



Sutherland Hockey Club



Sutherland Hockey Club

Ground and Local Residents Management Plan

August 2011

The purpose of this document

- To provide an overview and history of the Sutherland Hockey Club
- To review the management plan for the Hockey facility at Garnett Road Sutherland.
- To outline the requirements to manage the facility and look to work closely with the local residents to ensure we do everything possible to minimise disruption to them.
- To facilitate discussion with council, the residents and seek agreement to the management plan with a view of extending our current Development Application (DA) to include some nights games.

Short History of the Sutherland Hockey Club

The Club was formed in November, 1965 as the Sutherland District Men's Hockey Club. For the 1966 and 1967 seasons the Club's home ground was Woollooware Oval. Since 1968 the Club has been based at Hockey Park, Sylvania.

The present Clubhouse was constructed in 1980 and the first synthetic grass field laid in 1989. In 1980, membership was expanded to include senior and junior women players who participated in local and Sydney wide competitions. The men won their first Premier A First Grade Premiership in 1991 and the women won their first Sutherland Shire Women's First Grade Premiership in 1987.

The Club has a long list of players who have achieved international representative honours ----- Dennis Lisk, Peter Huk, Des King, Garry Jennison, Peter Shea, Michael York, Adam Commens and most recently Kate Hollywood.

Sutherland is one of largest hockey Clubs in Sydney. In 2011 seven men's teams, seven women's teams and 16 junior teams were fielded. There were 47 Minkey and 7 Aside players registered. The Club continues to conduct a Summer 6 Aside Hockey Competition for primary and secondary schools. This involves over 30 schools and over 1,000 participants. It is the biggest competition of its kind in Australia.

Sutherland Hockey Club Mission Statement

1. Promote the Olympic sport of hockey in the Sutherland Shire.
2. Provide the best and safest facilities for all players.
3. Provide the best possible support services that enable all players to achieve their individual potential and goals.

Our Field Self Sufficiency Model

In 1989 Sutherland Club built its first synthetic turf pitch, mirroring a move to fields that allow the highest quality hockey to be played. It was the second synthetic field installed by a club in Sydney and fitted the SDHC's continuing vision to provide the best quality facilities for its players. The field was entirely financed by the club members through a bank loan repaid in six years.

To achieve the loan six club members mortgaged their homes. In 2001, a new water-based synthetic field was installed, again in keeping with the demand to play on the highest quality field. Once again, SDHC members funded it through a bank loan. It is the sole such facility in the Sutherland Shire and is heavily used by players of all ages, male and female, as well as in government and private school competitions. It is, in essence, a publicly available sports facility for the Shire and beyond. There is no alternative in the area. After three seasons of use, this relatively new turf field had deteriorated seriously and posed risk to players.

Talks with the construction company, Astro Turf, resulted in them agreeing to replace the surface under the terms of the warranty. Before finalisation of the replacement plans Astro Turf became internationally bankrupt and SDHC had no opportunity to pursue warranty claims initiated against it. Continuing expensive repairs were not considered a viable solution. The turf field requires replacement and SDHC formally decided in October, 2004, to pursue the construction of a new surface.

Tenders from three companies indicated replacement would cost in the range of \$500,000. SDHC has currently erased the debt associated with the previous surface and is now once more servicing the debt associated with the new surface to continue to provide a high quality hockey facility for the Sutherland Shire as well as other users. The new surface was opened in June, 2005, and is regarded by NSW hockey as an outstanding facility

The History of Hockey in Sydney

(information acquired from an interview with Harry Riley published in The Hockey Circle, September 1939)

