



A BALANCED VIEW
LEISURE CONSULTANCY SERVICES

A large, stylized wireframe map of Australia is the background for the central text. The map is composed of a network of thin, grey lines connecting various points, creating a mesh-like structure. A bright, glowing light source is positioned on the right side of the map, casting a warm, golden glow across the eastern and southern parts of the continent.

Sport and Recreation Master Plan 2021 – 2031 PLAN

Shire of Quairading
Endorsed November 2021 - 77-21/22

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A Balanced View (ABV) Leisure Consultants have developed the Sport and Recreation Plan Report for the Shire of Quairading.

ABV would like to acknowledge Shire of Quairading staff, and the sport and recreation community in the Shire who provided valuable input into this project.

DISCLAIMER

ABV Leisure Consultants, its employees, directors and associated entities shall not be liable for any loss, damage, claim, costs, demands and expenses whatsoever and howsoever arriving in connection with the use of this master plan.

While all due care and consideration has been undertaken in the preparation of this report, ABV advise that all recommendations, actions and information provided in this document is based on our experience as professional leisure consultants and upon research as referenced in this document.

Information contained in this document is based on available information at the time of writing. All figures and diagrams are indicative only and should be referred to as such. This is a strategic document, which deals with technical matters in a summary way only.

Revision	Date	Prepared By	Prepared For	Description
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CONTENTS

1	EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	1
2	INTRODUCTION	5
3	BACKGROUND	5
4	PROJECT METHODOLOGY	5
5	STRATEGIC AND PLANNING DOCUMENT REVIEW	6
5.1	SHIRE OF QUAIRADING DOCUMENTS	6
5.2	OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS	7
6	DEMOGRAPHIC REVIEW.....	12
6.1	AGE DISTRIBUTION.....	12
6.2	POPULATION FORECASTS.....	13
6.3	KEY CHARACTERISTICS AND IMPLICATIONS.....	14
7	RELEVANT INDUSTRY TRENDS	14
7.1	BENEFITS OF PUBLIC OPEN SPACE	14
7.2	BENEFIT OF SPORT IN REGIONAL COMMUNITIES	14
7.3	INTEGRATED PLANNING.....	15
7.4	ACTIVE AND PASSIVE SPORT AND RECREATION PARTICIPATION TRENDS	16
7.4.1	<i>Most Popular Activities</i>	<i>16</i>
7.4.2	<i>Organised Sports Participation</i>	<i>17</i>
7.4.3	<i>Barriers to Participation</i>	<i>18</i>
7.5	LOCAL SPORTS PARTICIPATION GROWTH	18
7.5.1	<i>Female Sports Participation</i>	<i>18</i>
7.5.2	<i>Game Format Changes.....</i>	<i>19</i>
7.6	FACILITY SHARING	19
7.6.1	<i>Multi-User Pavilions</i>	<i>20</i>
7.6.2	<i>Multi-Use Sports Precinct Key Success Factors</i>	<i>22</i>
7.6.3	<i>Sports Field Capacity</i>	<i>23</i>
7.6.4	<i>Synthetic Surfaces</i>	<i>24</i>
7.7	CHANGING COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS.....	24
7.8	VOLUNTEERS	24
7.9	LEGISLATION	25
7.10	ACCESSIBILITY.....	25
7.11	SUSTAINABILITY	25
7.12	NATURE PLAY.....	25
7.13	SKATE / WHEELED SPORTS FACILITIES	26



8	GUIDING PRINCIPLES	27
9	SPORT & RECREATION FACILITY BENCHMARKING.....	28
9.1	COMPARATIVE FACILITY PROVISION NEIGHBOURING LGAs	28
9.1.1	<i>Observations</i>	28
10	EXISTING SPORT AND RECREATION FACILITIES	29
11	CONSULTATION	30
11.1	COMMUNITY SURVEY – KEY FINDINGS.....	30
11.2	SPORT AND RECREATION ORGANISATIONS – KEY FINDINGS	31
11.3	SPORT AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN WORKSHOP	31
12	IDENTIFIED SPORT & RECREATION NEEDS ANALYSIS.....	33
12.1	SPORT AND RECREATION IDENTIFIED FACILITY NEEDS	33
12.1.1	<i>Shire of Quairading Sport & Recreation Master Plan Priority Ranking.....</i>	<i>34</i>
12.2	OPPORTUNITIES / ANALYSIS TABLE	35
12.3	SUMMARY OF SPORT AND RECREATION PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS	45
12.3.1	<i>Short Term Recommendations: 0 - 3 Years</i>	<i>45</i>
12.3.2	<i>Medium Term Recommendations: 4 – 7 Years</i>	<i>46</i>
12.3.3	<i>Long Term Recommendations: 8 – 10+ Years.....</i>	<i>46</i>
13	POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES.....	47
14	APPENDIX 1 – SHIRE OF QUAIRADING SPORT AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS SUMMARY.....	50
15	APPENDIX 2 – QUAIRADING RECREATION PAVILION CONCEPT (AUGUST 10 2021 MCG ARCHITECTS).....	51
16	APPENDIX 3 – SHIRE OF QUAIRADING SPORT & RECREATION FACILITIES SITE AUDIT.....	52
17	APPENDIX 4 – W AFC VENUE INSPECTION AUDIT QUAIRADING OVAL 2020.....	53
18	APPENDIX 5 – COMMUNITY SURVEY SUMMARY REPORT	54

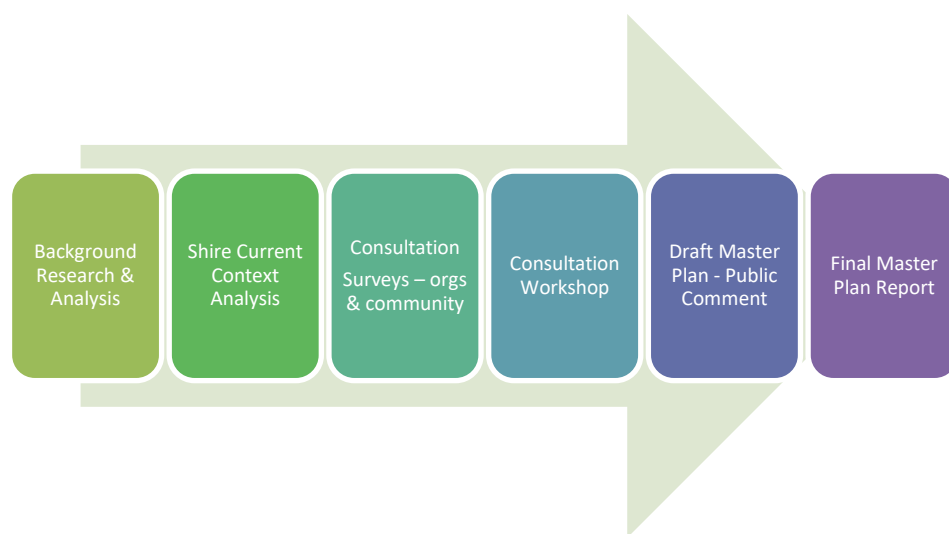


1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A Balanced View Leisure Consultancy Services (ABV) was commissioned by the Shire of Quairading to prepare a Sport and Recreation Master Plan for the Period 2021 – 2031.

The aim of this study is to provide a long-term plan for the sustainable development and use of the sport and recreation facilities and services in the Shire of Quairading to maximise opportunities for active and passive recreation for the community. This current study includes a review of the existing situation, analysis of potential future demand, consultation with the community and key stakeholders and review of current trends resulting in the development of a master plan for the Shire of Quairading sports and recreation facilities for the next 10 year period.

The project methodology is summarised within the diagram below;



Consultation and engagement with the community was crucial to the development of this sport and recreation master plan. The following opportunities were provided to the community and stakeholders to participate in the process:

Initial Information Gathering	Follow Up	Meetings / workshop
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey of sporting and recreation organisations within the Shire (emailed survey with 13 sporting clubs and 6 recreation organisations including the Quairading DHS returned) • Community Survey (On line - Survey Monkey and hardcopy) • Key Shire staff phone and in person meetings • Neighbouring LGAs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phone meetings with identified key users for clarification purposes and where a survey was not returned (Purpose; ascertain requirements, concerns, ideas). • DLGSC – discuss needs / regional issues • Requests to some State Sporting organisations for documentation and feedback for Quairading • Draft report is scheduled for public consultation once completed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sport & Recreation Committee meeting 27 July 2021 • Workshop – 31 August 2021 – community & Sport & recreation committee

Facility needs findings were made from a variety of sources; community survey, sports and recreation organisation surveys, Shire of Quairading Sport and Recreation Committee meetings and reporting, community workshop and Shire of Quairading strategic documentation.

