



BOROONDARA
City of Harmony

Myrtle and Macleay Park Management Plan

June 2018

Responsible Directorate: Environment and Infrastructure

Authorised By:

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1. Background

1.1. Purpose

The Myrtle and Macleay Park Management Plan (MMMP) outlines how Council will manage the active sporting field assets at Myrtle and Macleay Parks. The MMMP outlines usage levels and usage types for active sport within the precinct, while acknowledging the diversity of interests from other park users and nearby residents.

1.2. The site

Myrtle and Macleay Parks are located in Balwyn North, with street frontages to Belmore Road, Buchanan Avenue, Gildan Street and Severn Street. The two parks are one contiguous piece of open space, with Myrtle Park comprising the western part of the site, and Macleay Park comprising the eastern part.

The active sporting components of Myrtle and Macleay Parks are described below:



	Park	Description		Park	Description
1	Macleay Park	No. 1 / D.S. Bull Oval	5	Macleay Park	No. 5 Oval
2	Macleay Park	No.2 Oval	6	Myrtle Park	East Oval
3	Macleay Park	No. 3 Oval	7	Myrtle Park	West Oval
4	Macleay Park	Boroondara Netball Centre			

1.3. Strategy and policy context

Council has a number of strategic documents that are relevant to Myrtle and Macleay Parks that outline how they are used. These include:

- The Boroondara Community Plan;
- Boroondara Open Space Strategy; and
- Sport and Recreation Strategy.

Council adopted the Boroondara Open Space Strategy (BOSS) and BOSS Technical Report in 2013. This document is Council's blueprint for managing Boroondara's open space network. The BOSS Technical Report provides a hierarchy classification and a character classification for each park.

The hierarchy classification is a guide for analysing the spatial distribution of open space, and is a useful management tool to direct appropriate facility development and maintenance levels in different types of open space reserves. Myrtle and Macleay parks are classified as "Municipal Open Space", meaning they "primarily cater to residents of Boroondara but will also provide facilities that are used by residents from other municipalities. Generally, these areas of open space provide facilities that appeal to residents across the municipality."

The character classification of open space assists with identifying the overall management direction and intent for each open space. Myrtle and Macleay parks have a primary character classification of "Sporting". This sporting classification provides for "organised club based sporting use, and the outdoor grounds and facilities are available for general public use when no organised sporting events are in progress".

1.4. Challenges, issues and opportunities

MMMP responds to a number of challenges, issues and opportunities. These include:

- Achieving the right balance between active sporting use and residential amenity in the park and surrounds, being particularly mindful of lights, noise and traffic;
- Achieving the right balance between active sporting use and passive park use;
- Ensuring dog walkers have access and opportunities, noting that Macleay Park is a dog off leash park;
- Providing clarity and guidance around when and how Council will consult with residents and park users; and
- Managing turf quality and asset longevity.

2. Management Plan

2.1. Management vision and principles

The vision and principles underpinning this Plan are taken from the BOSS and Sport and Recreation Strategy.

The BOSS articulates a vision for “a vibrant liveable city, which fosters the environmental, cultural, economic and personal wellbeing of our community”. It outlines the following open space principles and aims:

- Accessible
- Adaptable
- Connected
- Cultural
- Diverse
- Equitable
- Recreational
- Shared
- Social
- Sustainable

The Sport and Recreation Strategy 2016 articulates a vision that “all people in Boroondara, regardless of their circumstances, have the opportunity and encouragement to actively participate in sport and/or recreational activities. As a result, they will enjoy a healthier and higher quality of life.”

2.2. Usage parameters

2.2.1. Usage Types

The different areas at Myrtle / Macleay Park are suitable for different sports and activities. The table below describes the uses that are suitable for each location:

Location	Summer	Winter
Macleay No. 1 / D.S. Bull Oval	Cricket (all levels) School use Personal training and other activities of a similar scale	Soccer (all levels) School use Personal training and other activities of a similar scale
Macleay No. 2 Oval	Cricket (all levels) School use Personal training and other activities of a similar scale	Soccer (all levels) School use Personal training and other activities of a similar scale
Macleay No. 3 Oval	Cricket (all levels) School use Personal training and other activities of a similar scale	Soccer (all levels) School use Personal training and other activities of a similar scale
Macleay No. 5 Oval	Cricket (junior and training overflow) General active sporting use	Soccer (junior and training overflow) General active sporting use
Boroondara Netball Centre	Netball	Netball
Myrtle East Oval	Cricket (all levels)	Baseball
Myrtle West Oval	Cricket (junior and training overflow)	Baseball

2.2.2. Summer Usage Times

Council will consider the following times for sporting club seasonal allocations:

Location	Day use			Evening use				
	M-F	Sat	Sun	M	T	W	Th	F
Macleay 1 / D.S. Bull Oval	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Macleay 2	•	•	•			•	•	•
Macleay 3	•	•	•	•		•		•
Boroondara Netball Centre	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Macleay 5	•	•						
Myrtle East	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Myrtle West	•	•						•

Comments:

- Day use is typically between the hours of 6am and 6pm;
- Evening use is typically between 5pm and 9pm;
- Weekend use is between 8am and 5pm;
- Lights are not used in summer;
- Macleay No. 1 and No. 2 ovals will be used in conjunction with each other to best manage turf wear and tear; and
- The use of the cricket nets is included in Myrtle East Oval allocations.