- In 1905 the first Clubs were formed by individuals to play regular hockey in Sydney. These were the Corona HC (Phil Norton) and the Excelsior HC (Harry Riley). These two teams played regularly on various Saturday afternoons.
- In 1906 a Hockey Association (NSWHA) formed with games being played at Concord Park Oval.
- In 1907 Wal Rothwell founded the Buccaneers HC from the Burwood United Cricket Club (BUCC) and invited Harry Riley to join and assist the Club.
- 1926/27 saw the next significant change to Sydney hockey following a 1922 NSWHA decision that all clubs had to adopt District names and that residential qualifications would apply.
- A Metropolitan Hockey Association was created: Buccaneers Club became Cumberland HC and Harry Riley, who played out of his district, then set out to form the Randwick Club.
- In 1928, Randwick won the new MHA Division 1 competition and was the initial receiver of "The Markham Cup". This was presented by Roy Markham in honour of his brother. Randwick's second and third teams also won their Divisions. Newtown Club was formed by Rupert Markham around this time.
- The limited SHA records available for the years between 1928 and 1939 show that other clubs, apart from those mentioned above, who played in the MHA competition in these years were - Mosman, Sydney University, Western Suburbs, Northern Districts, Glebe, St James, City, Eastern Suburbs, YMCA, Mascot, Pilgrim, and Paddington.
- In 1931 a Metropolitan HA representative team played a New Zealand team at Rushcutters Bay Park, which resulted in a draw. Harry Riley was manager and coach of this team.
- In 1932 two MHA teams played exhibition matches in Newcastle, resulting in six teams being formed there by the end of that season.

(Further details from 1939)

Between 1939 and 1945 a limited MHA competition appears to have been played during World War 2 but the Markham Cup and Pilgrim Trophy (2nd Grade) spent most of those years with the Glebe Club.

In 1956 the MHA was transformed into the Sydney Hockey Association.

THE COMPETITION TODAY

- The Competitions are run on Saturdays and Sundays for Junior Players (boys and girls), Men's and Women's games .
- The games are usually of 35 minutes duration with a 5 minute turnover before the next games.
- At Sutherland games start from 8.05am and can run through to 5pm depending on scheduling.
- Each team has 11 players on the field for the match plus officials.
- The Competition runs from April through September playing against teams representative of all Sydney area's.

The History of Schools Summer Competition

This Competition is organised by a Sub-Committee of the Sutherland District Hockey Club. It is led by a Club member as Co-ordinator. A group of teachers, parents and club members assist in the planning and running of the Competition.

HISTORY

- This Competition has been in operation for thirty years. It started with just 6 teams and now caters for well over 100 teams.
- The idea developed out of a need to increase the number of boys and girls playing winter hockey in our area. Winter players were given the task of going back to their schools and encouraging their mates to try 6 Aside Hockey. The Competition moved to Sylvania Hockey Centre in 1986.

AIMS OF THE COMPETITION

- To introduce the skills of Hockey (an Olympic Sport) to children
- To encourage physical activity
- To build sportsmanship and school spirit
- To have fun

COMPETITION REGARDED HIGHLY

- This School's 6 Aside Hockey Competition is regarded by NSW Hockey Association and Sydney Hockey Association as a model for Associations and Clubs across the state to look at and use for promoting Junior Hockey. NSW Hockey Association has it on their website – as "Super Sixes".
- It is the largest Competition of its type in NSW and, many believe, in Australia. We have had a number of Hockey VIP's visit our Competition to see it in action and they have all been very impressed.

The History of Schools Summer Competition cont.

THE COMPETITION

- We run the Competitions on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.
- The games are of 25 minutes duration with a 5 minute turnover before the next games.
- We have divided the field into quarters and run cross field – we use aluminium boards to divide the fields.
- Each team has 6 players on the field for the match.
- Interchanges can be made at any time.
- Junior Primary games are on Mondays, Senior Primary on Tuesdays and Secondary on Wednesdays
- The Competition runs from Week 1 Term 4 until week 8 Term 4 (8 weeks in total).
- All finals are played on the Thursday of Week 8.
- We have always held it at this time and have incorporated daylight saving time into our program.

TEAMS

- The Primary Teams can be all boys, all girls or mixed, and compete against one another depending on their abilities.
- The Secondary students compete in Boys, Girls or Mixed Competitions.