Analysis of the information and findings resulted in a list of sport and recreation facility needs being identified. These were then ranked on a series of criteria as per the table below.

SHIRE OF QUAIRADING SPORT & RECREATION MASTER PLAN PRIORITY RANKING

Identified facility needs	Heirarchy Reg / Dist / Local	Accessible equitable H/M/L	Expense H/M/L	Time frame Short / Mid / Long	Priority Rank 1 High - 5 Low
1 Camping Overflow area – grass for dust mitigation	R	H	L	S	4
2 Upgrade ablutions across showgrounds	D	H	M	S	1
3 Undercover area for market stalls (Ag show)	D	H	M	L	3.5
4 Gym - purpose design dedicated facility	L	H	M	L	2
5 Hockey facilities - toilets / change / shade	D	H	H	L	2
6 Hockey lighting improvement	L	L	H	S	3.5
7 Hockey - good quality playing surface	D	M	H	M	3
8 Football changerooms upgrade	D	M	H	L	1.5
9 Football suitable training level lighting	L	M	H	L	3.5
10 Football improved function bar area	D	H	H	L	4
11 Cricket new practice nets / relocated	L				2
12 Cricket pitch improved curation (maintenance)				S	3
13 Cricket adequate spectator facilities					3
14 Tennis Q new courts				M	2
15 Tennis Q Improved clubhouse facility		H	H	L	2
16 Tennis Q family friendly facilities				L	3
17 Sth Caroling repairs to Hall	L	M	M		3.5
18 Tennis Sth Caroling repair/resurface tennis courts	L	M	M	S	2.5
20 Wamenusking shading for childrens facilities	L	M	L	S	2.5
21 Netball court drainage / resurfacing	D				2.5
22 Netball changerooms provision (female 2 teams)	D				2
23 Swimming pool heating	D	H	M	S	1.5
24 Playground all ages (oval or town centre)	D	H	M	S	1
25 Walking trails upgrade / new	D	H	L	S	1.5
26 Indoor sports court	D	H	H	L	2.5
27 Skate park / wheeled sports (scooters & bikes)	D/L	H	H	M	2
28 Pump track	D	M	L	M	3.5
30 Mini golf (tourism recreation)	L	L	M	L	4.5
31 Oval scoreboard	D	H	M	S	2.5
32 Nature reserve development / upgrade	D	M	L	S	2.5
33 Doondenanning tennis courts resurface & fencing					2.5

SUMMARY OF SPORT AND RECREATION PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

Following the analysis, the recommendations have been grouped into the following tables based on their proposed time frames and then in order of their priority ranking.

SHORT TERM RECOMMENDATIONS: 0 - 3 YEARS

Short Term (0 - 3 Years)	Priority ranking
Subject to funding being accessed, commence Kwirradung Koort Community Park nature playground construction	1
Conduct a cost benefit comparison for upgrading ablutions across the showgrounds area versus use of hire facilities to inform decision making	1
Formalise a Shared use agreement with the Quairading District High School, allowing public access to the school facilities including playground	1
Continue to invest in footpaths within the Shire, enabling walking / riding as active forms of transport wherever possible	1.5
Investigate optimum location and renew synthetic cricket wicket practice nets	2
Progress Recreation Precinct development to detailed design, costing (Capital and life costings) and phasing stages for program to be "shovel ready".	2
Develop a volunteer strategy for the Shire's community organisations.	2*
Conduct a disability access and inclusion facilities audit for all sport and recreation facilities within the Shire	2*
Provision of electronic scoreboard at recreation precinct	2.5
Maintain the existing Hockey playing fields at as high a standard as possible	3
Investigate opportunities to enhance and promote trails within the Quairading Nature Reserve and Toapin Weir	2.5
Investigate suitable sun shade options for Wamenusking Sports Club and funding grants for children's play areas	2.5
Facilitate strategic workshops with South Caroling, Wamenusking and Doodenanning Clubs to determine sporting and recreational needs of these communities including the number of tennis court facilities. Once court need is determined seek quotations on required works to courts, fencing and lighting	2.5
Identify the appropriate person to receive training in turf wicket maintenance	3
Monitor the recent upgrade to playing field lighting for suitability over the next few seasons	3.5
Investigate suitable surface, lighting and sporting equipment options for the Agricultural Society undercover area to enable sports and recreation activity utilisation	3.5

* Priority rating by ABV

MEDIUM TERM RECOMMENDATIONS: 4 – 7 YEARS

Medium Term (4-7 Years)	Priority ranking
Investigate options for a skate park and wheeled sports facility	2
Relocation and upgrade of multisport courts within the recreation precinct	2*
Relocation and upgrade of tennis courts within the recreation precinct	2*
Investigate options for a pump track facility	3.5
Investigate repair requirements / quotation for South Caroling Hall and seek possible funding grants	3.5
Investigate the opportunity for a sealed pathway fitness trail around the Quairading recreation precinct area as part of the precinct concept planning	5*
Consider the provision of security level lighting for infrastructure and pathway/trails at the recreation precinct	5*

* Priority rating by ABV

LONG TERM RECOMMENDATIONS: 8 – 10+ YEARS

Long Term (10+ Years)	Priority ranking
Provision of new shared universal changeroom at the recreation precinct	2
Provision of new or upgraded social facilities at the recreation precinct	2
Provision of dedicated gym facility as part of the shared community building at recreation precinct	2
Provision of adequate storage facilities for the clubs at the recreational precinct	2
Investigate future options for an indoor sports court with a potential staged approach	2.5
Investigate mini golf facility provision	5

* Priority rating by ABV

2 INTRODUCTION

A Balanced View Leisure Consultancy Services (ABV) was commissioned by the Shire of Quairading to prepare a Sport and Recreation Master Plan for the Period 2021 – 2031.

The aim of this study is to provide a long-term plan for the sustainable development and use of the sport and recreation facilities and services in the Shire of Quairading to maximise opportunities for active and passive recreation for the community. Analysis of previous and related Shire of Quairading reports from the Recreation Precinct Working Group and the Sport and Recreation Committee and the previous Sport and Recreation Master Plan of 2011 has been undertaken. This current study includes a review of the existing situation, analysis of potential future demand, consultation with the community and key stakeholders, review of current trends resulting in the development of a master plan for the Shire of Quairading sports and recreation facilities for the next 10-year period.

3 BACKGROUND

The Shire of Quairading is located 167kms east of Perth. Its main localities are; Quairading, Pantapin, Yoting, Badjaling, Dangin, South Caroing, Balkuling, Doodennaing and Wamenusking. It is bound by 8 other LGAs; Beverley, Brookton, Bruce Rock, Corrigin, Cunderdin, Kellerberring, Tammin and York.

4 PROJECT METHODOLOGY

This study is comprised of the following key components:

- Review of background information including relevant Shire plans, reports and studies, facility usage data and demographics.
- A sport and recreation facilities visual audit and review of building condition reports.
- Identification of trends and factors that may influence facility development recommendations.
- Consultation with Shire officers, sports and recreation groups and key stakeholders, the general community, other relevant agencies and organisations.
- Analysis of needs through synthesis of all information gathered through the study and provided by the Shire of Quairading.
- Preparation of a report that equips the Shire of Quairading with the tools for informed strategic decision making with regards to sport and recreation facilities.



