the Shire and which is predicted to continue for the duration of the forecast period. The key challenge for Council with the growing population, particularly in the Beveridge / Wallan / Kilmore corridor, is to ensure that development does not lag behind the residential growth, including the provision of sporting facilities and associated infrastructure.

Sport is an important part of the lifestyle for residents in Mitchell Shire, and the continued growth of the Shire requires Council and other stakeholders to continue to carefully plan for new and upgraded sporting facilities to accommodate increasing demand. It is timely therefore that Council prepares a planning and development framework for the future provision of sporting facilities that achieves a balance between the development of new facilities and the upgrade of existing facilities, which not only considers the high growth areas in the south but also the established townships located in other areas across the Shire.

Mitchell Shire is located 40 minutes north of Melbourne and largely straddles the Hume and Northern Highways from the northern reaches of metropolitan Melbourne to central Victoria. It comprises of the main townships of Kilmore, Seymour, Broadford and Wallan, and the smaller towns of Tooborac, Pyalong, Wandong-Heathcote Junction, Tallarook, Trawool and Beveridge.

The Shire has a diverse topography and is characterised by a mix of urban and rural environments that will likely become even more pronounced in the next 20 years with the predicted urbanisation of the townships of Beveridge and Wallan. The Shire's population is currently in excess of 35,000 people, however, is projected to increase to more than 55,000 people by 2026 and to over 150,000 people if the Beveridge / Wallan / Kilmore corridor is fully developed for residential activity.

Mitchell Shire Council commissioned Simon Leisure Consulting in February 2011 to prepare a *Sports Development Plan* for the Shire. The Plan focuses on the current and future planning for sports facility provision and management in a context that considers high population growth in the south and the consolidation of sporting opportunities within the established townships throughout the Shire. The Plan will enable Council and other stakeholders to prioritise sporting infrastructure development for the next 10 – 15 years.

### 1.1. Project Aims and Objectives

The study had the following Project Aims (as outlined in the study brief):

1. To identify the gaps in the provision of sporting opportunities, as well as community needs and demands for sporting facilities and services within the municipality,
2. To develop strategies that address the identified gaps and improve the level and standard of sports provision within the municipality, and
3. To propose a framework for the effective and efficient development, maintenance and management of sports facilities and services within the municipality.

The Project Objectives were (as outlined in the study brief):

1. To analyse general demographic (including population forecasts as a result of recent changes to the urban growth boundary), lifestyle, government policy and leisure industry trends impacting upon sport, in Mitchell Shire, over the next 10 to 15 years,
2. To examine participation levels in sport and active recreation pursuits within the community,
3. To identify barriers to participation in sport and active recreation pursuits,
4. To examine local policies and strategies for the development and management of sports and sporting infrastructure,
5. To provide a community perspective on sports provision within the Shire,

6. To examine current sports provision with a view to identifying unfulfilled needs and gaps in provision, including community accessible education facilities,
7. To review sports infrastructure provision with a view to identifying facility improvements and potential development partnerships with educational institutions,
8. To review existing maintenance and management practices with respect to sports facilities and services in order to enhance current management and maintenance practices within the Shire or recommend a more appropriate management model,
9. To review income and expenditure with respect to sports facilities and services and provide a framework for implementing a consistent approach to levying fees and charges, including the level of club contributions towards Council's capital renewal projects,
10. To identify reasons for participation and non-participation in sport and formulate a framework for improving sports participation, and
11. To provide a written report to Council outlining strategies for developing sport and sports facilities (including indicative costs) within the Shire, over the next 10 to 15 years (the report will underpin Council's 10 year capital works program).

In relation to Objective No. 8 above, it should be noted that during the study period, Council implemented a new policy for the management of recreation reserves for which it had either direct management responsibility (Council-owned reserves) or delegated responsibility (Crown land reserves). The previous framework had community committees of management operating as Section 86 Committees of Council and in accordance with the Local Government Act (1989). This was abolished and replaced with a policy requiring the community committees to become incorporated associations and therefore operate in accordance with the Associations Incorporations Act (1991). Their specific roles and responsibilities for managing the reserves are documented in separate Service Agreements with Council.

## 1.2. Project Scope

Council recognised that it would not be possible to undertake a detailed review and assessment of all sporting and recreational activities currently (or potentially) available in the Mitchell Shire. As a result, the following activities were confirmed to have a more in depth investigation and review in the *Sports Development Plan*.

- Australian Rules football
- Athletics (track and field)
- Basketball
- Cricket
- Equestrian
- Lawn Bowls
- Netball
- Swimming
- Soccer<sup>1</sup>
- Tennis

These sports were selected on the basis that they have relatively high local participation rates and/or are sports with current or emerging issues requiring investigation and direction through this study. Other sports have also been considered where Council has a direct interest in the provision of facilities or venues but in comparatively less detail.

Further, the *Sports Development Plan* study confined its scope to the following facilities in relation to the targeted sporting activities:

- Outdoor sporting grounds and associated facilities, such as playing fields, pavilions and floodlighting,
- Outdoor courts and rinks, such as netball courts, tennis courts and lawn bowling greens,

<sup>1</sup> It is acknowledged that the Football Federation of Australia and its affiliate organisations have re-branded soccer in Australia as 'football'. However, given that in Victoria the term 'football' is still more commonly identified as a term for Australian Rules football, and given that the change in terminology for soccer to 'football' is still relatively recent, the term soccer has been retained throughout this project as the reference to the 'round-ball' form of football.

- Indoor sports facilities and stadiums, and
- Equestrian areas, such as sand arenas, cross-country courses and associated areas.

*Note, that while it is acknowledged that aquatic facilities are a key component of Mitchell Shire's sporting facility network, addressing community aquatic needs was outside of the scope of this study. The recommendations made in this Plan relate to organised, club-based swimming activities and facilities, not recreational swimming or swimming education.*

### **1.3. Acknowledgement**

The preparation of the *Sports Development Plan* was informed by the outcome from many meetings and workshops involving representatives from sporting clubs and associations, reserve committees of management, and other stakeholders. The input, feedback and contribution from all stakeholders is acknowledged.

The consultant team also thanks those Council staff and Councillors who provided valuable background information and guidance during the study, particularly the project managers, Gerard Feain (Council's Leisure Services Manager) and Mary-ann McCue (Council's Recreation Officer).

The study was part funded by Sport and Recreation Victoria (Department of Planning & Community Development), and this contribution is acknowledged.

## 2. STRATEGIC CONTEXT

The sports development planning study was carried out with consideration of the following policy and planning inputs, and the current provision of sporting facilities.

1. Council strategies and planning reports.
2. Demographic profile of Mitchell Shire and population projections.
3. Population characteristics and projections for the two planning precincts - Mitchell North & Mitchell South.
4. Mitchell Shire sports facility provision.

### 2.1. Council Policy and Planning

A review of the following planning documents was completed to identify key Council directions and strategies to inform the sports planning process. In addition, some key external strategic planning reports were reviewed, as required.

- Mitchell Shire Council Plan (2009 - 2013).
- *Draft Mitchell 2020 Plan: the Shire's Vision* (2011).
- Mitchell Shire Economic Development and Tourism Strategy (2010).
- Mitchell Shire Recreation and Open Space Strategy (2005).
- Mitchell Shire Community Centres Policy (2008).
- Wallan Tennis Court Feasibility Study (2008).
- *Draft Tennis and Netball Court Audit* (2010).
- *Draft Broadford Township Open Space Strategy* (2011).
- *Draft Greater Beveridge Scoping Assessment of Community Infrastructure Requirements & Opportunities* (2011).
- Mitchell 2020 Vision Discussion Paper (2011).
- Various recreation reserve master plans.

### 2.2. Demographic Profile of Mitchell Shire

*The demographic profiling of Mitchell Shire was a challenging process as the population projections for the southern area of the Shire were continually being re-assessed as part of the planning process being undertaken by the State Government and Council to confirm future land use and likely future growth corridors associated with the realignment of the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) in 2010. It is possible that the UGB may be adjusted again in the next 12 months to include additional areas north of the greater Beveridge area.*

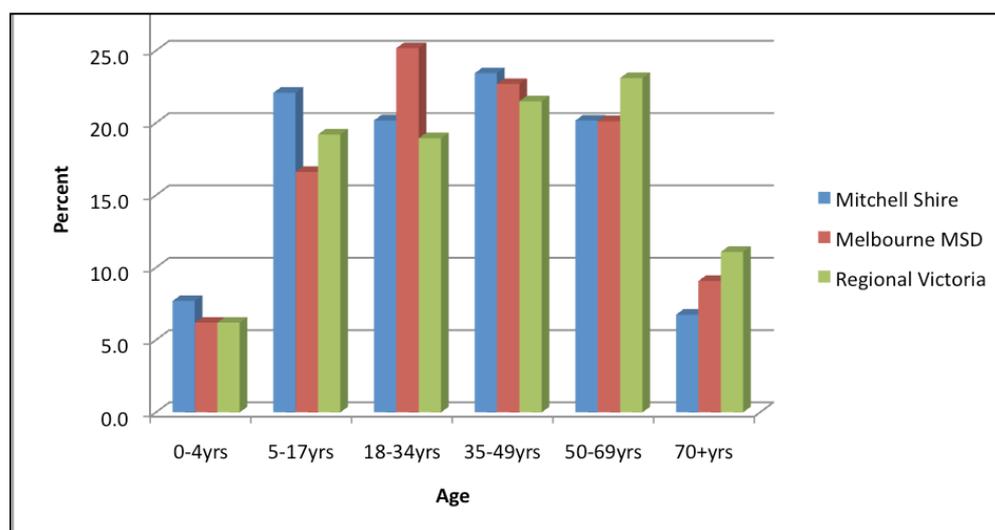
*As a result of this uncertainty of population projections, particularly for the southern areas of the Shire, this report has defaulted back to the information contained in the i.d.consulting Community Profile for Mitchell Shire (as available on Council's website). Notwithstanding this, the demographic data contained in the Mitchell Shire Economic Development and Tourism Strategy (2010) prepared by Essential Economics and in the draft Greater Beveridge Scoping Assessment of Community Infrastructure Requirements & Opportunities (2011) prepared by ASR Research has been considered and referenced, where relevant. Both of these reports contain relevant information concerning population projections in the southern area of Mitchell Shire having regard for the new UGB.*

The demographic characteristics of Mitchell Shire relevant to sports facility planning are outlined below.

- The estimated population of the Mitchell Shire in June 2011 was 37,054 people. This is an increase of 15.7% since 2006, or an annual increase of 3.14%, which is greater than the annual

growth rate of the Shire between 2001 and 2006 at 2.4%<sup>2</sup>. This rate of population growth is significantly higher than that experienced in Metropolitan Melbourne (1.5%) and Regional Victoria (0.8%) for the same period.

- The overall age profile of the Mitchell Shire tends to be 'younger' than Metropolitan Melbourne and Regional Victoria, as evidenced in Table 1, which shows that:
  - There is a higher proportion of children aged 0–4 years and 5-17 years compared to all of Metropolitan Melbourne and Regional Victoria.
  - There is a lower proportion of adults aged 70+ years compared to all of Metropolitan Melbourne and Regional Victoria.



**Table 1 – 2006 Population Profile of Mitchell Shire compared to Metropolitan Melbourne & Regional Victoria**

- Further, Mitchell Shire has a relatively low level of cultural diversity, with 83.2% of residents Australia-born, compared to 64.2% for Metropolitan Melbourne and 84.4% for Regional Victoria.

### Implications for Sports Planning

Research shows that the rate of participation by people in 'club-based activities'<sup>3</sup> is highest for young people and declines with age. This is evidenced by longitudinal research conducted by the Australian Sports Commission that shows that younger people are significantly more likely to participate in club-based activities compared to older people. For example, in 2010, 17.7% of all 15-24 year olds in Australia participated in club-based activities compared to only 3.1% of people aged 45–54 years<sup>4</sup>. (Refer Section 3 for additional information on the participation patterns of people in sport). Given the younger age profile of Mitchell Shire, it can be reasonably expected that the current demand for sporting facilities will remain high when compared to other municipalities and shires where the prevailing profile is 'older'.

Similarly, research shows that Australia-born people have a higher rate of participation in physical activity compared to people born overseas, particularly people born in countries that speak a language other than English<sup>5</sup>. Mitchell Shire has a comparatively high proportion of Australia-born residents so the overall level of participation in sports will be higher. Also, a community's cultural diversity can also influence the preferred type of sports played, however, given that Mitchell Shire has a high Australia-born population, it can be reasonably expected that traditional 'Anglo' sports such as Australian football, cricket, soccer, tennis, and netball will continue to be popular.

<sup>2</sup> Source: Mitchell Shire Economic Development and Tourism Strategy (2010).

<sup>3</sup> 'Club-based activities' = physical activity that was organised in full or part by a sport or recreation club or association that required payment of membership fees or registration, as defined in the Participation in Exercise, Recreation and Sport Survey (ERASS), ASC, 2010.

<sup>4</sup> Source: Participation in Exercise, Recreation and Sport Survey (ERASS), ASC, 2010.

<sup>5</sup> Source: Migrants and Participation in Sport and Physical Activity, ABS, 2006.

## 2.3. Population Projections

A key to predicting the future sporting needs of a local government area is to understand the projected growth of the population, particularly the growth within specific age cohorts and within different areas of a municipality. This section analyses the projected population growth of Mitchell Shire<sup>6</sup>, and drills down to specific areas within the Shire and to the 'younger' age cohorts. It is the first factor that provides some significant information for community facility planning in Mitchell Shire, including sporting infrastructure.

The population of Mitchell Shire is projected to grow to over 55,000 people by 2026 (or 60% total growth between 2006 and 2026)<sup>7</sup>.

*[It should be noted that this projection is likely to be conservative given the interim results of population forecasting for the greater Beveridge area. The forecasts predict a potential yield of up to 95,000 people for this area<sup>8</sup>. Given that this data is still interim and that it is not yet clear what proportion of this growth will occur in each of the three local government areas that the area covers (the greater Beveridge area incorporates parts of Mitchell Shire and the Cities of Hume and Whittlesea), this report has used the projected population data from the Victoria in Future report as the basis for its recommendations.]*

The projected population growth in Mitchell Shire will not be uniform across the Shire, with a significant proportion of the growth to occur in the south. This skewed growth is already evident with the growth in the Shire during the period 2001 to 2006 having focussed on Mitchell South<sup>9</sup>, which had an increase of 4,060 residents (+4.4% pa) whilst Mitchell North experienced a decline in population of -430 persons (-0.8% pa). And for the period 2006 to 2009, Mitchell North grew by 150 residents whilst the population in Mitchell South increased by 2,210 residents.

Table 2 shows the extent of the disproportionate growth projected to occur between the southern and northern areas of the Shire to 2026 (refer yellow highlighted boxes).

Location	2006 Pop'n	Change '01 to '06	Projected 2016	Change '06 to '16	Projected 2026	Change '06 to 2026
Mitchell North	11,020	-430	11,579	559	11,879	859
Mitchell South	21,010	+4,060	30,931	9,921	43,411	22,401
Total Shire	32,030	+3,630	42,510	10,480	55,290	23,260

**Table 2 – Comparison of Projected Population Growth between Mitchell North and Mitchell South**

Another important characteristic of the projected population growth between the southern and northern areas of the Shire to 2026, is the projected growth by age cohorts. Table 3 shows that there is significantly more growth expected to occur in the age cohorts of 5-14 years and 15-39 years in Mitchell South when compared to Mitchell North.

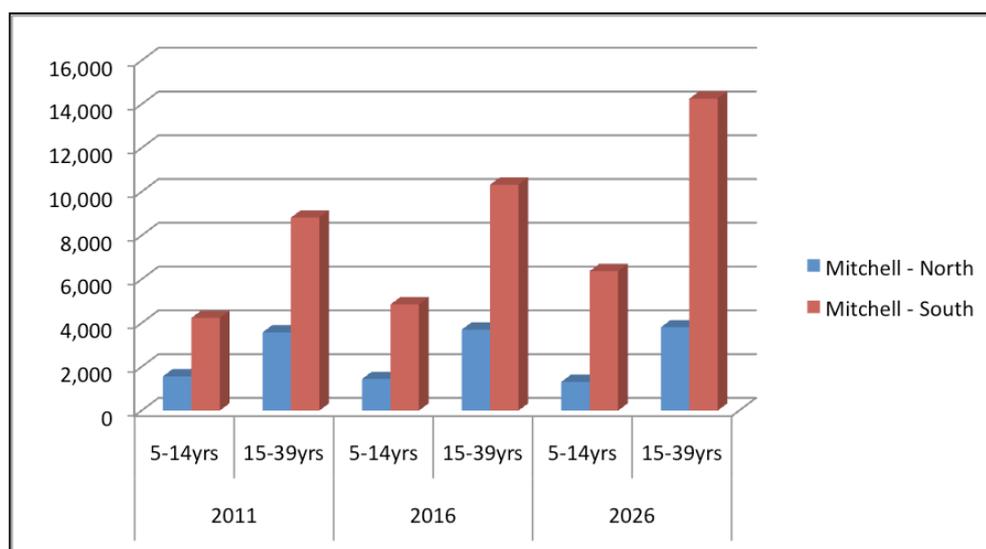
For reasons outlined on the previous page, the higher growth in the younger age cohorts in Mitchell South will have significant implications for the future planning for sporting facilities, given the higher rate of participation in club-based sport by people in the younger age cohorts.

<sup>6</sup> Source: Mitchell Shire Community Profile, 2011.

<sup>7</sup> Source: Victoria in Future 2008.

<sup>8</sup> Source: Draft Greater Beveridge Scoping Assessment of Community Infrastructure Requirements & Opportunities (2011), ASR Research.

<sup>9</sup> See Appendix 1 for the delineation of the Shire between Mitchell South and Mitchell North.



Source: Victoria in Future 2008, Department of Planning & Community Development (Vic)

**Table 3 – Comparison of Projected Population Growth between Mitchell North and Mitchell South by Age Cohort**

Mitchell Shire is currently dominated by an Anglo–Australian cultural background. This is expected to remain the dominant culture in the next 10 years, however, forecast profiling of new communities suggests that the growth areas will be attractive to a greater proportion of overseas born persons and households<sup>10</sup>. This is consistent with the profile of emerging communities in other outer ring Melbourne municipalities.

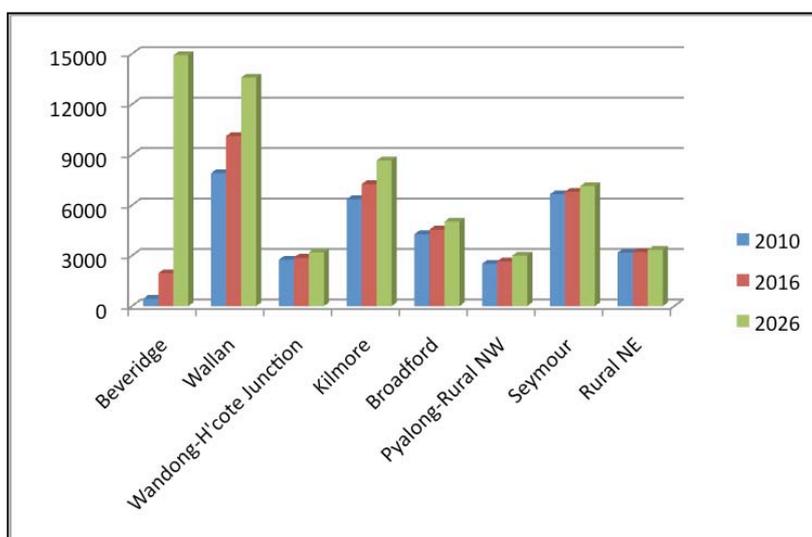
Mitchell Shire will become culturally and linguistically a more diverse community and there will be a need to be responsive to this feature in the future provision of sporting facilities, particularly in the southern area of the Shire. Examples of new demand for sporting facilities that may emerge from specific communities are badminton and table tennis for Asian communities, cricket facilities for Indian and Pakistani communities, soccer for African communities, and rugby union for Islander communities.

<sup>10</sup> Source: Mitchell 2020 Vision Discussion Paper, 10 Consulting Group, 2011.

## 2.4. Population Projections for Shire Townships / Areas

Whilst the above summary of the overall demographic characteristics and projections of Mitchell Shire are important, it is equally important to recognise the specific differences in population projections that are predicted to occur between the key townships and rural areas of the Shire.

Table 4 below shows how the population projections for the key towns and rural areas significantly vary through to the forecast period to 2026, whilst Table 5 provides more detailed data, including the changes in the total number of 5–39 year olds that will reside in each township and rural area during the forecast period. This cohort is expected to make up the highest proportion of ‘club-based’ sporting participants.



Source: Mitchell Shire Community Profile, id consulting

**Table 4 – Comparison of Projected Population Growth between Key Townships / Areas**

Town / Area	2010 Pop'n	No. of 5-39 yrs	2016 Pop'n	No. of 5-39 yrs	2026 Pop'n	No. of 5-39 yrs	Net 5–39 yrs 2010 - 2026
<b>Mitchell Shire</b>	34,093	16,653	39,436	19,007	58,886	29,438	12,785
<b>Mitchell South</b>							
Beveridge	445	237	1,956	1,192	14,920	8,942	8,705
Wallan	7,904	4,280	10,114	5,372	13,593	6,989	2,709
Wandong-Heathcote Junction	2,757	1,311	2,880	1,295	3,201	1,421	110
Kilmore	6,356	3,232	7,258	3,522	8,665	4,051	819
Broadford	4,279	1,918	4,554	1,987	5,028	2,145	227
<b>Mitchell North</b>							
Pyalong-Rural North West	2,520	1,058	2,660	1,045	3,003	1,161	103
Seymour	6,650	2,931	6,800	2,944	7,131	3,037	106
Rural North East	3,182	1,686	3,212	1,649	3,348	1,694	8

Source: Mitchell Shire Community Profile, id consulting

**Table 5 – Projected Population Growth for Key Townships / Areas and 5-39 Years Age Cohort Comparison**

The key information from the analysis includes:

- All key townships and rural areas will experience population growth to 2026, however, almost half (48.4%) of the total projected population of Mitchell Shire will reside in the Wallan and Beveridge area by 2026 (in 2010 it was only 24.5%).
- Significantly, over half (54.1%) of all 5–39 year olds will reside the Wallan and Beveridge area in 2026.
- Whilst the total population in all of Mitchell North will increase by 9.1% (from 12,352 people in 2010 to 13,482 in 2026), the proportion of 5–39 year olds will increase by only 3.8%.
- Conversely, the total population in all of Mitchell South will increase by 108.8% (from 21,741 people in 2010 to 45,407 in 2026), with the proportion of 5–39 year olds increasing by 114.5%.

### Implications for Sports Facility Planning

The net projected population increase in Mitchell South to 2026 will result in a corresponding increase in demand for access to sporting facilities as the increase in the number of people in the active age cohorts is projected to increase at a similar rate. This precinct should be the focus for the planning for new sporting facilities or the upgrade of existing sporting facilities in the next 15 years, particularly Beveridge and Wallan townships.

Given that the rate of population growth in Mitchell North will be relatively low for the next 15 years, and is only marginal for the active age cohorts, it can be asserted with some confidence that if the provision of sporting facilities in Mitchell North is adequate now, then it should remain adequate for the forecast period.

Notwithstanding the likely need for new and upgraded sporting facilities to service expanding 'young' communities in the southern area of the Shire, there is projected to be an overall increase in the number of older adults, which will either maintain the demand for existing sporting facilities and services historically attractive for older people, such as swimming and lawn bowls, and may also trigger an increased demand for 'veteran' sporting competitions and activities, such as Australian football super rules and masters competitions, and veterans basketball competitions.

Consideration of a more diverse suite of sporting facilities than has historically been provided in Mitchell Shire is likely to be required (particularly in the southern area) with the expected increase in the number of new residents from diverse cultural backgrounds.

## 2.5. Current Sports Facility Provision

An audit and review of the existing provision of sporting facilities was undertaken by site inspection and desktop assessment. (Refer Appendix 2 for detailed audit of the existing provision of sporting facilities).

A summary of the quantity and distribution of the key sporting facilities by township and planning precinct is shown in Table 6 below.

Township / Planning Precinct	AFL Ovals	Athletics	Baseball	Basketball	Cricket	Equestrian	Lawn Bowls	Netball	Soccer	Swimming	Tennis
Seymour	4	1	-	2	4	2	3	1	-	2	15
Tallarook	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	1	1
Tooborac	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Pyalong	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	-	-	4
<b>Total Mitchell North</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>22</b>
Broadford	1	-	1	2	1	1	1	4	-	1	5
Kilmore	1	1	-	-	1	1	1	4	-	1	11
Wallan	2	-	-	3	2	-	2	2	-	-	6
Wandong	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	4	-	-	7
Beveridge	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	2
<b>Total Mitchell South</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>53</b>

Note: Cricket Ovals (5 synthetic wickets, 6 turf wickets)  
 The two greens at the Seymour VRI Bowling Club are counted as one green  
 Tennis courts (30 plexipave, 14 synthetic grass, 6 porous, 3 asphalt) includes stand alone community courts

**Table 6 - Sporting Facilities by Township and Planning Precincts**

The Table shows that from a Shire-wide perspective:

- A majority of all sporting facilities are located within the four main townships of Seymour Broadford, Kilmore and Wallan.
- These townships are evenly distributed from north to south, thereby creating reasonable access to a variety of sporting facilities for most people within the Shire.
- Cricket, equestrian, netball and tennis facilities are the most widely distributed of all of the nominated sports.
- Netball and tennis have the largest number of individual courts / fields of all of the nominated sports.
- Soccer does not have a field that is either permanent or semi-permanent throughout the Shire, whilst baseball and athletics have one and two, respectively.

- There are approximately 50% more sporting facilities in Mitchell South compared to Mitchell North (whilst the population of Mitchell South is approximately 130% more than Mitchell North).

### 2.5.1. Adequacy of Sporting Facilities

Simon Leisure Consulting undertook a high-level assessment of the adequacy of the number of publicly accessible facilities for some of the nominated sports. The assessment is based on a benchmark of provision per thousand people for each sport. The benchmarks (and minor variations to them) have been utilised for the past 15 - 20 years in other leisure facility planning studies undertaken for local government authorities. The benchmarks were established for application in urban areas, so their use in this study is more applicable for the Mitchell South area than for the Mitchell North area. Notwithstanding this, the benchmarks are intended to provide a guide only to the adequacy, or otherwise, of the number of available facilities to meet current and projected future needs of communities.

*The benchmarks are generally consistent with the standards established for Melbourne growth area councils as outlined in the report, Planning for Community Infrastructure in Growth Area Communities, ASR Research Pty Ltd (2008).*

Other determinants such as sports participation rates, the age profile of a population, the geographic distribution of existing sporting facilities, community and stakeholder consultation, and the availability of school-based facilities also need to be considered. A more detailed analysis of the adequacy of the current provision of sporting facilities in Mitchell Shire to meet expected future demand is provided in Section 6.

Four tables have been prepared and are shown on the following pages. Tables 7 & 8 show the ratio of provision of sports facilities in Mitchell North based on the 2011 population of the Shire and on the projected population to 2026. Tables 9 & 10 show the ratio of provision of sports facilities for the Mitchell South precinct for the current and projected populations for that precinct.

Activity	Existing Facilities in Mitchell North	Industry Benchmark	2011 Facility Provision per '000 people	Optimum Number of Facilities (per Benchmark)	Difference (= shortfall)
AFL Oval	5	1:3,000	2,259	4	1
Bowling Green	3	1:10,000	3,765	1	2
Indoor sports court	2	1:10,000	5,648	1	1
Cricket Oval	6	1:3,000	1,883	4	2
Netball	4	1:3,500	2,824	3	1
Soccer Field	0	1:5,000	NA	2	-2
Tennis Court	22	1:2,000	513	6	16
Estimated 2011 population of:		11,296			

**Table 7 - Benchmark Assessment of the Adequacy of the Number of Sporting Facilities For Mitchell North (2011 Population)**

The results of the preliminary benchmarking process to assess the adequacy of the provision of sporting facilities in the Mitchell North precinct identified that for the current estimated population of 11,300 people there is:

- A current oversupply of tennis courts, and marginal oversupply of cricket ovals.
- An adequate supply of Australian football ovals, bowling greens, indoor sports courts and netball.
- A less than optimum number of fields for soccer.

Activity	Existing Facilities in Mitchell North	Industry Benchmark	2026 Facility Provision per '000 people	Optimum Number of Facilities (per Benchmark)	Difference (- = shortfall)
AFL Oval	5	1:3,000	2,376	4	1
Bowling Green	3	1:10,000	3,960	1	2
Indoor sports court	2	1:10,000	5,940	1	1
Cricket Oval	6	1:3,000	1,980	4	2
Netball	4	1:3,500	2,970	3	1
Soccer Field	0	1:5,000	NA	2	-2
Tennis Court	22	1:2,000	540	6	16
Estimated 2026 population of:		11,879			

**Table 8 - Benchmark Assessment of the Adequacy of the Number of Sporting Facilities For Mitchell North (2026 Population)**

The results of the benchmarking process to assess the adequacy of the provision of sporting facilities in Mitchell North for the projected population of 11,900 people in 2026 are almost identical as those found for the current population, with the likely oversupply of tennis courts again being the most significant outcome.

Activity	Existing Facilities in Mitchell South	Industry Benchmark	2011 Facility Provision per '000 people	Optimum Number of Facilities (per Benchmark)	Difference (- = shortfall)
AFL Oval	5	1:3,000	5,152	9	-4
Bowling Green	4	1:10,000	6,440	3	1
Indoor sports court	5	1:10,000	5,152	3	2
Cricket Oval	5	1:3,000	5,152	9	-4
Netball	15	1:3,500	1,717	7	8
Soccer Field	0	1:5,000	NA	5	-5
Tennis Court	31	1:2,000	831	13	18
Estimated 2011 population of:		25,758			

**Table 9 - Comparative Assessment of the Adequacy of the Number of Sporting Facilities For Mitchell South (2011 Population)**

The results of the preliminary benchmarking process to assess the adequacy of the provision of sporting facilities in the Mitchell South precinct identified that for the current estimated population of 25,800 people there is:

- A current oversupply of tennis courts and netball courts.
- An adequate supply of bowling greens and indoor sports courts.
- A less than optimum number of fields for Australian football, cricket and soccer.

Activity	Existing Facilities in Mitchell South	Industry Benchmark	2026 Facility Provision per '000 people	Optimum Number of Facilities (per Benchmark)	Difference (- = shortfall)
AFL Oval	5	1:3,000	8,682	14	-9
Bowling Green	4	1:10,000	10,853	4	0
Indoor sports court	5	1:10,000	8,682	4	1
Cricket Oval	5	1:3,000	8,682	14	-9
Netball	15	1:3,500	2,894	12	3
Soccer Field	0	1:5,000	NA	9	-9
Tennis Court	31	1:2,000	1,400	22	9
Estimated 2026 population of:		43,411			

**Table 10 - Comparative Assessment of the Adequacy of the Number of Sporting Facilities For Mitchell South (2026 Population)**

The results of the benchmarking process for Mitchell South for a projected population of 43,400 people in 2026 shows that there will likely be:

- An oversupply of tennis courts.
- An adequate supply of bowling greens, indoor sports courts and netball courts.
- A less than optimum number of fields for Australian football, cricket and soccer.

### 3. BROAD SPORTS PARTICIPATION TRENDS

For the purpose of informing this study, Simon Leisure Consulting undertook a review of relevant National and State sports participation trends. This section commences with an overview of general participation trends in physical activity, and then outlines sports participation trends for both adults and children, and some sports-specific participation trends. The section concludes with a summary of the club membership trends for all Mitchell Shire sports clubs.

The key data sources for the following information are:

1. Exercise, Recreation and Sport Survey (ERASS), Australian Sports Commission (2001 - 2010).
2. Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities, ABS (2000, 2003, 2006 & 2009).

#### 3.1. General Participation Trends in Physical Activity

Factors regarded as the catalysts for change in physical activity participation include the following:

- Changes in the size and profile of a population.
- Increased awareness of people of the strong link between the involvement in physical activity and good health.
- Demand from people for access to a greater diversity of physical activities.
- Increased expectations of people and groups for a higher standard of facility provision, and for better quality programming and management of facilities.
- Greater reliance on locally accessible and low-cost opportunities for participation in physical activity by those people without the resources to travel or pay for more expensive pursuits.
- Increased participation in unstructured, informal activities, such as walking and cycling (but not seemingly at the expense of participation in sport).
- Improved promotion, management and delivery of introductory sports programs, such as Goal Kick, Auskick, Netta, Minkey Hockey and In2Cricket, by most State Sporting Associations is having the effect of increasing the number of primary-school aged children participating in sport.

#### 3.2. Sports Participation Trends – Adults

The following summarises key trends in sports participation by adults (people aged 15 years and over).