2.2.3. Winter Usage Times

Council will consider the following times for sporting club seasonal allocations:

Location	Day use			Evening use				
	M-F	Sat	Sun	M	T	W	Th	F
Macleay 1 / D.S. Bull Oval	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Macleay 2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Macleay 3	•	•	•					
Boroondara Netball Centre	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Macleay 5	•	•						
Myrtle East	•	•			•	•	•	
Myrtle West	•	•						

Comments:

- Day use is typically between 6am and 6pm, and does not allow the use of lights;
- Evening use is typically between 5pm and 9pm, and allows the use of lights from 5:30 pm;
- Weekend use is typically between 8am and 5pm, and does not allow the use of lights; and
- Macleay No. 1 and No. 2 Ovals will be used in conjunction with each other to best manage turf wear and tear.

2.2.4. Casual bookings and group training

Requests for casual bookings, personal trainers, short duration (up to 1 hour) and non-sporting club activities will be assessed on a case by case basis. These activities will be allocated within the following times:

- Weekdays - after 6am and before 7.15pm
- Saturdays - after 7am and before 5pm
- Sundays - after 8am and before 5pm

2.2.5. Passive use

MMMP provides respite times over parts of the site, where active sport does not occur, with a view to providing increased opportunities for passive use of the park, dogs, and dog owners (noting the dog off-leash areas), and reducing amenity impacts on local residents.

Dog off leash opportunities at Macleay Park are:

- One oval unallocated every weeknight in summer;
- Two ovals unallocated every weeknight in winter;
- One oval unallocated on Sunday; and
- Weekday daytime use will be available as ovals are not booked to capacity.

Passive park use opportunities at Myrtle and Macleay are:

- All dog off leash opportunities described above;
- An additional oval unallocated every weeknight;
- One additional oval unallocated on Sundays in summer; and
- Two additional ovals unallocated on Sundays in winter.

In addition to these programmed free times, the fields are not booked to 100% capacity, so there are other opportunities for passive usage when there are no bookings.

2.3. Physical Works

2.3.1. Maintenance

Council has responsibilities to undertake maintenance of the park and the physical assets within the park. This is undertaken to achieve quality service levels for active and passive park users, and to proactively manage risk. This type of work includes things like mowing, removing graffiti, fixing something that's broken, or remediating something that is a safety risk. Council, as a general rule, will not undertake consultation prior to performing works of this nature.

2.3.2. Renewal

Council has responsibilities to ensure that existing assets are maintained in a way that maximises their useful life, and to replace them as they reach the end of their useful life. Often times, when an asset needs to be replaced, an upgrade is required to meet modern day standards. Council will generally consult prior to undertaking renewal works, but may not if the renewal work is small in scale or not visible. In the case of a “like for like” renewal, this consultation will be to inform residents. In the case of an upgrade or any other levels of potential sensitivity or impact, consultation will invite feedback. The table below provides guidance as to how council proposes to engage for different types of renewal works

Type of renewal	Type of consultation
Small scale renewal, asset not visible to public, minimal impact on park users during works	Nil
Minimal visible change in asset, but impact on parks users during works	Inform - using park signage
Large scale “Like for like” renewal	Inform - via letter to residents, and park signage
Renewal that changes layout / location, upgrade to an asset, is a high visibility asset, or where works will have a significant impact on park users	Seek feedback- via letter to residents, and park signage

2.3.3. New Projects

Council has responsibilities to ensure that the City’s parks, and the assets within those parks, continue to align with community expectations. Sometimes this requires new works or assets. Council will consult, seeking feedback when new projects are proposed.

3. Asset Inventory

A detailed inventory and description of each sporting field and spatial assessment of suitability for different sports and levels of competition is provided below.