5 STRATEGIC AND PLANNING DOCUMENT REVIEW

5.1 SHIRE OF QUAIRADING DOCUMENTS

The following documents were reviewed;

Shire of Quairading – Strategic Community Plan 2021 - 2031

The Shire of Quairading has developed and published the Strategic Community Plan 2021 – 2031. Following widespread community and stakeholder consultation, the plan sets the vision, aspirations and objectives of the community for the 10-year period. The Plan sets out the vision for the Shire’s future and captures the community’s aspirations and values. Six areas of key focus were identified:

- **Community**
- **Economic and Tourism Development**
- **Built Infrastructure**
- **Natural Environment**
- **Efficiency and Effectiveness**
- **Financial Profile**

Of relevance to the development of a Sport and Recreation Master Plan for the Shire of Quairading, the following strategic priorities were identified within this document;

- Access to services and facilities for Noongars
- Access to services and facilities for people with disabilities
- Development of the town centre
- Facilities services and care available for seniors
- Events, arts and cultural activities
- Sport and recreation activities
- Services and facilities for youth

Shire of Quairading Recreation Facilities Master Plan – Stirling Sport & Recreation Solutions and KTA Partnerships (2011)

This document provided direction for sport and recreation facilities over a 10-year period with 24 recommendations. Twenty-one of the recommendations have been achieved by 2021 with 3 not applicable. Please see Appendix 1 for the 2011 Shire of Quairading Sport and Recreation Master Plan Recommendations Summary.

Sports & Recreation Facilities Study (Quairading Sport & Recreation Committee)

The Sport and Recreation Committee is a conduit between the Sporting and Recreation Clubs & Groups and the Council. This committee directed the previous 2011 Sport and Recreation Master Plan and is a forum for all matters sporting and recreational.

In 2019 the Shire of Quairading Sport and Recreation Committee produced a report titled *2018/2019 Sports & Recreation Facilities Study* as a result of the Sport and Recreation Precinct Working Group requesting a sport and recreation facilities condition report in 2017 and structural requirements and cost estimates in 2018 to extend lifespans for a further 25-30 year period.

Findings included works required with budgeted amounts for totalling \$1.14m including;

FACILITY REPORTS

SUMMARY OF COST ESTIMATES.

The following table is a summary of estimated costings of renewal to extend the asset life a further 25 to 30 years

Facility	Amount
Agriculture Hall	\$90,000
Community Club	\$306,000
Footy Changerooms	\$260,000
Bowling Club	\$170,500
Tennis Club	\$120,000
Golf Club	\$119,500
Youth Centre	\$75,000
Total	\$1,141,000

NB Community Club title is Community Building

The committee explored colocation and facility sharing options for these facilities which has led to the recent **Recreation Precinct Concept Plan** resulting in concepts produced by MCG Architects in 2021 which can be seen as Appendix 2 Proposed Redevelopment of Quairading Recreation Pavilion to this report.

In addition, a number of documents provided by the Shire of Quairading were reviewed in order to undertake the analysis of future requirements, such as;

- Shire of Quairading Corporate Business Plan 2017 – 2021
- Shire of Quairading Capital Works Projects 2020/21
- Shire of Quairading Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2015-2020

5.2 OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

Sport and Recreation Industry Priorities (2021)

This publication by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries aim is to;

- document evidence-based priorities
- provide a snapshot of what is important to the industry
- guide resource allocation
- inform the review and/or development of initiatives that are delivered by the Department to support the industry
- inform industry and sector strategic planning process

The report identifies 5 focus areas;

1. **Value** – the ability to understand, quantify and articulate the social economic, health and environmental benefits derived from sport and recreation
2. **People** – involved with the delivery of sport and recreation have well developed capabilities, aligned to the needs of the community
3. **Structure and systems** – that support the sport and recreation industry are fit for purpose and operate efficiently and effectively
4. **Environment** – the places and spaces in which sport and recreation occurs are accessible, safe and available into the future
5. **Opportunity** – participants are attracted, retained and able to transition from entry level to elite

Each of the focus areas have identified priorities (17 in total) that provide direction for the industry.

Shire of Quairading relevance:

Whilst the entire document has relevance to the Shire of Quairading from an industry trends and focus perspective, the following identified priorities have specific relevance and should be considered in the Shire's ongoing sport and recreation planning;

To promote healthy active lifestyles;

- quantify, communicate and advocate for the benefits that sport and recreation provides to both individuals and the wider community

To support clubs and organisations recruit and retain volunteers;

- attract, support and maintain the volunteer base undertaking the delivery of sport and recreation

To support and coordinate clubs and organisations within the Shire;

- effectively collaborate/partner/engage with stakeholders to achieve common goals and objectives
- ensure the settings in which activity takes place are accessible, protected and available into the future
- reduce/minimise barriers to participation.

Strategic Directions 6 (SD6)

This publication by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (Previously the Department of Sport and Recreation) Strategic Directions 6 (SD6) planning document (2016) to guide the sport and recreation industry. It identified the following key societal trends driving change in the industry:

The document outcomes are to:

- Increase participation
- Improved Performance
- Enhanced Social Capital and Organisational Capability
- Enhanced Wellbeing

The following summarises the identified industry challenges:

1. Governance

Western Australia's sport and recreation organisations must proactively engage national and state/territory counterparts in developing governance models that are collaborative and strategically aligned partnerships. These models must balance local context and interest as well as national priorities.

2. Integrity and Values

Sport and recreation interests must proactively develop responses to safeguard the integrity and wholesome values which make sport and recreation a fundamental part of Australian culture. The integrity that has encouraged participants, partners, sponsors and governments to invest time, effort and resources needs active protection.

3. Public Open Space and Urban Form

Urban parklands and green spaces for sport and active recreation are integral components of urban infrastructure and make a significant contribution to community health and wellbeing. In order to deliver public open space which meets the needs of communities into the future we must be efficient with resources, focus on the function of sites, provide equitable access to facilities and secure strategically important regional scale spaces.

4. Adventure and Outdoor Recreation

Western Australia is a destination point for numerous adventure and outdoor recreation pursuits. Stakeholders from the public, private and community sectors must engage collaboratively to deliver high-quality activities, services and facilities to satisfy and sustain the growing demand, while protecting the environments where these activities take place.

5. Commercialisation

A small number of high profile sports with significant participation bases and integrated competition structures now have robust commercially-oriented business models, while community-based sport and recreation organisations are increasingly reliant on public investment for their survival. Public investment in sport and recreation organisations should factor in the capacity of these organisations to source commercial revenue.

6. Diversity of Leadership and Management

Initiatives are needed to expedite diversity in Western Australia's sport and recreation landscape at all levels of leadership and management. Sport and recreation organisations must be proactive to increase the contribution that currently underrepresented groups within the community, particularly women, are able to make to the industry.

7. Financial (Un)Certainty

The sport and recreation industry must optimise the value derived from public and private funding in tight fiscal circumstances. Sport and recreation stakeholders must be strong advocates for the many benefits that are enabled by continued investment.

8. Leveraging Facilities Investment

Stakeholders must leverage the investment made in sport and recreation facilities and infrastructure over the past decade. Securing high profile events and increasing visitor and local participation will add vibrancy to our communities and convert these places and spaces into business drivers, delivering extensive economic benefits to Western Australia.

9. Life Course and Life Stage Participation

The achievement of improved participation rates in sport and recreation, and more broadly active lifestyles, will require innovative responses to the life course and life stage circumstances of Western Australians. A combination of expanding pioneering initiatives and adapting successful concepts from other jurisdictions can stimulate healthier and socially beneficial outcomes for our community.

10. Monitoring, evidence and Research

Research and evidence-based decision-making are increasingly important for sport and recreation. Availability and utilisation of reputable information will be vital for future policy development and strategic planning.

11. Participation, Culture and Affordability

Sport and recreation provides opportunities to embrace those otherwise often excluded in the community. Opportunities should be affordable and provide equitable access to encourage participation of people from diverse social, cultural and economic backgrounds.

12. Technology

Western Australia's sport and recreation landscape must embrace opportunities to progress the industry through new and emerging technologies. Astute sourcing of technological innovations that enhance core values, support participation and performance outcomes and promote organisational sustainability will be crucial.

13. Vital Volunteers

The engagement of volunteers in sport and recreation is vital for the industry to thrive and deliver personal and social benefits. Sport and recreation organisations must devise responsive and accommodating approaches to recruit, support and retain the vital volunteer base, which facilitates the delivery of sport and recreation activities.

Strategic Direction Trails WA 2019-2022

Trails WA is an organisation that markets and advocated for high quality trail network across Western Australia. Trailswa.com.au provides consumers with various information on a number of trails including: MTB, Walking, 4wd, Cycling, paddling, snorkelling and more.