##### Organised Physical Activity<sup>11</sup>

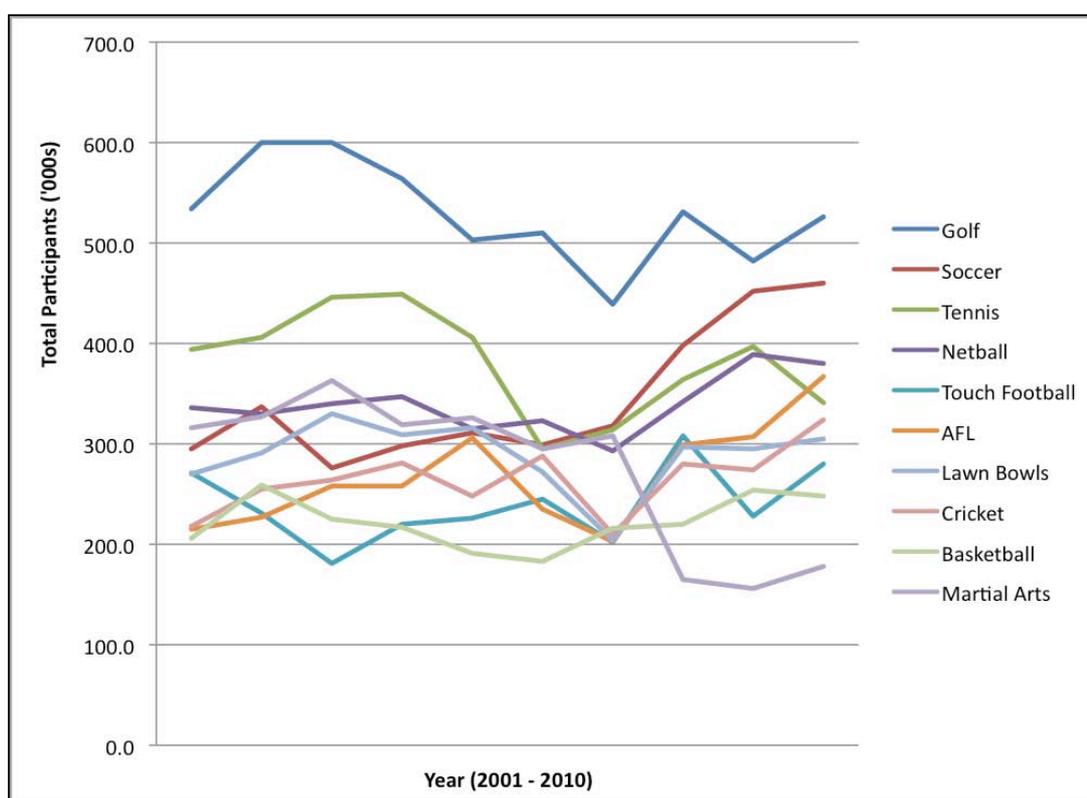
- The total National participation rate in 'organised physical activity' was 40.0% in 2010, a marginal increase from 39.9% in 2001. For Victoria, the participation rate was slightly higher at 40.9% in 2010, up from 38.7% in 2001.
- Regular participation in 'organised physical activity' Nationally was most common among people aged 15-24 years, regardless of gender, while participation in 'non-organised physical activity' increased with age.
- School-aged children had the highest regular participation rate in 'organised physical activity'.
- The top ten 'organised physical activities' in 2010, in terms of the total participation rate were aerobics/fitness, golf, soccer, netball, Australian Rules football, tennis, basketball, touch football, cricket and lawn bowls.

<sup>11</sup> 'Organised physical activity' is activity for exercise, recreation or sport that was organised in full or in part by a fitness, leisure or indoor sports centre that required payment for participation; a sport or recreation club or association that required payment of membership, fees or registration; a workplace; a school; or any other type of organisation.

- Of the top ten activities, Australian Rules football had the largest increase in total participation between 2001 and 2010, increasing by 64%. Other activities in the top ten to experience increases in participation since 2001 were soccer (55%) and cricket (33%).
- Of the top ten activities, tennis (-24%) and golf (-8%) had the greatest decline in participation between 2001 and 2010.

### Club-Based Physical Activity<sup>12</sup>

- In 2010, the National participation rate in 'club-based physical activity' was 25.7%, increasing from 20.5% in 2001. For Victoria, the participation rate was similar to the National rate at 25.5%.
- Regardless of gender, regular participation in club-based physical activity nationally was most common amongst those people aged 15-24 years (17.7%).
- The top ten 'club-based physical activities' in 2010, in terms of the total participation, were golf, soccer, tennis, Australian Rules football, netball, cricket, lawn bowls, basketball, touch football and martial arts.
- Table 13 shows that Australian Rules football (71%), soccer (56%), cricket (49%), basketball (21%), netball (13%), lawn bowls (13%) and touch football (4%) all experienced increases in the total number of participants between 2001 and 2010, whilst martial arts (-44%), tennis (-13%) and golf (-1%) all experienced a decline in total participation, despite an overall increase in the population.



**Table 11 – Trend of Participation in Top Ten Club-Based Physical Activity (National, 2001 - 2010)**

<sup>12</sup> 'Club-based physical activity' is any activity for exercise, recreation or sport that was organised in full or in part by a sport or recreation club or association that required payment of membership, fees or registration.

### 3.3. Sports Participation Trends - Children

The National survey, *Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities*, undertaken in 2009 for children aged 5-14 years remains the most up-to-date national data available in relation to children's participation in sport. Key results from the survey are highlighted below.

- Of children aged 5-14 years, 63.0% participated in sport outside of school hours, which was organised by a school, club or association (up from 59.4% in 2000).
- Across all age groups, boys had a higher participation rate (69.6%) in organised sport than girls (56.3%). Both rates of participation in 2009 were up from 2000 levels (boys at 66.1% and girls at 52.3%).
- Table 12 shows that the most popular organised sport for all children in 2009 was swimming, with a participation rate of 19.0%, followed by soccer (13.0%) and Australian Rules football (9.0%).
- The 2009 rate of participation in organised sports was up from 2000 levels for gymnastics (84%), martial arts (48%), swimming (32%), Australian Rules football (35%), soccer (19%), rugby league (2%), cricket (1%), and basketball (0.1%) but was down for netball (-5%) and tennis (-4%).

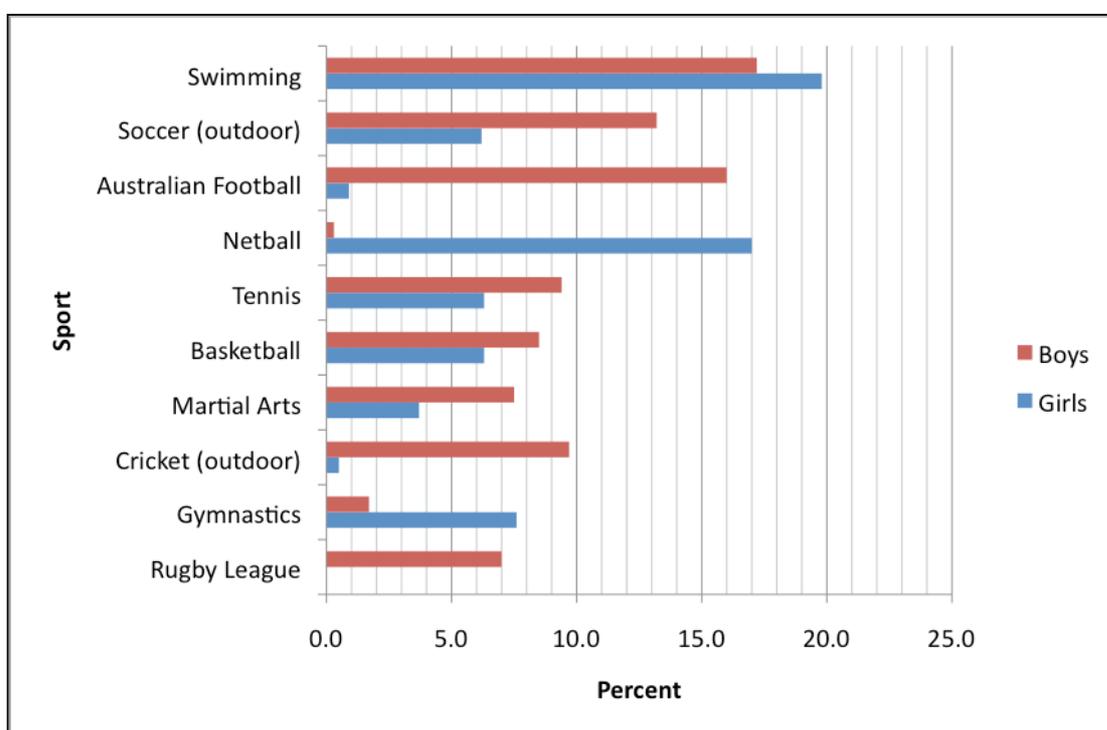


Table 12 – Most Popular Sports For Children Aged 5-14 years (National, 2009)

- Participation for boys increased between 2000 and 2009 in the following sports:
  - Gymnastics: 12,600 to 23,700 (or up +88%).
  - Martial Arts: 72,700 to 105,200 (+44%).
  - Swimming: 177,000 to 240,100 (+36%).
  - Australian Rules football: 170,300 to 223,700 (+31%).
  - Rugby League: 92,500 to 97,200 (+5%).
  - Tennis: 124,800 to 131,600 (+5%).
  - Soccer: 265,000 to 277,800 (+5%).
  - Cricket: 133,600 to 135,700 (+2%).

- Participation for boys decreased between 2000 and 2009 in the following sports:
  - Athletics: 52,200 to 42,400 (or down -19%).
  - Hockey: 31,700 to 25,600 (-19%).
  - Basketball: 119,600 to 118,700 (-1%).
- Participation for girls increased between 2000 and 2009 in the following sports:
  - Soccer: 37,300 to 82,700 (+122%).
  - Gymnastics: 55,100 to 101,200 (+84%).
  - Martial Arts: 31,900 to 49,500 (+55%).
  - Swimming: 203,100 to 262,800 (+29%).
  - Basketball: 80,700 to 83,200 (+3%).
- Participation for girls decreased between 2000 and 2009 in the following sports:
  - Tennis: 99,100 to 83,200 (-16%).
  - Athletics: 51,900 to 47,000 (-9%).
  - Netball: 235,000 to 225,000 (-4%).
  - Hockey: 32,500 to 31,800 (-2%).
- Swimming and netball are still the undisputed most popular sports participated in by girls, whilst soccer and gymnastics participation grew significantly during the period 2001 to 2009.
- Aside from swimming, soccer and Australian Rules football are the most popular sports for boys.
- For boys, gymnastics had the strongest growth and rugby league was able to reverse a decline in participation experienced between 2000 and 2003.
- Hockey, athletics and tennis continued to lose favour with children during the period 2000 to 2009, whilst basketball reversed a trend in 2009 of declining participation between 2000 & 2006.

### 3.4. Sports-Specific Participation Trends

Table 13 provides a summary of the general trend of participation in 'organised' sport by adults and children in the 10 key sports nominated for this study. The detailed participation data is available in Appendix 3 where the data has also been presented in graphs to highlight trends.

Sport	Adult National (from 2001)	Adult Victoria (from 2007)	Children National (from 2000)
Athletics	↔	↓	↓
Australian Rules Football	↑	↑	↑
Basketball	↔	↑	↔
Cricket	↑	↑	↔
Equestrian	↔	↔	↔
Lawn Bowls	↔	↔	No data available
Netball	↓	↑	↓
Soccer	↑	↑	↑
Swimming	↓	↓	↑
Tennis	↓	↔	↓

Table 13 – Trend of Participation in Key Sports For Adults and Children (National & Victoria)

### 3.5. Mitchell Shire Sports Group Membership Trends

The table below shows the trend of club memberships for all Mitchell Shire sporting groups. Please note that the data only includes those members of sporting groups who are 'active' members, that is, the members who actually compete for the group or who receive instruction and training by the group. The data, therefore, provides a snapshot of the approximate number of people in Mitchell Shire who can be classified as 'club based' sports participants under the definition in the ERASS research.

The membership information was obtained from the groups via a questionnaire administered in March 2011. Refer Appendix 4 for a full set of results. For those clubs and groups that did not return a questionnaire, an estimated membership number was calculated in consultation with Council's Recreation Officer and after assessing the average memberships for other like groups in Mitchell Shire.

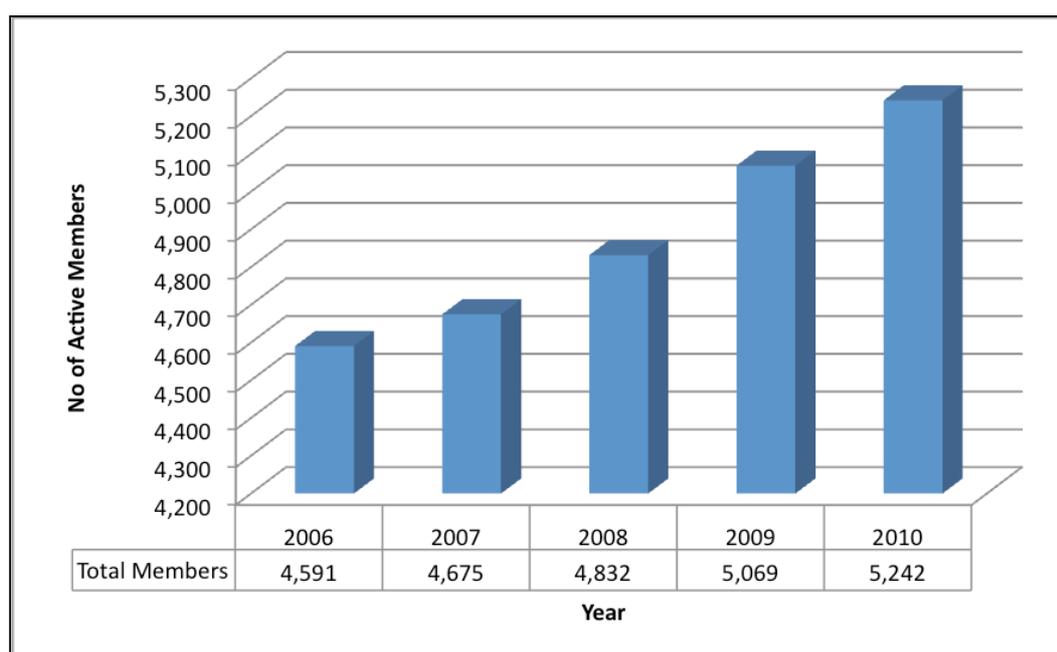


Table 14 – 'Active' Membership Trends for Mitchell Shire Sports Groups (2006 - 2010)

Important information from the membership trends analysis includes:

- 'Active' club membership increased by an estimated 14.2% between 2006 and 2010.
- Approximately 50% more males than females participated in 'active' club sport in 2010, whilst approximately 65% more juniors (U18 years) participated compared to adults.
- Tennis was the only sport to experience an overall decline (-3%) in 'active' membership between 2006 and 2010, but interestingly, the five tennis clubs that returned a survey all predicted that their junior and adult memberships would increase during the next five years.
- Soccer (+44%), netball (+24%), Australian football (+20%) and equestrian (+18%) experienced the greatest increase in 'active' club membership between 2006 and 2010.
- Not surprisingly, a majority of the clubs and associations based in Mitchell South predicted that their junior and adult memberships would increase during the next five years.
- All equestrian groups and netball groups predicted that their junior and adult memberships would either stabilise during the next five years, or increase.
- Only the Seymour Football Netball Club and the Broadford Bowling Club predicted that their memberships would decrease during the next five years.

## 4. STRATEGIC PROVISION OF SPORTS FACILITIES

The future provision of sporting facilities in the Mitchell Shire will be underpinned by a set of guiding Principles and by a hierarchy of facility provision. This section describes in detail each of these strategic facility planning inputs and each has then be used as the basis for assessing future needs and in preparing the subsequent recommendations for new and upgraded facilities.

### 4.1. Principles

The following key Principles have been identified to underpin the *Sports Development Plan* in relation to the future planning, design and management of sporting facilities.

<b>DIVERSITY</b>	<i>Council will facilitate the provision of a range of sporting facilities across the Mitchell Shire to firstly, ensure that the community has access to a variety of different sporting opportunities, and secondly, to cater for different levels of sporting competitions and needs.</i>
<b>MULTIUSE AND SHARED-USE</b>	<i>Council will advocate strongly for and optimise the provision of sporting facilities that are multiuse and can support shared use, where appropriate and practical. The development of single-use sporting fields will generally not be supported.</i>
<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<i>Sporting facilities will be accessible to and encourage people of all ages, genders, abilities and cultural backgrounds.</i>
<b>ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AND SUSTAINABLE</b>	<i>Sporting facilities will be sited, designed and managed to enhance ecological values and biodiversity outcomes, and embrace ecologically sustainable development (ESD) Principles where appropriate and practical.</i>
<b>ADAPTABLE</b>	<i>Sporting facilities will be designed and managed to meet specific sport requirements whilst also being flexible to meet changing community needs and aspirations.</i>
<b>PARTNERSHIPS</b>	<i>Council will adopt a collaborative and partnership approach with the community, schools, all levels of government, government agencies, peak sporting organisations and the private sector for the planning, provision and management of sporting facilities.</i>
<b>FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE</b>	<i>The financial viability and cost effectiveness of sporting facilities will be considered in all aspects of their planning, development and management.</i>

### 4.2. Sports Facility Hierarchy

Historically in Mitchell Shire, there has been no formal distinction between different facilities built for the same sport in terms of the quality and level of provision of the playing surfaces and supporting infrastructure, such as pavilions, car parking, floodlighting, spectator areas, etc. As the population of a local government area increases, so does the number of people playing sport. As the total number of participants in selected sports increases, invariably different grades of competition begin to emerge as the pathways for that sport begin to become separated into different standards of competition. With different standards of competition, the facility requirements and the facility standards typically change as well.

Take cricket as an example, first and second grade teams aspire to play on turf wickets, whilst synthetic hard wickets will be sufficient for lower grade senior matches and junior matches. Or tennis, where stand-

alone, unlit tennis courts are suitable for recreational and social tennis, whereas multiple court facilities and floodlighting are required to support competition-based tennis.

The *Sports Development Plan* is recommending that a framework for sports facility provision be introduced that recognises that some sports may now and into the future require a range of facilities to support these different uses. The framework (or *sports facility hierarchy*) will help delineate between the different standards of facility provision for each of the nominated sports.

Council's *Recreation & Open Space Strategy (2005)* outlines a hierarchy to guide the provision and development of open space and recreation facilities. The three tier hierarchy for sporting facilities described below builds onto the broader definitions contained in the ROSS by being more specific to sports facility provision and development.

#### **4.2.1. Description of Levels Within the Sports Facility Hierarchy**

##### Local Level

Local level sports facilities primarily cater for junior training and competition, and in some instances may be used as overflow facilities for senior teams. Local level sports facilities are generally built and maintained to a basic level, and are generally school facilities being used as joint-use facilities with the community, or are Council facilities provided to a basic level only.

Examples of existing sports facilities in Mitchell Shire that would be considered Local, include the oval at Seymour College utilised for cricket, the tennis-netball courts at Tallarook Swimming Pool Reserve, the tennis courts at Tooborac, and the equestrian facility at LB Davern Reserve.

##### District Level

District level sporting facilities are designed and maintained to cater primarily for club training and competition, and are usually regarded as the "headquarter" facility for clubs and/or associations. They usually comprise of playing surfaces and a pavilion or clubroom, and can include a range of supporting infrastructure, such as floodlighting, practice facilities and formal car parking.

District level sporting facilities are typically multipurpose in nature and are generally designed and managed to cater for at least two sports, where appropriate and practical. A majority of the sporting reserves and sporting facilities in Mitchell Shire are considered to be District level facilities, and examples include Greenhill Recreation Reserve, the Seymour Bowling Club, the Kilmore Tennis Complex, and the RB Robson Stadium.

##### Regional Level

Regional level sporting facilities are designed and maintained to service the whole Shire, and beyond. They are typically specialist sporting facilities catering for one and sometimes two sports and are provided to a sufficient standard to enable them to host regional and State events.

Regional level sporting facilities may support a centralised sporting competition that draws teams or competition from throughout the Shire, and sometimes beyond. Mitchell Shire presently has only a handful of examples of Regional level facilities, including the State Motorcycle Sports Complex at Broadford, the Kilmore Racecourse, and the Seymour Racecourse.

Appendix 5 identifies desirable standards for the provision of sporting facilities for each hierarchical level for seven of the nominated sports, and is followed by suggested standards for the provision of pavilions / clubrooms.

(Basketball, equestrian and swimming pool facilities are not included in the standards provision due to the wide variation in the size, form and quality of the specific facility components and spaces that can make up the composite of the overall facility).

### 4.3. Proposed Provision of Sports Facilities by Hierarchy

There will generally be either one or two levels within the hierarchy for each sport. The main determinant influencing the number of levels is the quality and scale of facilities required to support the current and projected participant base in the activity, that is, for those sports with a large participant base, there will typically be two or maybe three levels within the hierarchy of provision to accommodate the different standards / grades of participation.

Table 15 below illustrates how the proposed future provision of sports facilities in Mitchell Shire for the 10 nominated sports will be provided in accordance with the sports facility hierarchy.

(Refer Section 6 for the detailed recommendations for each sport)

Sport	Local	District	Regional
Athletics	-	✓	-
Australian Football	-	✓	-
Basketball	-	✓	✓
Cricket	✓	✓	-
Equestrian	-	✓	✓
Lawn Bowls	-	✓	-
Netball	✓	✓	✓
Soccer	-	✓	-
Swimming	✓	✓	✓
Tennis	✓	✓	✓

**Table 15 – Proposed Future Provision of Sporting Facilities in Mitchell Shire by Hierarchical Classification**

## 5. STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

A combination of meetings, workshops, interviews and facility inspections were carried out with various stakeholders during the study, including sporting clubs and associations, reserve committees, Council staff and other groups. Some of the consultation was undertaken during the research phase of the study, whilst other meetings and interviews were conducted to receive feedback on preliminary directions.

A chronological summary of the consultation undertaken is shown in the following table.

Date	Method of Consultation	Group / Stakeholder
2 March 2011	Project Inception Meeting and tour of existing facilities	Council Project Team
9 March 2011	Workshop	Council Executive Management Team
March 2011	Questionnaire	All sporting clubs
4 April 2011	Sports Groups' Workshops	Reps from swimming & Australian football clubs
5 April 2011	Sports Groups' Workshops	Reps from lawn bowls, tennis & cricket clubs
6 April 2011	Sports Groups' Workshops	Reps from equestrian, athletics, netball & basketball clubs
7 April 2011	Meeting	Sport & Recreation Victoria Managers
13 April 2011	Meeting	Council's Acting General Manager Planning & Environment and the Planning & Development Manager
	One-on-One Meetings	Eastern Lions Kart Club, Seymour Youth & Fitness Centre, Seymour Football Netball Club, Seymour Golf Club, Mitchell BUGS / Seymour Broadford Cycle Club, Wallan & District Cricket Club, Birralee Gymnastics Club, Kilmore Rugby Club
21 April	Project Meeting (Review Preliminary Findings)	Council Project Team
	One-on-One Meeting	Mitchell Rangers Football Club and FFV Govt Relations Manager
	One-on-One Meeting	Lone Tree Hill Cutting Club
28 April 2011	Telephone discussion	Robert Gordon, Wallan resident
25 May 2011	Committee of Management Meetings	Reps from Kilmore Cricket & Rec Res CoM, Tallarook Rec Res CoM, Kings Park CoM, and Seymour Tennis Complex CoM
30 May 2011	Committee of Management Meetings	Reps from Greenhill Res CoM, RB Robson Stadium CoM, and LB Davern Res CoM
1 June 2011	Committee of Management Meetings	Reps from Beveridge Rec Res CoM, Tooborac Rec Res CoM, Pyalong Rec Res CoM, JJ Clancy Res CoM, and Harley Hammond Res CoM
June 2011	Two telephone conversations	Michelle Read (planning consultant)
July	School Interviews	Seymour College, Broadford Secondary College, Assumption College, Kilmore International School, Wallan Secondary College
18 July	Councillor Briefing	Mitchell Shire Councillors & CMG

The summary of the key outcomes from the consultation is provided in the following table. (The representatives from each group consulted or who attended meetings are listed in Appendix 6).

The draft Sports Development Plan report was approved by the Council to go onto public exhibition for the period 28<sup>th</sup> October - 25<sup>th</sup> November 2011. Fourteen submissions were received and these were summarised, assessed and reported to the Ordinary Council Meeting held 12 December 2011, with all recommendations to revise the draft Plan being incorporated into this final version of the Plan.

## Sports Group Workshops

Group	Comments / Input
Swimming Stakeholders	<p>Two swimming clubs in Mitchell Shire: the Kilmore Swim Club and the Seymour Swim Club. They belong to Swimming Victoria's District 22 (Hume Upper Goulburn)</p> <p><u>Kilmore Swim Club</u></p> <p>Club membership slightly down in 2010, but average 40 members</p> <p>There is an established swim school at the Kilmore Leisure Centre (KLC) but no clear pathway to the Kilmore Swim Club</p> <p>Increased population would have a positive impact on the club as it would result in increased number of volunteers and increased revenue for the Club to undertake and offer other programs and services</p> <p>Would benefit from a clubroom at KLC for teaching and to use as a base for administration and during swimming meets</p> <p><u>Seymour Swim Club</u></p> <p>Club membership has increased by over 10 members in the past 5 years to 56 in 2010</p> <p>In Seymour, basketball and athletics are the growth sports</p> <p>Seymour has a meeting room at the outdoor pool but has no clubroom at the Seymour Sports &amp; Aquatic Centre</p> <p>A role for Council could be to provide clearer pathways for swim club membership / participation</p>
Football Stakeholders	<p>Kilmore FC has 10 junior teams (including a girls team) but has to cap the numbers due to lack of ovals. Other junior clubs indicated that growth in player numbers has plateaued mainly due to a shortage of local ovals</p> <p>Some constraints with the football pathway presently are that the Shire is divided into two AFL Victoria TAC Cup Regions (for U18 footballers): Murray Bushrangers, north of Broadford, and Calder Cannons south of Broadford, and there are no Super rules teams within the Shire</p> <p>There is competition from other sports, especially soccer</p> <p>Clubs need assistance to encourage the further growth of clubs</p> <p>Clubs support two oval developments as a more sustainable facility mix</p> <p>In relation to specific facility issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wallan FC facilities are adequate</li> <li>- Seymour FNC identified deficiencies with the quality of the surface of the main oval and the poor condition of the pavilion, require a second netball court and netball change rooms, and the management of the reserve can be an issue on occasions. Desire for the floodlights to be upgraded to competition level to enable night competitions for senior &amp; junior club</li> <li>- The Senior football and Netball Club also operate and support the Auskick Centre and Net-Set go at Kings Park</li> <li>- Kilmore FC indicated that the ground is good but is overused, the pavilion is good</li> <li>- St Marys JFNC have the constraint of having to train at Chittick Park but play at Kings Park (where their clubrooms are located)</li> <li>- Broadford FC identified that the ground is in poor condition from overuse</li> </ul>
Lawn Bowls Stakeholders	<p>In Victoria there is steady participation numbers: male participation is relatively stable whilst female numbers are declining</p> <p>RVBA is targeting ex-basketballers and netballers for membership recruitment</p> <p>There is a clear sport pathway and level of competition in lawn bowls</p> <p>Pennant competition is still strong at the clubs, however, popularity of tournaments held on Sundays is diminishing</p> <p>Popularity of barefoot bowls is emerging (19 participants at Seymour BC) and Kilmore BC has 16 teams in a corporate competition</p>

Group	Comments / Input
	<p>Floodlights are an advantage to showcases the sport There needs to be ramped access onto green surfaces There is a choice of synthetic and turf greens within the Shire, with the trend appearing to be for synthetic In relation to specific facility issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Seymour BC identified the poor condition of the clubhouse, but has high utilisation from the Club and from external groups</li> <li>- Wallan BC identified the need to improve the landscaping, car parking and general amenity of the surrounds</li> <li>- Broadford BC require improved amenities</li> <li>- Seymour VRI BC lease their facilities so have security of tenure concerns</li> </ul>
Tennis Stakeholders	<p>Distribution of courts and community access to courts throughout the Shire is good, however, there has been a general decline in interest in tennis and competition play Local initiatives include Kilmore TC introducing the Tennis Hotshots program for juniors and Wandong TC having the policy of allowing free community access to some courts A regional tennis facility has been identified for the Goulburn Region Night tennis competitions are becoming increasingly more popular In relation to specific facility issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Kilmore TC has the last four courts to be lit, and the two plexipave courts require upgrade</li> <li>- Seymour TC / St Marys TC co-locate at the Seymour Tennis Complex, and this facility had 15 good quality courts but are now down to 7 playable courts</li> <li>- Wandong TC need two courts to be floodlit, and an expanded clubroom</li> <li>- Wallan TC identified that the first four courts require their surface to be replaced</li> </ul>
Cricket Stakeholders	<p>It was agreed that the cricket pathway for player development is clear, however, the general 'health' of cricket was questioned, i.e. static player numbers Transition and connection between schools' cricket programs and local clubs is not strong Security of the use of school ovals as overflow grounds is an issue, e.g. Seymour CC has lost the use of an oval at the secondary college Suggested that floodlights is an option to ease the issue of lack of grounds GDCA has a women's cricket team and wants to expand this program 20/20 cricket is not regarded as being the potential 'saviour' for cricket, despite media commentary suggesting it may create a resurgence of interest Some general issues identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Football pathway programs 'take' players from their local cricket teams</li> <li>- Season creep from football</li> <li>- General maintenance of playing surfaces is below expectations, and is traced back to a perceived lack of funds for the reserve committees to do it properly</li> <li>- Perception of cricket stakeholders is that many reserve committees have too heavy an emphasis towards the needs of the football clubs which seem to receive most of the benefits</li> <li>- Cricket clubs believe they have no real input or liaison with Council</li> </ul> <p>In relation to specific facility issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Harley Hammond Reserve oval condition is an issue for the Broadford CC</li> <li>- Greenhill Reserve lacks quality maintenance and is currently at capacity, however, the condition of the playing fields is improving since the Council took over the maintenance</li> </ul>

Group	Comments / Input
Equestrian Stakeholders	<p>Suggested that there may be more than 90 equestrian clubs / groups located within the Shire</p> <p>Pony clubs accommodate people up to 25 years of age, however, adult riding clubs can accommodate riders of all ages. There is a riding for the disabled group in Seymour</p> <p>Key constraints for a coordinated Shire-wide equestrian program are that pony clubs are divided into different zones across the Shire, including the NE Zone and the Central Zone, and there are many peak associations servicing the various equestrian disciplines, including Pony Clubs Victoria, Horse Riding Clubs Association of Victoria</p> <p>Shire lacks a three day competition venue that conforms with all required standards, however, the training facilities and low-scale competition facilities are generally regarded as good, and the distribution of facilities is generally even throughout the Shire</p> <p>The closest State standard facilities are at Oaklands, Yarrambat, Elmore and Werribee</p> <p>There is general support for the need for a dedicated high quality equestrian centre to be located in the Shire, with facility components for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dressage, Show Jumping and Cross Country (Grade 1 course minimum 1.2km)</li> <li>- Academy programs</li> <li>- Competition</li> </ul> <p>Issues that equestrian clubs need to deal with when managing their facilities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Local laws compliance</li> <li>- Health &amp; safety compliance</li> <li>- Accreditation for instructors</li> <li>- Risk insurance costs</li> <li>- CFA regulations</li> <li>- Float &amp; car parking</li> </ul> <p>There is good provision for recreational horse trails, including Tallarook Ranges, Hidden Valley (which has a natural trail) and there is a rail trail from Mansfield to Tallarook, however, they are not designated horse trails and riders often compete with motor bikes</p>
Athletics Stakeholders	<p>Shire currently only provides opportunities to participate in Little Athletics (up to 15 years of age), there are no senior clubs</p> <p>There are no dedicated athletic tracks, temporary grass, seasonal ones only, and schools can't get access to the Kings Park track during the season and have to go to Whittlesea</p> <p><u>Kilmore LAs</u></p> <p>Kilmore LAs is based at Clancy Reserve and runs its program on Saturday mornings, numbers are relatively stable at over 150 children</p> <p>In relation to specific facility issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Require two additional jumps pits, and existing ones are not long enough</li> <li>- Require a hard stand for high jump</li> <li>- General condition of oval is poor for the first few months following the football season and having to contend with the over sowing process</li> <li>- Club has no permanent club space but has good storage</li> </ul> <p><u>Seymour LAs</u></p> <p>Seymour LAs is based at Kings Park and runs its program on Friday nights, numbers have doubled in 5 years, and attract participants from Nagambie</p> <p>In relation to specific facility issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Need to extend the jumps pits</li> <li>- Two discus cages required</li> <li>- Two shot put circles required</li> <li>- There is no canteen available (forfeiting a revenue stream)</li> </ul> <p>Both groups seek a more permanent solution to line marking rather having to line mark before each session</p>

Group	Comments / Input
Basketball and Netball Stakeholders	<p>Basketball and netball participation is strong and generally increasing each year, not a strong adult basketball participation</p> <p>Distribution of courts throughout the Shire is reasonable (north-central-south), however the lack of public indoor courts in Kilmore considered a constraint to basketball participation in this town</p> <p>Seymour Junior Netball Association share the stadium with Seymour Basketball Association. There are constraints for the netball group as numbers are increasing but access to courts is limited – support provision of outdoor courts to expand the program</p> <p>Netball court constraints also experienced at Broadford which are limiting the number of training / competition opportunities for participants (other uses are the Broadford JFNC, the Broadford FNC and the Broadford Tennis Club which uses the dual lined court)</p> <p>Strong support for a Shire-wide centralised netball association and main complex – with club training occurring at township courts</p> <p>Wallan Basketball Inc is the largest basketball association and whilst demand is increasing there are constraints on court access</p> <p>Good pathway for basketball in south with the Wallan Basketball Inc also fielding 5 rep teams and a men's rep team which plays outside of Wallan. Association has use of a good show court at RB Robson Stadium but can't get access to it regularly due to clash with Birralee Gymnastics</p> <p>The Broadford Wine Festival impacts the stadium use each year for the Broadford Basketball Association</p>

### Other Sports Groups

Mitchell Rangers Football Club	<p>Club formed in 2003 and is the only active soccer club in the Shire</p> <p>Draws 80% of its players from Seymour, Broadford, Kilmore and Wallan</p> <p>Club has been based at a number of different reserves in the past, and in most cases has had to co-locate with an existing winter tenant</p> <p>Currently has approximately 120 members, however, growth is being constrained by 'nomadic' existence</p> <p>Currently based at Broadford Secondary College, however, the facilities are only just meeting needs – 1 field only for training and matches, and a change room that does not comply with the FFV standards for competition. There are no public toilets and the club does not have a clubroom space. It maintains the field and has invested in capital upgrades on the site (e.g. floodlights)</p> <p>Club considers the Broadford location ideal as it is central, and is wanting to progress master planning to investigate options to better utilise the school / baseball / leisure centre precinct for sport, including an additional soccer field and associated amenities</p>
Birralee Gymnastics	<p>The Group has over 250 members and is based at the RB Robson Stadium</p> <p>It offers Kindergym and Artistic Gymnastics programs to National 2 Standard</p> <p>Key constraints for the Group are the co-location with basketball at RB Robson Stadium that results in usage being restricted to only Mondays – Wednesdays each week and set up and set down of all equipment being done each week. A lack of a sprung floor and spectator amenities also restricts any competition opportunities for the Group</p> <p>Group has a long-term lease on a parcel of land at Greenhill Reserve behind the Wallan Bowling Club site but the site's topographical constraints and a lack of funds will make it difficult for the Group to develop a new centre on the site</p> <p>Group desires a dedicated stand-alone facility to not only enable it to grow participation further (particularly given that it is in the growth corridor), but to also be able to offer National 3 Standard artistic gymnastics</p>

Kilmore Rugby Club	<p>Club formed in 2005 and has approximately 60 members</p> <p>Club is not active and is still in its formative years in relation to building up its playing members and entering teams into competitions</p> <p>Has no base, however, has developed a relationship with Assumption College and conducts some 'come 'n try' activities from that location</p> <p>Would prefer to be allocated onto a Council reserve from where it can conduct training sessions and have a more public exposure. Clubs preference is for a site in Kilmore, however, would consider Broadford and Wallan as it sees its dominant catchment within this triangle</p>
Eastern Lions Kart Club (Seymour)	<p>Club has 190 licensed karters and manages the track just out of Seymour. Track is one the main karting tracks in Australia</p> <p>Recent National Championships held at the track over 8 days attracted 5,000 people and 450 karters</p> <p>Club hosts 3 regional meets per year (February, November, September) but the club has 'club race days' on the last Sunday of each month</p> <p>In relation to specific facility issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ongoing problems with the public toilet blocking</li> <li>- Managing stormwater run-off</li> <li>- High cost of track renewal</li> </ul> <p>The centre is also used by the Seymour Dog Club, various cycling clubs, and for testing solar powered cars</p>
Seymour Youth and Fitness Centre	<p>Has in excess of 600 'members' or users</p> <p>Established out of a need to provide an alternate health &amp; fitness facility to Seymour Sports &amp; Aquatic Centre for some people in the community – SYFC is a low-cost option</p> <p>Operates from donations by users and local corporates / groups</p> <p>Desires to extend the building further to meet increasing demand</p>
Seymour Golf Club	<p>Club has approximately 200 members, however, the club has a long-term financial issue since the site was sold to a developer who has plans for a combination housing / golf course estate</p> <p>Club struggles to maintain and upgrade the course mainly due to lack of funds and a reluctance by the owner to invest in the course until he redevelops it</p>
Mitchell Bicycle Users Group	<p>Mitchell BUG is a recreational based riding group that has a Shire-wide presence</p> <p>Seymour-Broadford Cycling Club is the available local racing club</p> <p>The group has designated off road circuits of 30km, 60km and 90km, and considers the on-road routes north of Broadford to be a safe cycling area</p> <p>The Mitchell BUG advocate strongly for a mountain bike course, with suggested location options being Tallarook Ranges and Wombat Forest</p>
Lone Tree Hill Cutting Club	<p>Club is based at Kings Park at a dedicated cutting venue</p> <p>Club has aspirations to further upgrade and extend the facilities to attract more events. Main requirements are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Extend the two yards to enable the cattle which are trucked in to be onsite longer</li> <li>- Additional storage (suggests that the Riding for the Disabled building could be extended to create secure storage)</li> <li>- Cover the arena and install floodlights to enable evening meetings</li> <li>- Provide improved amenities for the competitors (toilets and showers)</li> </ul>

## 6. FACILITY NEEDS ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A detailed analysis was carried out for the nominated sports to determine the adequacy of the current number of facilities to meet the needs of a future population of approximately 55,000 people, and with consideration for the disparity of growth between Mitchell North and Mitchell South.