3.1. Macleay Park No. 1 / D.S. Bull Oval

Centre Cricket Wicket Type	Turf	Number of Pitches	5
Playing Surface Type	Natural	Pavilion	Yes
Number of Training Lights	2		
Practice Cricket Wicket Type	Synthetic	Number of Pitches	5
Number and type of car parks	Off road	177	On road 74

Sport Capacity:

Circular / Oval Field		
Ground Characteristics	Maximum circular field (radius)	57m
	No. of properties within 30m buffer	0
	No. of houses within 30m buffer	0
Sport Suitability	Cricket	Open age community
	Australian Rules Football	Senior
Rectangular Field		
Ground Characteristics	Maximum north/south rectangle	131m x 82m
	Maximum rectangle	131m x 82m
Sport Suitability	Soccer	Senior
	Rugby League / Union	Suitable
	Lacrosse	Suitable

3.2. Macleay Park No. 2 Oval

Centre Cricket Wicket Type	Synthetic	Number of Pitches	1
Playing Surface Type	Natural	Pavilion	Yes
Number of Training Lights	4		
Practice Cricket Wicket Type	None	Number of Pitches	
Number and type of car parks	Off road		On road

Sport Capacity:

Circular / Oval Field		
Ground Characteristics	Maximum circular field (radius)	52m
	No. of properties within 30m buffer	0
	No. of houses within 30m buffer	0
Sport Suitability	Cricket	Open age community
	Australian Rules Football	Not suitable
Rectangular Field		
Ground Characteristics	Maximum north/south rectangle	109m x 68m
	Maximum rectangle	109m x 68m
Sport Suitability	Soccer	Senior
	Rugby League / Union	Not suitable
	Lacrosse	Not suitable

3.3. Macleay Park No. 3 Oval

Centre Cricket Wicket Type	Synthetic	Number of Pitches	1
Playing Surface Type	Natural	Pavilion	Yes
Number of Training Lights	0		
Practice Cricket Wicket Type	None	Number of Pitches	
Number and type of car parks	Off road		On road

Sport Capacity:

Circular / Oval Field		
Ground Characteristics	Maximum circular field (radius)	52m
	No. of properties within 30m buffer	5
	No. of houses within 30m buffer	5
Sport Suitability	Cricket	Open age community
	Australian Rules Football	Not suitable
Rectangular Field		
Ground Characteristics	Maximum north/south rectangle	117m x 88m
	Maximum rectangle	117m x 88m
Sport Suitability	Soccer	Senior
	Rugby League / Union	Suitable
	Lacrosse	Suitable

3.4. Macleay Park No. 5 Oval

Centre Cricket Wicket Type	Synthetic	Number of Pitches	1
Playing Surface Type	Natural	Pavilion	Yes
Number of Training Lights	0		
Practice Cricket Wicket Type	None	Number of Pitches	
Number and type of car parks	Off road		On road

Sport Capacity:

Circular / Oval Field		
Ground Characteristics	Maximum circular field (radius)	32m
	No. of properties within 30m buffer	0
	No. of houses within 30m buffer	0
Sport Suitability	Cricket	Under 10
	Australian Rules Football	Not suitable
Rectangular Field		
Ground Characteristics	Maximum north/south rectangle	95m x 55m
	Maximum rectangle	95m x 55m
Sport Suitability	Soccer	Soccer (U10/11)
	Rugby League / Union	Not suitable
	Lacrosse	Not suitable

3.5. Myrtle Park East Oval

Centre Cricket Wicket Type	Synthetic	Number of Pitches	1
Playing Surface Type	Natural	Pavilion	Yes
Number of Training Lights	4 (Oval) / 6 (practice wickets)		
Practice Cricket Wicket Type	Synthetic	Number of Pitches	3
Number and type of car parks	Off road	31	On road 0

Sport Capacity:

Circular / Oval Field		
Ground Characteristics	Maximum circular field (radius)	52m
	No. of properties within 30m buffer	4
	No. of houses within 30m buffer	0
Sport Suitability	Cricket	Open age community
	Australian Rules Football	Not suitable
Rectangular Field		
Ground Characteristics	Maximum north/south rectangle	111m x 71m
	Maximum rectangle	111m x 71m
Sport Suitability	Soccer	Senior
	Rugby League / Union	Not suitable
	Lacrosse	Suitable

3.6. Myrtle Park West Oval

Centre Cricket Wicket Type	Synthetic/Turf	Number of Pitches	1/3
Playing Surface Type	Natural Grass	Pavilion	Yes
Number of Training Lights	0		
Practice Cricket Wicket Type	None	Number of Pitches	
Number and type of car parks	Off road	0	On road 23

Sport Capacity:

Circular / Oval Field		
Ground Characteristics	Maximum circular field (radius)	47m
	No. of properties within 30m buffer	10
	No. of houses within 30m buffer	2
Sport Suitability	Cricket	Under 16
	Australian Rules Football	Not suitable
Rectangular Field		
Ground Characteristics	Maximum north/south rectangle	116m x 88m
	Maximum rectangle	116m x 88m
Sport Suitability	Soccer	Senior
	Rugby League / Union	Suitable
	Lacrosse	Suitable