The Following Plans cover the area's as noted by the Local Residents as concerns

Concern

1. General
2. Consultation
3. Water Spraying
4. Lighting
5. Noise
6. Night Games
7. Traffic & parking
8. Hours of Operation
9. Summer Schools competition
10. Balls being hit over the fence

1. General

Action	Responsibility/ Due Date	Status/Comments
a) Initiate a complaint log to ensure complaints are registered and actioned as appropriate.	Committee	
b) Defined contact point (phone number issued) for complaints to be used by residents if issues arise.	Committee	
c) Neighbourhood management plan to be in place and audited on a yearly basis including demonstrated examples and details of actions taken.	Committee	
d) Copy of the Residents Management Plan is kept at the clubhouse and is the responsibility of the Duty Officer to enforce the actions as needed.	Duty Officer	
e) Work with Good Sports management on addressing these issues based on their services and experience.	Committee/ Good Sports	

2. Consultation

Action	Responsibility/ Due Date	Status/Comments
a) Twice yearly neighbour meetings which will be chaired by an independent body (from Sutherland Council tbc).	Committee	
b) Residents invited to monthly committee meetings.	Committee	
c) Pre notice of special hockey events e.g. Herb Fibbon's carnival and functions to be distributed to the local neighbours. There are normally no more than 3 functions per season.	Committee	
d) Residents to provide contact email addresses for communication purposes or addresses so information can be sent out.	Local residents	

3. Water Spray

Action	Responsibility/ Due Date	Status/Comments
a) Check the water cannon pressure yearly to limit excess spray.	Facility Manager	
b) On windy days, look at ways to hand water on the eastern side of the ground and only use the cannons on the western side of the field.	Committee/ Duty officer	
c) Investigate the costing to erect “Perspex or sound barriers” around the ground to reduce the water spray into neighbours houses and reduce noise from the ground.	Committee	<i>This would have to be in consultation with Sutherland Council.</i>
d) Investigate the erection of a “windsock” to assist with strength of wind and direction to determine use of water cannons.	Facility Manager	

4. Lighting

Action	Responsibility/ Due Date	Status/Comments
a) Test the lighting spray and angle on a bi-yearly basis.	Facility Manager	
b) Look into getting a light timer that has a recordable feature to log the on/off times of the lights. This could form part of our management audit plan.	Facility Manager	
c) Training to be scheduled to finish by 9.15/20pm to allow 10/15 minutes for people to exit the ground safely.	Ground schedule manager	
d) Extend the exit lighting on the ground which will allow for the main lights to be turned off by 9.30pm and will allow people to leave the ground safely. This will include suitable lighting around all walkways and dugouts.	Facility manager	

4. Lighting cont.

Action	Responsibility/ Due Date	Status/<i>Comments</i>
e) Investigate if a security cover can be installed over the lighting timer to reduce the risk of the timer times being changed.	Facility manager	
f) If the ground is not being used for training then the lights should not be turned on.	Ground co-ordinator	

5. Noise

Action	Responsibility/ Due Date	Status/Comments
a) Advise residents of upcoming key functions and special hockey events. This will be done by letters or email as provided by residents.	Committee	
b) Minimise the use of the Public Address (PA) system. The only events that the PA is used are Summer Schools Competition and Herb Fibbons carnival.	Schools competition manager	
c) All teams participating at our ground to be notified of requirements to minimise noise where possible and to ensure they leave the area as quickly and quietly as possible.	Committee	
d) Install signage around the ground to ensure people respect the resident's privacy and to be as quiet as possible.	Committee	

5. Noise cont.

Action	Responsibility/ Due Date	Status/Comments
e) Review the option of installing sound barriers around the ground. This would also assist with reduction of water spray into resident's houses.	Committee	
f) Once lights are turned off players will not be allowed onto the field hitting balls and playing games.	Duty officer	
g) Investigate if there are other types of PA speakers that could be used or redirect them back to the club house.	Facility manager	
h) Players and spectators to respect and follow the "Code of Conduct" in respect to language and noise pollution.	Committee/ Duty Officer	

5. Noise cont.

Action	Responsibility/ Due Date	Status/Comments
i) Teams/players are not allowed onto the ground for training prior to or after allotted times and coaches must be present. This forms part of the “duty of care” policy along with the noise reduction management plan.	Duty officer/ Committee	
j) When fewer teams need to train, they can be allocated to train in the North Western corner of the ground.	Grounds manager	
k) When possible we will look to use other venues away from the hockey club for major functions.	Social co-ordinator	
l) Investigate how other sports within the Sutherland Shire handle ground announcements.	Committee	

6. Night Games

Action	Responsibility/ Due Date	Status/Comments
a) Suspend all night games until this residents management plan and proposed DA are in place and finalised.	Committee	All Ladies night games have been suspended until further notice.

