

## 11.5 Mudgee Sports Council Fees

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR COMMUNITY  
TO 21 APRIL 2021 ORDINARY MEETING  
GOV400088, A0360013

### RECOMMENDATION

#### That Council:

1. **receive the report by the Director Community on the Mudgee Sports Council Fees; and**
2. **endorse a refund or waiver of Mudgee Sports Council fees for summer sports for the 2020/21 season due to the impact of Covid-19 on sporting organisations.**

### Executive summary

This report seeks relief for sporting groups affected by Covid-19 as a result of a request from Mudgee Junior Cricket. The proposal to provide a refund to summer sports is broadly supported by the Mudgee Sports Council and follows on from a waiving of fees for winter sports for the 2020 season.

### Disclosure of Interest

Nil

### Detailed report

As with many aspects of society, sporting organisations were heavily impacted by Covid-19 throughout 2020. For winter sports, Council made the decision to waive fees for the 2020 season, with many sports deciding not to run a season at all. For summer sports, the last few weeks of the 2019/20 summer season were cancelled or severely impacted. There was also impact on the 2020/21 season with covid restrictions leading to changes in the way organisations could run competitions as well as significant impact on other fund-raising opportunities.

A request was received by the Mudgee Sports Council by Mudgee Junior Cricket for support to approach Council for a waiving of fees. It is noted that this is broadly supported by the Mudgee Sports Council.

Council may wish to consider the impact on other summer sports as well, such as Senior Cricket, Touch Football and Little Athletics. A refund of Sports Council Fees paid by these sports would have a significant benefit on these sporting organisations. The total amount would be approximately \$20,000 in waiver of fees. It is noted that Mudgee Little Athletics would require a refund of \$1,437.09 as they have already paid. The waiver of fees for other sports will be approximately \$2,400 for Junior Cricket; \$2,000 for Senior Cricket; and \$16,000 for Mudgee Touch.

Council may also wish to consider any relevant fees paid by sporting organisations in Gulgong and Kandos.

## Community Plan implications

<b>Theme</b>	<b>Looking After Our Community</b>
Goal	A safe and healthy community
Strategy	Support networks, program and facilities which promote health and wellbeing and encourage healthy lifestyles

## Strategic implications

### **Council Strategies**

Community Plan

### **Council Policies**

Fees and Charges

### **Legislation**

Not Applicable

## Financial implications

This recommendation would have a small impact on Council's budget of approximately \$20,000.

## Associated Risks

While it is important that sporting groups continue to make a proportionate ongoing contribution to the sporting facilities that Council provides, the impact of Covid-19 on sport in 2020 has been significant. While there is some risk that sports may begin to rely on making no direct contribution, it is assessed as being a minor risk in the context of the unusual nature of 2020 around the world.

SIMON JONES  
DIRECTOR COMMUNITY

30 March 2021

*Attachments:* Nil

APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION:

BRAD CAM  
GENERAL MANAGER