The purpose of Trails WA is to inspire locals and visitors alike to get outside and explore and discover the natural beauty of the state, both within the metropolitan urban and suburban environments and further into the regional and rural aspects of the state.

1. Advocate - for a well-planned, designed, constructed, maintained and marketed WA trail network
2. Market – to stimulate and inspire the use of WA’s comprehensive network of trails

Trails WA is still in development stages and whilst the website is live the organisation is still working on developing its content and building on the foundation stages in order to achieve its longer term goals around maintaining and advocating for trails. Trails WA is depending on the involvement of a number of stakeholders including local government to upload and maintain up to date information on trails in their communities. Other stakeholders include aligned organisations, state government, tourism marketing agencies, corporate sector, trail manager and community users.

Trailswa.com.au allows users to search for various types of recreational trails throughout the state, specifically there is currently only one listed for Quairading, and it is classified as a bushwalk and includes wildflower observing as its featured experience.

The Shire of Quairading should continue to load its trails to the Trails WA website as a resource for local population and tourists.

West Cycle Strategic Plan 2022 - 2024

WestCycle is the Peak body for bike riding in Western Australia, they have a three-year strategic plan with the aim of increasing the popularity of cycling and suitable bike riding infrastructure. WestCycle's strategies focus on representation of the community through leadership and collaboration with various governing and stakeholders, growth of cycling through participation and engagement of the community and sustainability through strengthening the bike riding community. This strategic plan covers the whole community of bike riding from commuting the metropolitan region to mountain biking the regional towns.

Specific initiatives outlined in the strategy relevant to regional areas include:

- Promotion of cycling tourism
- Encourage and support LGA’s to adopt safe riding infrastructure and policies for roads, paths and trails.
- Support the development of MTB & gravel facilities, infrastructure and events.
- Collaborate to create facility master plans to guide the direction and funding of facility and infrastructure development for stakeholders
- Establishment of governance, delivery and funding models for maintenance of MTB trails.
- Grow participation annually by 5%

- Implement programs and develop partnerships to support volunteers and enhance the sustainability of rider groups including clubs, affiliates and social riders
- Secure partnership funding from government and commercial sector for WestCycle and other riding groups in order to sustain and develop bike riding in WA.

Public Parkland Planning and Design Guide (WA)

This document was developed by the Department of Sport and Recreation (Now DLGSC) and the Department of Water and outlines design principles for the development of parklands and open space. The focus of the document is the requirement for consideration of well-planned parklands that during the planning and design stages, consider all elements to achieve sustainability in the long term. Planning needs to be integrated to ensure quality outcomes are achieved;

- Consideration of end user requirements
- Allocation of parkland is suitable for desired outcomes
- Development of multi-use parklands
- Playing fields are well planned to consider peak usage and watering requirements, ongoing maintenance, use of appropriate equipment (Irrigation systems) and ongoing water supply considerations.
- Enhancement of existing site features
- Use of local resources and materials
- Department of Water should be consulted during the planning phase of parklands

Classification framework for Public Open Space (WA), Department of Sport and Recreation

Developed in 2012, the primary purpose of this framework is to define terminology that can be universally used to describe POS and is designed to achieve that consistency and reduce confusion. The framework contains two (2) central categories – function and catchment hierarchy. The POS function category classifications are used within this Shire of Quairading Sport and Recreation Master Plan.

<i>Function - (primary use and expected activities) identifies three primary types of open spaces</i>	
Recreation spaces	<p>Recreation spaces enhance physical and mental health through activity that provides relaxation, amusement or stimulation.</p> <p>Recreation spaces can be accessed by all to play, socialise, exercise, celebrate or participate in other activities that provide personal satisfaction or intrinsic reward.</p> <p>Recreation spaces include gardens and open parklands, community gardens, corridor links, amenity spaces, community use facilities, civic commons or squares.</p>
Sport spaces	<p>Sport spaces provide a venue for formal structured sporting activities such as team competitions, physical skill development and training.</p> <p>Sport spaces are designed to accommodate playing surface, buffer zones and infrastructure requirements of specific or general sporting activity.</p> <p>Players and spectators attend with the express purpose of engaging in organised sporting activity, training or competition or watching the game.</p> <p>Most sport spaces can also be accessed by community members for informal sport and recreation.</p>
Nature spaces	<p>Nature spaces provide opportunity for low-impact recreational activities, such as walking, cycling, picnicking, playing, watching or exploring natural features.</p> <p>Nature spaces may include bushland, coastal areas, wetlands and riparian habitats, and geological and natural features. Sites are managed to enable recreational access while protecting local ecological and biodiversity values.</p>



6 DEMOGRAPHIC REVIEW

In planning for sporting and recreation infrastructure, it is important to understand the demographics of the area to provide insights into better understanding the likely key areas of demand and potential future need.

In 2016, the Shire of Quairading had an Estimated Resident Population of 1,019.¹

Table 1 below provides a snapshot of the Shire's population key characteristics.

Category	Shire of Quairading	WA
Population (2016 Census)	1019	2,474,210
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Population	8%	3.1%
Born in Australia	87%	60.3%
Overseas Born	13%	39.7%
Median Age	52	36
Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage and Disadvantage*	930	1015

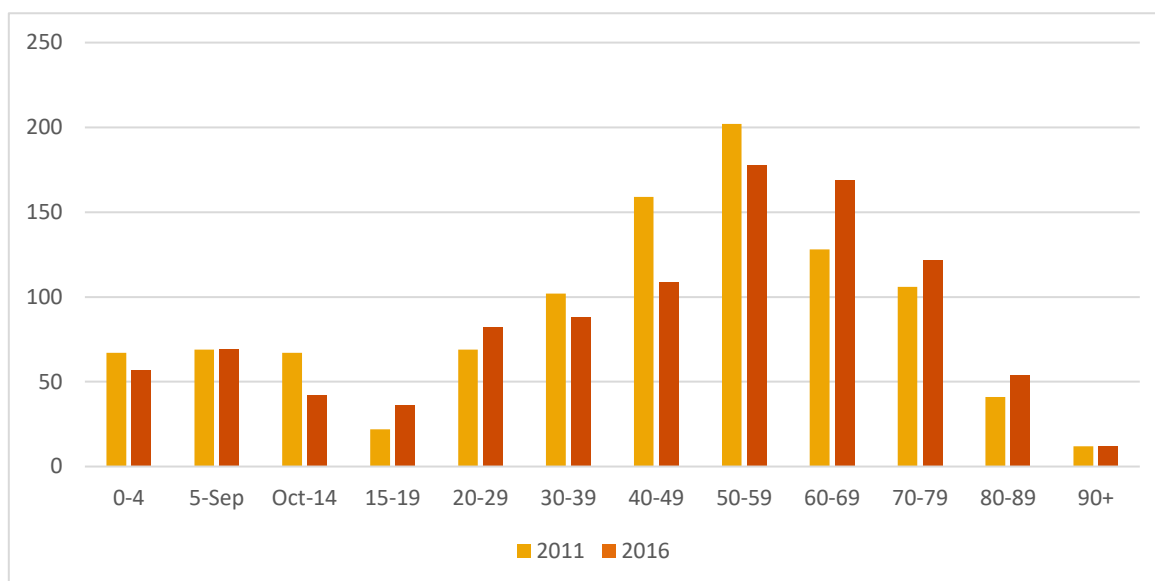
Source: 1. Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2016.

2006	2011	2016
1020	1044	1019

Population 2006 - 2016

6.1 AGE DISTRIBUTION

Age Group	2011		2016	
	No.	%	No.	%
0-4	67	6.4%	57	5.6%
5-9	69	6.6%	69	6.8%
10-14	67	6.4%	42	4.1%
15-19	22	2.1%	36	3.5%
20-29	69	6.6%	82	8.0%
30-39	102	9.8%	88	8.6%
40-49	159	15.2%	109	10.7%
50-59	202	19.3%	178	17.5%
60-69	128	12.3%	169	16.6%
70-79	106	10.2%	122	12.0%
80-89	41	3.9%	54	5.3%
90+	12	1.1%	12	1.2%
Total	1,044	100%	1,019	100%



6.2 POPULATION FORECASTS

The WA Planning Commission’s August 2015² Medium Term Population Forecasts WA Tomorrow series outlines the following population projections for the Shire of Quairading and its neighbouring LGAs (Band C forecasts).