7. Traffic/Parking

Action	Responsibility/ Due Date	Status/Comments
<p>a) All team officials to be advised of the parking and traffic management requirements. This will include a notice that visitors are to use the available car park and not to park on the footpath or block resident's driveway's.</p>	<p>Committee/ Sutherland Council</p>	<p><i>Help from Sutherland Council with this item will be requested.</i></p>
<p>b) Visitors to the club are encouraged to use the car park which has 80 parking places available. If parking is not available in the car park then the surrounding streets are to be used.</p>	<p>Committee</p>	<p><i>A car park analysis of expected traffic movement to be completed to be submitted with our DA application.</i></p>
<p>c) Look to Sutherland council to provide more off street parking at the ground if possible.</p>	<p>Sutherland Council</p>	

8. Hours of Operation

Action	Responsibility/ Due Date	Status/ <i>Comments</i>
a) Reinforce Operating times to all club members. These are to be included on the clubs web site.	Committee	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The ground is locked and is only opened by a Committee member. 2. Warm ups only commence at 8.00am and games do not commence before 8.05am on weekends. This situation has been communicated to all clubs participating in the Sydney competition. 3. Training lights are turned off at 9.30pm controlled by a timing system.
b) Approach Sydney Hockey to have no games scheduled at Sutherland before 8.15am.	Committee	
c) Build a Sandwich Board that shows the hours of Operations with key start & finish times.	Committee	

9. Summer Hockey Competition

Action	Responsibility/ Due Date	Status/Comments
a) During the Summer Competition an area of the ground is blocked off to players and spectators. The only areas where players and spectators can gather are on the western bank and in the Clubhouse. No people are allowed on the sides of the ground where there are houses.	Duty officer	
b) Watering of the field will be minimal – before games commence. This will be done in line with safety management procedures ensuring player safety. On an extremely hot day it may be necessary to water mid-competition.	Duty officer	
c) Our Council Car park accommodates 80 cars and we certainly encourage parents to use this facility.	Duty officer	<i>Of course there is some overflow into the nearby streets, but this is the same with most sports venues.</i>
d) Use of the sound system is necessary to keep teams on time: announcement of games, start and finish. All other announcements will be restricted.	Duty officer	

9. Summer Schools Competition cont.

Action	Responsibility/ Due Date	Status/Comments
e) Umpires have been instructed to use their whistle only for running the game, and at no other time.	Duty officer	
f) Restrict the use of lighting during the Summer Competition to a minimum without increasing the potential for injury to the players.	Duty officer	The lighting used each night would be a maximum of one hour. As this competition is run during daylight saving time, the further we move into the competition, the less lighting will be required.
g) Once the last game each day is completed, we will begin switching the lights off section by section (southern end, centre, and northern end) within ten minutes. This allows time for players and spectators to leave in safety. No one is allowed on the field once the competition games are completed.	Duty officer	

9. Summer Schools Competition cont.

Action	Responsibility/ Due Date	Status/Comments
i) Parents, coaches and managers will be given a note at the beginning of the competition asking them to show courtesy and consideration towards the local residents.	Summer competition manager	
j) Team registration notices will include all safety and tournament responsibilities which will be signed off by all team managers or coaches. This will include parental responsibilities regarding Code of Conduct, parking, noise etc.	Summer competition manager/ Team Managers	
k) Signs will be placed on entrance gates reminding people to leave quietly and promptly.	Committee/ Facility Manager	

10. Balls being hit over the fence

Action	Responsibility/ Due Date	Status/Comments
a) Review the height of the fencing and look to council to increase the height if necessary.	Sutherland Council	
b) Look into netting to protect the residents property in line with that used at baseball fields or at Golf ranges.	Committee/ Sutherland Council	

Next steps

- Review this draft plan with Sutherland Council for comment.
- Present the finalised plan to the Planning Department for resubmission along with the Development Application.
- Act upon the plan following instructions from Sutherland Council.

Conclusion

- We believe that we can work with the local residents to ensure we do everything we can to minimise any disruption to their lifestyle.
- We are committed to work with the Sutherland Council using their expertise and resources with our submission against this management plan.
- We are a committed and united hockey club who want to see the best for hockey in the district.
- We are encouraging sports activity and development for all ages in the Sutherland community.