The following key criteria were used during the needs analysis, and consideration was given to the implications of the proposed sports facility hierarchy (see Section 4.2).

1. Current facility provision in the Mitchell Shire (number / distribution).  
*Refer Section 2.5 and Appendix 2 for a detailed audit of existing sports facilities.*
2. Current membership levels of clubs / associations of the nominated sports.  
*Refer Section 3.5 and Appendix 4 for the detailed membership information.*
3. Broad trends in the rate of participation in sport (National / Victorian).  
*Utilising research data collected in the annual ERASS survey (2001 – 2010) and Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities Survey (2000, 2003, 2006, 2009). Refer Section 3 and Appendix 3*
4. Characteristics of the current and projected population for Mitchell Shire.  
*Refer Sections 2.2 – 2.4.*
5. Stakeholder consultation and research findings.  
*Combination of data collected from meetings, interviews and workshops conducted during this study and information collected from previously completed reserve-specific master planning projects. (See Section 5 and Appendix 6 for a summary of the consultation undertaken during this study).*

The outcomes of this analysis are a series of strategic recommendations for each sport, including new or upgraded sporting facilities to meet current and predicted future sporting needs.

### 6.1. Australian Rules Football

The demand assessment for Australian Rules Football is summarised in the table below, and is followed by a series of strategic recommendations for Mitchell Shire to 2026.

#### Demand Assessment

- Existing provision for Football in Mitchell Shire is ten ovals, and they are relatively evenly distributed throughout the main townships of the Shire.
- Benchmark data for Football<sup>13</sup> ovals identified an adequate supply of ovals in Mitchell North currently and to meet the needs for the population projected to 2026. For Mitchell South, the benchmark data identified an undersupply of four ovals currently, with the optimum number estimated to be 14 ovals for a projected future population of over 43,000 people in the southern area of the Shire.
- The trends of participation in Football in recent years for adults (National & Victoria) and for children (National) all show an increase since 2000 (refer graph for Football in Appendix 3).
- Adult 'organised' participation rate for Football in Victoria (2010) was 4.1%, therefore, the theoretical participation rate in Mitchell Shire now would be approximately 1,000<sup>14</sup> compared to the 2010 adult membership of the Mitchell Shire football clubs of approximately 650 adults. Projecting to 2026, the theoretical number of adults participating in Football could be up to 1,800 adults<sup>15</sup>.  
(Please note, an Adult by definition in the ERASS surveying is a person aged 15 years and over, so some of the players regarded as juniors are included in this sample).
- Children's (5–14 years) overall participation rate in 'organised' Football was 8.6% in 2009<sup>16</sup>, therefore, the theoretical participation rate in Mitchell Shire now would be approximately 450<sup>17</sup> compared to the 2010 junior membership of the football clubs of approximately 650 juniors. Projecting to 2026, the theoretical number of children participating in Football could be up to 660 children<sup>18</sup>.

<sup>13</sup> Ovals suitable for accommodating senior football competitions, that is, minimum 135m long x 110m wide.

<sup>14</sup> Calculated by multiplying the 2010 ERASS participation rate for AFL (4.1%) by the population of Mitchell Shire aged over 15 years (24,392 people in 2006).

<sup>15</sup> Calculated by multiplying the 2010 ERASS participation rate for AFL (4.1%) by the projected population of Mitchell Shire aged over 15 years in 2026 (44,093 people).

<sup>16</sup> Source: Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities Survey (2009) – children aged 5–14 years.

<sup>17</sup> Calculated by multiplying the 2009 children's participation rate for AFL (8.6%) by the population of Mitchell Shire aged 5-14 years (5,311 people in 2006).

<sup>18</sup> Calculated by multiplying the 2009 children's participation rate for AFL (8.6%) by the estimated population of Mitchell Shire aged 5-14 years in 2026 (7,690 children).

## Demand Assessment

- Increasing junior participation was validated by the junior football clubs in the Mitchell South area, which have experienced an increase in player numbers between the period 2006 to 2010, particularly Wandong Junior Football Club (240% increase).
- Existing Football clubs identified a range of facility improvement proposals for their respective grounds and pavilions.

## Overall Summary

There is currently an inadequate provision of Football ovals to meet current demand in Mitchell South, and this shortfall is likely to become more pronounced, not only due to the current latent demand for Football amongst children but the projected increased number of 5–14 years olds in Mitchell South during the forecast period.

Similarly, the high projected growth in the number of people aged between 15-39 years for Mitchell South will likely stimulate the need for 2 – 3 new senior football clubs in this area to 2026.

A comparison between the outcome of the facility benchmarking for Football ovals (projected shortfall of ten ovals to 2026) and the outcome of the demand assessment above, suggests that the conclusions of each are consistent.

In Mitchell North, the existing ovals have the capacity to absorb any likely increase in demand, so the emphasis in this area of the Shire for football grounds should be on good maintenance of grounds and upgrade and renewal of associated facilities, as may be required. One example of this is to continue to upgrade Chittick Oval and the associated facilities to accommodate a winter sport, such as junior football. There are two key advantages from this approach: firstly, basing a junior football club at Chittick Oval will create a direct opportunity for those children and teenagers who live east of the railway line to participate in football within their immediate neighbourhood, and secondly, the Seymour Cricket Club will likely benefit from increased junior membership by developing a more direct relationship with an off-season co-tenant at Chittick Oval. The St Marys Junior Football Netball Club was previously based at the reserve and is presently conducting their training activities on the oval – so this club is the logical one of the two junior football clubs in Seymour to relocate in whole.

The works required at Chittick Oval to bring it up to a good quality football venue include the addition of two change rooms to the cricket social rooms, a timekeepers' box, canteen, secure storage, two coaches'/interchange players' shelters, the completion of the oval floodlighting upgrade, and some spectator shelter (the oval surface was upgraded recently).

Two significant opportunities with Shire-wide benefits exist for the future provision for Football. Firstly, the need for new reserves to be constructed in Mitchell South creates an opportunity for one of these to be provided at a higher level to accommodate elite football competition. The types of uses possible could include local league / association football finals, AFL Victoria TAC Cup matches (Calder Cannons and Murray Bushrangers), VFL matches and AFL practice matches / community training camps. The proposed facility could be constructed to a similar standard to what is available at Casey Fields (Cranbourne) and Highgate Reserve (Craigieburn).

Secondly, with the proposed relocation of the Kilmore Little Athletics Centre from JJ Clancy Reserve (see Section 6.2 Athletics), this oval has potential to become the Shire's dedicated football oval to accommodate pre-season matches and 'goal-to-goal' training needs for all Shire football clubs which currently co-locate with cricket clubs. This will assist Council and reserve committees to better manage the 'season creep' challenges that typically occur in February and March at those reserves where football and cricket clubs co-locate.

## Strategic Recommendations for Australian Rules Football

*Items included below are the projects considered to be the major directions pertaining to existing ovals. Adopted reserve master plans may outline additional projects of a more minor, or less strategic, nature.*

Existing Ovals (Reserves)	Changes
Mitchell North	
Kings Park No. 1 Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upgrade the floodlighting to competition standard.</li> <li>• Upgrade the player amenities and the kitchen in the main pavilion.</li> </ul>
Kings Park No. 2 Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No change.</li> </ul>

Existing Ovals (Reserves)	Changes
Chittick Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add two player change rooms, a timekeepers' box, canteen, and secure storage to the cricket social rooms.</li> <li>• Complete the floodlighting upgrade to provide training standard lighting across the whole oval, and install two coaches'/interchange players' shelters, and some spectator shelter.</li> <li>• Continue to encourage the St Marys JFNC to use Chittick Oval for training, and in the medium term work with the Club to facilitate its full relocation to the reserve as a co-tenant with the Seymour Cricket Club.</li> </ul>
Bennett Oval (not currently used for football)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No change.</li> </ul>
Tooborac Oval (not currently used for football)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No change.</li> </ul>
<b>Mitchell South</b>	
Harley Hammond Reserve Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reconstruct the oval surface to establish a more sustainable and quality playing surface.</li> <li>• Upgrade (or rebuild) the pavilion to resolve the inefficient kitchen and bar area, and the general poor condition of the building.</li> </ul>
JJ Clancy Reserve Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No change.</li> </ul>
Greenhill Reserve No. 1 Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No change.</li> </ul>
Greenhill Reserve No. 2 Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve the connection between the oval and the pavilion</li> </ul>
LB Davern Reserve Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No change.</li> </ul>

## Recommended Future New Ovals

### Mitchell North

No new Football oval developments

### Mitchell South

1. Develop one new oval in Broadford (dual-use with baseball and cricket).
  - Investigate the viability of siting this oval in a proposed new multi-sport hub within the Secondary College / Leisure Centre precinct.
2. Develop one new oval in Kilmore (dual-use with athletics and junior cricket).
3. Develop a new District level reserve (two ovals) in Wallan (dual-use with cricket).
4. Develop one new District level reserve (two ovals) in the greater Beveridge area (dual-use with cricket). (One of the ovals to also jointly accommodate little athletics).
5. Develop one new District level reserve (two ovals) in the greater Beveridge area (dual-use with cricket). (Consider developing one of the ovals and the associated infrastructure at this reserve to a higher standard to accommodate elite football competition).

## 6.2. Athletics

The demand assessment for Athletics is summarised in the table below, and is followed by a series of strategic recommendations for Mitchell Shire to 2026.

### Demand Assessment

- Existing provision for Athletics in Mitchell Shire is two seasonal (non-permanent) grass tracks overlaid onto sports ovals. Benchmark data for synthetic athletics tracks suggest that there would be insufficient demand and need for one for a community with a projected future population of just under 60,000 people. There are no recognised benchmarks for seasonal grass athletics tracks.
- The trends of participation for Athletics in recent years show that Nationally, participation for adults has remained stable since 2001, whilst for Victoria there has been a decline. For children (National), participation has also declined, although there was an increase in participation between 2006 and 2009 (refer graph for Athletics in Appendix 3). The sport has a significantly higher proportion of children actively involved compared to adults.
- Adult 'organised' participation rate for Athletics in Victoria (2010) was 0.3%, therefore, the theoretical participation rate in Mitchell Shire now would be approximately 70 people (however, no organised senior track club exists). Projecting to 2026, the theoretical number of adults participating in Athletics could be up to 130 adults.  
(Please note, an Adult by definition in the ERASS surveying is a person aged 15 years and over, so some of the players regarded as juniors are included in this sample).
- Children's (5-14 years) overall participation rate in 'organised' Athletics was 3.3% in 2009, therefore, the theoretical participation rate in Mitchell Shire now would be approximately 175 compared to the 2010 junior membership of the two little athletic centres of 385 juniors. Projecting to 2026, the theoretical number of children participating in little athletics is expected to increase marginally to 250 children, still significantly less than the number participating now.
- The two existing Mitchell Shire little athletics centres both experienced an increase in participant numbers between the period 2006 to 2010, particularly Seymour Little Athletics Centre (64% increase).
- The two clubs identified a range of issues relating to their respective facilities, with a common issue being the challenges around having to co-locate with a 'mainstream' sport.

### Overall Summary

The current practice of providing temporary grass tracks is meeting the current seasonal needs of children participating in little athletics, and is likely to continue to do so throughout the forecast period. However, there is already a high rate of participation in little athletics in Mitchell Shire (participation exceeds the National average) and there is likely to be an ongoing increase in demand for Athletics as the population continues to grow in the southern area.

It will not be viable to construct a synthetic athletics track in Mitchell Shire due to the comparatively low population now and projected into the future (the benchmark for a synthetic track is 100,000 people). Further, the planned Merrifield Park facility (located in Merrifield between Mitchell Shire's southern boundary and Craigieburn), has included a synthetic track as part of the mix of regional sporting facilities being considered for this site.

However, the provision of a better planned and more dedicated athletics facility in Kilmore will assist in ensuring that the projected future demand can be catered for more effectively, as is now the case in Seymour. It is therefore recommended that the Kilmore Little Athletics Centre be relocated from JJ Clancy Reserve to the proposed new sports reserve in Kilmore and co-locate with junior football and cricket. This will enable the field events area to be better planned over a larger area than is currently available at JJ Clancy Reserve. It should also provide the LAs with a better quality running surface as the oval will not have the same level of use as the JJ Clancy Reserve oval. This proposal will also enable the JJ Clancy Reserve oval to be used as a dedicated football oval during pre-season by all Shire football clubs who currently co-locate with cricket clubs and have access constraints for goal-to-goal training and for practice matches during February and March when cricket wickets are still in use.

It is also likely that a new little athletics centre will be required in the Beveridge area to meet the local demand of this expanded community.

## Recommendations for Athletics

<u>Existing Facilities (Reserves)</u>	<u>Changes</u>
<b>Mitchell North</b>	
Kings Park No. 1 Oval and surrounds	<p><i>Retain as a seasonal grass track</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate options to provide a clubroom / meeting area for the Seymour Little Athletics Centre, including co-locating with an existing user at Kings Park, e.g. investigate the feasibility of providing a meeting room and canteen facilities for little athletics within any proposal to expand / upgrade the Ken Hall Pavilion.</li> </ul>
<b>Mitchell South</b>	
JJ Clancy Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In the short-term, provide an additional long/triple jump landing pit.</li> <li>In the longer term and pending the construction of a new oval in Kilmore (see Section 6.1 Australian Rules Football), relocate little athletics off JJ Clancy Reserve to this new oval.</li> </ul>

## **Recommended Future New Athletic Tracks**

### Mitchell North

No new Athletic Track developments

### Mitchell South

- Develop a new seasonal grass track venue in Kilmore (to be a new oval and be dual-use with junior football and cricket), and provide the associated field event infrastructure. Relocate the Kilmore Little Athletics Centre to the new facility to become the main user of the oval in summer, with occasional use for cricket, where possible.
- Utilise one of the new District level reserves in Beveridge as a seasonal athletics venue (grass track), and provide the associated field event infrastructure (dual-use with cricket in summer and football in winter).

### 6.3. Basketball

The demand assessment for Basketball is summarised in the table below, and is followed by a series of strategic recommendations for Mitchell Shire to 2026.

#### Demand Assessment

- Existing provision of publicly accessible Basketball courts in Mitchell Shire is seven full-size courts, and they are well distributed throughout the Shire, with two courts at Seymour, two courts at Broadford and three courts at Wallan (one court having restricted access for court sports).
- Benchmark data for Basketball courts identified that there is currently an adequate supply of courts in Mitchell North, and an adequate supply to meet the needs for the population projected to 2026. For Mitchell South, the benchmark data identified a marginal oversupply of 1 – 2 courts currently, and an adequate supply for the projected future population of over 43,000 people.
- The trends for Basketball participation in recent years for adults show a relatively stable rate of participation Nationally since 2000, but increasing for adults in Victoria. For children (National) the participation rate since 2000 has been stable (refer graph for Basketball in Appendix 3). The sport has a significantly higher proportion of children actively involved compared to adults.
- Adult 'organised' participation rate for Basketball in Victoria (2010) was 3.4%, therefore, the theoretical participation rate in Mitchell Shire now would be approximately 830. It is difficult to directly compare this rate against the number of people aged 15+ years participating in Mitchell Shire as there are no senior competitions available within the Shire but it is highly likely that there will be some Mitchell Shire adults playing in neighbouring competitions, such as the Craigieburn Basketball Association. However, the players who are aged 15-20 years playing with the three junior associations in Mitchell Shire (estimated 100 players) are counted as 'adults' in the definition used by ERASS when undertaking the participation research. Therefore, it can be assumed with some confidence that there is currently a latent demand for Basketball amongst adults residing in the Shire. Projecting to 2026, the theoretical number of adults participating in Basketball could be up to 1,500.
- Children's overall participation rate in 'organised' Basketball was 7.4% in 2009, therefore, the theoretical participation rate in Mitchell Shire now would be approximately 400, compared to the 2010 junior membership with the three basketball associations of approximately 300<sup>19</sup>. Projecting to 2026, the theoretical number of children participating in Basketball is expected to increase to 570 children, significantly more than the current rate of participation.
- The Wallan Basketball Inc predicts that the number of juniors participating in Basketball will continue to increase due to the projected population growth in the south.

#### Overall Summary

The generally high junior participant numbers in Mitchell Shire and emerging senior participation (a men's team plays in a competition outside of the Shire), combined with the projected net increase to 2026 in the number of people aged between 5-34 years in the southern area of the Shire, all strongly suggest that Basketball will continue to have sustainable numbers, particularly in Mitchell South.

For a number of years the Wallan Basketball Inc has been constrained in its capacity to provide adequate court time for training and competition activities for its members at RB Robson Stadium due to the high demand for court time by the netball competitions based at the centre. Whilst a show court (3<sup>rd</sup> court) was added recently, the court is only available for court sports from Thursday to Sunday, with the Birralee Gymnastics group using the new court for their gymnastic program.

RB Robson Stadium has a broad and diverse range of user groups, with some being sporting groups and others being community and cultural groups. The stadium committee has indicated that the stadium is currently operating at close to capacity. With the Wallan population expected to almost double in size in the next 15 years, there will continue to be capacity issues at the centre. The stadium has little capacity to be extended further in the context of Hadfield Park being Wallan's Town Park.

Whilst there will be additional indoor courts provided at the new schools to be developed in the Beveridge and Wallan areas as the population increases, these courts should be incorporated into the Wallan Basketball Inc's overall basketball program as training facilities only for current and new affiliate clubs. Some of the constraints

<sup>19</sup> Number of 300 is less than the 381 players registered in 2010, as it allows for the deduction of those 15-20 year olds who are counted as adults.

that exist now in other local government areas where school courts are incorporated into an association's complement of competition courts include:

- non-compliant court dimensions,
- disruptions to fixtures when the school may require stadiums for exams, concerts and other one-off activities,
- lost opportunities for revenue through canteens not being available,
- dispersion of an association's membership across a number of venues reduces the opportunity for an association to develop a strong culture and sense of inclusiveness amongst its membership,
- transportation challenges for parents with children playing concurrently but at different venues, and
- the generally higher administration costs to manage non-centralised courts.

As a result, an opportunity for the medium to long term is to develop a new indoor stadium in the Beveridge and Wallan area to specifically cater for the projected growth in Basketball and Netball participation, and retain RB Robson Stadium but change its core service provision to accommodate 'minor' sports, such as gymnastics, volleyball, futsal, badminton and table tennis. The minor sports are likely to become more in demand with the population projections for the southern growth area indicating that there will be increased cultural diversity by nationalities who have a preference for these indoor sports, e.g. Sri Lankans, Indians, Asians and Africans.

The proposed new stadium should be four courts, thereby enabling opportunities to also host regional and State competitions. When assessing possible locations, there are significant synergies and benefits possible by co-locating indoor stadiums with aquatic fitness centres.

There is a new single-court indoor stadium being constructed at LB Davern Reserve. This court is being funded through the bushfire recovery program and will be a multipurpose facility providing a range of sporting and community outcomes for the Wandong and Heathcote Junction communities. It will provide a local training facility for Basketballers who may then compete in the competitions organised by the Wallan Basketball Inc.

The facilities at the Broadford Leisure Centre are in average condition only, and there has been a decline in basketball participation during the past five years. There is an opportunity to upgrade the centre as part of a possible broader plan to expand and improve the number and type of sporting facilities within the precinct bounded by the Broadford Secondary College and the Broadford Leisure Centre.

The indoor courts at the Seymour Sports & Aquatic Centre should be adequate to cater for any new demand for Basketball.

### Recommendations for Basketball

<b>Existing Courts (Indoor Centres)</b>	<b>Changes</b>
<b>Mitchell North</b>	
Seymour Sports & Aquatic Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No change.</li> </ul>
<b>Mitchell South</b>	
Broadford Leisure Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upgrade the quality of the centre.</li> </ul>
RB Robson Stadium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medium to long-term modify the stadium to better accommodate the 'minor' indoor sports of volleyball, futsal, badminton and table tennis.</li> <li>• Convert the 3<sup>rd</sup> court into a dedicated gymnastics facility to firstly, facilitate the expected growth in participation in gymnastics, and secondly, to enable the Birrale Gymnastics group to offer an expanded sport pathway for gymnastics in Mitchell Shire</li> </ul>
School indoor courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitate community access to enable courts to be available to meet local Basketball club training needs.</li> </ul>

## Recommended Future New Courts

### Mitchell North

No new indoor court developments

### Mitchell South

1. Develop a new indoor court at LB Davern Reserve (in progress).
2. Develop a new four-court indoor sports stadium in the Beveridge and Wallan area (basketball & netball).

## 6.4. Cricket

The demand assessment for Cricket is summarised in the table below, and is followed by a series of strategic recommendations for Mitchell Shire to 2026.

### Demand Assessment

- Existing provision for Cricket in Mitchell Shire is 11 ovals, being five ovals with synthetic centre wickets, and six ovals with turf centre wickets. Eight of the ovals are dual use cricket-football ovals (or could be if sufficient demand existed for football), with three ovals being dedicated cricket ovals mainly due to their unsuitability for senior football due to their small size: Tallaraook Recreation Reserve oval, Pyalong Recreation Reserve oval, and Kilmore Cricket & Recreation Reserve oval.
- Benchmark data for Cricket ovals identified that there is a marginal oversupply in Mitchell North of 1 - 2 ovals, and this will remain for the population projected to 2026. For Mitchell South, the benchmark data identified an undersupply of up to four ovals currently, with the optimum number for a projected future population of over 43,000 people estimated to be 14 ovals, or a current shortfall of up to nine ovals, to meet projected future demand.
- The trends of participation for Cricket in recent years for adults (National & Victoria) show a small increase since 2000, whilst for children (National), participation has been relatively stable during the period 2000 and 2009 (refer graph for Cricket in Appendix 3).
- Adult 'organised' participation rate for Cricket in Victoria (2010) was 2.6%, therefore, the theoretical participation rate in Mitchell Shire now would be approximately 630 compared to the 2010 adult membership of the Mitchell Shire Clubs of approximately 470 adults (includes an estimate for those 'junior' members who are aged 15+years). Projecting to 2026, the theoretical number of adults participating in Cricket could be up to 1,100 adults.
- Children's (5-14 years) overall participation rate in 'organised' Cricket was 5.2% in 2009, therefore, the theoretical participation rate in Mitchell Shire now would be approximately 270 compared to the 2010 junior membership of the cricket clubs of 380 juniors. Projecting to 2026, the theoretical number of children participating in Cricket is expected to be similar to the number currently participating at 400 children.
- Participation levels in junior cricket across Victoria continue to grow, whilst for senior cricket the numbers have remained relatively stable<sup>20</sup>. The relatively low participation rates in Cricket by adults and teenage children in Mitchell Shire could be partially explained by the lack of opportunity to participate by those people living in the smaller rural townships where it is more difficult to get sufficient numbers to form a team.
- Interestingly, two of the three clubs in Seymour, the Eastern Hill Cricket Club and the Royals Cricket Club, both had a decline in membership between 2006 and 2010 (-16% & -50%, respectively), whilst Wallan District Cricket Club experienced an 83% growth for the same period.

### Overall Summary

Whilst the benchmark data for cricket ovals in Mitchell North suggests an oversupply, the number is actually satisfactory as two of the cricket ovals are servicing small townships (Tallarook and Pyalong). This provision is important for local community development and social interaction. The four ovals in Seymour should be adequate to cater for the junior and senior cricket needs of the district, however, the junior levels of participation are low. This may be a result of the lack of available synthetic wickets, a surface more conducive for young players to enhance cricket skills and gain confidence. With the loss of the Seymour College oval, the only synthetic wicket ground is the Kings Park No. 2 Oval.

It is noted that there has been a decline in the number of cricketers in Seymour, and this will be partly due to the ageing profile of the town and surrounding area. Strategically, and to ensure the long-term viability of club cricket in Seymour, the three existing clubs should consider reducing to two clubs. This will ensure the critical mass of players and administrators required for the remaining clubs to be viable, and will assist in competitive teams being turned out for matches. The logical amalgamation is the Seymour Cricket Club and the Royals Cricket Club and this union would provide the opportunity to convert Bennett Oval to a synthetic centre wicket to complement the turf wicket on Chittick Oval. The availability of this new synthetic wicket may then provide the catalyst to develop an expanded junior program of cricket in the southern and eastern areas of Seymour, as well as reducing the impost on volunteers to have three turf wickets maintained locally.

<sup>20</sup> Source: Australian Cricket Census, 2009/10.

## Demand Assessment

In Mitchell South, the situation is the opposite where new growth in the age cohort of 5-34 year olds will continue to generate demand for cricket ovals. Evidence of this can be seen with the doubling of the In2Cricket program at Wallan from 40 children in 2007 to 85 children in 2010. Compounding this demand that is simply created by the increasing numbers of people, is the increased cultural diversity projected within the new and emerging communities. People of Sri Lankan and Indian backgrounds are expected to make up a large proportion of the projected population of the greater Beveridge area and Wallan than currently exists, and these communities have a long history of participation in both organised club cricket and informal, social cricket. The continued emergence of women's cricket and Twenty20 cricket are also likely to trigger new opportunities for people to participate.

The strategy to meet future demand should be a combination of constructing new ovals in the growth areas and optimising the use of existing ovals. In relation to the latter, Council and clubs should continually explore what opportunities might be available to utilise existing ovals at non-peak times by the major users. This strategy will become more important in Mitchell South as demand for 'overflow' grounds increases. Options to consider in the future include:

- Scheduling additional matches on different days on the same cricket ovals (particularly on ovals with synthetic wickets). Cricket associations are becoming innovative in relation to accommodating increasing player numbers by scheduling cricket fixtures on Saturdays and Sundays, and in the case of lower age juniors, also using Friday afternoons / evenings.
- Utilising school grounds out-of-school-hours.
- Using the Pyalong Recreation Reserve oval outside of the times required by the Pyalong Cricket Club, and reinstating the Tooborac Recreation Reserve oval for cricket.

## Recommendations for Cricket

*Items included below are the projects considered to be the major directions pertaining to existing ovals. Adopted reserve master plans may outline additional projects of a more minor, or less strategic, nature.*

Existing Ovals (Reserves)	Changes
<b>Mitchell North</b>	
Kings Park No. 1 Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No change.</li> </ul>
Kings Park No. 2 Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No change.</li> </ul>
Chittick Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add two player change rooms to the pavilion, and make access available to winter user groups.</li> </ul>
Bennett Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider converting the centre wicket to a concrete-based synthetic wicket (but only if there is a rationalisation of cricket clubs in Seymour).</li> </ul>
Tallarook Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No change.</li> </ul>
Pyalong Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No change.</li> </ul>
<b>Mitchell South</b>	
Harley Hammond Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reconstruct the oval surface to establish a more sustainable and quality playing surface.</li> <li>• Upgrade (or rebuild) the pavilion to resolve the inefficient kitchen and bar area, and the general poor condition of the building.</li> </ul>
Kilmore Cricket Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No change.</li> </ul>
Greenhill Reserve No. 1 Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No change.</li> </ul>
Greenhill Reserve No. 2 Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve the connection between the oval and the pavilion.</li> </ul>

Existing Ovals (Reserves)	Changes
LB Davern Reserve Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No change.</li> </ul>

## Recommended Future New Ovals

### Mitchell North

No new Cricket oval developments

### Mitchell South

1. Develop one new oval in Broadford (dual-use with baseball and football).
  - Investigate the viability of siting this oval in a proposed new multi-sport hub within the Secondary College / Leisure Centre precinct.
2. Develop one new oval in Kilmore (dual-use with athletics and junior football). In summer, the main user of the new oval will be the Kilmore Little Athletics Centre, with occasional use for cricket, where possible.
3. Develop one new District level reserve in Wallan (dual-use with football).
4. Develop one new District level reserve (two ovals) in the greater Beveridge area (dual-use with football). (One of the ovals to also jointly accommodate little athletics).
5. Develop one new District level reserve (two ovals) in the greater Beveridge area (dual-use with cricket). (Consider developing one of the ovals and the associated infrastructure at this reserve to a higher standard to accommodate elite football competition) (Refer Section 6.1 – Australian Rules Football)..

## 6.5. Equestrian

The demand assessment for Equestrian is summarised in the table below, and is followed by a series of strategic recommendations for Mitchell Shire to 2026.

### Demand Assessment

- Existing provision for Equestrian in Mitchell Shire is extensive in both the number of clubs and the variety of equestrian disciplines provided for. A majority of the groups are either pony clubs (catering for riders up to the age of 25 years), or adult riding clubs which cater for riders of all ages.
- Equestrian clubs and groups are evenly distributed throughout the Shire, including good provision within the rural areas. Some riding groups are based at facilities on private land, however, most of the equestrian facilities are on Council-owned and Crown land recreation reserves.
- There is no recognised benchmark data for equestrian facilities given the variety of the types of facilities and disciplines, however, the ratio of provision of pony clubs within Mitchell Shire appears comparable to the rate of provision in other shires located around metropolitan Melbourne<sup>21</sup>.
- The trends of participation for Equestrian in recent years for adults (National & Victoria) and children (National) show participation has been stable during the period since 2000 (refer graph for Equestrian in Appendix 3), which in real terms corresponds to an actual increase in the number of people participating.
- Adult 'organised' participation rate for Equestrian in Victoria (2010) was 0.4%, therefore, the theoretical participation rate in Mitchell Shire now would be approximately 100 compared to the 2010 adult membership of Mitchell Shire Clubs of approximately 200 adults (includes an estimate for those pony club members who are aged 15+ years). Projecting to 2026, the theoretical number of adults participating in Equestrian could be up to 175 adults, below the number actually participating now.
- Children's (5–14 years) overall participation rate in Equestrian was 1.3% in 2009, therefore, the theoretical participation rate in Mitchell Shire now would be approximately 70 compared to the estimated 2010 junior membership of Equestrian groups of 120 riders. Projecting to 2026, the theoretical number of children participating (100) will still be below the number currently participating.
- The total membership of Pony Clubs Victoria has declined in the past six years (-22%) from a high of 8,400 in 2006 to 6,552 in 2011<sup>22</sup>. The current membership of Horse Riding Clubs Association of Victoria is approximately 5,200. For all equestrian groups in the Mitchell Shire, there has been an overall increase in membership of 18% since 2006, and most clubs predict that their membership will either increase or remain stable for the next five years.

### Overall Summary

In relation to the number and distribution of pony club and riding club facilities in Mitchell Shire, there is good provision. However, feedback from the clubs suggests that most of the available club facilities are generally suitable for training and instruction only, with no centre currently available in the Shire suitable to host a three day competition (dressage, jumping and cross country). The Lone Tree Hill Cutting Club facility in Kings Park is an accredited venue to host state camp drafting events.

The rate of participation in pony clubs and riding clubs in Mitchell Shire is well above state and national participation rates, and most clubs predict that interest and participation levels will continue to increase in the next five years. Notwithstanding this, it is important to note some of the key demographic characteristics of the Shire moving forward, and how these may, or may not, support continued growth in equestrian demand:

- a majority of the population growth projected for Mitchell Shire will occur in Mitchell South, specifically in the greater Beveridge and Wallan areas.
- most of this increased residential activity is expected to be in the form of high density and medium density housing (not rural residential, which is more suited to horse owners).
- it is expected that a higher than average proportion of newcomers to Mitchell Shire will be people not born in Australia (i.e. people of Indian and Sri Lankan origin).

These demographic indicators would not generally support an increase in equestrian participation and activity although it is acknowledged that Mitchell Shire has long tradition and history of being recognised as a popular equine area of Victoria (and well above average participation rates). This reputation is expected to continue as

<sup>21</sup> Source: Club Locations Map – Pony Club Association of Victoria.