Population Forecasts for Quairading and its Neighboring Local Government Areas

	2016	2021	2026
Quairading	1060	990	920
York	3,350	3,470	3,560
Beverley	1,640	1,700	1,750
Cunderdin	1,280	1,210	1,130
Kellerberrin	1,170	1,120	1,040
Corrigin	1,150	1,130	1,100
Bruce Rock	940	850	760
Brookton	990	970	950
Tammin	400	370	330

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2011, 2016.

² Source: WA Planning Commission WA Tomorrow <https://www.planning.wa.gov.au/publications/6194.aspx> Retrieved 18 July 2017

6.3 KEY CHARACTERISTICS AND IMPLICATIONS

- Minimal change in population numbers since 2006 Census – demand from population growth is not likely with a stable population base
- Aging population - the median age is considerably higher than WA average and has aged 4 years since the 2011 census. The needs of an aging population should be considered in planning for sport and recreation
- Higher than average indigenous population – planning needs to consider the needs of this population group
- The Shire is ranked lower than WA average with regards to disadvantage which should be considered for access to sport and recreation facilities and programs
- Population projections indicate a likely fall in population of around 10% (similar to many of the surrounding Shires in the region).

7 RELEVANT INDUSTRY TRENDS

There are a number of important national, state and local sport and recreation trends that should be considered when planning for the future development of sport and recreation infrastructure in the Shire of Quairading. A summary of relevant trends are outlined below:

7.1 BENEFITS OF PUBLIC OPEN SPACE

Public open space (POS) is generally described as land set aside for the purpose of public enjoyment and protection of unique, environmental, social and cultural values for existing and future generations³.

POS can increase aesthetic appeal, amenity and value of a neighbourhood, suburb or regional area. Aside from providing places to play, be active or relax, public open spaces afford many benefits. Environmental benefits can be gained through protecting local biodiversity and visual landscapes, retaining ecological systems and linkages, and management of urban water. Social benefits can be gained through community interaction and activation of places for formal and informal sport and recreation. Cultural benefits can be gained through recognition and interpretation of Indigenous and historic values. Economic benefits can be gained through provision of services supporting visitation for sport, recreation and tourism.³

7.2 BENEFIT OF SPORT IN REGIONAL COMMUNITIES

The Department of Local Government, Sports and Cultural Industries (DLGSCI, formally DSR) commissioned a study into the benefits of sport for regional communities titled *Sport and Community Cohesion in the 21st Century*⁴. This report reveals direct links between participation in sport and the development of cohesive social environments within communities. The report provides evidence of sport being linked to social benefits in the individual and community such as community integration, social bonding, cohesion, cooperation, and community identity and pride.

Local sporting clubs such as the local football, netball or golf club have played a key role in regional communities across Australia providing better physical and mental health outcomes for people of all ages. They also help teach values, volunteerism, cooperation, leadership, teamwork, and help in overcoming adversity. For school age children, learning these crucial socialisation skills has a significant impact on their academic performance.

³ Classification framework for public Open Space, Department of Sport and Recreation, 2012

⁴ Kim M Atherly, University of Western Australia, 2006

These findings have recently gained further support from a recent study by the Centre for Sport and Social Impact (CSSI) at La Trobe University commissioned by the AFL which looked into the social value of community football clubs and its influence on health and the wider community. It surveyed 1,677 clubs across Victoria and conducted 110 interviews with club and community members, focusing on individual health, well-being, trust and social connectedness. It found for every \$1 spent to run an average club, there was at least \$4.40 returned in terms of social connectedness, wellbeing and mental health status.

Further to this study the Western Australian Football Commission (WAFC) commissioned research to identify the social and economic return that club based football provides in Western Australia.

It was estimated that the WA football industry directly contributed \$110.4M in economic output to Western Australia in the 2016-2017 year. This level of direct value added flow-on (or indirect) value added of \$109.9 million, resulting in a total estimate of \$220.3M to the WA economy.

The implied economic value added multiplier is \$2.00 (the actual multiplier is 1.966), which means that for every dollar spent by the WA football industry in Western Australia, additional spending of \$1.00 is generated across Western Australia's economy.

It also led to improved employment outcomes, personal development, physical health, civic pride and the support of other community groups. Source: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-02-27/footballclubs-create-better-mental-health-social-outcomes/6268268>.

All levels of government recognise the importance of local sport and recreation clubs for the wellbeing of regional communities and the need to provide support to these groups to enable them to meet the significant challenges they face. DLGSC acknowledges that investing in young people is a cost-effective investment in the future as it helps connect them to the community and teaches them valuable life skills (<http://biggerpicture.dsr.wa.gov.au/>).

Overall, there is a clear argument that investment in the capacity of local sports clubs is an important tool for improving the health and wellbeing of the community.

7.3 INTEGRATED PLANNING

In recent times, planning of Community Infrastructure, including public open space is undertaken on a more holistic scale across a district or sub-region, rather than isolated facility development.

- Identifying and prioritising service needs.
- Reviewing existing services in relation to these needs.
- Identifying which services should be retained or discontinued.
- Identifying and developing new services aligned with the current and future priorities of Council and the community.

A broad range of community needs, population, demographic profiles and existing provision is assessed in the planning of infrastructure. Services provided and likely to be required are taken into consideration.

Generally, local governments are adopting this approach and introducing an integrated planning model along discrete service lines (i.e. youth provision, aged and seniors care, sports facility provision, child and community health).

The purpose of the model is to ensure the need for community services is fully analysed in order that they can identify how to best meet the community requirements. This enables local governments / not for profit services to take a more strategic and pragmatic approach to the delivery of services and facilities. Inherent in a more strategic and pragmatic approach is an organisation that is more responsive and adaptive to community needs, takes a more holistic approach but able to distil this to a local level, is able to balance service needs with financial pressures and is able to forecast future needs.

This integrated approach provides in general for a better network of facilities that meet the community aspirations, and allows for a different range of service options within facilities. This strategic approach

reduces duplication of facilities and services, ultimately providing a more sustainable outcome for the community.

7.4 ACTIVE AND PASSIVE SPORT AND RECREATION PARTICIPATION TRENDS

General Participation

- There is an increasing trend of participation in non-traditional recreation by youth e.g. active recreation, ‘electronic’ recreation etc.
- Growing awareness of the need to engage people who do not traditionally participate in sport and recreation e.g. people with disabilities, teenage girls, culturally diverse groups. Greater need to offer opportunities to capture imagination and interest.
- Growing trend towards more casual, informal options requiring small groups of people and minimal coordination e.g. walking, cycling, trails and mountain biking etc.
- Transportation can be a significant impediment to participation, emphasising importance of footpaths and cycle paths leading to facilities.
- Growing recognition that participation in physical activity can have positive impact on educational outcomes, school attendance, juvenile crime, antisocial behaviour, physical and mental health.

The latest Australian sports and physical recreation participation trends are being captured in the Ausplay survey that is conducted by the Australian Sports Commission (ASC). This replaces data that was previously captured by the Australian Bureau of Statistics and the Exercise, Recreation and Sports Survey conducted by the ASC.

