



QUEANBEYAN & DISTRICT BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION INC.

15 July 2006

Mayor Frank Pangallo
Queanbeyan City Council
PO Box 90
Queanbeyan NSW 2620

Dear Frank

On behalf of Queanbeyan & District Basketball Assoc. Inc we would like Council to consider in its planning for the Proposed Indoor Sporting Facility the proposal as noted in our correspondence of 17th June 2006 with the following

- The current facility owned by the Basketball Association is used 5 afternoons and nights a week and several weekends during the year. The majority of the schools also use the facility during the day for their sports times. The YMCA conduct classes for elderly people and their major gymnastics competitions. With the expansion of Queanbeyan's population this facility will not meet the needs of the city in the very near future. While we own the block of land between the stadium and the Health Centre, (currently leased to council), this will not fulfil the size requirements for an additional court. The facility also does not meet current requirements to run State Competition which prevents our teams re-entering NSW Youth and State Leagues.
- The YMCA have outgrown their current facility and have lodged a written expression of interest in purchasing back the basketball stadium which will allow them to offer more childcare facilities including programs for disabled and special needs people.

Currently Council are looking at establishing an indoor sports and multi purpose facility for the usually commercial based sports of indoor cricket/netball/volleyball on the showground site. Would it not be feasible to incorporate an additional indoor facility for basketball/soccer along side this proposed centre. The employment of staff would be much more cost effective to engage a facility manager to oversee both facilities. The design of the facility could contain 2 sports halls with indoor cricket, netball and volleyball on one side and then courts for basketball and possibly soccer on the other courts. You would have your offices/ canteen etc. in the middle of both sports halls. Maybe even gym facilities.

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The Basketball Association would be prepared to contribute the funds realized with the sale of their current facility in return for a say on the controlling committee. There may also be additional funding available with a partnership with Futsal Soccer.

Sports Precinct

Imagine the establishment of a sports precinct starting from the Skate Park, Indoor/Outdoor pools, Tennis Courts, Oval, Velodrome, Bowling Greens and a Multi-Purpose Indoor Sports Facility. All within walking distance of the CBD. Incorporating a PCYC would also be an added bonus across the road from the police station and in walking distance of the Youth Café.

Background

Queanbeyan & District Basketball is a voluntary sporting group catering for ages 4 years to 60 years. The association conduct mini, junior and senior competitions as well as run a very successful representative program. The association have over 300 children through the facility on a weekly basis. Other users include Monaro Models, ACT National Basketball Training, Schools, YMCA and other ad hoc groups.

Queanbeyan Basketball did not have a base for several years and operated out of the current stadium that was owned by the YMCA and Queanbeyan High School and at times Karabar High School. Council looked at various options for land for a facility to be built including the Showground and Hoover Road sites. Do to certain restrictions at the time no suitable site was found until Kerry White suggested the option of the association purchasing the basketball stadium from the YMCA and a strata plan was registered.

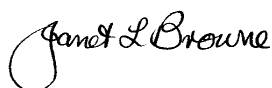
The basketball association purchased the facility and spent \$70,000 on upgrading the stadium including under floor ventilation and new lighting with funds that were allocated for the building of a new stadium. We also received funding from the NSW Government and a 5 year loan from council. Queanbeyan Basketball are one of the few bodies in NSW that have had to purchase and maintain their own facility on a voluntary basis. Usually these facilities are owned and maintained by the local council or more recently a combined community/school facility.

Summary

We ask that council consider in their planning the inclusion of a facility with separate sports halls and investigate the options of providing Queanbeyan with a true multi sports stadium. This will help cater for Queanbeyan's forecast population growth and the current trend to providing sporting facilities for the youth of our city. The benefits to the groups conducting major tournaments and bringing tourist dollar to Queanbeyan is also endless. Let's not end up with a smaller version of a facility that will not serve the long term needs of Queanbeyan like the recently built and much needed indoor swimming pool.

We would be happy to discuss this further at the proposed on site meeting on the 19 July 2006.

Regards



Jan Browne

(President Queanbeyan & District Basketball Association Inc.) (0403 290 503)