<sup>22</sup> Source: Pony Club Association of Victoria Annual Report 2010-11.

## Demand Assessment

the townships of Kilmore, Pyalong, Broadford and Seymour have well established equestrian facilities and will not be as significantly impacted by a reduced supply of rural property dwellings as is expected to occur in and around Wallan and Beveridge. The continued viability of the Beveridge & District Pony Club is likely to be challenged in the next 10 years as a result of urban encroachment and a likely reduced number of local horse owners.

The strategy to meet current and future demand for equestrian facilities should be focused primarily on the most popular forms of the sport – dressage, show jumping and cross country, and be a combination of ongoing improvement to local club facilities as local training and instruction venues, and the possible development of new regional eventing centre. Such a centre would comprise national standard facilities for the three eventing disciplines, and would be supported by academy programs (centre for excellence) and infrastructure required to host competitions. The ideal location for such a centre would be central within the Shire and with access to good commuter links, such as the Hume Highway.

A feasibility study would need to be undertaken to confirm the business case and location options for such a centre, but it would provide the sport with a complete pathway for Shire residents and would complement other regional facilities within the Shire in relation to generating economic benefits from 'sport tourism'.

## Recommendations for Equestrian

*The key focus for existing equestrian clubs and groups should be to address any known safety issues for riders and spectators. Adopted reserve master plans may outline additional projects of a more minor, or less strategic, nature and where possible, these should be pursued with the co-operation of reserve committees.*

Existing Centres (Reserves)	Changes
<b>Mitchell North</b>	
Seymour Equestrian Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construct a new sand arena (60m x 20m).</li> <li>Construct a new show jumping arena (70m x 70m).</li> </ul>
Lone Tree Hill Cutting Club (Kings Park)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase the number or size of the cattle holding pens.</li> <li>Provide secure storage onsite.</li> </ul>
Seymour Riding for the Disabled (Kings Park)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Install a shelter over the platform where riders alight and dismount the horses.</li> </ul>
Glenoura Riding Club (private property)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change</li> </ul>
Pyalong Riding Club (Pyalong Recreation Reserve)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider options to install a unisex toilet (including in a location that could also service the adjoining golf course).</li> </ul>
<b>Mitchell South</b>	
Broadford Riders Club & Pony Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider options to install a unisex toilet (including in a location that could also service other adjoining community facilities).</li> </ul>
Kilmore & District Pony Club (Kilmore Racecourse)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construct a new sand arena (60m x 30m).</li> </ul>
Kilmore & District Adult Riders Club and the Standardbred Riding Group (LB Davern Reserve)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extend the float car parking area.</li> <li>Provide secure storage onsite.</li> </ul>
Beveridge & District Pony Club (Beveridge Rec'n Reserve)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extend the sand arena, subject to available land.</li> </ul>

## Recommended Future Equestrian Facilities

### Shire-wide

1. Investigate the feasibility of establishing a new Regional equestrian centre within Mitchell Shire.
  - To be a facility that provides for dressage, show jumping and a Grade 1 cross country course.
  - To be a facility that is primarily designed to foster equestrian participation in Mitchell Shire by providing rider instruction and training opportunities (including elite coaching), instructor accreditation courses, and by providing a range of equestrian services and support for local equestrian clubs and their committees.
  - To be a facility that provides competition opportunities for local riders and those within a broader regional catchment in central Victoria, and also provides audience opportunities by attracting National / international standard events.

## 6.6. Lawn Bowls

The demand assessment for Lawn Bowls is summarised in the table below, and is followed by a series of strategic recommendations for Mitchell Shire to 2026.

### Demand Assessment

- Existing provision for Lawn Bowls in Mitchell Shire is six full-size greens and two half-size greens, and they are distributed evenly throughout the LGA with greens available in each of the four largest townships. There is also an even availability of turf and synthetic greens, with three of each type available (the two half-size greens are turf).
- Benchmark data for greens identified that there is currently an oversupply in Mitchell North of 1 - 2 greens, and this will remain for the population projected to 2026. For Mitchell South, the benchmark data identified an adequate supply of greens currently, and this will remain for the population projected to 2026.
- The trends of participation in Lawn Bowls in recent years for adults (National & Victoria) show a relatively stable rate of participation since 2001 (refer graph for Lawn Bowls in Appendix 3). There are no recordable levels of participation for children.
- Adult 'organised' participation rate for Lawn Bowls in Victoria (2010) was 1.7%, therefore, the theoretical participation rate in Mitchell Shire now would be approximately 410 compared to the 2010 adult membership of the five lawn bowls clubs of in excess of 450 adults. Projecting to 2026, the theoretical number of adults participating in Lawn Bowls could be up to 750 adults.
- Presently, there are approximately two men for every woman bowler, which is consistent with broad participation rates across Victoria.
- The estimated junior (under 18 years) club-based participation in Mitchell Shire is approximately 20 players.
- The clubs identified a range of facility improvement proposals for their respective grounds, including lighting.

### Overall Summary

There is currently adequate provision of Lawn Bowls greens throughout Mitchell Shire to meet current demand, and generally the current provision of six full-size greens and two half-size greens will have capacity to absorb new demand through to 2026.

Whilst there will be significant population growth in the southern area of the Shire for the next 15+ years, a high proportion of these people will not be in the age cohorts that have the highest representation of lawn bowlers. Balancing this, however, is the very strong rate of participation in lawn bowling that is evident in the Shire. The Wallan Bowling Club has two greens and has capacity to absorb new participation growth. The Kilmore Bowling Club has only one green and has experienced strong growth in the past three years (from 87 bowlers in 2008 to 104 bowlers in 2010). This club has only one green, which is likely to be insufficient to meet new demand as the population in this area of Mitchell South ages. In addition, the club is located in Hudson Park and there is increasing pressure on this park to be opened-up and developed further as a passive open space area due to its prominence in the main street of Kilmore, and its importance to local traders and tourists alike, as a place for rest and relaxation.

The ongoing viability of the two smaller greens (on two different sites) used by the Seymour VRI Bowling Club may be tested in the future as the population stabilises. Certainly, the Seymour Bowling Club with two full-size greens and plans to extend and refurbish their clubhouse, appears to be a more sustainable operation moving forward to 2026.

The emergence of barefoot and corporate bowls has successfully introduced a new opportunity for bowling clubs to raise revenue and promote the sport to a younger market. Whilst the Seymour and Kilmore Bowling Clubs have indicated that these new initiatives have attracted some new casual bowlers to their respective venues, it is unlikely that the programs will have any significant impact on overall numbers of bowlers joining the clubs as the critical mass of people available to metropolitan-based clubs (where the success is most pronounced) is just not available in the peri-urban townships of Kilmore and Wallan, and certainly not Seymour.

Synthetic greens have an advantage over turf greens in that they ensure a green is available for club members all year round. Whilst there are some savings in maintenance costs for synthetic greens when compared to turf greens, there are still ongoing maintenance tasks for synthetic surfaces (e.g. spraying for weeds and grooming the surface). Further, the capital cost of the supply and installation of a synthetic surface can largely absorb any savings gained from the reduced maintenance costs.

## Demand Assessment

Synthetic greens are also a better option for casual usage (i.e. barefoot bowling), as they are more resistant to damage that can typically be caused by inexperienced bowlers using natural turf greens. Any newly developed two-green facility should ideally have one turf green and one synthetic green.

## Recommendations for Lawn Bowls

Existing Bowling Facilities	Changes
<b>Mitchell North</b>	
Seymour Bowling Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New clubroom facility.</li> </ul>
Seymour VRI Bowling Club (two sites)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No change.</li> </ul>
<b>Mitchell South</b>	
Broadford Bowling Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No change.</li> </ul>
Kilmore Bowling Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extend and upgrade the clubroom to better accommodate member needs.</li> </ul>
Wallan Bowling Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Convert one turf green to synthetic.</li> <li>• Install floodlights to one green.</li> </ul>

## Recommended Future New Greens

### Mitchell North

No new lawn bowling club developments

### Mitchell South

1. Develop a new two-green lawn bowling facility in Kilmore, and relocate the Kilmore Bowling Club.
  - Decommission the current Kilmore Bowling Club facility in Hudson Park, and return to parkland.

## 6.7. Outdoor Netball

The demand assessment for outdoor Netball is summarised in the table below, and is followed by a series of strategic recommendations for Mitchell Shire to 2026.

### Demand Assessment

- Existing provision of outdoor netball courts in Mitchell Shire is 19 courts, and includes 10 courts that are dual use netball-tennis courts.
- Benchmark data for outdoor netball courts identified that there is currently an adequate supply of courts in Mitchell North, and also sufficient courts to meet the needs of the projected future population to 2026. However, a closer analysis of the distribution of these courts identifies that Seymour has a shortfall with only one outdoor netball court available, situated in Kings Park. The eight asphalt netball courts previously available outside the Seymour Sports & Aquatic Centre have not been counted. These are now not used on an ongoing basis due to the court area being used as the main car park servicing the leisure centre and the adjoining facilities within the Chittick Park precinct. For its current and projected population, Seymour should be providing at least 2 - 3 outdoor courts.
- For Mitchell South, the benchmark data identified a significant oversupply of eight courts currently, but reducing to an acceptable provision for the projected future population by 2026. This oversupply can be explained by the fact that so many courts are also dual use tennis courts so the number of netball courts being counted is somewhat inflated.
- The trends of participation for Netball in recent years for adults nationally shows a small decline, whilst for Victoria, the rate of participation has marginally increased since 2007. (Note that participation actually declined one percentage point between 2009 and 2010). The participation rate for children (National) has also declined since 2000 (refer graph for Netball in Appendix 3).
- The sport historically has had a higher proportion of girls actively involved compared to women, however, in the past 20 years the number of women participating has increased, largely on the back of an increasing number of country football associations incorporating netball as a parallel sport conducted concurrently with football, and the number of indoor centres now accommodating indoor netball competitions.
- The adult 'organised' participation rate for Netball in Victoria (2010) was 3.3%, therefore, the theoretical participation rate in Mitchell Shire now would be approximately 800 compared to the 2010 adult participation of approximately 520 adults in the various clubs and associations (includes an estimated number of 15-17 year olds who are currently counted as juniors). This data suggests that there may be a latent demand for Netball. Projecting to 2026, the theoretical number of adults participating in Netball could be up to 1,400 adults.
- Children's (5-14 years) overall participation rate in 'organised' Netball was 8.4% in 2009, therefore, the theoretical participation rate in Mitchell Shire now would be approximately 460 which compares favourably to the estimated 2010 junior player numbers of 400. Projecting to 2026, the theoretical number of children participating in Netball is expected to increase to 645 children.
- Interestingly, the two netball clubs / associations to have recorded the highest growth in the period 2006 - 2010 are two clubs in Mitchell North: the Pyalong Netball Club and the Seymour Junior Netball Association (105% & 100%, respectively).

### Overall Summary

There are some strong indicators to suggest that Netball will continue to have sustainable numbers, including:

- the strong junior participant numbers in netball throughout the Shire,
- the emerging growth in participation in the southern areas triggered by high population growth, and
- the projected net increase in the number of females aged between 5-34 years to 2026.

The development of several new hard surface netball courts commensurate with the growing population will be necessary to meet future demand.

In all instances where District level football reserves are planned, land needs to be set aside for two outdoor netball courts. This will ensure future football clubs that take up tenancy at these reserves will have the necessary base infrastructure for affiliation with football netball associations / leagues. Two netball courts are considered the minimum requirement now for football netball clubs, and these could be provided as dual use netball-tennis courts, where a tennis club is also being planned in close proximity to the ovals.

## Demand Assessment

As previously mentioned, there is a lack of outdoor netball courts in Seymour following the cessation of the use of the asphalt courts at the leisure centre. The Seymour Junior Netball Association currently uses the indoor courts at the Seymour Sports & Aquatic Centre, however, requires access to additional courts to meet the current high demand for netball training and competition. The most suitable and cost-effective location to provide new netball courts in Seymour will be to convert some of the underutilised hard courts at the Seymour Tennis Complex. This proposal is consistent with the general directions of the Chittick Park Master Plan (2010).

This location will also ensure that the Association remains in close proximity to the indoor centre and will re-activate use of an otherwise underutilised facility. The two tennis clubs based at the Seymour Tennis Complex are resistant to losing access to the nine hard courts along the southern boundary of the tennis complex as the courts are required for an annual tennis tournament. However, the conversion of five of the tennis courts to four dual use netball-tennis courts<sup>23</sup> will ensure that four tennis courts (two floodlit) will remain available for the clubs' annual tournament.

A second netball court is required at Kings Park to cater for the needs of the Seymour Senior & Junior Football Netball Clubs, and is consistent with the typical need of football netball clubs requiring access to two netball courts.

There was some support from netball stakeholders to consider establishing a Shire-wide netball association (junior & senior) that might be based at a new outdoor netball complex, or an expanded existing netball facility, located centrally within the Shire. However, an ongoing trend in Netball is the gradual shift of the sport indoors, particularly for women's competitions. Indoor facilities can also create additional opportunities for squad / elite player development, and can be used as venues for staging high standard exhibition matches and regional tournaments that will further promote the game through spectator opportunities. Presently, netball is already played indoors at the Seymour Sports & Aquatic Centre and the RB Robson Stadium, so to expect these associations to transfer their activities to an outdoor venue might be optimistic. Further, the geographic distance between some town-based clubs and the location of any new netball complex may exceed what people consider being a reasonable threshold to travel. As a result, there is a two pronged strategy to respond to any new demand for netball courts that may arise in Mitchell South as a result of the population growth: firstly, to ensure all new District level sports reserves include provision for two netball courts, and secondly, to include netball as the second anchor sport with basketball in the proposed new four court stadium in the Beveridge and Wallan area (refer Section 6.3 Basketball).

## Recommendations for Outdoor Netball

*Items included below are the projects considered to be the major directions pertaining to existing courts. Adopted reserve master plans may outline additional projects of a more minor, or less strategic, nature.*

Existing Outdoor Courts	Changes
Mitchell North	
Kings Park netball court	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change.</li> </ul>
Seymour Sports & Aquatic Centre (8 asphalt courts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Formally decommission the outdoor courts.</li> </ul>
Tallarook Swimming Pool Reserve court	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Re-surface the western court and replace the goals (retain as a multipurpose informal sports court).</li> </ul>
Pyalong Recreation Reserve courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change.</li> </ul>

<sup>23</sup> The larger dimensions of netball courts compared to tennis courts means that the area of five tennis courts are required to provide the necessary footprint for four netball courts to be overlaid.

Existing Outdoor Courts	Changes
<b>Mitchell South</b>	
Harley Hammond Reserve courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resurface the dual use netball-tennis court and the northwestern netball court as two new netball-tennis courts.</li> </ul>
JJ Clancy Reserve courts A (courts adjacent to the tennis courts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change.</li> </ul>
JJ Clancy Reserve courts B (courts adjacent to the reserve entrance)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decommission the former club courts and re-use the space as a passive recreation area, in accordance with the directions of the Committee of Management's reserve infrastructure planning report (2010).</li> </ul>
LB Davern Reserve courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relocate the two southern netball-tennis courts, in accordance with the LB Davern Master Plan.</li> <li>Install floodlighting to these courts.</li> </ul>

## Recommended Future New Courts

### Mitchell North

1. Install a second plexipave netball court and floodlighting at Kings Park. Options include constructing a second court adjacent to the existing outdoor netball court or upgrading the netball court inside the Exhibition Building by re-surfacing the court and improving the lighting.
2. Convert five of the existing hardcourt tennis courts at the Seymour Tennis Complex into four dual use plexipave netball-tennis courts, and install floodlighting on two of the courts for their use as community hire courts.
3. Consider redeveloping the two tennis courts at Tooborac Recreation Reserve but enlarge the court area footprint to allow a netball court to be overlaid in an east-west direction.

### Mitchell South

4. Develop a new four-court indoor sports stadium in the Beveridge and Wallan area (netball & basketball).
5. Develop one new District level reserve in Wallan (include footprint for two netball courts).
6. Develop two new District level reserves in the greater Beveridge area (include footprints for two netball courts at each reserve).

## 6.8. Soccer

The demand assessment for Soccer is summarised in the table below, and is followed by a series of strategic recommendations for Mitchell Shire to 2026.

### Demand Assessment

- There are no existing dedicated public soccer fields located in Mitchell Shire, the school oval at Broadford Secondary College is currently used by the Mitchell Rangers Football Club (MRFC).
- Benchmark data for soccer fields identified that there is currently an undersupply of two fields in Mitchell North, both now and for the projected future population. For Mitchell South, there is a current undersupply of five fields, and for the projected population of 43,000 people, the benchmarked estimate increases to a shortfall of nine fields.
- The trends of participation for Soccer in recent years for adults (National & Victoria) and for children (National) show a marked increase since 2000 (refer graph for Soccer in Appendix 3).
- In relation to children (5-14 years), the most significant increase in participation has been by girls, where the rate of participation in 2000 was 2.9% (or 37,300 girls), but rose to 6.2% in 2009 (or 82,700 girls).
- The adult 'organised' participation rate for Soccer in Victoria (2010) was 2.2%, therefore, the theoretical participation rate in Mitchell Shire now would be approximately 530 compared to the 2010 estimated adult membership of the MRFC of 70 adults. This data suggests that there may be a significant latent demand for adult soccer, however, this is most likely not the case due to the historic and strong association that the Shire has had with Australian Rules football. (However, the low 'take-up' in Soccer is probably mostly explained by the lack of Soccer facilities, or a base for soccer in the Shire). Projecting to 2026, the theoretical number of adults participating in Soccer could be up to 970 adults.
- Children's overall participation rate in 'organised' Soccer was 13.2% in 2009, therefore, the theoretical participation rate in Mitchell Shire now should be approximately 700 compared to the 2010 junior membership of the MRFC of 50 – a significant difference. Projecting to 2026, the theoretical number of children participating in Soccer is expected to increase to 1,000 children.
- The MRFC has increased its club membership by 44% since 2006 (50 members) to 2010 (116 members). This even allows for a decline from a peak of 150 members in 2009. The main reason for the decline identified by the club is that parents and their children became disillusioned with the 'nomadic' existence of the club.

### Overall Summary

The demand for access to soccer fields and programs is expected to grow significantly in Mitchell South, if the trend of growth of soccer in other outer ring councils of Melbourne is to be replicated in Mitchell. This growth will be driven by new communities that won't have the historic attachment with Australian Rules football that second and third generation families born in Mitchell Shire may have.

Notwithstanding this growth in demand driven by new communities in the south, there is also likely to be new interest amongst children and families living in established townships and rural areas within the Shire as the broad public appeal and acceptance of Soccer continues, particularly amongst young boys and girls.

There is projected to be a net increase in the number of people aged between 5-34 years to 2026, which may also drive the demand for Soccer for older teenagers and young adults as the popularity of the game continues to expand.

There is no doubt that the lack of a dedicated soccer facility in Mitchell Shire has hindered the growth of the sport and that of the MRFC. The Club has a preference to remain in Broadford and establish itself in more permanent and quality facilities in partnership with the Broadford Secondary College. Preliminary planning has identified an opportunity may exist to expand the soccer facilities available at the College as part of a broader sports hub initiative for the precinct incorporating the College playing fields, the Mitchell Majors Baseball Club field and the land behind the Broadford Leisure Centre.

Other than the Broadford Secondary College site, other options considered for new soccer fields were greenfield sites within the Wallara Waters estate (Wallan East) and the Mandalay estate (Beveridge), however, negotiations between the Council and the developers of these estates have not been able to yet confirm the specific uses and layout of the open space parcels set aside for active recreation.

## Recommendations for Soccer

<u>Existing Fields (Reserves)</u>	<u>Changes</u>
<b>Mitchell North</b>	
Broadford Secondary College (temporary soccer field)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide improved change room facilities (consider temporary, relocatable change rooms in the short-term, until the sports precinct planning study is completed).</li> <li>• Install sub-surface drainage.</li> </ul>
<b>Mitchell South</b>	
No existing facilities	

## **Recommended Future New Fields**

### Mitchell North

1. In the long-term and pending local demand, investigate the use of the Hockey Field and Bennett Oval at Chittick Park for soccer.
  - In relation to Bennett Oval, one option would be to have a field overlaid end to end onto the oval surface (although an east – west orientation is not ideal), with a second option being to reconfigure Bennett Oval to overlay two junior-size fields in a north – south orientation and straddling the centre cricket wicket.

These options are generally consistent with the directions of the Chittick Park Master Plan (2010), with the key point of difference being that the proposed use of the Hockey Field not supported in the master plan.

### Mitchell South

1. Reconfigure the Broadford Secondary College oval precinct to establish one full-size soccer field and a junior sized field.
  - Investigate the viability of this proposal as part of a broader planning project to create a new multi-sport hub within the Secondary College / Leisure Centre precinct (refer Section 6.1 Australian Rules Football).
2. Develop a District soccer reserve (three fields) in Wallan, with two fields only being constructed in the initial development.
3. Develop a District soccer reserve (three fields) in the greater Beveridge area, with two fields only being constructed in the initial development.

## 6.9. Tennis

The demand assessment for Tennis is summarised in the table below, and is followed by a series of strategic recommendations for Mitchell Shire to 2026.

### Demand Assessment

- Existing provision for Tennis in Mitchell Shire is 53 tennis courts, being a combination of courts at traditional community-based tennis clubs (50) and stand-alone community courts (3). A majority of the courts are either plexipave (30) or synthetic grass surface (14).
- Benchmark data for the courts identified that there is an oversupply of up to 16 courts in Mitchell North currently, and this excess will remain for the population projected to 2026. For Mitchell South, the benchmark data also suggests an oversupply of up to 18 courts, with the optimum number for the projected population of 43,000 people estimated to be 22 courts, or a current oversupply of up to nine courts.
- The trends of participation in Tennis in recent years for adults (National) and for children (National) each show a small decline since 2000, however, for participation by Victorian adults since 2007 there has been stable participation (refer graph for Tennis in Appendix 3).
- The adult 'organised' participation rate for Tennis in Victoria (2010) was 3.4%, therefore, the theoretical participation rate in Mitchell Shire now should be approximately 830 people compared to the 2010 adult membership of the nine clubs of approximately 280 adults (includes an estimate for those 'junior' members who are aged 15+ years). This disparity needs to be considered in the context that Tennis is an activity that is widely participated in by adults both socially and recreationally, and it is highly likely that many more adults in Mitchell Shire are active and regular tennis players at club courts, community courts and private courts who are not members of clubs. This would be particularly evident in the small townships and remote rural communities.
- Projecting to 2026, the theoretical number of adults participating in Tennis could be up to 1,500 adults.
- Children's overall participation rate in 'organised' Tennis was 7.9% in 2010, therefore, the theoretical participation rate in Mitchell Shire now should be approximately 410, compared to the 2010 junior membership of approximately 200 players. Projecting to 2026, the number of children participating in Tennis could be up to 600 children. Similar to the adult participation rate, these statistics need to be considered in the context of the high numbers of juniors enrolled in tennis coaching but who might not be club members.
- From available data and feedback from clubs, the trend of participation in Tennis in Mitchell Shire is extremely variable between clubs. For example, Wallan and Wandong Tennis Clubs had a decline in membership between 2006 and 2010 (-46% and -26%, respectively) despite being in growth areas, whilst the Broadford Tennis Club and the Pyalong Tennis Club both experienced increased membership.
- Tennis is a 'whole-of-life' activity, therefore, variables in age profiles throughout the Shire between the northern and southern areas may not have as dramatic affect on the rate of participation compared to other sports that are more aligned with 'active' age cohorts versus 'non-active' age cohorts.

### Overall Summary

The data suggests that there is a high latent demand for Tennis participation from both adults and children in Mitchell Shire. However, this can only be fully validated after a more comprehensive analysis is undertaken of the total number of people enrolled in tennis coaching programs or who regularly play tennis (socially or recreationally) at public courts for a hire fee, as both forms are considered 'organised' Tennis participation under the definition by ERASS<sup>24</sup> for 'organised' participation in physical activity.

Whilst the number of existing tennis courts exceeds the benchmark required for both Mitchell North and Mitchell South for the current population and the projected population to 2026, 23 of these courts are located in the smaller townships with a combined population of approximately 9,000 people. Tennis court provision in small townships has historically occurred due to the popularity of Tennis (and subsequent wide spread of the age of players), the capacity of the game to be enjoyed socially, the relatively low cost and small area required to construct courts, and the relatively low maintenance required to upkeep tennis courts.

Given that the highest proportion of the total population growth projected to 2026 is expected to occur within Mitchell South (approximately 43,000 people), there will need to be an increase in the number of courts in this region to meet this new demand.

<sup>24</sup> Refer Glossary, ERASS Report, 2010.

The continued growth of Mitchell Shire and the Shire-wide and regional significance of some of its current and planned sporting facilities, creates the opportunity to also consider providing a Regional level tennis facility in the Shire<sup>25</sup>. Such a facility will enable a 'sport pathway' for Tennis to be available within Mitchell Shire where a local resident can participate in the sport from introductory tennis lessons, through to junior and senior competitions, high-performance coaching, and then regional tournaments.

The provision of a Regional level tennis facility within Mitchell Shire would align with Tennis Australia's "Tennis 2020: Facility development and management framework for Australian Tennis" strategy. This framework proposes a hierarchy of facilities ranging between from Local to National Centres be available across Australia and defines standards for each level. Mitchell Shire is well positioned to plan for a higher order tennis facility in the southern area of the Shire concurrent with the projected growth of the greater Beveridge area.

Further, a Regional level tennis facility can provide a range of tennis development services (such as accreditation courses for coaching, umpires and officials), and various club development programs for the benefit of existing Shire clubs. Local tennis enthusiasts will also benefit from the 'spectator opportunities' that will be created if the centre hosts regional tennis tournaments.

The existing site constraints associated with any future expansion of the Wallan Tennis Club creates the opportunity to consider the future relocation of this club to any new higher order tennis complex in the southern area of the Shire. This strategy to relocate the Wallan Tennis Club, thereby freeing-up the site in Hadfield Park for other community uses, is consistent with the directions of the Wallan Tennis Court Feasibility Study (2008).

In the rural townships, the Council and the local communities should continue to maximise the opportunity of providing tennis courts as dual use tennis-netball courts. This not only creates savings and economies of scale when building new or upgrading existing facilities (such as court construction costs and court lighting costs), but invariably will accelerate the provision of either a tennis facility or a netball facility where the cost of construction of both may not have been possible in the first instance.

In Seymour, the current provision of 15 tennis courts is well in excess of the current needs and also the projected future needs. Four of the 15 courts at the Seymour Tennis Complex have been upgraded and currently meet the training and competition requirements of the two tenant clubs. The degraded courts located east of the block of four courts currently being used as the two clubs main courts should be retained for upgrade in the future, pending demand.

As described in Section 6.6 Outdoor Netball, it is recommended that five of the remaining nine degraded plexipave courts be upgraded and converted to four dual use tennis-netball courts (with two floodlit) to enable junior netball to be better accommodated in Seymour. Being tennis line-marked, they will also be available on an ongoing basis for formal tennis activities organised by the two tennis clubs, or for more informal tennis use by residents or groups, such as schools. Further, it is recommended that the remaining four degraded plexipave courts at the eastern end not be upgraded but continue to be used, as may required, until their condition declines to a level at which they become deemed to be unsafe. When the courts are deemed to be unsafe, they should be demolished and the land returned to parkland, in accordance with the directions of the Chittick Park Master Plan (2010). This approach will ensure responsible financial investment in tennis to cater for the 'core' demand of tennis enthusiasts in Seymour both now and into the future. In the medium to long-term, any tennis tournaments supported by the Shire should be conducted at the new Regional tennis complex proposed for the Wallan and Beveridge growth corridor.

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<sup>25</sup> The description of a Regional tennis facility in this report equates to a 'Sub-Regional Tennis Facility' by definition in Tennis Australia's strategic facilities' plan, the Tennis 2020: Facility Development and Management Framework for Australian Tennis (2008).

## Recommendations for Tennis

Existing Courts / Facilities	Changes
<b>Mitchell North</b>	
Seymour Tennis Complex (4 synthetic grass courts, 11 plexipave courts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retain the space (comprising the former tennis courts) that is located east of the four courts being used by the two clubs, and upgrade when there is demand for additional club courts.</li> <li>Convert five of the existing nine plexipave courts (eastern side) into four dual use plexipave netball-tennis courts.</li> <li>Install floodlighting on two of the courts and use these courts as community hire courts.</li> <li>Demolish the remaining four courts and return the area to parkland when the courts become unsafe and are closed.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note: the proposed works above will be subject to a review of the usage of the tennis facility, that is, if no significant increase in their use has occurred between 2012 and the time when the southern courts deteriorate to a point where they are no longer able to be used for tennis, then the above works may proceed</b> (Ref: Minutes Ordinary Council Meeting, 12 December 2011, Item 7.4.)</p>
Tallarook Swimming Pool Reserve court (2 multipurpose asphalt courts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Re-surface the western court (multipurpose informal court).</li> </ul>
Tooborac Rec'n Reserve courts (2 plexipave courts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Re-surface the courts and consider expanding the court area footprint to accommodate a netball court overlay onto the surface.</li> <li>Install floodlighting to maximise the usage of the multipurpose courts.</li> </ul>
Pyalong Rec'n Reserve courts (4 plexipave tennis-netball courts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change.</li> </ul>
<b>Mitchell South</b>	
Harley Hammond Reserve courts (4 porous courts, 1 plexipave tennis-netball court)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Convert the four porous courts to plexipave or synthetic grass to reduce the reliance on water and to reduce maintenance tasks.</li> <li>Reconstruct the dual use netball-tennis court and the northwestern netball court as two new netball-tennis courts, thereby creating an additional two tennis courts for the Broadford Tennis Club.</li> </ul>
JJ Clancy Reserve courts (4 synthetic grass courts, 4 plexipave courts, 2 plexipave tennis-netball courts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Re-surface the 4 plexipave courts.</li> <li>Install floodlighting on the two remaining plexipave courts.</li> </ul>
Wallan Tennis Complex (6 synthetic grass courts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Re-surface Courts 1 – 4.</li> </ul>
LB Davern Reserve courts (2 porous courts, 4 plexipave tennis-netball courts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relocate the 2 porous courts but construct as plexipave courts (as part of the larger project to construct a new indoor sports stadium – <i>in progress</i>).</li> <li>Relocate the two southern netball-tennis courts (retain as dual use courts), and install floodlighting.</li> </ul>
Beveridge Rec'n Res courts (2 plexipave courts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change.</li> </ul>

## Recommended Future New Courts

### Mitchell North

No new tennis court developments

### Mitchell South

1. Develop a new 12 court Regional tennis complex in the Wallan district and relocate the Wallan Tennis Club to the facility to become the anchor tenant at the complex.
  - Construct the 12 courts in stages, with stage one (initial development) comprising six courts and associated amenities.
  - Decommission the existing Wallan Tennis Complex.
2. Develop a new six court District tennis facility in the greater Beveridge area.
  - Construct the six courts in stages, with stage one (initial development) comprising four courts and associated amenities.

## 7. POLICY DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This section provides discussion and recommendations concerning the following sports planning, management and operational considerations:

- Sports facility design standards and guidelines.
- Capital Works contribution framework.
- Reserve development framework.
- Fees and charges.
- Turf wicket vs synthetic cricket wickets.

### 7.1. Sports Facility Design Standards and Guidelines

It will be important that Mitchell Shire Council constructs any future new sporting facilities in accordance with the hierarchy of provision recommended in Section 4, and also in accordance with the standards and guidelines set down by the respective sports governing bodies. This will ensure that sporting facilities will be built 'fit for purpose', and will be provided to a standard and configuration that will ensure sustainable club use and development.

Appendix 5 identifies the desired standards for sports facility provision for seven of the nominated sports for the three levels of the sports facility hierarchy:

- Local Level.
- District Level.
- Regional Level.

There are also preferred standards for the provision of pavilions / clubrooms.

Basketball, equestrian and swimming pool facilities are not included in the standards provision due to the wide variation in the size, form and quality of the specific facility components and spaces that can make up the composite of the overall facility.

It is important to note that whilst the facility and pavilion standards outlined in Appendix 5 are the desirable level of provision to aspire to for all facilities, in many cases for existing facilities it will not be possible to attain the desired standard. This may be due to number of factors, including site constraints, the existing configuration of pavilions, and the practicality of balancing the need for alterations versus the financial cost. In general terms, the standards are intended to guide new facility development rather than be a tool to justify retrospective works and fit-out for existing facilities and pavilions.

During the planning for all new and upgraded facility projects, it will be important to also consider the directions and recommendations outlined in Council's Sustainable Resource Management Strategy (Ironbark Sustainability, 2011). The Strategy report outlines thirteen high-priority actions to focus Council's human and financial resources on areas where it can make the biggest impact and most positive change, particularly in reducing greenhouse emissions and the consumption of electricity, gas and water.

It is recommended:

1. That the three level sports facility hierarchy described in Section 4 be adopted as the basis for classification of sporting facilities from the same code.
2. That the sports facility and pavilion / clubrooms standards and guidelines described in Appendix 5 be adopted to be used to inform the development of new sports facilities.
3. That all new building projects consider the directions of the Mitchell Shire Sustainable Resource Management Strategy during their planning and construction phases.

## 7.2. Capital Works Contribution Framework

### 7.2.1. Background

A common issue for many local government authorities when assessing requests for capital improvements to existing or new sporting facilities, is deciding what projects should be its sole responsibility to fund, what projects should be the applicant's (or sports club's) responsibility to fund, and what projects should be jointly funded.

The following *Capital Works Contribution Framework* has been developed to provide clear delineation and distinction between what might be the Mitchell Shire Council's responsibility to fund, and what might be a club's or reserve committee's responsibility to fund in relation to the provision of sporting infrastructure at Council-owned or managed reserves and sporting facilities<sup>26</sup>. In some instances there may be shared responsibility and these are identified throughout the Framework.

With the application of the *Sports Facility Design Standards and Guidelines*, there is likely to be progressive upgrade of existing sporting facilities and the development of new ones. The Framework recognises that there has been (and continues to be) a shared responsibility between Council and the community for the development of sporting facilities in Mitchell Shire. The Framework also acknowledges that it may not always be possible for the Council or the community to independently fund the full cost of the development of sporting facilities to a level that both the Council and/or the community aspires.