The first Ausplay survey was conducted from October 2015 to September 2016 and included interview with over 20,000 adults, including more than 3,800 parents/guardians of children aged up to 14 years. Key findings from the Ausplay reports follows:

7.4.1 MOST POPULAR ACTIVITIES

Adult Participation	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
	Participation rate (%)				
Walking (Recreational)	43.4%	43.8%	43.5%	45.7%	47.0%
Fitness/Gym	33.2%	34.3%	35.7%	37.3%	37.4%
Athletics, track and field (+ jogging and running)	15.2%	15.2%	16.0%	17.1%	19.8%
Swimming	15.1%	14.6%	15.2%	16.7%	17.1%
Cycling	11.4%	11.4%	11.5%	12.5%	14.3%
Bush walking	6.3%	5.3%	5.7%	7.4%	8.6%
Yoga	4.5%	4.8%	5.3%	6.5%	6.9%
Football/soccer	5.7%	5.1%	5.3%	5.3%	5.4%
Tennis	4.6%	4.2%	4.5%	4.3%	4.4%
Golf	5.0%	4.7%	4.4%	4.8%	5.0%
Basketball	3.6%	3.4%	3.7%	4.0%	4.4%
Pilates	2.8%	3.1%	3.3%	3.8%	3.9%
Netball	3.1%	2.7%	3.0%	3.0%	2.8%
Australian football	2.5%	2.5%	2.9%	2.6%	2.7%
Cricket	2.7%	2.6%	2.4%	2.3%	
Surfing	2.6%	2.4%	2.3%	2.5%	2.9%

Child Participation - Organised	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
	Participation rate (%)				
Swimming	33.3%	30.8%	37.3%	34.5%	33.9%
Football/soccer	15.1%	13.7%	15.9%	14.1%	14.2%
Gymnastics	7.8%	8.8%	10.9%	11.1%	10.6%
Dancing (recreational)	8.3%	9.0%	9.6%	10.7%	9.3%
Australian football	8.5%	8.8%	9.0%	7.4%	6.6%
Basketball	6.9%	6.9%	7.7%	7.8%	7.4%
Tennis	6.2%	5.7%	7.2%	4.8%	5.8%
Netball	6.9%	6.5%	7.1%	6.4%	7.1%
Athletics, track and field (+ jogging and running)	5.5%	5.3%	5.7%	5.4%	4.9%
Cricket	6.0%	5.0%	5.4%	4.1%	3.9%

The tables above from the Ausplay survey show the top 16 activities for adult participation, and the top 10 organised activities for children outside of school hours across Australia. *Source: Ausplay 2016/17/18/19/20/21 Australian Sports Commission.*

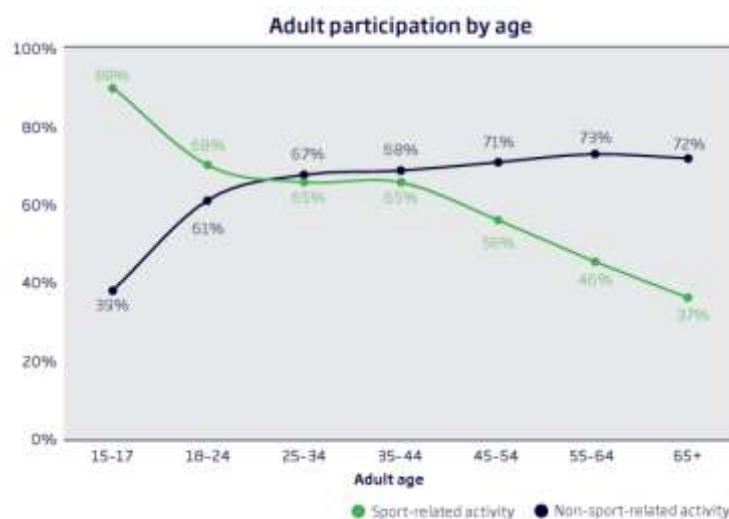
These statistics find that recreational walking is significantly the primary form of physical activity and increasing, undertaken by Adults (47%), with Fitness / gym (37.4%) running and jogging (included within Athletics Track and Field 19.8%), Swimming (17.1%) and Cycling (14.3%) also included in the top 5 activities. It underscores the level of importance that pathways and trails have in sport and recreation facility provision that is inclusive of the whole community as well as the importance of informal activities that can be participated in individually.

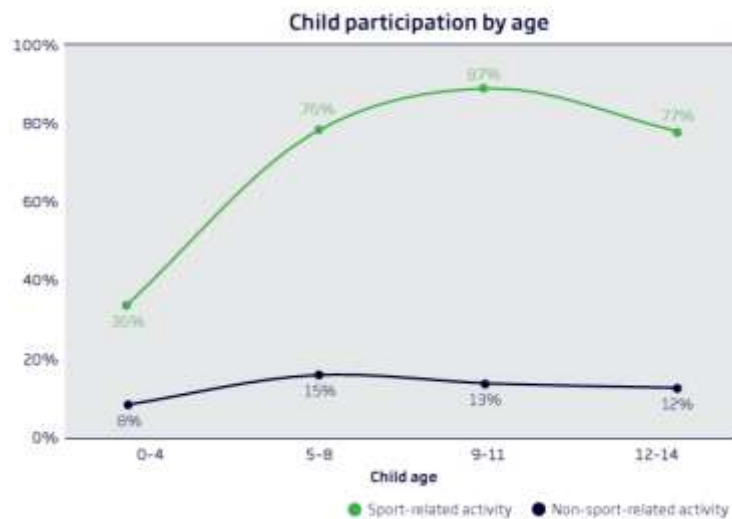
Organised sports around Australia are reporting general community level participation in organised sport is down since Covid19 has impacted including the cancellation of a number of seasons.

7.4.2 ORGANISED SPORTS PARTICIPATION

The Ausplay survey reveals, as have previous national surveys, that organised sports participation is highly popular amongst children and peaks amongst children in the upper primary school years, and then gradually declining amongst high school aged children.

Organised sports participation amongst Adults (15+ years) is at its peak amongst persons aged 15-17 and then progressively declines as age increases.





Source; Australian Sports Commission

7.4.3 BARRIERS TO PARTICIPATION

For adults, lack of time is the primary reason for not participating in physical recreation up to age of 50, after which poor health/injury becomes the major reason for not participating.

For children, lack of time is cited as the major reason for not participating in physical recreation followed by lack of money and lack of enjoyment (excluding too young/too old to participate).

7.5 LOCAL SPORTS PARTICIPATION GROWTH

The Shire of Quairading is anticipating minimal change in the population. Analysis of the Shire’s population growth in the key sports playing demographics indicates that there is likely to be stable or slight decline due to aging of the population.

7.5.1 FEMALE SPORTS PARTICIPATION

An emerging trend in two major field sporting codes in Australia is the rapid growth in female participation cricket and football, which traditionally have been male dominated. Female Cricket and Australian Rules football have recorded remarkable growth in recent years including:

- The Australian Cricket Association reported a 20% increase in female participation from 2014 to 2015, with females now making up 1 in 4 cricket participants.
- The Australian Football League reported a 19% increase in female participation from 2014-2015, and that they now make up over 22% of all football players nationally.

Female soccer participation has not experienced the same levels of growth rates in participation in recent years, however it is a goal of the Football Federation of Australia as stated in the Women’s Football Strategic Plan to increase female participation within the sport. Recent figures show 20% of soccer players in Australia are female.

This increased female participation in traditionally male dominated mainstream sports including football, cricket and soccer, will have a significant impact on growth in demand for active reserve space and the need for more female friendly facilities such as female changerooms at multi-field sports complexes.

7.5.2 GAME FORMAT CHANGES

Many sports are introducing new forms of the game to attract younger and new participants. Amongst others, cricket, rugby and soccer are now providing modified, fast versions of the game. The impact is that sports such as rugby, Australian Rules football and soccer have introduced their modified game during summer seasons, effectively increasing their season and requirements for infrastructure.

7.6 FACILITY SHARING

Strong emphasis is now placed on the best practice principles of joint use facilities and co-location at all levels of government. The push towards greater implementation of joint use and co-location is encouraged through the prioritisation of funding towards projects that espouse these best practice principles. The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC) administer the primary source of State Government funding for community sport and recreation facilities, the Community Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund (CSRFF), and the information on its website clearly states that:

“Priority will be given to projects that lead to facility sharing and rationalisation. Multi-purpose facilities reduce infrastructure required to meet similar needs and increase sustainability.”

Source: <http://www.dsr.wa.gov.au/facilitiesfunding>

This provides significant financial incentive for community groups to pursue shared facility opportunities in order to gain significant levels of funding.

DLGSC also advocates joint use facility provision in the *Facility Planning Guide, Sport and Recreation Facilities, March 2007*. This document provides the following rationale for joint use facilities:

- Less duplication and maximum use of community facilities and services
- Creation of a community hub—a focal point for community activity
- Shared capital costs, services, resources and expertise
- Improved relationships between organisations
- Reduced operating costs
- Increased community ownership of facilities
- Access to a broader range of services and expertise
- Reduced vandalism

This document notes that all parties need to carefully consider their specific needs for access and usage and be assured that compatibility exists before planning progresses to the design phase. Comprehensive management agreements need to be developed to ensure all parties are aware of their responsibilities, however, if a sharing arrangement is to be successful there must be flexibility, trust, open communication and co-operation.