The Framework will also assist to enhance positive user attitudes, responsibility, and ownership for publicly owned sporting facilities, especially where users have contributed to their development.

### 7.2.2. Scope

The *Capital Works Contribution Framework* applies to all Council-owned and Council-managed reserves and sporting facilities located within the Mitchell Shire, including outdoor facilities, playing surfaces (ovals, courts, greens), buildings, other supporting infrastructure, such as car parks, floodlights, and perimeter fences, and to the open space areas within a recreation reserve or immediately surrounding a specific sporting facility.

### 7.2.3. Principles

The following Principles provide a basis or context for the development and application of the *Capital Works Contribution Framework*.

1. Council acknowledges that it has a responsibility for the provision of the 'core' infrastructure at community sporting facilities, being the components of an overall sporting facility that are required for the "game to be played". This includes the playing surface/area, basic change rooms and associated amenities, storage, and provision for some car parking located within a reasonable distance of the facility.
2. Sporting facilities will comprise of a range of infrastructure suitable and appropriate for the sport to be played at the level it has been designated within the sport's facility hierarchy (either *Regional*, *District* or *Local*).
3. All new sporting facilities will provide access for people with a disability, and it shall be the aim of the Council, reserve committees and/or community sporting groups to have all existing facilities made accessible.
4. Council recognises the value of (and may provide incentives for) user group contributions towards the capital development of sporting facilities and the maintenance of facilities.

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<sup>26</sup> It is acknowledged that there are some recreation reserves that are publicly accessible and community managed but are not Council-owned, nor is Council the delegated committee of management (in the case of some Crown land reserves). It is at Council's discretion whether it will chose to incorporate such reserves within the proposed *Capital Works Contribution Framework*.

5. User groups will finance any approved capital works projects that are designed to gain income considered to be over and above what would be considered to be a club's 'normal operations', such as reserve perimeter fences (for the purpose of charging a ground admittance), extensions to canteens, and the construction of and/or improvements to social club areas with exclusive use.
6. Council will enhance the long-term viability of sporting facilities, reserve committees and community sporting groups by ensuring that:
  - Groups do not overcapitalise on developments.
  - Groups are able to demonstrate a sound history of fiscal responsibility, and develop appropriate and achievable funding plans, prior to approval being granted for large capital improvement projects.
  - Facilities are located and designed so as to strengthen the sport and the existing group's membership / participant base.
7. Clubs undertaking minor maintenance works must comply with relevant building codes and regulations.
8. Prior to commencement of any significant capital improvement project, user groups shall require written approval from all other regular user groups at their respective recreation reserve, and from Council.
9. Floodlights will be approved (subject to Town Planning approval) where an increase in sports participation is likely to result and/or to minimise risk of injury through a club's capacity to better manage the utilisation of all areas of a playing field.

#### **7.2.4. Delineation of Responsibilities for Funding Capital Works**

The tables on the following pages identify infrastructure items and the group(s) with the whole or partial responsibility for the initial provision of facilities, and for their subsequent development and improvement. The capacity of Mitchell Shire Council to deliver its responsibilities will be dependent upon annual budget commitments.

As such, Council will place a priority on meeting its obligations to provide the 'core' sporting infrastructure to enable a sporting group to function or operate. Generally, these obligations are listed in the table in the column, "Council". Council will generally commit to 'core' facilities before assisting with "Shared" or "User Group" responsibilities.

For infrastructure where Council has no whole or partial responsibility for its provision or funding, Council may support an application by a sporting group to an external funding source, such as the *Community Facilities Funding Program*<sup>27</sup>, in instances where there will either be community benefit, where the provision of the infrastructure is supported by an endorsed plan or strategy, or where the applicant group has been able to raise a significant proportion of the required funds for the infrastructure item.

Notwithstanding the above, Council reserves its right under exceptional circumstances to fund projects beyond the shared responsibilities in instances where the need can be justified but might be beyond the means of the tenant group, e.g. the need for additional floodlights to support training requirements for a rapidly expanding club, or to fund the conversion of an unsustainable sports surface to a more sustainable option.

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<sup>27</sup> A funding program of the Department of Planning and Community Development (Vic).

## Development, Improvement and Replacement Responsibilities

Infrastructure Component	Responsibility		
	Council (100% of costs)	User Group (100% of costs)	Shared
<b>Pavilion and Surrounds</b> (Refer Facility Standards in Appendix 5)			
Player change rooms, toilets, showers	✓ Basic provision		✓ Extensions
Social Rooms and Bars	✓ Space allowed for in the design and the building footprint	✓ Construction, extensions and fit-out	✓ Extensions (Council may contribute where general community use is a specific outcome)
Canteen	✓ Basic provision	✓ Equipment / extensions	
Meeting Room	✓ Basic provision	✓ Fit-out / extensions	✓ Extensions (Council may contribute where general community use is a specific outcome)
Office	✓ Space allowed for in the design and the building footprint	✓ Construction, extensions and fit-out	
Umpires/Referees change room (provision for males/females)	✓ Basic provision	✓ Extensions	
Player Shelters		✓ Supply and installation	
Storage	✓ Basic provision	✓ Extensions	
Time Keeping/Scorers Area	✓ Basic provision	✓ Extensions	
Spectator Areas	✓ As part of pavilion verandahs In Regional facilities covered seating		✓ Other shade and shelters (Sports group 25%)
Public Toilets	✓		
Reserve Fencing	✓ Regional facilities, where required	✓ For existing reserves where a tenant club can justify, subject to Council approval	✓ In circumstances where personal safety is a consideration, e.g. roads, water bodies (Council 100%)
Scoreboard		✓ Supply and installation	
Off-street car parking	✓ For District and Regional only		✓ Beyond basic provision, where approved by Council e.g. sealing (Sports group 25%)

Infrastructure Component	Responsibility		
	Council (100% of costs)	User Group (100% of costs)	Shared
<b>Playing Area</b>			
Sports ovals and rectangular fields (includes irrigation and drainage infrastructure)	✓	✓ Improvements to surface and sub-surface infrastructure beyond hierarchy level	
Goal posts	✓ at new ovals / fields	✓ renewal / replacement	
Outdoor netball courts (as part of new football netball club sites)	✓ District: First court	✓ Additional courts beyond 2	✓ 2nd court (Club minimum 50%)
Tennis courts	✓ District: First 4 courts Regional: First 6 courts	✓ District: all courts beyond 6 Regional: all courts beyond 10	✓ District: courts 5 & 6 Regional: courts 7 – 10 (Club minimum 50%)
Centre cricket pitch	✓ Installation of concrete slab and synthetic surfaces at new reserves  Renewal of concrete slabs	✓ Replacement and maintenance of synthetic surface  Turf wicket installation and maintenance	
Cricket practice nets	✓ First 2 practice wickets at new reserves, including concrete slab, synthetic surfaces and netting  Renewal of concrete slabs	✓ Additional practice wickets  Replacement and maintenance of synthetic surface  Turf wicket installation	
Athletic Tracks (grass)		✓ Line-marking	
Athletic Field Event Facilities		✓ Replacement and maintenance	✓ Initial installation (Club minimum 25%)
Lawn Bowls Green	✓ First green and 6 shelters	✓ Additional greens beyond 2	✓ 2nd green (Club minimum 25%)

Infrastructure Component	Responsibility		
	Council (100% of costs)	User Group (100% of costs)	Shared
Flood lighting All Floodlighting to comply to Australian Standard 2560 Series	<b>For District level facilities, all upgrades for floodlighting from training standard to competition standard will be 100% responsibility for sports groups to fund</b>		
	<u>Athletics</u>  Football Main oval at new reserves, floodlights to training standard	<u>Athletics</u> Training and competition standard  <u>Football</u> Additional ovals for training standard  <u>Baseball</u> Main field to competition standard  Additional fields to training and/or competition standard  <u>Lawn Bowls</u> 1 <sup>st</sup> green to pennant competition standard (Club 100%) 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> greens to training or competition standard	Shared  <u>Football</u> Upgrades to existing floodlights and 2 <sup>nd</sup> oval at new reserves to training standard (Club minimum 15%)  <u>Baseball / Softball</u> Main field to training standard (Club minimum 15%)  <u>Lawn Bowls</u> 1 <sup>st</sup> green to training (social competition) standard (Club minimum 30%)
	<u>Netball</u> 1 <sup>st</sup> court at new reserves, floodlights to training standard	<u>Netball</u> 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> courts to competition standard	<u>Netball</u> Upgrades to existing floodlights and 2 <sup>nd</sup> court at new reserves to training standard (Club minimum 15%)
	<u>Soccer</u> Main field at new reserves, floodlights to training standard	<u>Soccer</u> Main field to competition standard  3 <sup>rd</sup> field to training standard (Club 100%)	<u>Soccer</u> 2 <sup>nd</sup> field at new reserves to training standard (Club minimum 15%)
	<u>Tennis</u> District: First 2 courts at new reserves to competition standard  Regional: First 4 courts to competition standard	<u>Tennis</u> District: Additional courts beyond 4 to competition standard  Regional: Additional courts beyond 6 to competition standard	<u>Tennis</u> District: Courts 3 & 4 to competition standard (Club minimum 15%)  Regional: Courts 5 & 6 to competition standard (Club minimum 50%)

It is recommended:

4. That the Principles of the Capital Works Contribution Framework be endorsed.
5. That the guidelines for delineating between the responsibilities of Council and sporting groups for funding the development, improvement and replacement of sporting infrastructure be adopted and used to inform the funding for new/upgraded sports facilities.

### 7.3. Reserve Development Framework

Mitchell Shire will be required to construct several new active sporting reserves in the next 15 – 20 years to accommodate the projected population increase, particularly in the Wallan and greater Beveridge areas. There are numerous examples of well-planned and good functioning active reserves available today, as a result of the extensive research and planning that has occurred in the past 10 – 15 years in Melbourne's growth corridors.

In addition, the Growth Areas Authority has prepared some helpful planning principles and guidelines to inform sports facility planning, including active recreation reserves. One their reports, *Precinct Structure Planning Guidelines (2009)*, identifies the following standards that should be met when planning for active open spaces – they should be:

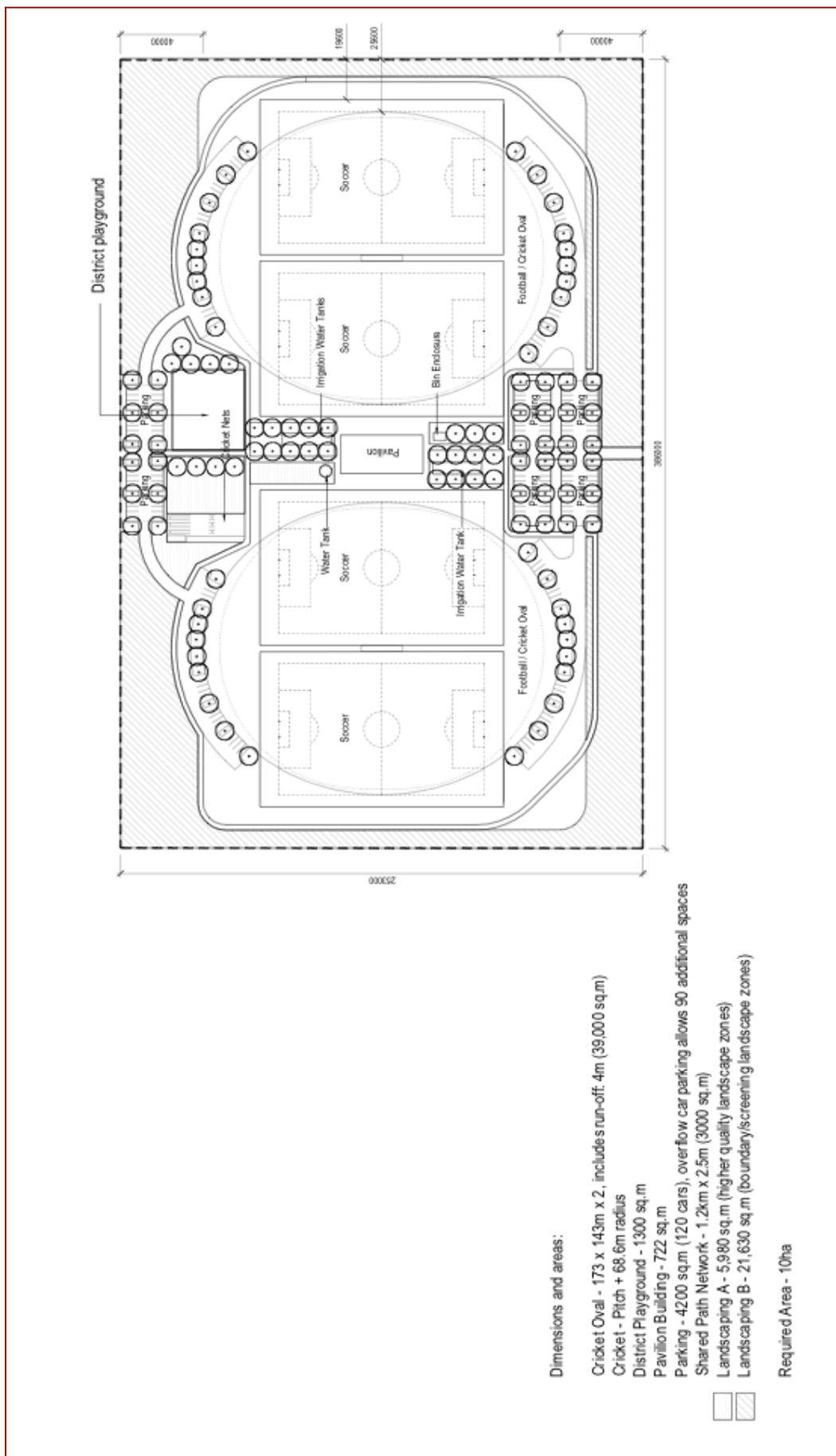
1. of an appropriate size, i.e. sufficient to incorporate two football / cricket ovals, but small enough to enable regular spacing of active open space provision across the precinct. This configuration would generally require at least 8ha,
2. appropriate for its intended open space use in terms of quality and orientation,
3. located on flat land (which can be cost effectively graded),
4. located with access to, or making provision for a recycled or other sustainable water supply,
5. designed to achieve sharing of space between sports, and
6. linked to pedestrian and cycle paths.

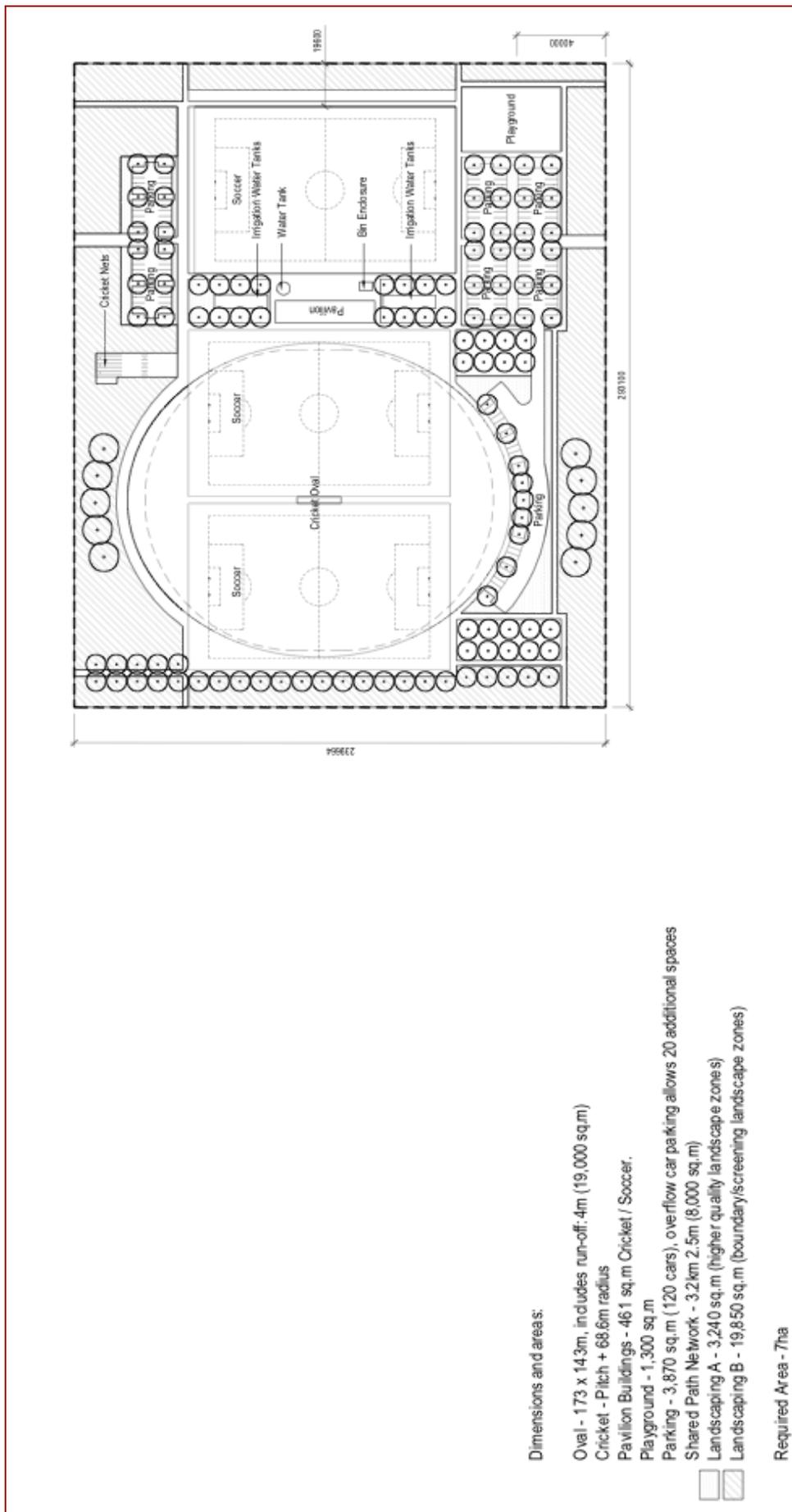
Specifically, some key design elements of a well planned and well laid out recreation reserve, include:

- There should be no more than two reserve boundaries directly abutting back fences of houses, and those sides that are open should have houses or other buildings overlooking them to enhance passive surveillance.
- There should be no, or limited, reserve perimeter fencing to maximise the permeability of the reserve and to enhance the overall quality of the open space.
- There should be a minimum of 25m between the boundary of a sportsground and the boundary of the reserve.
- There should be an area set aside from the sporting hub of the reserve that provides a quality family recreation area (BBQ, picnic shelter, playground and picnic table).
- There should be good linkages between the reserve and the surrounding neighbourhood, and an integrated path network within the reserve that not only links the sub-precincts within the reserve, but also provides a recreational opportunity (walking/jogging/cycling) to encourage local residents to get active.
- There should be good provision for car parking to service the pavilion and other visitor destinations within the reserve.
- There should be well landscaped / vegetated open space areas to provide interest and visual amenity, and car parks should be supported with shade plants.
- There should be good integration between facilities, and the opportunities to co-locate and share infrastructure between users should be maximised, such as car parking and overlays of off-season sports fields.

On the following pages are sample layout plans for two different active reserves:

1. Two ovals and/or four soccer fields (10ha).
2. Three soccer fields, with a one oval overlay (7ha).





## **7.4. Fees and Charges**

### **7.4.1. Background**

Some sportsgrounds have been directly managed by Council for some time, such as Chittick Oval and Bennett Oval in Seymour, however a majority of reserves are managed by community committees responsible for maintaining the sportsgrounds, reserve surrounds, and the pavilions.

In the past 12 months, Council has taken over the responsibility for the maintenance of some sportsgrounds at recreation reserves where there are reserve committees still in place and which had previously maintained the grounds and buildings. Council commenced this practice partially as a result of the inability of some reserve committees to maintain grounds to an acceptable standard, and partially due to the increased usage of some grounds creating an unsustainable burden on the human and financial resources of reserve committees.

Mitchell South continues to expand rapidly and is attracting families who have grown up in Melbourne. As a result, many have high expectations for the standard and quality of sporting facilities nor have they previously been in situations where local community members are responsible for directly managing and maintaining sportsgrounds. As Mitchell South continues to urbanise, it will become increasingly more difficult for reserve committees to remain viable and to therefore fulfil all duties and responsibilities historically carried out by them.

It is timely therefore, that Council considers introducing a formal policy to levy fees and charges at those recreation reserves where it has assumed the responsibility for maintaining the sportsgrounds. The policy will be able to be rolled out across existing reserves, as required, and be introduced into new reserves developed in Mitchell South and for which Council is likely to be the management authority from the time they are commissioned for use.

(It is important to note that at recreation reserves managed by a committee of management, that the responsibility for maintaining the area outside of the fenced sportsground will continue to be the responsibility of the respective reserve committees, and that an annual operating grant will continue to be allocated for this purpose).

### **7.4.2. Fees and Charges Principles**

Pricing policies for sportsgrounds and pavilions should be underpinned by a clearly defined set of principles. It is proposed that the following principles underpin a sportsground fees and charges policy for the Mitchell Shire Council:

- a. Council should manage and control all costs associated with the maintenance and renovation of sportsgrounds and pavilions for which it is responsible.
- b. Council should manage and control the setting and collection of fees and charges, and they should be reviewed annually via Council's budget process.
- c. All users groups on Council-owned or Council-managed sportsgrounds that have been transferred back to Council to maintain, should be levied appropriate fees and charges.
- d. Any fees and charges system should endeavour to recover a percentage of sportsground and pavilion maintenance costs.
- e. Sportsgrounds have a residual benefit to the community as open space, and as a consequence, the cost of providing the resource should be shared between sports clubs and ratepayers where the general public have access to the facility.
- f. Council should provide reduced fees and charges for sportsground use by schools, junior clubs and sports clubs with junior teams.
- g. Costs to be recovered through the proposed pricing policy should include direct sportsground maintenance costs and ground renovation costs.

- h. The cost of capital works to upgrade playing fields and pavilions should not be taken into consideration in determining sportsground fees and charges.
- i. Seasonal fees and charges levied for use of a sportsground and pavilion should be shared proportionately between tenants, if more than one seasonal user group shares a ground.
- j. User groups using better standard sportsgrounds and pavilions should pay more than groups using basic standard grounds and facilities.
- k. Seasonal fees and charges should be consistent for the same grade and quality of sportsgrounds and pavilions across the Shire.
- l. Commercial organisations, semi-commercial clubs, or user groups generating revenue from Council-owned or Council-managed sportsgrounds and pavilions should be required to pay a negotiated rate for use of their facilities.

The principles outlined above should be used to underpin any future sportsground fees and charges policy for Mitchell Shire Council.

### **7.4.3. Options and Scenarios**

There are a number of fees and charges models or formulas being used by local government, with most incorporating a fee for use of the sportsground and a fee for the use of the associated pavilion. Some of the different models include:

- A levy based on the number of teams or players that a club has.
- A levy based on a flat rate according to the classification of a sportsground and a pavilion (the classification typically reflecting the quality of the infrastructure).
- A levy designed to recover a percentage of the maintenance costs to Council.
- A levy based on an historical fee, which is simply increased by CPI, or similar, each year.

The most common model adopted by Melbourne councils is a fee designed to recover a percentage of the maintenance costs. This method is considered to be the most equitable as the fee is directly aligned with the level of service provided at a reserve. In addition, councils have become more sophisticated in their capability to track operating costs by business units, so the base information required to determine a fee is now relatively easily obtained, particularly by those councils that have engaged contractors to carry out maintenance tasks.

### **7.4.4. Proposed Fees and Charges Framework**

It is proposed that Mitchell Shire Council adopt a fees and charges policy based on recovering variable costs and a proportion of fixed costs. Variable costs comprise labour costs associated with maintenance of sportsgrounds and pavilions. A portion of fixed costs associated with maintaining sportsgrounds, such as plant hire, renovation costs, and materials should also be recovered through the fees and charges policy.

Formulating the fees and charges policy should also address practical issues, including the following:

- Recording of maintenance costs.
- Determining the hierarchy of sportsgrounds.
- Determining appropriate concessions to encourage the development of junior sport, women's sport, or other targeted sectors of the community.
- Isolating pavilion and sportsground fees.
- Determining a fee structure to provide appropriate financial returns to Council.
- Impact of the fees and charges policy on sporting clubs.

It is suggested that Council set a target for the cost recovery of sportsground maintenance charges of between 10% - 20%.

In addition, Council should factor in a levy for pavilion usage, based on the insured value of the asset. Again, this method is considered the most equitable for levying a charge as the higher the value of the asset, presumably the better the quality of the facility, so it should incur a higher fee.

It is suggested that a fee be calculated that is between 0.5 - 0.75% of the insured value of the pavilion.

Set fees should be set for the following categories of use:

1. Casual hire, per half-day (not-for-profit group)	\$To Be Determined (TBD)
2. Casual hire, per day (not-for-profit group)	\$TBD
3. Casual hire, per half-day (for-profit group)	\$TBD
4. Casual hire, per day (for-profit group)	\$TBD
5. Schools, per half-day	\$TBD
6. Schools, per day	\$TBD
7. Schools requiring regular use	fee negotiated

The following schedule of concessions is proposed to further encourage participation in sport:

- Junior teams affiliated with a senior club                      20% off the calculated fee
- Junior teams not affiliated with senior club                      30% off the calculated fee

**It is recommended:**

6. That Council endorse the Principles to underpin a Fees and Charges Policy, as listed in Section 7.4.2
7. That Council introduce a sportsground fee based on recovering a proportion of the variable costs and of the fixed costs for maintenance.
8. That Council set a target for sportsground maintenance cost recovery of between 10% - 20%.
9. That Council introduce a pavilion fee based on the insurance value of pavilions, as a means to offset the cost to maintain pavilions.
10. That Council set a levy for a pavilion fee of between 0.5 - 0.75% of the insured value of the pavilions.
11. That Council endorse a range of set fees for casual hire and schools use of sportsgrounds and pavilions (fees to be determined).
12. That Council endorse the discount rate for junior teams, as a strategy to encourage broad participation.

## 7.5. Turf Wicket vs Synthetic Cricket Wickets

There are two issues in relation to the surface type for centre cricket wickets:

1. What surface type should cricket wickets have that are being installed onto the new ovals proposed for Mitchell South?
2. What future financial arrangements should be in place for the installation and maintenance of turf wickets?

This section provides an overview and recommendation concerning each issue.

### 7.5.1. Cricket Wicket Surface for New Ovals

Mitchell Shire currently has 11 cricket ovals, with five containing a synthetic centre wicket and six containing a turf centre wicket. Across Victoria, a significant majority of all formal and informal junior cricket participation is conducted on synthetic wickets. Synthetic cricket wickets are widely regarded as the preferred surface for young players (16 years and under) to train and compete on due to the consistent bounce and speed of the wickets. These attributes are more conducive to skill acquisition and the development of confidence in batsmen.

The population projections for Mitchell Shire as described and analysed in Sections 2.2. – 2.4 clearly show that there will be a high proportion of young children moving into the Shire during the next 15 – 20 years. This factor has been significant in predicting the need for up to nine new cricket ovals for Mitchell South through to 2026. It is important that all of these ovals are constructed initially with synthetic centre wickets (and not turf wickets) in order to maximise the availability of cricket ovals for junior participation.

Turf wickets by their very nature offer only a limited opportunity for use outside of the once per week competition requirement. This is largely due to the extended period of time required to prepare a turf wicket for match play. Notwithstanding this, variable weather conditions can also significantly impact the availability of turf wicket ovals for play.

This direction acknowledges that the initial use of new ovals as cricket ovals is likely to be for junior cricket, and will continue until such time as the tenant club (or a neighbouring junior club) 'matures' and develops to also offer a senior section.

Similarly, the projections for Mitchell South are indicating that there will likely be a higher proportion of people from diverse backgrounds that will choose to settle in Mitchell Shire. It is predicted that a high number of people from Indian and Sri Lankan descent will settle in the Wallan and greater Beveridge areas. These communities have a long history of interest and participation in cricket, and are often seen around Melbourne in small groups playing informal games of cricket between themselves. These social matches rely on the availability of synthetic wickets to be played.

As Mitchell Shire has a rich provision of turf wicket grounds in both the northern and southern areas of the Shire, the opportunity for senior players to participate on turf would still be readily available even if the significant majority of proposed new cricket ovals were constructed with synthetic wickets. As the population matures in time, and should the need for an additional 1 – 2 turf wicket ovals emerge, it will be a relatively simple and straightforward process to convert a synthetic wicket oval to a turf wicket oval.

**It is recommended:**

13. That Council construct all proposed new ovals in Mitchell South to initially comprise a synthetic wicket.

## 7.5.2. Turf Wicket Maintenance Responsibilities

Currently in Mitchell Shire, it is the responsibility of the respective cricket clubs with turf wickets to maintain them. Whilst most clubs have a club member(s) undertake the works, the opportunity is also there for a club to pay a professional curator to provide maintenance services.

These arrangements are recommended to continue due to the high cost that would be incurred by Council from either directly employing a turf curator or sub-contracting the turf wicket maintenance services (estimated at more than \$15,000 per annum per cricket pitch to maintain). It would most likely be more expensive in Mitchell Shire as the potential to create any meaningful economies of scale by having several turf wickets in close proximity that can then be easily visited to undertake work, is remote.

Further, it could be argued that while the provision of 'core' or basic sports facilities was seen as a Council responsibility, those facilities over and above the 'core' facility requirement and which exclusively benefits a single user group, and not the broader community, should be funded by that user group. Where some metropolitan councils choose to fund turf wicket maintenance, a higher percentage of cost recovery by way of fees and charges is the norm. Other reasons for maintaining the current arrangements include:

- There could in fact be a better standard of turf wicket presentation.
- Fair and equitable distribution of costs and resources to ensure other sporting codes and the broader community are provided with an appropriate and equitable level of service and resources from Council.
- Empowering communities by facilitating community involvement in the management, operation and quality of sporting facilities.
- Cost recovery, with councils moving towards a cost neutral basis, where appropriate.
- User satisfaction with cricket clubs achieving a greater level of satisfaction by preparing turf wickets to their desired standards.
- Community benefit, with cost savings redirected to other sporting infrastructure projects.

During the consultation with cricket stakeholders undertaken as part of this planning study, there was no evidence of turf clubs not being able to cope with the task of having to prepare centre wickets.

It is recommended:

14. That Council not alter the current arrangements in place for the provision and maintenance of turf wickets, with the responsibility for turf wicket installation and maintenance continuing to be wholly funded by respective turf cricket clubs.

## 8. SPORTS DEVELOPMENT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

The table on the following pages is the Implementation Plan for the Mitchell Shire Sports Development Plan, and includes a list of all identified capital improvement projects emanating from the project and associated strategic directions. The table incorporates the following information:

- An inventory of existing facilities, then by specific reserve or facility.
- The ownership and management arrangements for all reserves / facilities.
- A listing of all capital improvement projects by sport and planning area, and by reserve / facility.
- A proposed prioritisation for the implementation of all projects, where:
  - S = Short Term (1 – 7 years).
  - M = Medium Term (8 – 12 years).
  - L = Long Term (13+ years).

*Note, the timeframe for implementing projects that either wholly or partly relies on Council funds will be dependent upon Council's budget considerations and capital works program.*

The planning precincts used throughout this report and which are incorporated in the Implementation Plan are Mitchell North and Mitchell South. Mitchell North generally includes the area of the Shire that is north of Broadford, whilst Mitchell South includes the area south and including Broadford (see Appendix 1 for a map showing the specific alignment of the boundary dividing north from south).