Sharing of facilities allows optimisation of usage of sports fields, clubrooms and amenities. A common example of facility sharing is usage of a set of clubrooms and sporting fields by a winter user and a summer user. At the end of a season, one club vacates the facility to enable the other seasonal user group access for their season. This ensures the facility is used year-round.

There are also opportunities for junior clubs to share with seniors. Juniors and seniors of the same sport generally play on different days or morning and afternoons/evenings. Junior clubs generally have a lesser requirement for social facilities, and therefore can be well suited to being a secondary tenant of a clubroom facility.

It should be noted however, that one size does not fit all in regards to facility sharing. In some instances, there may be opportunities for increased facility sharing and in some instances, there may be less. One of the major factors that affect the ability for sharing of facilities is the size of the clubs concerned. For example, a junior sporting club may have very large membership and require scheduling of games on both days of the

weekend plus training times on most weeknights thus limiting availability of the facilities for other same season users.

Additionally, some sports are moving beyond a traditional six-month season with both strong winter and summer competitions, with soccer being one example; therefore sharing of facilities with another major user group can be difficult if the facilities do not have the capacity/flexibility to accommodate multiple user groups simultaneously.

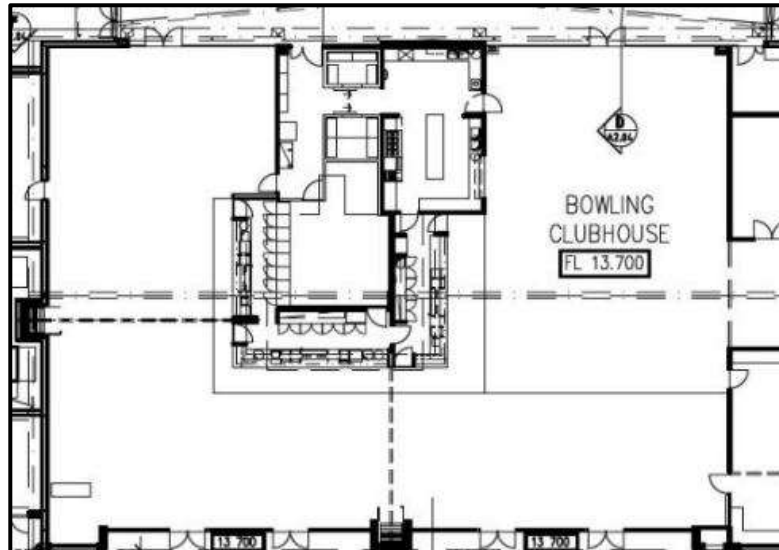
Opportunities for facility sharing need to be individually assessed and include consultation with the key stakeholders. In each case there will be a range of issues that need to be carefully considered before making a decision on opportunities for facility sharing and the timing for proceeding with the infrastructure developments.

7.6.1 MULTI-USER PAVILIONS

ABV has collated the plans of many shared use pavilions during the course of numerous sport and recreation facility needs assessments and feasibility studies. There are a number of traits from contemporary facility designs that are considered appropriate and should be considered in the design of an upgraded or new shared use pavilion at the Quairading recreation precinct. They are listed below:

Large Flexible (possibly)Dividable Social/Function Room, Kitchen and Bar

A large function area that can be divided; the plans below indicate three separate spaces with retractable walls is a key component of this successful shared use facility. It allows multiple groups to use the facility simultaneously, and provides the flexibility for different sized room spaces to be configured depending on the needs of the function. A horse shoe shape central kitchen/bar area is a feature of a number of contemporary designs including the recently constructed Mandurah Bowling and Recreation Club as shown below:



Large dividable social/function space with central kitchen/bar

It is important that each of the divisible areas can be accessed by patrons independently without disturbing users of the other function rooms, including external access and access to the kitchen, bar and toilets.

Multiple sets of Changerooms

Multiple sporting fields/courts require multiple sets of changerooms to adequately provide for the needs of the sports participants. It is advantageous to provide at least one set of changerooms specified to senior community Australian Rules football standards as these dimensions are equivalent or greater than the community standards of all other sports as they have the highest number of players in a team. The number

of changerooms for each multi-field sporting reserve needs to be individually assessed on a case by case basis – depending on the users make up of senior to junior teams, what sports / clubs are playing on the same day and the type of fixturing the sports utilise. Consideration for Umpires/referee change facilities and ensuring all change facilities are female friendly should be incorporated into new facility design and planning. It should also be part of planning and design for retro fitting older facilities.

Shared Administration Facilities

Meeting rooms can readily be shared by multiple user groups, less common are the use of shared office spaces, although these are appearing in recent plans (see below for an example). A shared office space can have multiple work stations as well as lockable cabinet space so that club administrators have access to an office as required, without needing unnecessary duplication of building space. (see example of a shared administration space below)



Example of Shared Office Space

Ample Storage

A large amount of storage is needed for a shared pavilion, with the total requirement depending on each club's needs. 20-30m² of storage space is generally considered suitable for the equipment storage requirements of most clubs. Small storage spaces should also be included for community groups that may be regular hirers of the facility.

Spectator Shelter and Viewing

Shared pavilions at multi-field reserves can have large patronage numbers on competition days. Ideally the pavilion would be elevated and have large verandas for spectator shelter facing towards the key sporting fields. If the pavilion is elevated, it provides the opportunity for tiered seating under the shelter.

Playgrounds

Facilities for young children are a beneficial addition to pavilions for participants/spectators who have young children and also for community hirers of the facility such as playgroups, providing day time activation of facilities. It helps the facility to be more family friendly and maintain involvement of participants as they become young parents.

7.6.2 MULTI-USE SPORTS PRECINCT KEY SUCCESS FACTORS

The layout design of a multi-use sporting precinct is critical for successful shared usage by multiple user groups. The following key design elements have been developed from a best practice perspective accumulated from projects undertaken by A Balanced View (ABV) Leisure Consultancy Services and feedback from LGA's and sporting clubs:

Proximity of Pavilions to Sporting Fields

Users of a shared pavilion facility must have good viewing and access to their sporting field from the pavilions. Access to the fields should not be obstructed by parking or driveways to ensure safety of children.

Large Open Grassed Playing Areas

Grassed sporting fields should be positioned together without dividing barriers such as trees or fencing where possible. This allows for maximum flexibility of use and is beneficial for holding school carnivals, festivals and other large events.

Driveway Location

Where possible, access driveways should not dissect a sporting complex, particularly where children are likely to cross – i.e. between the pavilion and a sporting field. If a pavilion is situated a considerable distance from entry access points of a reserve, the driveway should be routed along the boundary.

Compatibility of Users

Compatible users should be grouped together in shared facilities. For example, cricket and football clubs are compatible groups due to their opposing seasonal usage.

Passive & Informal Recreation Features

A range of passive and informal recreation features should be provided in conjunction with the active facilities to ensure there is something for everyone in the one location. This will also encourage the general community to make use of the sporting fields when not in use by clubs as the large grassed areas are excellent passive recreation facilities in themselves. Informal recreational elements may include trails, outdoor exercise equipment, playground equipment, 3 on 3 basketball feature, tennis hitting walls, with informal types of facilities including; amphitheatre style meeting places, picnic facilities, water features and fountains for people and their pets, shaded rest stops and seating etc.

Parking and Access

Ample parking and road access is important as well as via public transport and being linked to a dual use path network. Whilst catering for adequate parking for dedicated peak utilisation is neither practical or in many cases possible, too few parking spaces can cause significant safety issues and hamper the ability of sporting organisations to conduct their activities effectively and efficiently.

Spectator Viewing

Spectators should be well catered for with ample shelter and areas to stand/sit whilst viewing sporting events. Community sports have strong family involvement and therefore it is important that parents, children, siblings, grandparents etc. are able to view the sporting activities in a degree of comfort.

Hosting Events

Large multi-use sporting reserves should have design features that will allow them to cater for large events such as regional tournaments, top grade grand finals and community festivals. In addition to the design features previously mentioned, this may also include ensuring supporting amenities such as changerooms, toilets and social facilities are of a sufficient standard.