### Important Notes:

1. *The identification of a project within the Sports Development Plan does not commit any organisation to a responsibility for funding allocated projects, including Mitchell Shire Council, which has to balance its limited resources with other commitments and projects.*
2. *User groups and reserve committees are expected to continue to generate the majority of funding for new and upgrade facilities at their respective reserves / facilities.*
3. *Commitment to and allocation of funds to particular projects will be determined following an assessment of the capacity of an organisation to contribute funds.*
4. *Many of the new and upgraded facility projects identified for existing sporting facilities will require specialist contractors to undertake a more detailed investigation and scoping of works to enable a more accurate quantum of costs to be provided.*
5. *Costs are based on all works being carried out by professional contractors.*
6. *An allowance of 10% for design and documentation of all projects has been made.*

### Legend:

- MSC = Mitchell Shire Council
- User Group(s) = Regular tenant group(s) that will benefit from the project
- CoM = Reserve Committee
- WBI = Wallan Basketball Incorporated
- WDNA = Wallan District Netball Association
- WJNC = Wallan Junior Netball Club
- BG = Birralee Gymnastics

Sport / Location	Mitchell North	Mitchell South	Project	Project Description / Specification	Who	Priority	Estimated Costs
	Town	Town					
<b>Australian Rules Football</b>							
Kings Park No. 1 Oval	Seymour		Upgrade floodlighting to competition standard	- New poles, cabling and lights (300 lux required)	User Group	L	\$350,000
	Seymour		Upgrade the player amenities and the kitchen in the main pavilion	- Allowance only provided (actual cost to be determined after design development)	User Groups	S	\$150,000
Chittick Oval	Seymour		Add two player change rooms, a timekeepers' box, canteen and storage to the cricket social rooms	- Allowance only provided (actual cost to be determined after design development)	MSC User Groups	S	\$375,000
	Seymour		Redevelop floodlighting to training standard	- 2 poles, cabling and lights (50 - 100 lux required)	MSC	S	\$160,000
	Seymour		Install two coaches'/interchange shelters and some spectator shelter	- Allowance of \$20,000 for spectator shelter (actual cost to be determined after design development)	MSC	S	\$30,000
Harley Hammond Reserve Oval		Broadford	Reconstruct the oval playing surface	- Includes sub-surface irrigation and drainage	MSC	M	\$300,000
		Broadford	Upgrade (or rebuild) the pavilion	- Allowance Includes upgrade only of the kitchen and bar areas, and change rooms	MSC CoM	L	\$250,000
Greenhill Reserve No. 2 Oval		Wallan	Improve the connection between the oval and the pavilion	- Allowance includes installation of ramps and steps, as required, and associated landscape works	MSC	S	\$60,000
Broadford Secondary College / Leisure Centre precinct		Broadford	Undertake a planning study to investigate the viability of constructing a new multi-use oval as part of a proposed new sports hub within the Secondary College / Leisure Centre precinct	- Study to include a viability analysis and master plan for a new integrated sporting complex (soccer, football, cricket, baseball, leisure centre), and preparation of indicative costings	MSC	S	\$20,000
		Broadford	Pending the outcome of the above planning study, develop a new sports oval suitable for shared use by football, baseball and cricket	- Includes formation of new oval, installation of basic sub-surface irrigation and drainage systems, floodlighting, a synthetic cricket pitch, and provision of a basic pavilion (or extension of leisure centre to provide change amenities)	MSC	M	\$1,100,000
Unnamed Reserve A		Kilmore	Construct new oval in Kilmore (site to be determined)	- Includes formation of oval, sub-surface irrigation and drainage, floodlighting, installation of a synthetic cricket pitch and a pavilion and associated infrastructure	MSC	M	\$1,650,000
Unnamed Reserve B		Wallan	Construct new District level reserve (site to be determined)	- Includes two ovals, synthetic cricket pitches, sub-surface irrigation and drainage, and floodlighting (\$800,000), a pavilion (\$1.5M) and associated infrastructure, including car parking (\$300,000) and allowance for two netball courts	MSC	M	\$2,600,000
Unnamed Reserve C		Beveridge	Construct new District level reserve (site to be determined)	- Includes two ovals, synthetic cricket pitches, sub-surface irrigation and drainage, and floodlighting (\$800,000), a pavilion (\$1.5M) and associated infrastructure, including car parking (\$300,000) and allowance for two netball courts	MSC	L	\$2,600,000
Unnamed Reserve D		Beveridge	Construct new District level reserve (site to be determined)	- Includes two ovals, synthetic cricket pitches, sub-surface irrigation and drainage, and floodlighting (\$800,000), a pavilion (\$1.5M) and associated infrastructure, including car parking (\$300,000) and allowance for two netball courts	MSC	L	\$2,600,000
			Consultant Fees (design, documentation, administration)	@ 10% of project cost			\$1,224,500
			<i>Sub Total</i>				<b>\$13,469,500</b>

Sport / Location	Mitchell North	Mitchell South	Project	Project Description / Specification	Who	Priority	Estimated Costs
	Town	Town					
<b>Athletics</b>							
Kings Park No. 1 Oval	Seymour		Provide a clubroom / meeting area for the Seymour Little Athletics Centre	- Allowance for an extension to an existing building to allow for a meeting room (club area), canteen, internal toilets and store	MSC User Group	M	\$175,000
JJ Clancy Reserve		Kilmore	Construct a long/triple jump landing pit and run-up		User Group	S	\$6,000
Unnamed Reserve A		Kilmore	Develop a new seasonal grass track venue in Kilmore	- Refer specs in Australian Rules Football section - Relocate little athletics off JJ Clancy Reserve to this new oval	MSC	M	Already costed
		Kilmore	Construct new field event areas	- Allows for four jumping pits and run-ups, two shot put areas, and one discus circle and cage	MSC User Group	M	\$25,000
Unnamed Reserve C		Beveridge	Develop a new seasonal grass track venue in Beveridge	- Refer specs in Australian Rules Football section	MSC	L	Already costed
		Beveridge	Construct new field event areas	- Allows for four jumping pits and run-ups, two shot put areas, and one discus circle and cage	MSC User Group	L	\$25,000
			Consultant Fees (design, documentation, administration)	@ 10% of project cost			\$23,100
			<i>Sub Total</i>				<b>\$254,100</b>
<b>Basketball</b>							
Broadford Leisure Centre		Broadford	Upgrade the quality of the centre	- Allowance provides for upgrade of the stadium area, foyer and change rooms	MSC	M	\$75,000
RB Robson Stadium		Wallan	Upgrade and refurbish the stadium, in accordance with the Feasibility Report (2009)	- Refurbish entry foyer, change rooms and other spaces	MSC	S	\$3,000,000
LB Davern Reserve		Wandong	Develop a new indoor stadium (single court) (in progress)		MSC	In Progress	-
Unnamed Site E		Wallan/ Beveridge	Develop a new four-court indoor sports stadium predominantly to accommodate basketball & netball	- Allows for four court stadium, foyer, associated amenities, and car park	MSC WBI WDNA WJMC	L	\$6,500,000
RB Robson Stadium		Wallan	Modify the stadium to accommodate 'minor' indoor sports of volleyball, futsal, badminton and table tennis	- Allows for court reconfiguration, line-marking, lighting and new equipment	MSC CoM User Groups	L	\$150,000
		Wallan	Convert the 3rd court into a dedicated gymnastics facility (Birralee Gymnastics)	- Allows for infrastructure modifications	BG	L	\$100,000
			Consultant Fees (design, documentation, administration)	@ 10% of project cost			\$982,500
			<i>Sub Total</i>				<b>\$10,807,500</b>

Sport / Location	Mitchell North	Mitchell South	Project	Project Description / Specification	Who	Priority	Estimated Costs
	Town	Town					
<b>Cricket</b>							
Bennett Oval	Seymour		Install a concrete-based synthetic wicket (pending rationalisation of Seymour cricket clubs)	- Supply and installation of a concrete slab and synthetic surface	MSC User Groups	M	\$15,000
Harley Hammond Reserve Oval		Broadford	Reconstruct the oval playing surface	- Refer specs in Australian Rules Football section	MSC	M	Already costed
Greenhill Reserve No. 2 Oval		Wallan	Improve the connection between the oval and the pavilion	- Refer specs in Australian Rules Football section	MSC	S	Already costed
Broadford Secondary College / Leisure Centre precinct		Broadford	Pending the outcome of a precinct master planning study, develop a new sports oval suitable for shared use by football, baseball and cricket	- Refer specs in Australian Rules Football section	MSC	M	Already costed
Unnamed Reserve A		Kilmore	Construct new oval in Kilmore (site to be determined)	- Refer specs in Australian Rules Football section	MSC	M	Already costed
Unnamed Reserve B		Wallan	Construct new District level reserve (site to be determined)	- Refer specs in Australian Rules Football section	MSC	M	Already costed
Unnamed Reserve C		Beveridge	Construct new District level reserve (site to be determined)	- Refer specs in Australian Rules Football section	MSC	L	Already costed
Unnamed Reserve D		Beveridge	Construct new District level reserve (site to be determined)	- Refer specs in Australian Rules Football section	MSC	L	Already costed
			Consultant Fees (design, documentation, administration)	@ 10% of project cost			\$1,500
			<i>Sub Total</i>				<b>\$15,000</b>

Sport / Location	Mitchell North	Mitchell South	Project	Project Description / Specification	Who	Priority	Estimated Costs
	Town	Town					
<b>Equestrian</b>							
All eligible Equestrian facilities	Shire-Wide		Rolling capital works program over 2 years to address safety issues at equestrian facilities	- Provide \$25,000 per annum for two years available with matching funding for small projects at equestrian facilities to address safety issues	MSC User Groups	S	\$50,000
Seymour Equestrian Centre	Seymour		Construct a new sand arena (60m x 20m)	- Excavate area, install drainage and supply sand	User Group	M	\$60,000
	Seymour		Construct a new show jumping arena (70m x 70m)	- Excavate area, install drainage and supply sand	User Group	L	\$120,000
Kings Park (Lone Tree Hill Cutting Club facility)	Seymour		Double the size of the cattle holding pens		User Group	M	\$35,000
	Seymour		Provide secure storage onsite	- Allows for an extension of the Riding for the Disabled building	User Group	M	\$20,000
Kings Park (Riding for the Disabled facility)	Seymour		Install a shelter over the riders' platform	- Allows for a wooden and metal roof shelter	User Group	M	\$15,000
Pyalong Recreation Reserve (Pyalong Riding Club facility)	Pyalong		Install a unisex toilet (site to be determined)		User Group	L	\$120,000
The Common (Broadford Riders Club & Pony Club)		Broadford	Install a unisex toilet (site to be determined)		User Group	L	\$120,000
Kilmore Racecourse (Kilmore & District Pony Club)		Kilmore	Construct a new sand arena (60m x 30m)	- Excavate area, install drainage and supply sand	User Group	M	\$70,000
Beveridge Recreation Reserve (Beveridge & District Pony Club)		Beveridge	Extend the sand arena, pending available land	- Excavate area and supply sand	User Group	S	\$30,000
LB Davern Reserve (Kilmore & District ARC and the Standardbred Riding Group)		Wandong	Extend the float car parking area	- Allows for 1,000sqm of unsealed car park	User Group	L	\$30,000
		Wandong	Provide secure storage onsite	- Allows for a colourbond shed on slab	User Group	M	\$20,000
N/A			Undertake a planning study to investigate the feasibility of establishing a new Regional equestrian centre within Mitchell Shire	- Study to include a demand analysis, operational feasibility, assessment of infrastructure requirements and site options, and preparation of concept layout plan and indicative costings	MSC	M	\$40,000
			Consultant Fees (design, documentation, administration)	@ 10% of project cost			\$73,000
			<i>Sub Total</i>				<b>\$803,000</b>

Sport / Location	Mitchell North	Mitchell South	Project	Project Description / Specification	Who	Priority	Estimated Costs
	Town	Town					
<b>Lawn Bowls</b>							
Seymour Bowling Club	Seymour		New clubroom building	- Scale and scope of building as per club's submission	User Group	S	\$950,000
Hudson Park (Kilmore Bowling Club)		Kilmore	Extend and upgrade the clubroom	- Scale and scope of upgrades, as outlined in the DPCD 2012/13 submission	MSC User Group	S	\$360,000
Wallan Bowling Club		Wallan	Convert one turf green to synthetic		User Group	M	\$150,000
		Wallan	Install floodlights to one green		User Group	L	\$60,000
Unnamed Reserve A		Kilmore	Develop a new two-green lawn bowling facility in Kilmore	- Includes two turf greens (\$250,000), a clubhouse (\$950,000) and associated infrastructure, including car parking (\$200,000)	User Group	L	\$1,400,000
Hudson Park (Kilmore Bowling Club)		Kilmore	Return the site back to parkland (pending relocation of the Kilmore Bowling Club to a new site/facility)	- Demolish clubhouse and green (\$25,000) - Return the site to parkland (allow \$100,000 for park works)	MSC	L	\$125,000
			Consultant Fees (design, documentation, administration)	@ 10% of project cost			\$304,500
			<i>Sub Total</i>				<b>\$3,349,500</b>

Sport / Location	Mitchell North	Mitchell South	Project	Project Description / Specification	Who	Priority	Estimated Costs
	Town	Town					
<b>Outdoor Netball</b>							
Kings Park	Seymour		Install a second netball court adjacent to the existing court	- New plexipave court and floodlighting (100 lux) (\$85,000) - New shelter (\$15,000)	CoM User Group	M	\$100,000
Seymour Sports & Aquatic Centre	Seymour		Decommission the outdoor courts		MSC	S	\$0
Seymour Tennis Complex	Seymour		Convert five of the existing hardcourt tennis courts into four dual use plexipave netball-tennis courts	- Re-surface five tennis courts in plexipave and dual line-mark to create four netball-tennis courts (\$100,000) - Install floodlighting (350 lux) on two courts (\$90,000)	MSC User Groups	S	\$190,000
Tallarook Swimming Pool Reserve	Tallarook		Re-surface the western court	- Re-surface in asphalt and line-mark as a netball-tennis court	MSC	M	\$20,000
Tooborac Recreation Reserve	Tooborac		Re-surface the courts and consider expanding the court area footprint to accommodate a netball court overlay onto the surface	- Expand the court footprint (\$35,000) - Re-surface the courts in plexipave and dual line-mark to two tennis courts and netball court east-west (\$50,000) - Install new court perimeter fencing, as required (\$15,000)	CoM User Groups	M	\$100,000
Harley Hammond Reserve Oval		Broadford	Reconstruct the two courts between the netball clubhouse and the tennis club as dual use netball-tennis courts	- Reconstruct as two new netball-tennis courts compliant with court dimension standards for netball (will require some excavation into the western bank) - New fencing along western side - Dual line-mark for netball-tennis courts	CoM User Groups	S	\$80,000
JJ Clancy Reserve		Kilmore	Decommission the former club courts and redevelop space for recreational uses	- Demolish courts and associated infrastructure (\$15,000) - Allow \$30,000 to reinstate as parkland with some park furniture	CoM	M	\$45,000
LB Davern Reserve		Wandong	Relocate the two southern netball-tennis courts	- Construct plexipave courts and dual line-mark to netball-tennis courts (\$100,000) - Install floodlighting (350 lux) on both courts (\$120,000)	CoM User Groups	S	\$100,000
LB Davern Reserve		Wandong	Install floodlighting (350 lux) on new courts		CoM User Groups	L	\$120,000
Unnamed Reserve B		Wallan	Construct new District level reserve (site to be determined), inclusive of footprint for two netball courts	- Refer specs in Australian Rules Football section	MSC	M	Already costed
Unnamed Reserve C		Beveridge	Construct new District level reserve (site to be determined), inclusive of footprint for two netball courts	- Refer specs in Australian Rules Football section	MSC	L	Already costed
Unnamed Reserve D		Beveridge	Construct new District level reserve (site to be determined), inclusive of footprint for two netball courts	- Refer specs in Australian Rules Football section	MSC	L	Already costed
Unnamed Site E		Wallan/ Beveridge	Develop a new four-court indoor sports stadium predominantly to accommodate basketball & netball	- Refer specs in Basketball section	MSC WBI WDNA WJNC	L	Already costed
			Consultant Fees (design, documentation, administration)	@ 10% of project cost			\$75,500

Sport / Location	Mitchell North	Mitchell South	Project	Project Description / Specification	Who	Priority	Estimated Costs
	Town	Town					
<b>Soccer</b>							
Broadford Secondary College		Broadford	Provide change room on the school site	- Allowance is for a relocatable, temporary change room on the school site	MSC User Group	S	\$100,000
		Broadford	Install drainage in the playing field		User Group	S	\$60,000
Broadford Secondary College / Leisure Centre precinct		Broadford	Pending the outcome of a precinct master planning study and feasibility, develop a second soccer field	- Construct new field adjacent to the existing soccer field at the College - Install sub-surface drainage	MSC User Group	M	\$150,000
Bennett Oval	Seymour		- Reconfigure Bennett Oval to enable two soccer fields to be overlaid (pending demand)	- Allowance includes excavation as may be required into the surrounding embankments - Oversow to reinstate turf	MSC	L	\$150,000
Unnamed Reserve F		Wallan	Construct new District level reserve (site to be determined)	- Includes two rectangular fields (and a footprint for a later third field), sub-surface irrigation and drainage, and floodlighting for one field (\$450,000), a pavilion (\$1.3M) and associated infrastructure, including car parking (\$250,000)	MSC	M	\$2,000,000
Unnamed Reserve G		Beveridge	Construct new District level reserve (site to be determined)	- Includes two rectangular fields (and a footprint for a later third field), sub-surface irrigation and drainage, and floodlighting for one field (\$450,000), a pavilion (\$1.3M) and associated infrastructure, including car parking (\$250,000)	MSC	M	\$2,000,000
			Consultant Fees (design, documentation, administration)	@ 10% of project cost			\$446,000
			<i>Sub Total</i>				<b>\$4,906,000</b>

Sport / Location	Mitchell North	Mitchell South	Project	Project Description / Specification	Who	Priority	Estimated Costs
	Town	Town					
<b>Tennis</b>							
Seymour Tennis Complex	Seymour		Convert five of the existing hardcourt tennis courts into four dual use plexipave tennis-netball courts, and floodlight two courts	- Refer specs in Outdoor Netball section	MSC User Groups	S	Already costed
	Seymour		Demolish the remaining four courts on the southern side return the area to parkland	- Retain until the courts become unsafe, then demolish (\$15,000) - Reinstate the area to parkland and construct an unsealed path to connect the northern area to the Chittick Park precinct (\$30,000)	MSC	L	\$45,000
	Seymour		Upgrade the degraded courts located east of the four courts being used by the two clubs	- Re-surface two courts in synthetic grass	User Groups	L	\$100,000
Tallarook Swimming Pool Reserve	Tallarook		Re-surface the western court	- Refer specs in Netball section	MSC	M	Already costed
Tooborac Recreation Reserve	Tooborac		Re-surface the courts and consider expanding the court footprint to accommodate a netball court overlay onto the surface	- Refer specs in Netball section	CoM User Groups	M	Already costed
Harley Hammond Reserve (Broadford Tennis Club)		Broadford	Convert the four porous courts to plexipave or synthetic grass	- Convert the porous court surface to an artificial surface	User Group	M	\$100,000
		Broadford	Reconstruct the two courts between the netball clubhouse and the tennis club as dual use netball-tennis courts	- Refer specs in Netball section	CoM User Groups	S	Already costed
JJ Clancy Reserve		Kilmore	Reconstruct and re-surface the four plexipave courts due to cracking in the surface structure	- Re-surface the courts in plexipave	User Group	S	\$220,000
		Kilmore	Install floodlighting on the two remaining plexipave courts		User Group	M	\$80,000
Wallan Tennis Complex		Wallan	Re-surface Courts 1 - 4	- Re-surface the courts in synthetic grass	MSC User Group	S	\$200,000

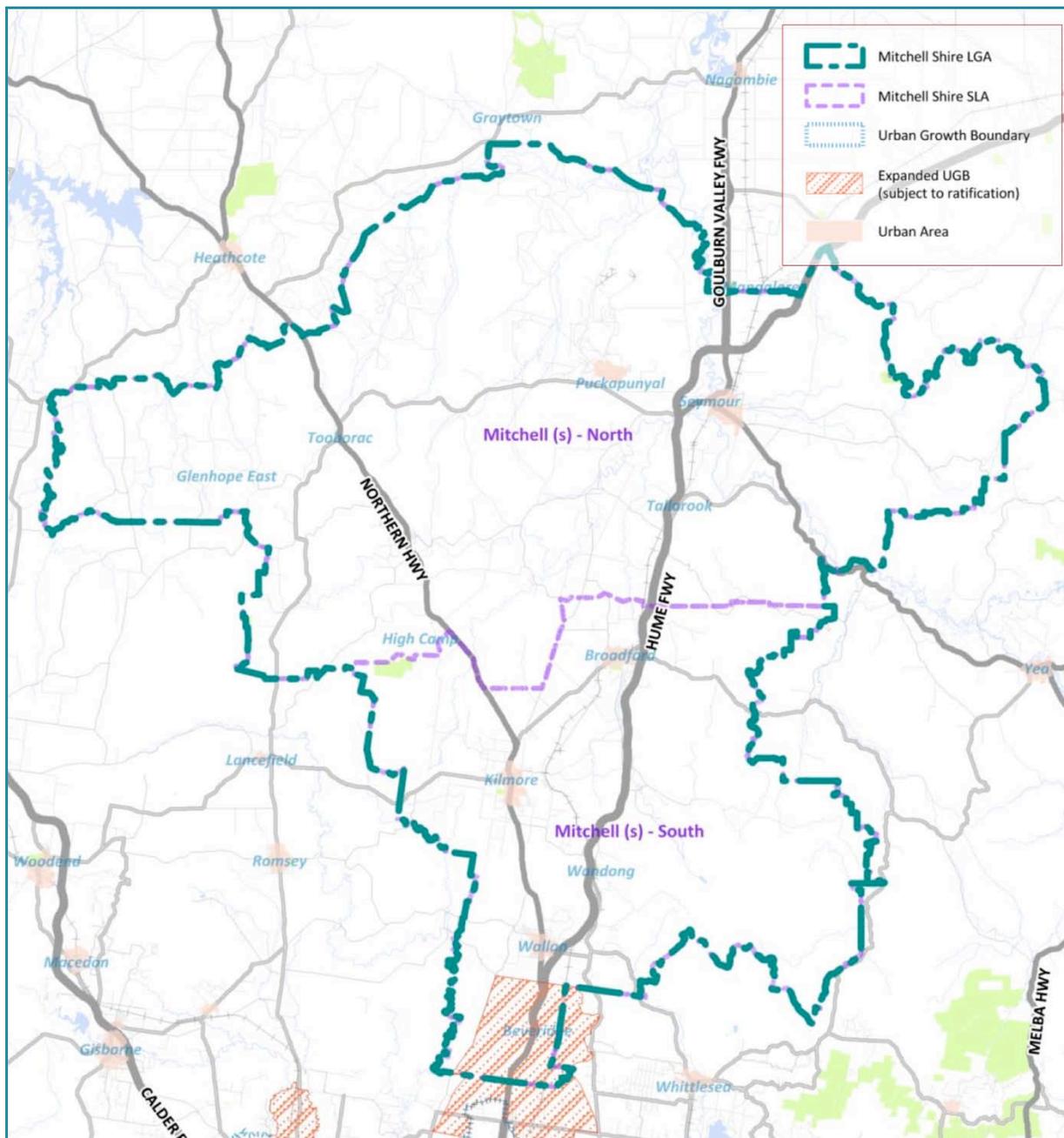
Sport / Location	Mitchell North	Mitchell South	Project	Project Description / Specification	Who	Priority	Estimated Costs
	Town	Town					
LB Davern Reserve		Wandong	Relocate the two southern netball-tennis courts	- Refer specs in Netball section	CoM User Groups	S	Already costed
		Wandong	Install floodlighting on both courts	- Refer specs in Netball section	CoM User Groups	L	Already costed
		Wandong	Relocate the two porous courts	- Re-construct as plexipave courts (\$110,000) - Install floodlighting on both courts (\$120,000)	MSC User Groups	S	\$230,000
Unnamed Site F		Beveridge	Develop a new six court District tennis facility in the greater Beveridge area	- Includes four plexipave courts (and a footprint for a further two courts), court fencing and line-marking, and two courts floodlit to 350 lux (\$340,000), a clubhouse (\$650,000) and associated infrastructure, including car parking (\$200,000)	MSC	L	\$1,190,000
Unnamed Site G		Wallan	Develop a new 12 court Regional tennis complex	- Includes six plexipave courts (and a footprint for a further six courts), court fencing and line-marking, and four courts floodlit to 350 lux (\$540,000), a clubhouse (\$800,000) and associated infrastructure, including car parking (\$300,000)	MSC	L	\$1,640,000
			Consultant Fees (design, documentation, administration)	@ 10% of project cost			\$380,500
			<i>Sub Total</i>				\$4,185,500
<b>TOTAL IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (ex GST)</b>							<b>\$ 37,865,600</b>

## List of Appendices

- 1 Map Defining the Areas of Mitchell South and Mitchell North
- 2 Inventory of Existing Sporting Facilities
- 3 Trends of Participation in Selected Sports
- 4 Mitchell Sports Clubs and Associations 'Active' Membership Trends
- 5 Sports Facility Hierarchy – Desired Standards of Provision
- 6 Summary of Stakeholder Consultation Undertaken During the Study

## Appendix 1

### Map Defining the Areas of Mitchell South and Mitchell North



Source: Mitchell Shire Economic Development and Tourism Strategy (2010)

**Summary of Mitchell South and Mitchell North by key townships**

Mitchell South, incorporating: Beveridge, Wallan, Wandong–Heathcote Junction, Kilmore and Broadford

Mitchell North, incorporating: Pyalong, Tooborac, Puckapunyal, Seymour and Tallarook

## Appendix 2

### Inventory of Existing Sporting Facilities

## Existing Sporting Facilities

The following table is inventory of all sporting facilities currently available at the main sporting reserves within the Shire, and other key stand-alone facilities available for the main sports. The facilities have been grouped into either Mitchell North Planning Precinct or Mitchell South Planning Precinct, and the information includes the reserve name and available facilities, reserve location, reserve ownership, size (where available) and current management arrangements, hierarchical classification, listing of user groups and any preliminary issues and opportunities. The information has been collected from a variety of sources, including planning reports, site visits, and input from Council staff.

(All facilities listed are senior-sized, unless otherwise stated)

Reserve / Facility Name and Location	Township	Area, Ownership and Management	Sporting Facilities Available (and associated infrastructure)	Classific'n Local District Regional	Sporting User Group(s)	Comments
<b>Mitchell North Planning Precinct</b>						
<b>Kings Park</b> Tallaroek Street	Seymour	12 hectares Combination of Mitchell Shire and Crown land  Kings Park Committee of Management	Main Oval (170m x 160m) (turf wicket, floodlit) 3 cricket practice nets Second Oval (150m x 100m) (synthetic wicket, floodlit) 1 plexipave netball court (floodlit) Permanent 4 x long jump & triple jump run-ups & pits and 2 x throwing cages Main pavilion (football) Ken Hall pavilion (cricket & Seymour A&P Society) Exhibition Centre Building (1 concrete netball court & indoor cricket practice nets) Les Bell Pavilion & gymnasium Various A&P Society pavilions Cutting horse yards Riding for disabled yards Grass ménage	District	Seymour Football and Netball Club Seymour Junior Football Netball Club St Mary's Junior Football Netball Club Eastern Hill Cricket Club Seymour Little Athletics Lone Tree Hill Cutting Club Riding for the Disabled (Seymour Group)	Disused CFA fire training track Second oval is serviced by a toilet only (no change rooms) Main pavilion is in fair condition only Sporting facilities are in good condition Reserve features expansive passive-use open space areas
<b>Seymour Bowling Club</b> Tallaroek Street	Seymour	Seymour Bowling Club	1 synthetic green (floodlit) 1 turf green Clubhouse	District	Seymour Bowling Club	

Reserve / Facility Name and Location	Township	Area, Ownership and Management	Sporting Facilities Available (and associated infrastructure)	Classific'n Local District Regional	Sporting User Group(s)	Comments
<b>Seymour Outdoor Memorial Pool</b> Lesley Street	Seymour	Mitchell Shire Council managed	1 x 50m pool, 1 x Intermediate pool, 2 x toddlers pool Amenities block	District	Seymour & District Swimming Club (Sharks)	
<b>Seymour VRI Bowling Club</b> Goulburn Valley Highway	Seymour	VicRail Leased by Club	2 sites (men's section & ladies' section) 2 grass greens 2 Clubhouses	District	Seymour VRI Bowling Club	Both greens are non conforming in size
<b>Chittick Park</b> Pollard Street	Seymour	18 hectares Mitchell Shire Council managed  Council managed  Seymour Tennis Complex Committee of Management  Council managed  Leased to Committee of Management	<u>Chittick Oval</u> (160m x 130m) (turf wicket, half oval floodlit) 2 cricket practice nets Clubrooms (leased to Seymour CC)  <u>Bennett Oval</u> (170m x 125m) (turf wicket) 2 cricket practice wickets Pavilion (leased to Royals CC) Hockey Oval (junior size) (110m x 95m)  <u>Seymour Tennis Complex</u> 4 sand-filled grass courts (all floodlit) 11 plexipave (no lights)  <u>Seymour Sports &amp; Aquatic Centre</u> 25m indoor pool and toddlers pool Fitness gymnasium 2 indoor sports courts 8 outdoor asphalt netball courts not in use (partially floodlit)  <u>Seymour Youth &amp; Fitness Centre</u> Fitness gymnasium Boxing training	District  District  Local  District  District  NA	Seymour Cricket Club St Marys Junior Football Netball Club  Royals Cricket Club  Seymour Town Tennis Club St Marys Tennis Club  Seymour & District Swimming Club (Sharks) Seymour Basketball Association Seymour Junior Netball Association  Seymour Youth & Fitness Club	St Marys Junior Football Netball Club are based at Kings Park but are not permitted to train there so train at Chittick Oval The Chittick Oval clubrooms are social rooms only, no change rooms Both ovals are orientated east-west which is not ideal for Australian football (cricket wickets are north-south) Hockey Oval is a square-shaped and is suitable for lower level cricket only All plexipave courts are in poor condition Two tennis clubs co-locate at this facility  Fitness gymnasium is located on the first floor and is only accessible by stairs Outdoor asphalt netball courts are in fair condition, however, are no longer in use as they are also the SSAC car park Facility is in good condition Internal spaces are cluttered with equipment
<b>Tallarook Recreation Reserve</b> Sanctuary Rd	Tallarook	11.3 hectares Crown land Tallarook Recreation Reserve Committee of Management	Oval (junior size) (140m x 105m) (turf wicket) 3 cricket practice nets Community Centre / Pavilion	District	Tallarook Cricket Club Puckarook Junior Football Netball Club	Oval is junior size for Australian football

Reserve / Facility Name and Location	Township	Area, Ownership and Management	Sporting Facilities Available (and associated infrastructure)	Classific'n Local District Regional	Sporting User Group(s)	Comments
<b>Tallarook Swimming Pool Reserve</b> Main Road	Tallarook	Mitchell Shire Council managed	1 x 33m pool, 1 toddlers pool Amenities block 1 x asphalt tennis court 1 x asphalt multipurpose court (netball-tennis-basketball)	Local		Tennis court is in good condition Multipurpose court is in poor condition, not playable
<b>Tooborac Recreation Reserve</b> Northern Highway	Tooborac	Mitchell Shire Tooborac Recreation Reserve Committee of Management	Oval (170m x 120m) (synthetic wicket)  Tooborac Hall Tooborac Tennis Courts 2 plexipave courts Clubhouse	Local  Local	Tooborac Tennis Club	Oval has no regular user group and has not hosted formal sporting competition for many years  The tennis courts are in good condition and the clubhouse is basic, but also in god condition
<b>Pyalong Recreation Reserve</b> Northern Highway	Pyalong	<u>Golf Course</u> Approx. 18 hectares Mitchell Shire <u>Balance of Reserve</u> Approx. 32 hectares Crown land  Pyalong Recreation Reserve Committee of Management	<u>Golf Course</u> 18 holes <u>Oval</u> (junior size) (130m x 115m) (synthetic wicket) 2 cricket practice wickets <u>Tennis-Netball Courts</u> 4 plexipave tennis courts (all floodlit) with 2 netball courts overlaid <u>Equestrian Area</u> Sand ménage <u>Pavilion / Hall</u> Sporting change amenities Meeting / Clubroom space Multipurpose Hall	District  District  District  Local	Pyalong Golf Club  Pyalong Cricket Club Pyalong Auskick  Pyalong Tennis Club Pyalong Netball Club  Pyalong Riding Club	All sporting facilities are in good condition Oval is only used for cricket and Auskick, and would be junior size for Australian football Pavilion / Hall is in generally good condition

Reserve / Facility Name and Location	Township	Area, Ownership and Management	Sporting Facilities Available (and associated infrastructure)	Classific'n Local District Regional	Sporting User Group(s)	Comments
<b>Mitchell South Planning Precinct</b>						
<b>Harley Hammond Reserve</b> bound by Hamilton, Gavin & Powlett Streets	Broadford	2 hectares Combination of Mitchell Shire and Crown land	<u>Oval</u> (156m x 115m) (turf wicket, floodlit) 4 cricket practice nets Pavilion	District	Broadford Football Netball Club Broadford Cricket Club Broadford Junior Football Club	Oval is orientated east-west which is not ideal for Australian football (cricket wicket is north-south)
		Harley Hammond Reserve Committee of Management	<u>Broadford Tennis Complex</u> 4 porous courts (2 floodlit) Clubhouse	District	Broadford Tennis Club	The tennis courts and clubhouse are in good condition
		Council managed	<u>Broadford Netball Club</u> 2 asphalt courts (floodlit) 1 plexipave court 1 plexipave dual tennis-netball court Small clubhouse	District	Broadford Netball Club	The 2 asphalt courts are in good condition, however, their orientation is east-west which is not ideal for netball The plexipave netball court does not have conforming run-offs but is orientated north-south The surface of the dual tennis-netball court is in poor condition and does not have conforming run-offs The netball court area has an unnecessary amount of chain-mesh fencing around it which detracts from the overall amenity of the court area
<b>Broadford Leisure Centre Precinct</b> Pinniger Street	Broadford	Baseball Field: Crown land (leased to Mitchell Majors BC)	1 baseball field (infield floodlit) Clubhouse 2 x batting cages	District	Mitchell Majors Baseball Club	
		Leisure Centre: Mitchell Shire Council managed	2 indoor sports courts 2 squash courts 1 cricket practice area	District	Broadford Basketball Association Broadford Secondary College	
<b>Broadford Bowling Club</b> off High Street	Broadford	3.3 hectares (total area of former caravan park) Mitchell Shire Council managed	1 x synthetic green (floodlit) Clubhouse	District	Broadford Bowling Club	Facility built on the site of the former Broadford caravan park

Reserve / Facility Name and Location	Township	Area, Ownership and Management	Sporting Facilities Available (and associated infrastructure)	Classific'n Local District Regional	Sporting User Group(s)	Comments
JJ Clancy Reserve Kellys Lane	Kilmore	4 hectares Mitchell Shire  JJ Clancy Reserve Committee of Management	<u>Main Oval</u> (170m x 143m) (floodlit) Seasonal grass athletics track, with permanent long jump & triple jump run- ups & pits, shot put area and discus throwing area  Change pavilion (football) <u>Kilmore Tennis Complex</u> 4 sand-filled synthetic grass courts (2 lit) 4 plexipave courts (2 lit) 2 plexipave dual tennis-netball courts (lit) Clubhouse (tennis) <u>Netball Courts</u> 2 plexipave courts (floodlit) 2 plexipave dual tennis-netball courts (lit) 2 asphalt netball courts (not used) Social Rooms (football / netball)	District  District  District	Kilmore Football Netball Club Kilmore Junior Football Club Kilmore District Little Athletics Centre  Kilmore Tennis Club  Kilmore Football Netball Club Kilmore Netball Club	Oval was in good condition at time of inspection, however, clubs indicated that it deteriorates in winter due to overuse  Rear two plexipave tennis courts are in poor condition, with other courts and clubhouse in excellent condition  The 2 asphalt courts are not in use The dedicated netball courts and the dual tennis-netball courts are in excellent condition (only recently installed)  The Social Rooms is not connected to town sewerage
Kilmore Cricket & Recreation Reserve Hunts Road	Kilmore	4 hectares Crown land Local Committee (Kilmore Cricket & Recreation Reserve Committee of Management)	Oval (125m x 115m) (turf wicket) 4 cricket practice wickets Pavilion	District		Oval is only used for cricket and would be junior size for Australian football  The pavilion is in good condition
Hudson Park Sydney Street	Kilmore	Mitchell Shire Leased to Club	1 synthetic green (floodlit) Clubhouse	District	Kilmore Bowling Club	
Kilmore Leisure Centre Main Road	Kilmore	0.64 hectares Crown land Council managed	25m indoor pool & toddlers pool Fitness gymnasium Cardio room	District	Kilmore & District Amateur Swim Club	The centre is closed for the second half of 2011 for a roof replacement and internal upgrade
Kilmore East Recreation Reserve O'Grady's Road	Kilmore East	Crown land Local Committee (Kilmore East Recreation Reserve Committee of Management)	1 x asphalt tennis court	Local		Recreational tennis court only in poor condition

Reserve / Facility Name and Location	Township	Area, Ownership and Management	Sporting Facilities Available (and associated infrastructure)	Classific'n Local District Regional	Sporting User Group(s)	Comments
<b>Waterford Park Estate Reserve</b> Robert Court	Clonbinane	Mitchell Shire Council managed	1 x asphalt tennis court 1 cricket practice net	Local		
<b>Greenhill Reserve</b> Dukes Street	Wallan	34 hectares Crown land Greenhill Reserve Committee of Management Social Rooms leased by Greenhill Social Club	Main Oval (160m x 120m) (synthetic wicket, floodlit) 4 cricket practice nets (fully enclosed) Change pavilion  Social Rooms (Greenhill Sports Club) Second Oval (150m x 130m) (synthetic wicket, half oval floodlit) Change pavilion	District	Wallan Football Netball Club Wallan Junior Football Club Wallan & District Cricket Club Wallan Auskick	Condition of ovals is good Council now maintain the ovals Wallan Secondary College use the main oval frequently for sporting activities and as a student play area during recess and lunchtime Second pavilion is poorly connected to the second oval
<b>Wallan Bowling Club</b> extension of Windham Street	Wallan	Crown land (site is part of Greenhill Reserve) Leased to Wallan BC	2 grass greens Clubhouse	District	Wallan Bowling Club	Condition of greens and clubhouse is excellent
<b>Hadfield Park</b> High Street	Wallan	12.5 hectares Mitchell Shire Council managed Tennis complex leased to Club  RB Robson Stadium Committee of Management	<u>Wallan Tennis Complex</u> 6 sand-filled grass courts (4 floodlit)  <u>RB Robson Stadium</u> 3 indoor sports courts (3 <sup>rd</sup> court used as a gymnastic facility for part of each week)	District  District	Wallan Tennis Club  Wallan Basketball Inc Wallan & District Netball Association Wallan Junior Netball Club / Net Set Go Birrallee Gymnastic Inc	Four of the courts are in average condition Clubhouse is small for a club its size Facility is somewhat land-locked within its current footprint, with little room for expansion  Stadium is in good condition  The Birrallee Gymnastic Club has a lease over a parcel of land immediately south of the Wallan Bowling Club site

Reserve / Facility Name and Location	Township	Area, Ownership and Management	Sporting Facilities Available (and associated infrastructure)	Classific'n Local District Regional	Sporting User Group(s)	Comments
LB Davern Reserve Dry Creek Crescent	Wandong	9 hectares Mitchell Shire  LB Davern Reserve Committee of Management	<u>Oval</u> (junior size) (145m x 110m) (synthetic wicket, floodlit) <u>Wandong Tennis Complex</u> 2 porous courts 4 plexipave dual tennis-netball courts <u>Netball Courts</u> 4 plexipave dual tennis-netball courts Pavilion (shared by all users) <u>Equestrian Area</u> Sand ménage Cross country course	Local  District  District  Local	Wandong Cricket Club Wandong Junior Football Club Wandong Tennis Club Wandong Netball Club   Kilmore & District Adult Riding Club Standardbred Riding Group	None of the tennis courts or dual tennis-netball courts are floodlit Two of the dual tennis-netball courts only have partial line-marking for netball The Pavilion is inadequate for the current needs of all user groups A single court indoor stadium is planned for the site (construction to commence in late 2011)
Beveridge Recreation Reserve Lithgow Street	Beveridge	Crown land  Beveridge Recreation Reserve Committee of Management	<u>Tennis Courts</u> 2 plexipave tennis courts, with one netball court overlaid (floodlit) <u>Equestrian Area</u> Sand ménage Cross country course  Common recreation land (115m x 90m) used mainly as a jumps area by the pony club)   Community Centre	Local  District	Beveridge Tennis Club   Beveridge & District Pony Club	The common recreation land between the ménage and the tennis courts has a concrete cricket wicket but it is covered permanently at this stage Part of the Reserve forms the upper catchment of the Merri Creek with remnant trees / fauna The community centre has no change rooms, but is the main community meeting place for residents

## Appendix 3

### Trends of Participation in Selected Sports

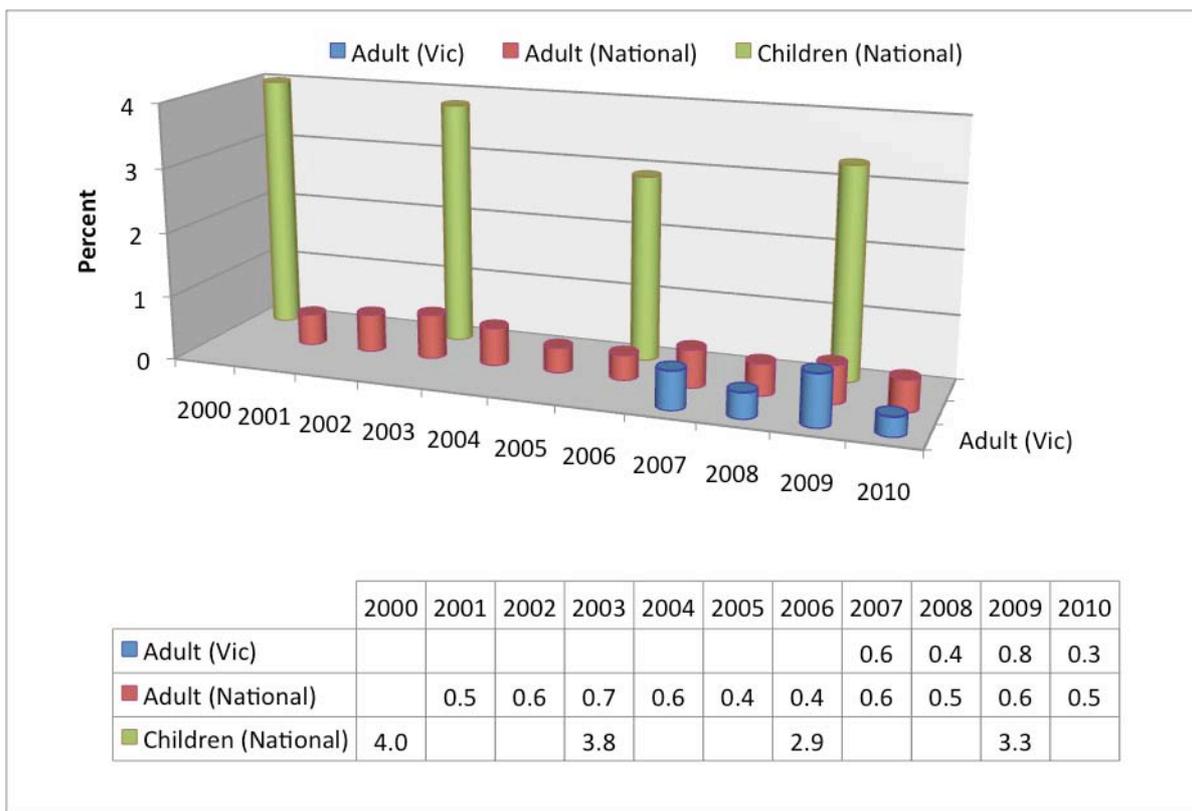
Includes National and Victorian adult participation data, and National children's participation data.

Participation data has been sourced from:

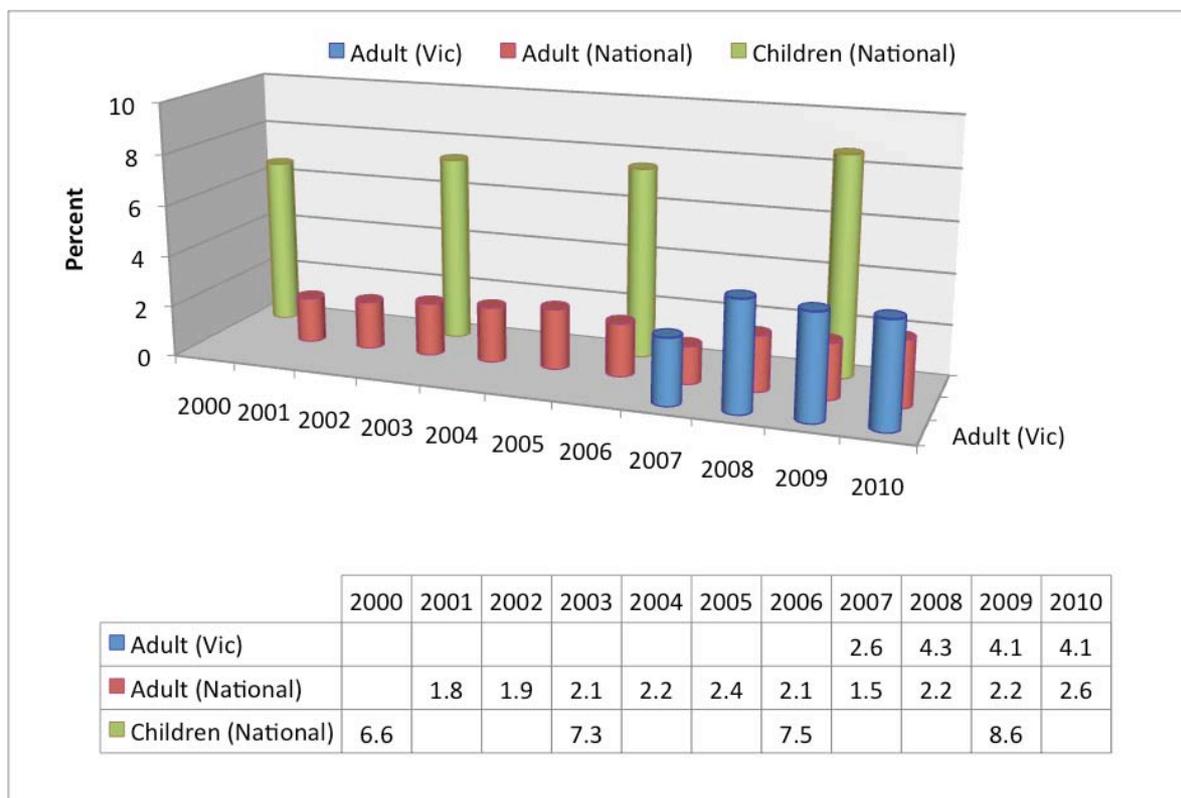
- Exercise, Recreation and Sport Survey (ERASS), Australian Sports Commission (2001 - 2010).
- Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities, ABS (2000, 2003, 2006 & 2009).

*(Please note that the Victorian adult participation data only began being reported in 2007, and the children's participation data is available for all sports for 2000, 2003, 2006 and 2009 only).*

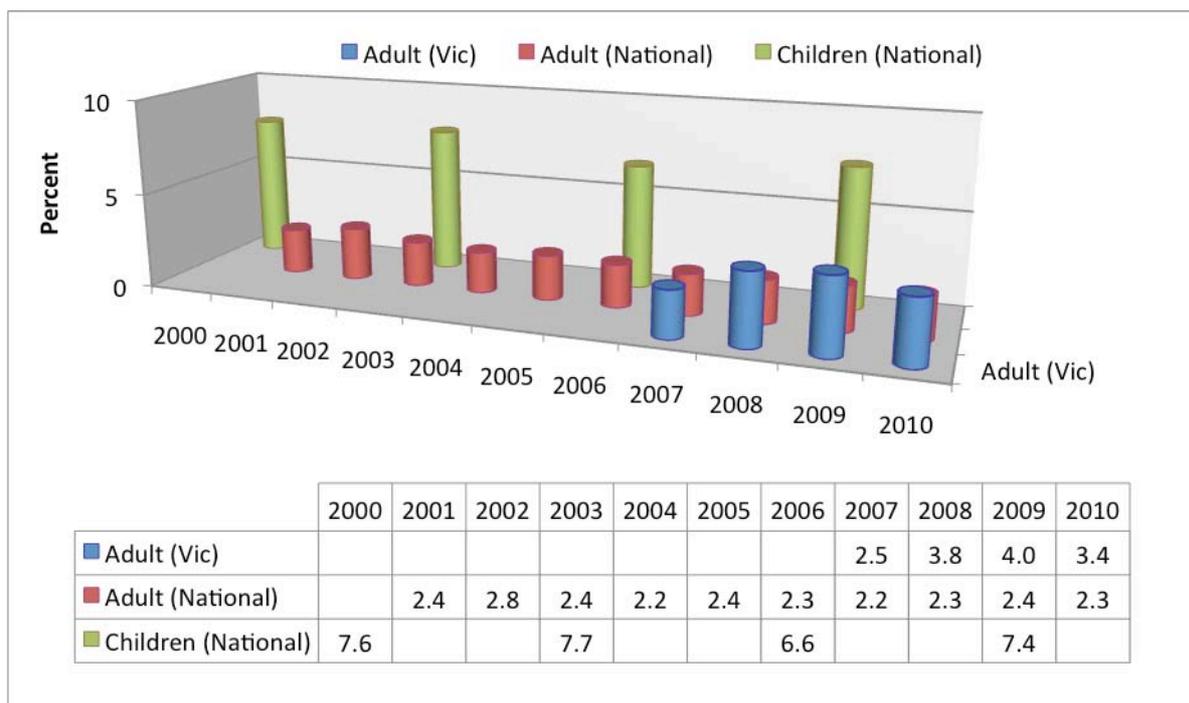
### Participation Rates for Organised Athletics



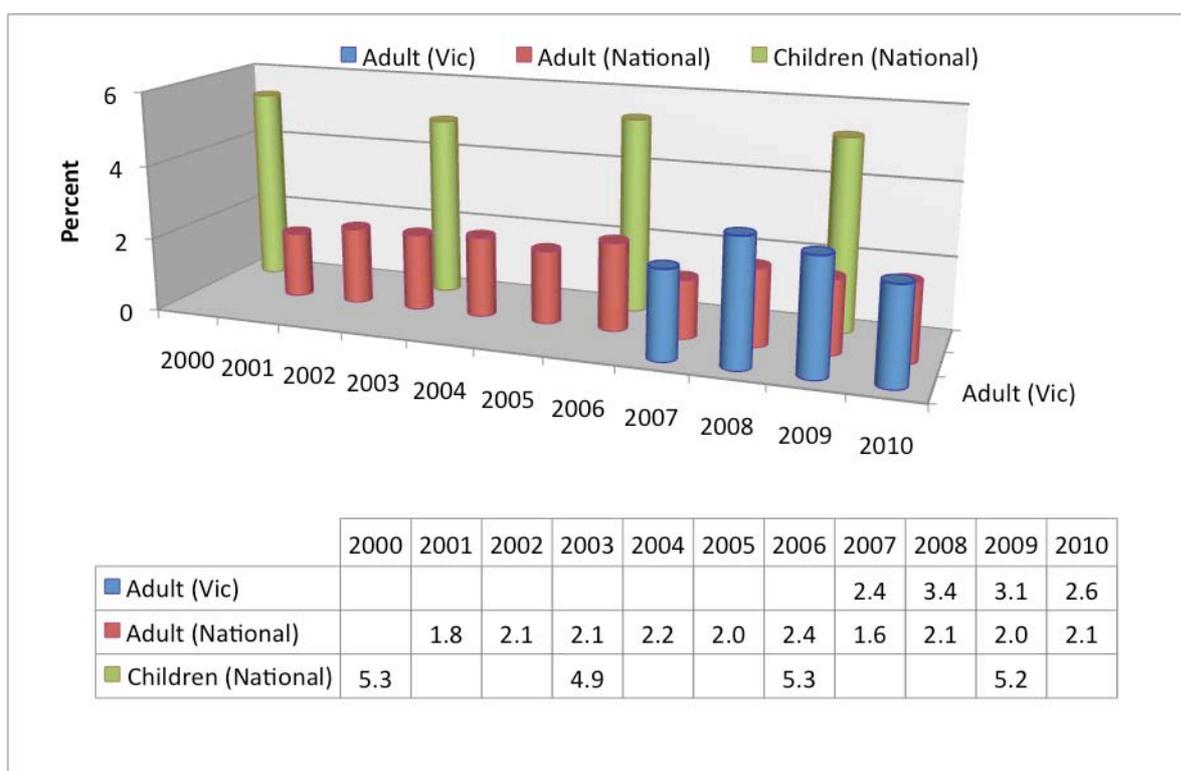
### Participation Rates for Organised Australian Rules Football



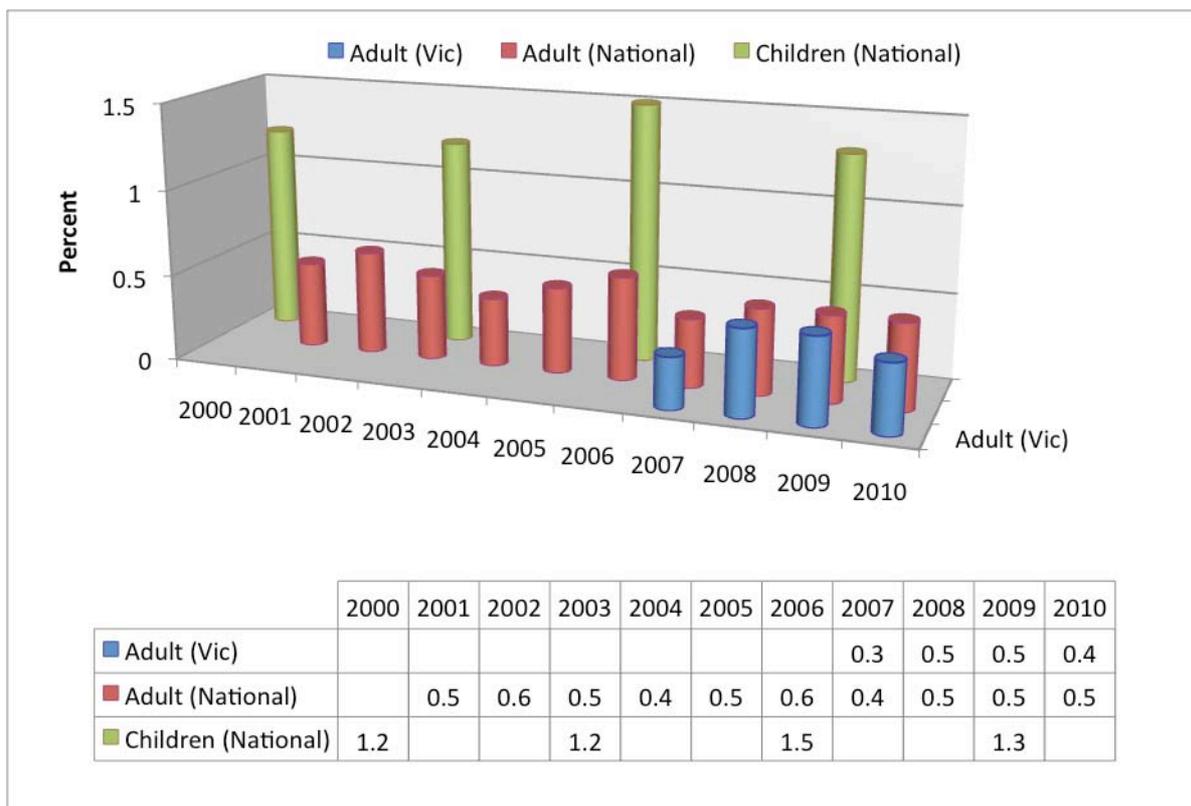
### Participation Rates for Organised Basketball



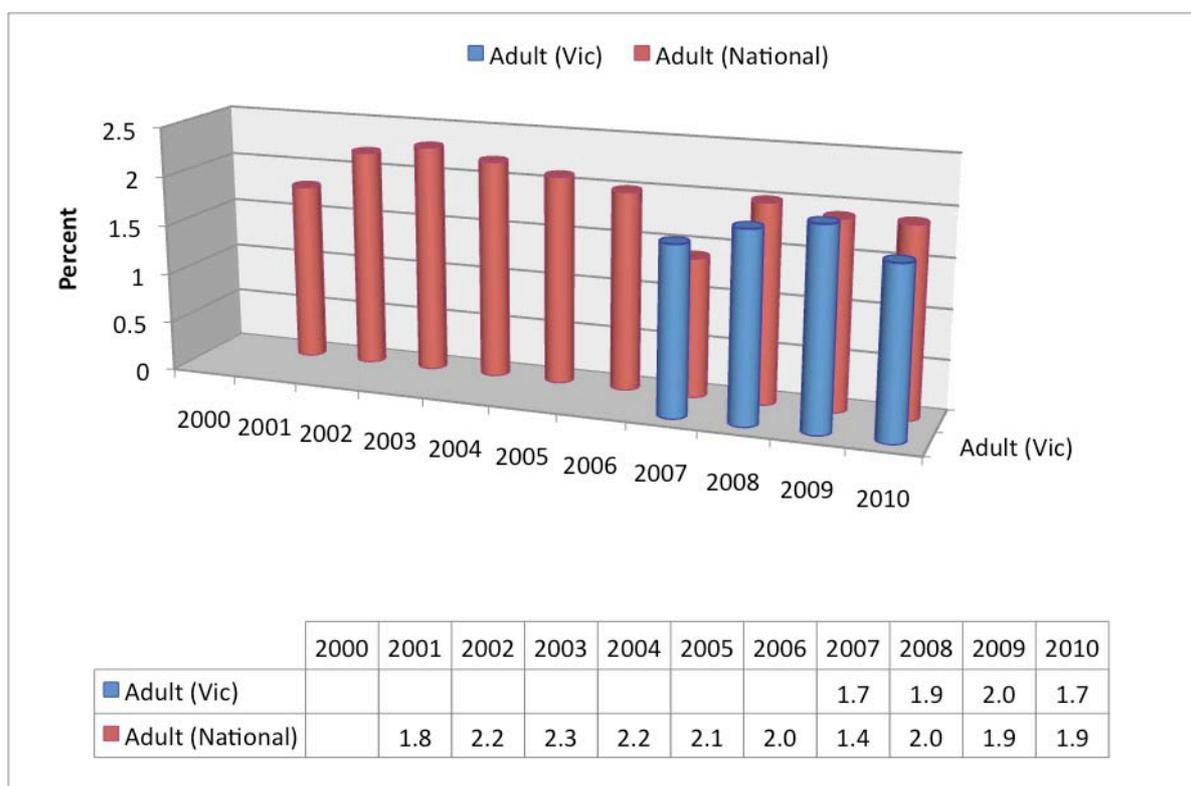
### Participation Rates for Organised Cricket



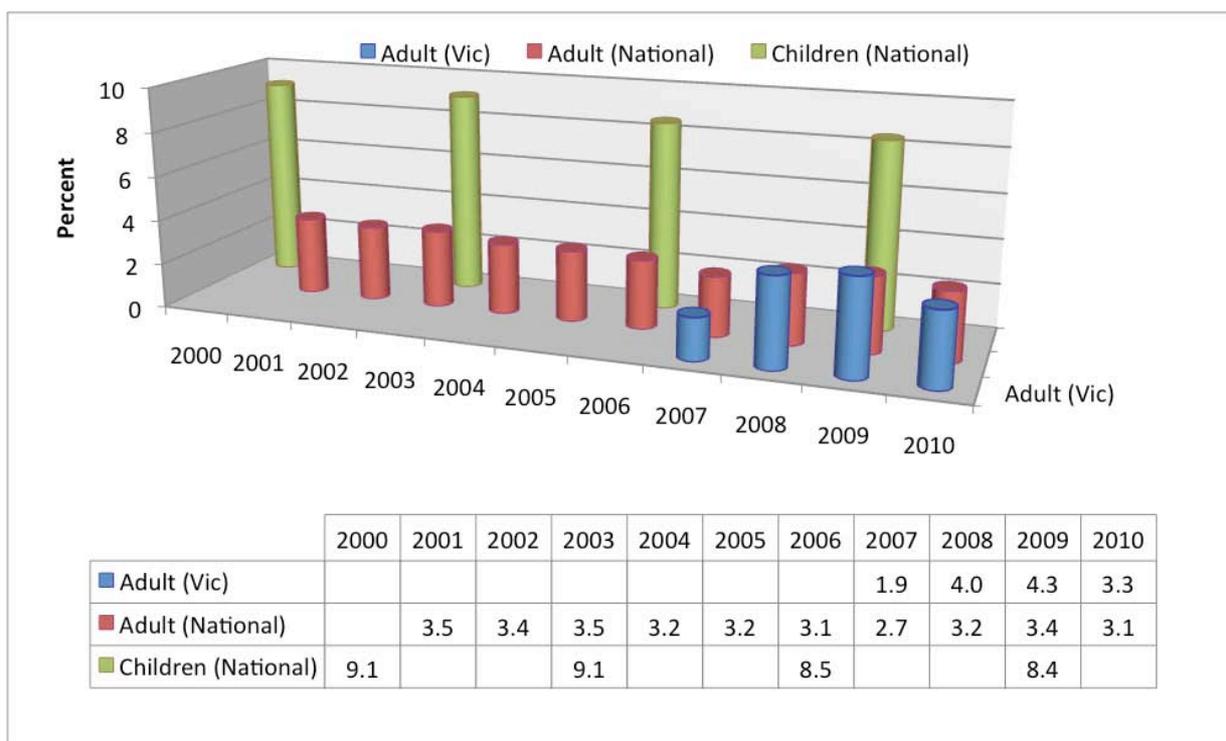
### Participation Rates for Organised Equestrian



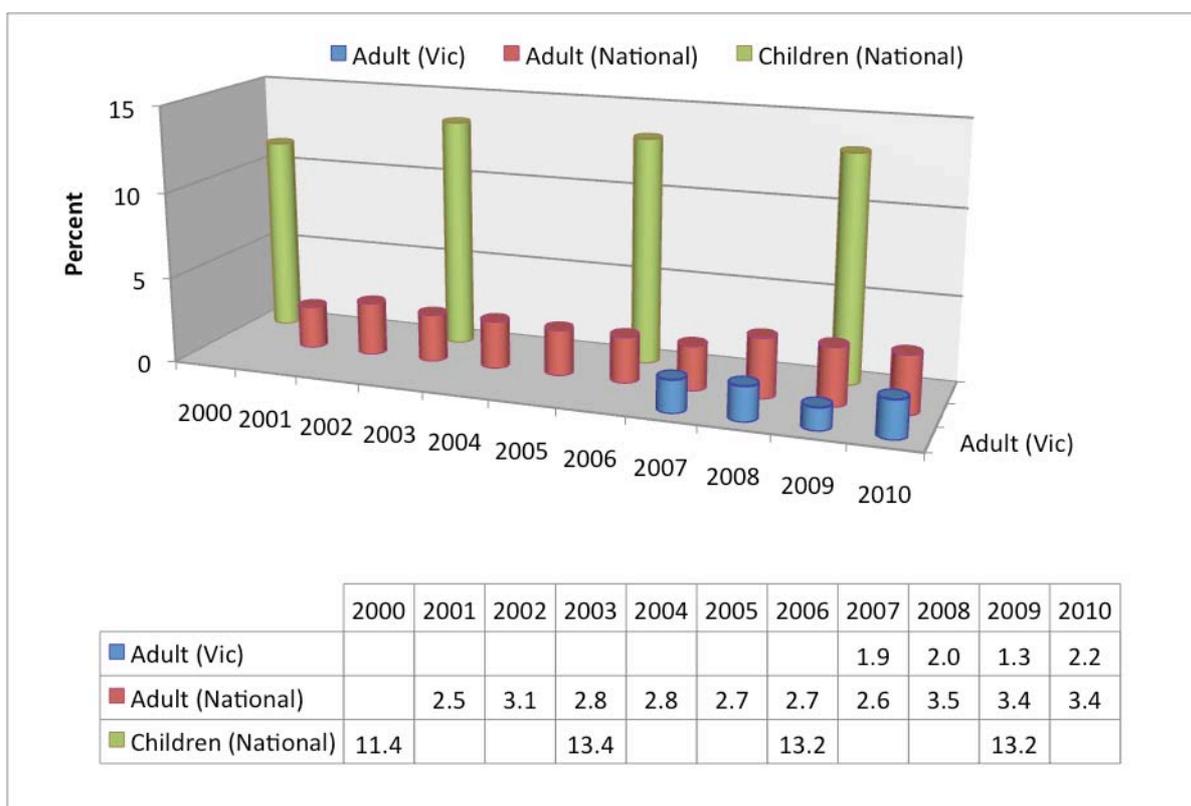
### Participation Rates for Organised Lawn Bowls



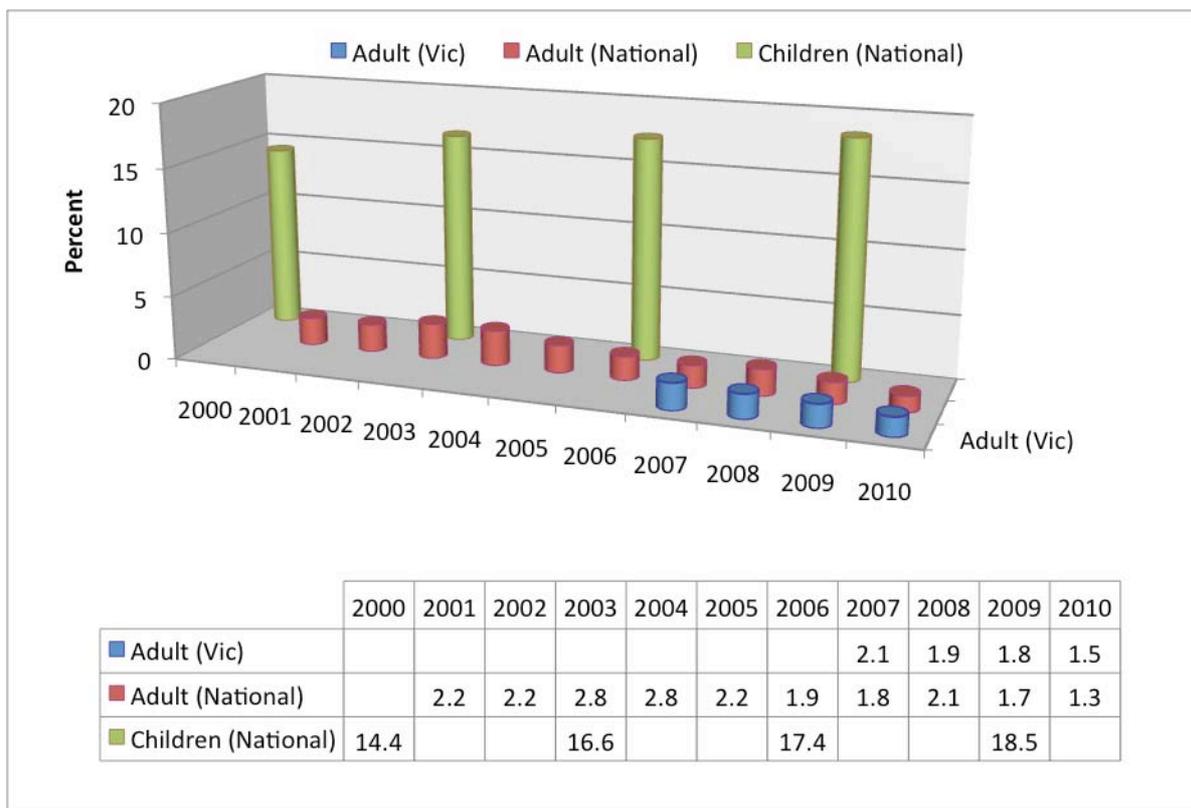
### Participation Rates for Organised Netball



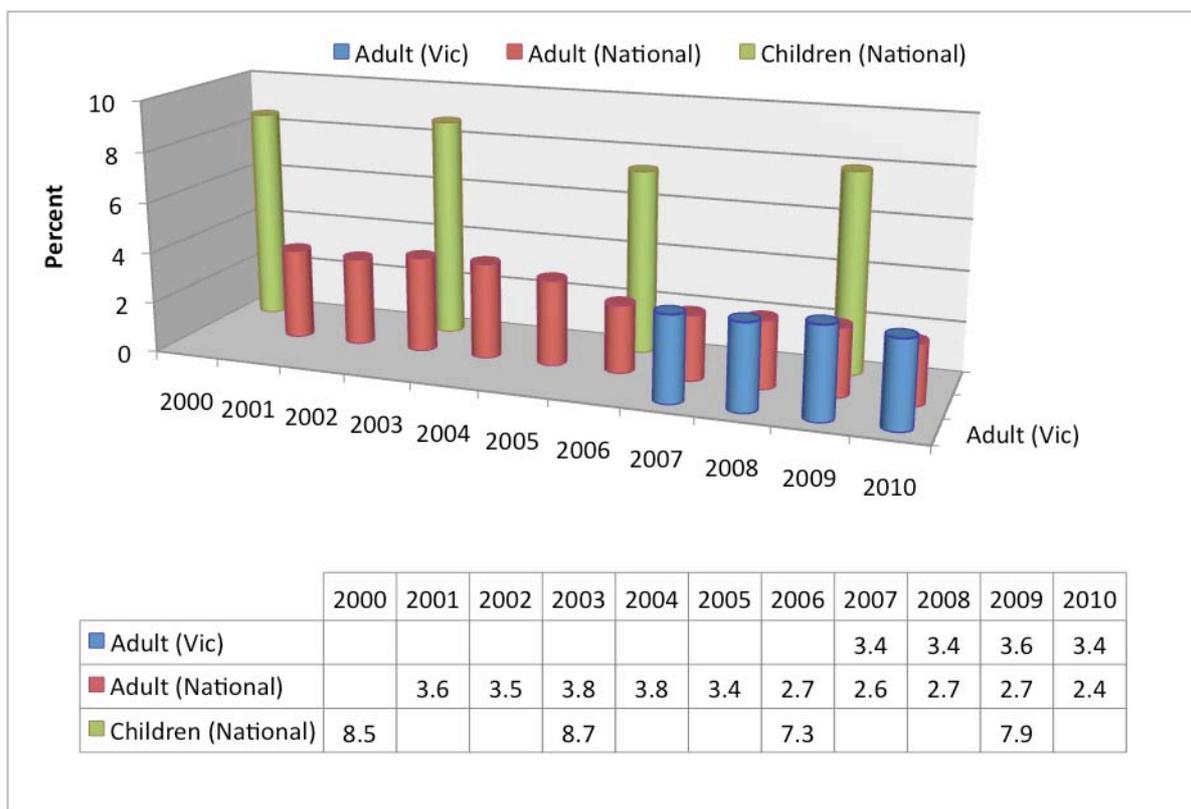
### Participation Rates for Organised Soccer



### Participation Rates for Organised Swimming



### Participation Rates for Organised Tennis



## Appendix 4

### Mitchell Sports Clubs and Associations 'Active' Membership Trends

## Legend

\* Total participation estimated for some of the earlier years

N/S = Not Stated, N/A = Not Applicable

Denotes no questionnaire received - membership estimated

= Stable Membership  
 = Increasing Membership  
 = Decreasing Membership

(Active Club Members only)							% change 06-10	Trend next 5 yrs		2010 season			
Club	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Adult		Junior	Male	Female	U/18	Adult	
<b>Athletics</b>													
Seymour Little Athletics Centre	133	142	153	200	218	64%	N/A		N/S	N/S	218		
Kilmore District Little Athletics Centre*	167	167	167	167	167	0%	N/A		N/S	N/S	167		
<b>Australian Football</b>													
Seymour Junior Football Netball Club (Football only)*	60	60	60	60	70	17%	N/A		70	0	70		
Seymour Football Netball Club (Football only)	98	98	93	88	90	-8%			90	0	25	65	
Puckarook Junior Football Netball Club (Football only)	-	-	-	50	50	0%			50	0	50		
Broadford Football Netball Club (Football)	70	70	70	70	70	0%			70	0	0	70	
Broadford Junior Football Netball Club (Football)	70	70	70	70	70	0%			70	0	70		
Wallan Football Netball Club (Football only)	125	125	125	128	150	20%			150	0	25	125	
Wallan Junior Football Club	90	90	90	90	90	0%			70	20	90		
Wandong Junior Football Club	40	25	78	112	137	243%	N/A		116	21	137		
Kilmore Football Netball Club (Football only)	46	53	75	81	83	80%			83	0	28	55	
Kilmore Junior Football Club	70	70	70	70	70	0%			50	20	70		
AusKick (all centres)	400	400	400	400	400	0%			350	50	400		
<b>Basketball</b>													
Broadford Basketball Association	110	110	103	108	86	-22%	N/A		N/S	N/S	86		
Wallan Basketball Incorporated	140	208	235	220	195	39%	N/A		N/S	N/S	195		
Seymour Basketball Association	100	100	100	100	100	0%			70	30	100		
<b>Cricket</b>													
Broadford Cricket Club	95	98	99	97	96	1%			94	2	21	68	
Eastern Hill Cricket Club	70	65	60	55	59	-16%			59	0	25	34	
Royals Cricket Club	70	40	40	40	35	-50%			35	0	N/S	N/S	
Seymour Cricket Club	75	75	75	75	75	0%			75	0	15	60	
Wallan District Cricket Club	95	137	155	176	174	83%			49	0	125	49	
Kilmore Cricket Club	115	115	115	115	115	0%			115	0	45	70	
Pyalong Cricket Club	45	45	45	45	45	0%			45	0	15	30	
Tallarook Cricket Club	65	65	65	65	65	0%			65	0	20	45	
Wandong Cricket Club	50	50	50	50	50	0%			50	0	50		
In2Ccricket (all centres)	150	150	150	150	150	0%			125	25	150		
<b>Equestrian</b>													
Kilmore and District Pony Club	46	49	58	48	46	0%			1	45	45	1	
Seymour Pony Club	30	30	25	16	29	-3%	N/A	N/S	0	29	29		
Seymour Dressage & Show Jumping Club	25	25	25	25	25	0%			5	20	15	10	
Broadford Riders Club and Broadford Pony Club*	35	35	35	35	35	0%			2	33	23	12	
Glenaroua Riding Club	0	0	0	0	6	0%		N/A	0	6	0	6	
Pyalong Riding Club	12	14	12	16	16	33%		N/S	0	16	2	14	
Seymour Riding For Disabled*	29	29	29	29	29	0%			8	12	9	20	
Kilmore & District Adult Riding Club	43	51	51	47	48	12%		N/A	2	46	0	48	
Standard Bred Riding Group	19	22	25	24	21	11%		N/A	1	20	0	21	
Lone Tree Hill Cutting Club	N/S	N/S	N/S	56	40	0%			18	22	8	32	
Beveridge and District Pony Club	30	26	28	24	24	-20%	N/A		1	23	24		

(Active Club Members only)						% change 06-10	Trend next 5 yrs		2010 season			
Club	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010		Adult	Junior	Male	Female	U/18	Adult
<b>Lawn Bowls</b>												
Wallan Bowling Club	68	66	72	68	70	3%			N/S	N/S	0	70
Broadford Bowling Club	71	62	62	72	66	-7%			58	8	4	62
Kilmore Bowls Club	87	87	87	117	104	20%			72	32	3	101
Seymour Bowling Club*	170	170	170	170	170	0%			100	70	10	160
<b>Netball</b>												
Pyalong Netball Club	37	50	54	57	76	105%			11	65	49	27
Broadford Netball Club	73	73	73	73	75	3%	N/A		1	74	75	
Broadford Football Netball Club	45	45	45	45	45	0%			0	45	7	38
Broadford Junior Football Netball Club	35	35	35	35	35	0%			0	35	28	7
Seymour Football Netball Club (Netball only)	40	40	43	45	44	10%			0	44	11	33
Seymour Junior Football Netball Club (Netball only)	0	0	30	30	30	0%	N/A		0	30	30	
Seymour Senior Netball Association	50	50	50	50	50	0%			0	50	0	50
Seymour Junior Netball Association	100	121	128	101	200	100%			9	191	156	22
Kilmore Football Netball Club (Netball only)	60	60	60	60	60	0%			0	60	7	53
Wallan Football Netball Club (Netball only)*	125	125	125	125	125	0%			0	125	0	125
Wallan District Netball Association	45	45	45	45	45	0%			0	45	0	45
Wallan Junior Netball Club	90	90	90	90	90	0%			0	90	90	
Wandong Netball Club	40	40	40	40	40	0%			0	40	20	20
<b>Soccer</b>												
Mitchell Rangers Soccer Club	50	70	98	150	116	44%			81	35	60	56
<b>Swimming</b>												
Seymour and District Swimming Club	45	45	48	47	56	24%			25	31	54	2
Kilmore Swimming Club*	40	40	40	40	31	-23%			14	17	27	4
<b>Tennis</b>												
Seymour Tennis Club	50	50	50	50	50	0%			25	25	25	25
St Marys Tennis Club	30	30	30	30	30	0%			15	15	15	15
Pyalong Tennis Club	4	4	4	0	56	1300%			18	38	37	19
Tooborac Tennis Club	20	20	20	20	20	20%			5	15	5	15
Wallan Tennis Club	112	73	55	63	60	-46%			N/S	N/S	34	26
Wandong Tennis Club	110	98	69	62	81	-26%			39	42	40	41
Kilmore Tennis Club*	112	112	112	112	112	0%			N/S	N/S	49	63
Beveridge Tennis Club	10	10	10	10	10	0%			4	6	2	8
Broadford Tennis Club	54	55	56	60	66	22%			N/S	N/S	36	30
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,597</b>	<b>6,682</b>	<b>6,840</b>	<b>7,078</b>	<b>7,252</b>	<b>10%</b>			<b>2466</b>	<b>1668</b>	<b>3226</b>	<b>1952</b>
* Total participation estimated for some of the earlier years N/S = Not Stated, N/A = Not Applicable Denotes no questionnaire received - membership estimated							<span style="color: yellow;">■</span> = Stable Membership <span style="color: green;">■</span> = Increasing Membership <span style="color: red;">■</span> = Decreasing Membership					

## Appendix 5

### Sports Facility Hierarchy – Desired Standards of Provision

## Sports Facility Hierarchy – Desired Standards of Provision

The following information identifies the suggested desirable standards for the provision of sporting facilities for each hierarchical level for seven of the nominated sports, and is followed by suggested standards for the provision of pavilions / clubrooms. Note, that whilst the suggested standards are the desirable level of provision for Council, clubs and reserve committees to aspire to, site constraints and other factors may inhibit the capacity of Council and clubs to fully realise these levels.

The playing field dimensions and athletics field event dimensions referred to in the tables have been sourced from the publication, *Sport Dimensions for Playing Areas (Ministry of Sport & Recreation, WA)*.

The guidelines and recommendations for floor area allowances for the specific spaces within pavilions / clubrooms have been identified from a number of sources. These include the publication, *Whittlesea City Council Sports Pavilion Strategy (Stratcorp Consulting)*, workshops with sports clubs and associations facilitated by Richard Simon (Simon Leisure Consulting) during previous studies, and from floor plans developed for various pavilion design projects undertaken previously by Simon Leisure Consulting. For Australian Rules football requirements, information has been sourced from *AFL Preferred Facility Requirements, Stratcorp Consulting (2006)*.

Note, that references to the provision of flood lighting in the tables are based on the Australian Standard 2560 Series (2002), and that recommendations for flood lighting to accommodate club competition, match practice and training for the field sports of Australian football and soccer are made in the context of Mitchell Shire clubs and associations being assessed at the "Amateur" level<sup>28</sup>.

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<sup>28</sup> Source: Page 11, Australian Standard 2560.2.3 (2007).

## Playing Surfaces and Other Infrastructure

### Australian Football and Cricket - Desired Standards of Provision

<i>Facility Component</i>	<i>Local</i>	<i>District</i>
<b>Playing Surface</b>		
<b>No. of Ovals</b>	1 oval	1 oval, but at new reserve developments a minimum of 2 ovals
<b>Size (playing area)</b> All football ovals to have a minimum clearance of 4.0m between the boundary line and the closest fixed object Cricket to have minimum 5.0m clearance between the boundary line and the closest fixed object (Senior Grades only)	Football: Minimum 100m x 65m  Cricket: Minimum 40m radius	Football: Preferred playing surface 165m x 135m Minimum 155m x 110m Cricket: Minimum 50m radius for synthetic wickets Preferred 60m radius for turf grounds to allow for the varying distances between the pitch and the boundary due to rotating pitches on turf tables
<b>Drainage</b>	Basic drainage system at 8m herring bone configuration, or similar	Comprehensive drainage system at 4m herring bone configuration, or similar
<b>Irrigation</b>		Automated sub surface irrigation system
<b>Maintenance</b>	Mowing only	Mowing, with annual fertilising, aerating and top dressing
<b>Infrastructure</b>		
<b>Player Shelter</b>		Two fixed shelters (each with 6 seat capacity) on the main field Temporary shelter / seats for the second field
<b>Spectator Area</b>		Some fixed seating around the ground (can include park furniture)
<b>Spectator Shelter</b>		Permanent or non-permanent shade / shelter for spectators Recommended size 75m <sup>2</sup>
<b>Flood Lighting</b> (Australian football only)		Flood lights to provide full oval coverage to match practice and training standard Lighting to level 100 lux and comply to Australian Standard 2560.2.3-Football (All Codes)
<b>Car Parking</b> Disabled parking to be provided	On-street parking	Off-street parking for minimum 50 cars, with additional on or off-street parking for 35 cars
<b>Scoreboard</b>		Fixed and permanent

<i>Facility Component</i>	<i>Local</i>	<i>District</i>
<b>Cricket Only</b>		
Turf Wicket		Only on ovals where it is a requirement by the association Minimum four pitches on a centre wicket table
Synthetic Wicket	Length: 28.0m (stump-to-stump is 20.12m, but additional flared ends reduces wear caused by bowler run-ups and wicketkeeper) Width: 2.74m	Length: 28.0m (stump-to-stump is 20.12m, but additional flared ends reduces wear caused by bowler run-ups and wicketkeeper) Width: 2.74m
Synthetic Practice Nets		Two nets where there will be a local recreation benefit

## Athletics - Desired Standards of Provision

<i>Facility Component</i>	<i>District</i>
<b>Playing Areas</b>	
Track Surface	Temporary or permanent grass track overlaid onto an oval 400m circumference with minimum 6 lanes
Long / Triple Jump Facility	Permanent runway(s) of minimum width of 1.22m and minimum length of 40m, with a sand landing pit at each end of area not less than 2.75m wide x 3m long
High Jump Facility	Temporary or permanent high jump area
Pole Vault Facility	
Combined Discus & Hammer Facility	Permanent discus circle of 2.5m diameter and hammer circle of 2.135m diameter Where a dedicated field events area is possible, install a permanent combined throwing cage Where field events area is used for other sports/events a temporary throwing cage can be provided
Javelin Facility	Where a dedicated field events area is possible, install a permanent javelin runway of maximum length of 36.5m and minimum length of 30m Where field events area is used for other sports/events a temporary runway is used
Shot Put Facility	Permanent shot put circle(s) (2.135m) and temporary landing sector(s)
Steeplechase Water Jump	
<b>Infrastructure</b>	
Spectator Area	Some fixed seating around the track (can include park furniture)
Spectator Shelter	Some permanent shade / shelter for spectators, or provision of temporary shelter on competition days
Flood Lighting	
Track / Reserve Fencing	Perimeter fence around track area to prevent unauthorised vehicle access No reserve fencing
Car Parking Disabled parking provided at each level	On-street and / or off-street parking for a minimum 40 cars
Electronic Timing Equipment	

## Lawn Bowls - Desired Standards of Provision

<i>Facility Component</i>	<i>District</i>
<b>Playing Surface</b>	
<b>No. of Greens</b>	1 – 2 greens
<b>Surface</b>	Natural turf or synthetic turf with playing surface dimensions of between 37-40m x 37-40m
<b>Irrigation</b>	Automated irrigation system (required for natural turf and synthetic surfaces)
<b>Drainage</b>	Comprehensive drainage system for natural turf at 4m herring bone configuration, or similar
<b>Infrastructure</b>	
<b>Player Shelter Area</b>	Permanent shade structures with seating around the greens (minimum 1 shelter for every 3 rinks)
<b>Flood Lighting</b>	Club decision on provision Lighting to level 100 lux for training and competition with pole heights minimum 12m and to comply to AS 2560.2.8 - Bowling Greens
<b>Green Fencing</b>	NA
<b>Car Parking</b> Disabled parking to be provided	On-street and off-street parking for minimum 25 cars per green, and some on-street for overflow
<b>Scoring Stands</b>	One set for each rink

## Netball (Outdoor) - Desired Standards of Provision

<i>Facility Component</i>	<i>Local</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Regional</i>
<b>Playing Surface</b>			
<b>No. of Courts</b>	1 - 2 courts (can be line-marked for other sports)	1 - 4 courts (can be line-marked for other sports)	Minimum of 8 courts (dedicated netball courts)
<b>Playing Surface</b>	Asphalt	Hard surface (options asphalt, synpave or plexipave)  Courts to have a minimum clearance of 3.05m between the sideline and the closest fixed object	Hard surface (options asphalt, synpave or plexipave)  Courts to have a minimum clearance of 3.05m between the sideline and the closest fixed object
<b>Infrastructure</b>			
<b>Spectator Area</b>		Some fixed seating around the court environs for spectators (can include park furniture)	Dedicated fixed seating around the show court  Some fixed seating around the other court environs for spectators
<b>Flood Lighting</b>		Competition standard on minimum 1 court  Lighting to level 100-200 lux with pole heights from 8m to 12m and to comply to Australian Standard 2560.2.4-Outdoor Netball	Competition standard on minimum 4 courts  Lighting to level 200 lux with pole heights from 8m to 12m and to comply to Australian Standard 2560.2.4-Outdoor Netball
<b>Court Fencing</b>	Council to assess on a case by case basis, however, as a basic Principle courts located within reserves will not have perimeter fencing, except where it might be necessary to enhance player and spectator safety		
<b>Reserve Fencing</b>		As above	As above
<b>Player Shelter</b>		2 shelters for each court	2 shelters for each court
<b>Car Parking</b> Disabled parking to be provided	On-street parking	On-street and / or off-street parking for minimum 25 cars	Off-street parking for minimum 40 cars, and some on-street for overflow

## Soccer - Desired Standards of Provision

<i>Sports Facility</i>	<i>District</i>
<b>Playing Surface</b>	
<b>No. of Fields</b>	Minimum 2 fields (for all new facility developments only)
<b>Drainage</b>	Comprehensive drainage system at 4m herring bone configuration each field
<b>Irrigation</b>	Automated sub surface irrigation system
<b>Maintenance</b>	Mowing, with annual fertilising, aerating and top dressing
<b>Infrastructure</b>	
<b>Player Shelter</b>	Two fixed shelters (each with 6 seat capacity) on the main field Temporary shelter / seats for the second field
<b>Spectator Area</b>	Some fixed seating around the fields (can include park furniture)
<b>Spectator Shelter</b>	Permanent or non-permanent shade / shelter for spectators
<b>Flood Lighting</b>	Minimum one field to have floodlights which provide full field coverage to match practice and training standard Lighting to level 100 lux and comply to Australian Standard 2560.2.3-Football (All Codes)
<b>Field Fencing</b>	Pipe and rail fencing for main field only, with other field(s) unfenced (Council reserves only)
<b>Reserve Fencing</b>	Council to assess on a case by case basis, however, as a basic Principle reserve fencing should only be considered where senior competition is played, or there is a safety issue
<b>Car Parking</b> Disabled parking to be provided	Off-street parking for minimum 30 cars, with additional on or off-street parking for 35 cars
<b>Scoreboard</b>	Fixed and permanent on main field

## Tennis - Desired Standards of Provision

<i>Sports Facility</i>	<i>Local</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Regional</i>
<b>Playing Surface</b>			
<b>No. of Courts</b>	1 – 2 courts	Minimum 4 courts	Minimum 12 courts
<b>Playing Surface</b>	Hard court (typically multi-use courts with line-marking for tennis and netball)	Synthetic grass or hard court surface  Minimum 2 courts to be dedicated tennis courts (avoid grass and porous surfaces)	Approved surface(s) by Tennis Australia
<b>Infrastructure</b>			
<b>Flood Lighting</b>		Competition standard  Minimum 2 courts lit to comply to Australian Standard 2560.2.1-Tennis, being 350 lux and poles at 8.0m	Competition standard  Minimum 8 courts lit to comply to Australian Standard 2560.2.1-Tennis, being up to 1,000 lux and poles at 8.0m
<b>Facility Fencing</b>	Each court is fenced (for new and upgraded fencing use 3.5m black PVC coated chain-mesh fencing)		
<b>Car Parking</b> Dedicated disabled parking provided at District and Regional levels	On-street parking	On-street and / or off- street parking for minimum 25 cars	Off-street parking for minimum 40 cars

## Pavilions / Clubrooms

The following tables provide recommended sizes for specific components of pavilions and clubrooms that would be suitable for the nominated sports for this study. The recommended sizes consider relevant building code requirements and existing industry standards. Spatial allowances for ancillary areas, such as pedestrian circulation, service areas, foyers, etc., would be additional to the areas identified in the tables.

*Note, that recommendations are subject to compliance with current Building Code of Australia (BCA) requirements and that current BCA standards prevail.*

Two total areas have been provided for each pavilion and clubroom type, the first being the floor area that includes those spaces considered to be 'core' requirements for users and which should reasonably be expected to be provided by Council when the building is first constructed. The second floor area total is an allowance which should be set aside during the planning phase for a reserve to enable the user group(s) to expand the building in the future to accommodate additional areas for which the user groups are responsible for providing, i.e. social and bar areas.

Due to the inherent differences in pavilions and clubrooms for the different sports included in this study, five tables have been prepared to guide provision for the following sports:

1. Football / Cricket Pavilion.
2. Netball Rooms.
3. Soccer Pavilion.
4. Tennis / Lawn Bowls Clubroom.

*Note, that pavilion allowances for the field sports have been based on two change rooms per building. Where there are two or more playing surfaces, Council should provide up to four change rooms.*

## Australian Football and Cricket Pavilion - Desired Standards of Provision

Facility Component	Building Code Requirements	Suggested Size	Comments & Assumptions (e.g. number of people)
		District	
Change Rooms	Not specific	90m <sup>2</sup> Home: 45m <sup>2</sup> Away: 45m <sup>2</sup>	Allows for 2 change rooms (1 home and 1 away) and up to 25 players changing at one time.
Showers & Toilets	For each 10 participants: 2 pans, 1 basin and 1 shower	46m <sup>2</sup> Home: 23m <sup>2</sup> Away: 23m <sup>2</sup>	For each change room allow for 25 persons: 3 pans, 2 urinals and 3 showers. (Contemporary user needs now suggest showers should be cubicled for privacy reasons).
Umpires Room (includes showers and toilets)	1 pan, 1 basin and 1 shower	15m <sup>2</sup>	Shower space should also incorporate a space for changing (as is commonly provided at caravan parks) to facilitate mixed gender use in umpire's rooms.
First Aid Room		10m <sup>2</sup>	
Public Toilets (includes disabled)	Male: 1 pan per 250 people, 1 basin per 150 people. Female: 1 pan per 75 people, 1 basin per 150 people.	35m <sup>2</sup> Male: 15m <sup>2</sup> Female: 15m <sup>2</sup> Disabled: 5m <sup>2</sup>	Specific area required will depend on an assessment of the average crowd and peak crowds. Allowance here is based on an average District football crowd of 500.
Canteen	Not specific	25m <sup>2</sup>	Canteen facilities can be shared between user groups.
Storage	Not specific	20m <sup>2</sup>	Amount of storage will depend on the number of teams sharing the pavilion from the same club. One internally-accessed store and one externally-accessed store should be provided.
Time Keeping/Scorers	Not Specific	3m <sup>2</sup>	Room/space will need a clear view to the playing field.
Utility/Cleaners Room	Not specific	5m <sup>2</sup>	Separate cleaners and utility space for items, such as hot water units & meters, cleaning equipment, and bin store.
<b>Total</b>		<b>249m<sup>2</sup></b>	

Future Club Areas 195m<sup>2</sup>  
(social: 180m<sup>2</sup>; bar/fridge: 15m<sup>2</sup>)

**Total Pavilion Footprint 444m<sup>2</sup>**



## Soccer Pavilion - Desired Standards of Provision

Facility Component	Building Code Requirements	Suggested Size	Comments & Assumptions (e.g. number of people)
		District	
Change Rooms	Not specific	120m <sup>2</sup> Home: 2 x 30m <sup>2</sup> Away: 2 x 30m <sup>2</sup>	Allows for 4 change rooms and up to 14 players changing at one time.
Showers & Toilets	For each 10 participants: 2 pans, 1 basin and 1 shower	36m <sup>2</sup> Home: 18m <sup>2</sup> Away: 18m <sup>2</sup>	For each change room allow for 14 persons: 2 pans, 1 basin and 2 showers.
Referees Room (includes showers and toilets)	1 pan, 1 basin and 1 shower	15m <sup>2</sup>	Shower space should also incorporate a space for changing (as is commonly provided at caravan parks) to facilitate mixed gender use in umpire's rooms.
First Aid Room		10m <sup>2</sup>	
Public Toilets (includes disabled)	Male: 1 pan per 250 people, 1 basin per 150 people. Female: 1 pan per 75 people, 1 basin per 150 people.	35m <sup>2</sup> Male: 15m <sup>2</sup> Female: 15m <sup>2</sup> Disabled: 5m <sup>2</sup>	Specific area required will depend on an assessment of the average crowd and peak crowds. Allowance here is based on an average soccer crowd of 100.
Canteen	Not specific	20m <sup>2</sup>	
Storage	Not specific	20m <sup>2</sup>	Amount of storage will depend on the number of teams sharing the pavilion from the same club. One internally-accessed store and one externally-accessed store should be provided.
Utility/Cleaners Room	Not specific	5m <sup>2</sup>	Separate cleaners and utility space for items, such as hot water units & meters, cleaning equipment, and bin store.
<b>Total</b>		<b>261m<sup>2</sup></b>	

Future Club Areas 155m<sup>2</sup>  
(social: 140m<sup>2</sup>; bar/fridge: 15m<sup>2</sup>)

**Total Pavilion Footprint 416m<sup>2</sup>**

## Tennis / Lawn Bowls Clubroom - Desired Standards of Provision

Facility Component	Building Code Requirements	Suggested Size		Comments & Assumptions (e.g. number of people)
		District	Regional (tennis only)	
Change Rooms	Not specific	20m <sup>2</sup> Male: 10m <sup>2</sup> Female: 10m <sup>2</sup>	30m <sup>2</sup> Male: 10m <sup>2</sup> Female: 10m <sup>2</sup>	Allows for separate change rooms for male and female players. Space will increase proportional to the number of courts / greens.
Showers & Toilets	For each 10 participants: 2 pans, 1 basin and 1 shower	16m <sup>2</sup> Male: 8m <sup>2</sup> Female: 8m <sup>2</sup>	36m <sup>2</sup> Male: 18m <sup>2</sup> Female: 18m <sup>2</sup>	District: Single cubicled shower, 1 toilet and 1 basin for each change room. Regional: Two cubicled showers, 2 toilets and 2 basins for each change room
Internal Disabled Toilet (Includes a shower, and doubles as a family change room)	Minimum 1 to be provided	8m <sup>2</sup>	8m <sup>2</sup>	
First Aid Room		8m <sup>2</sup>	10m <sup>2</sup>	
Lounge Area	Not specific	80m <sup>2</sup>	100m <sup>2</sup>	Will depend upon the total number of courts / greens, which will influence anticipated membership numbers.
Office / Administration	Not specific	0m <sup>2</sup>	16m <sup>2</sup>	For club coach, tournament control, etc.
Kitchen / Servery	Not specific	20m <sup>2</sup>	25m <sup>2</sup>	Kitchen and bar areas can be combined
Storage	Not specific	15m <sup>2</sup>	15m <sup>2</sup>	Will be dependent upon the number of courts / greens the facility will service. One internally-accessed store and one externally-accessed store should be provided.
Utility/Cleaners Room	Not specific	5m <sup>2</sup>	10m <sup>2</sup>	Separate cleaners and utility space for items, such as hot water units & meters, cleaning equipment, and bin store.
External Covered Viewing Area	Not specific	30m <sup>2</sup>	40m <sup>2</sup>	Will depend on an assessment of the average crowd and peak crowds and number of courts / greens at the facility.
<b>Total</b>		<b>202m<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>290m<sup>2</sup></b>	
Future Club Areas		0m <sup>2</sup>	0m <sup>2</sup>	
<b>Total Pavilion Footprint</b>		<b>202m<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>290m<sup>2</sup></b>	

## Appendix 6

### List of People / Groups Consulted During the Study

## Summary of Stakeholder Consultation Undertaken During the Study

The representatives from each of the groups who attended meetings and workshops are listed in the following tables.

### Members of the Project Management Group

Name	Position / Department	Organisation
Gerard Feain	Leisure Services Manager	Mitchell Shire Council
Mary-ann McCue	Recreation Officer	Mitchell Shire Council
Colin McClounan	Community Engagement Coordinator	Dept of Planning & Community Development
Jenny Dyer	Hume Region	Dept of Planning & Community Development

### Other Council Staff and Stakeholders

Name	Position / Department	Organisation
David Keenan	Chief Executive Officer	Mitchell Shire Council
Rob McVernon	General Manager Community & Recreation	Mitchell Shire Council
David Blore	Acting General Manager Planning & Environment	Mitchell Shire Council
Mukul Hatwell	Planning & Development Manager	Mitchell Shire Council
Kerrie Birtwistle	Director Sustainable Development	Mitchell Shire Council
Michelle Read	Director	Planning for Communities (Consultant)

### Participants in the Sports Groups' Workshops (4 – 6 April 2011)

#### Swimming

Name	Club / Group
Dawn Pescod	Kilmore Swim Club
Lynton Pyle	Kilmore Swim Club and representative for Swimming Victoria's District 22 (Hume Upper Goulburn)
Jennifer Fuhrmeister	Seymour Swim Club
Lisa Bess	Seymour Swim Club

#### Australian Rules Football

Name	Club / Group
Matt Bell	Wallan Football Netball Club
Dave Drummond	Seymour Junior Football Netball Club
Debbie Ure	Seymour Junior Football Netball Club
Rob Lynch	Kilmore Football Netball Club
Stacey Godwill	Kilmore Football Netball Club
Daniel Cantwell	Kilmore Junior Football Club

David Gregson	St Marys Junior Football Netball Club
Ted Wearne	Broadford Football Netball Club
Robert Telfer	Wandong Junior Football Club
Shane Hughan	Valley Sport – Regional Sports Assembly

### Lawn Bowls

<b>Name</b>	<b>Club / Group</b>
G Edmonds	Wallan Bowling Club
K Page	Wallan Bowling Club
Derrick Boyd	Seymour Bowling Club
Ian Power	Broadford Bowling Club
James Bruce	Broadford Bowling Club
Gordon Marr	Kilmore Bowling Club
Robert Micklethwait	Seymour VRI Bowling Club
Stephen McGregor	Central Bowls Association
Max Deason	Central Bowls Association

### Athletics

<b>Name</b>	<b>Club / Group</b>
Bianca Humm	Kilmore and District Little Athletics
Rebecca Bath	Seymour Little Athletics Centre

### Cricket

<b>Name</b>	<b>Club / Group</b>
Matthew Irving	Broadford Cricket Club
Trevor Chapman	Eastern Hill Cricket Club
Chris Boyd	Wallan & District Cricket Club
Mark Barnes	Wallan & District Cricket Club
Adam Dennehy	Wandong Cricket Club

### Tennis

<b>Name</b>	<b>Club / Group</b>
Belinda Lorensini	Kilmore Tennis Club
Margaret Elliot	Kilmore Tennis Club
Marg Welsh	Seymour Tennis Club
Mark Brett	Seymour Tennis Club
Karen Telfer	Wandong Tennis Club
Tracey Trenfield	Wandong Tennis Club
Helen Arthur	Wallan Tennis Club
Karen Mizza	Wallan Tennis Club
Adam Feiner	Tennis Victoria (Regional Victoria East)

Equestrian

<b>Name</b>	<b>Club / Group</b>
Lynda McCarthy	Beveridge & District Pony Club
Rose Nott	Beveridge & District Pony Club
David Nott	Australian Stock Horses (Melbourne Branch)
Bernie Melvaine	Kilmore & District Adult Riding Club
Deb Brew	Kilmore & District Adult Riding Club
Louise Morris	Seymour Riding for Disabled
Coral Cole	Seymour Riding for Disabled
Kate Brown	Pyalong Riding Club
Katrina Rolls	Pyalong Riding Club
Tanya Limbrick	Glenaroua Riding Club
Maxine Coucill	Glenaroua Riding Club
Mark Denton	Broadford Pony Club
Liz Turner	Broadford Riders Club Representative from Pony Club Victoria Central Zone
Heather McCall	Seymour Pony Club
Alison Hall	Seymour Dressage and Show Jumping Club
Jenny Phillips	Standardbred Riding Group

Basketball

<b>Name</b>	<b>Club / Group</b>
Barry Parkinson	Broadford Basketball Association
Peter Elliott	Seymour Basketball Association
Gary O'Brien	Wallan Basketball Inc
Craig Stewart	Wallan Basketball Inc

Netball

<b>Name</b>	<b>Club / Group</b>
Jane Scully	Broadford Netball Club (Junior) and Kilmore Broadford Netball Association
Jenny McKay	Kilmore Broadford Netball Association
Debbie Cere	Seymour Junior Football Netball Club
Stacey Godwill	Kilmore Football Netball Club
Wendy Innes	Wallan Football Netball Club
Annie Greenman	Pyalong Netball Club
Annette Upton	Wandong Netball Club
Pauline Bourke	Wandong Netball Club
Scott Washington	Seymour Junior Netball Association

### Other Sports / Groups Consulted

<b>Name</b>	<b>Club / Group</b>
Shane Hughan	Valley Sport – Regional Sports Assembly
Stephen McGregor	Central Bowls Association
Max Deason	Central Bowls Association
Adam Feiner	Tennis Victoria (Regional Victoria East)
Liz Turner	Pony Club Victoria Central Zone
Shane Wharton	Eastern Lions Cart Club
Sergio Prado	Seymour Youth and Fitness Centre
Sue McCall	Seymour Golf Club
Phil	Seymour Golf Club
Greg Jones	Mitchell Bicycle Users Group
John Pyle	Seymour Broadford Cycling Club
Jenni	Birralee Gymnastics Club
Caroline	Birralee Gymnastics Club
Bruce Nicholls	Kilmore Rugby Club
John	Kilmore Rugby Club
Jeremy Holt	Kilmore Rugby Club
Jamie	Kilmore Rugby Club
Anthony De Battista	Mitchell Ranges Soccer Club
David Bulluss	Mitchell Ranges Soccer Club
Maria Berry	Football Federation Victoria
Adrienne Furness	Lone Tree Hill Cutting Club
Business Manager	Seymour College
David Bulluss	Broadford Secondary College
Melissa Burton	Assumption College
David Wittmer	Kilmore International School
Pam Hunter	Wallan Secondary College

## Participants in the Committee of Management Meetings (25 & 30 May and 1 June 2011)

Name	Reserve Committee
Laurie Boyd	Kilmore Cricket & Recreation Reserve CoM
Leigh Vague	Tallarook Recreation Reserve CoM
Bill Rucker	Kings Park CoM
Yvonne Maxwell	Seymour Tennis Complex CoM
Paul Grattan	Seymour Tennis Complex CoM
Mark Brett	Seymour Tennis Complex CoM
Marg Welsh	Seymour Tennis Complex CoM
Bruce Anderson	Seymour Tennis Complex CoM
Simon Stewart	Beveridge Recreation Reserve CoM
Tony Pannuzzo	Greenhill Reserve CoM
Rob Timmins	Greenhill Reserve CoM
Alan Vidal	Greenhill Reserve CoM
Michelle Burns	RB Robson Stadium CoM
Michael Burns	RB Robson Stadium CoM
Cameron Hardy	RB Robson Stadium CoM
Rhonda Cole	LB Davern Reserve CoM
Robert Telfer	LB Davern Reserve CoM
Kate Mabon	Tooborac Recreation Reserve CoM
Amanda Day	Pyalong Recreation Reserve CoM
Jeanine Stephens	Pyalong Recreation Reserve CoM
Michael Hoey	Pyalong Recreation Reserve CoM
Brendan Ryan	Pyalong Recreation Reserve CoM
Kate Brown	Pyalong Recreation Reserve CoM
Deb Shield	Pyalong Recreation Reserve CoM
Margaret Elliott	JJ Clancy Reserve CoM
Rob Lynch	JJ Clancy Reserve CoM
Peter Duncan	Harley Hammond Reserve CoM
Daniel Bartlett	Harley Hammond Reserve CoM