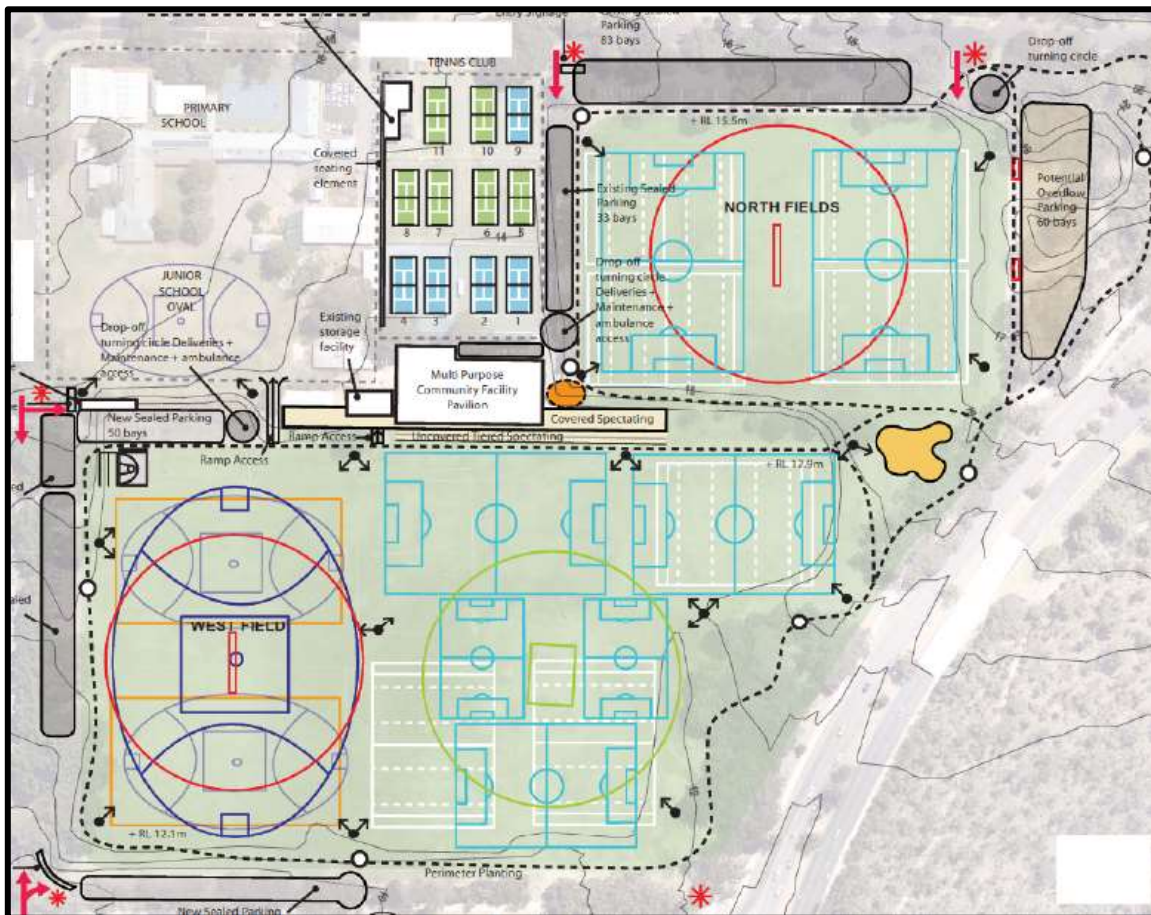
Floodlighting

Adequate floodlighting to Australian Standards for training at a minimum is required to ensure the sporting fields can be used to their full capacity, particularly for winter sports when sunset occurs soon after the work day has ended. Competition lighting is also increasingly becoming a need due to the growth in midweek competition which allows greater utilisation of facilities.

Water Efficiency

Sustainable irrigation and landscaping practices such as native plantings and computerised reticulation are important to give protection against the effects of climate change.

A recent example of a concept site plan that demonstrates many of the above attributes of a best practice multi-use sports precinct design is shown on the following page.



Example of a multi-use sports precinct demonstrating multiple key success factors.

7.6.3 SPORTS FIELD CAPACITY

Overuse of sporting grounds is a major issue as grounds that have excessive usage are damaged, become unsafe to play on and are costly to repair. The amount of usage that a particular sporting field can handle is dependent on many variables including the type of users, quality of the soil, climatic conditions, water quality and the type of turf to name a few.

Parks and Leisure Australia (PLA) has recommended maximum utilisation of playing surfaces as approximately 20 hours for AFL sized ovals and 16 hours per week for rectangular fields (ie Rugby, soccer,

Hockey). This optimum utilisation figure is generally supported by LGAs as being the optimum capacity of a well-drained and reticulated active sporting field in a moderate climate.

ABV notes that some Perth metropolitan LGA's are implementing usage restrictions based around these figures to ensure the sustainability of their sporting reserves.

7.6.4 SYNTHETIC SURFACES

Synthetic turf sports surfaces have been implemented for several decades now and are being used extensively for lawn bowls, tennis, hockey and cricket (wickets) within Western Australia. The benefits of synthetic turf include increased usage capacity, decreased water and maintenance requirements and improved uniformity of ball bounce/roll characteristics.

A more recent phenomenon is the increasing development of synthetic soccer surfaces (often with multi-use purposes) of LGA's and schools. In the 1990's 'Third Generation' synthetic turf was developed that includes long pile turf with granulated rubber infill. The playing characteristics of synthetics for soccer and other such large ball sports are similar to that of natural turf and reportedly do not affect the style of play. They have low abrasion qualities and allow players to slide on the turf as they would on natural grass. Fourth generation surfaces are now relying on less infill, are more multi-purpose and retain less heat which is a problem during Australia's hot summers.

In Australia, the uptake of synthetic surfaces has been influenced by the severe water shortages along the east coast over the past decade. In the Eastern States, many synthetic soccer fields have been developed and synthetic ovals for AFL/Cricket are also beginning to appear now that synthetics are meeting AFL/Cricket criteria. Another significant factor in synthetic surface uptake is that major cities in Australia have growing populations but limited land availability for additional active reserve space.

Synthetic surfaces are increasingly being developed in multi-purpose varieties that meet the international standards for multiple sports, however, there are still limitations to the range of sports that can be played on a single surface, particularly sports that are played on short fast rolling turf such as hockey and tennis and those that are played on longer turf such as soccer and football. Any synthetic sports surface development should be considered in a detailed feasibility study to ensure the most effective location, surface type/dimensions and management options are identified to meet the community's requirements.

7.7 CHANGING COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS

Changing trends in participation and space requirements requires multipurpose buildings and spaces that are adaptive to the changing environments.

Increasing expectation that local communities will develop sustainable solutions to community issues that will not require ongoing funding support.

Older persons seek lower impact activities at more convenient and flexible times of the day.

Greater reliance on locally accessed and lower cost opportunities by those without the resources to travel or pay for more expensive pursuits.

7.8 VOLUNTEERS

Volunteering Australia report volunteer numbers in Not for Profit organisations has been dropping considerably in recent times (2010 – 2019 approximately 8.6% in formal volunteering rates) and this has been exacerbated with Covid19 (source; Volunteering Australia – ABS General Social Survey 2019).

Social and demographic shifts identified as factors in the downturn in volunteering include;

1. a decline in organised religion
2. a shift to 2 – job families (leaving less time for volunteering activities)

3. people partnering later in life, having children older, increased difficulty buying land and therefore potentially being less invested in the local community
4. online activities replacing face to face interaction
5. a shift in expectations related to volunteering structures and rewards

[\(Institute of Community Directors Australia \(ICDA\) | Volunteer...](#) (accessed 29/7/21)

7.9 LEGISLATION

Increasing statutory obligations (e.g. Disability Discrimination Act), risk management and occupational health and safety require local governments to undertake more rigorous monitoring of compliance and risk.

7.10 ACCESSIBILITY

Community facilities should comply with the principles of universal design by facilitating access to and use of the facility and its spaces by all individuals and groups (regardless of age, ability, cultural background or level of social or economic advantage/disadvantage). This relates to providing a high level of physical access, connection and way-finding as well as ensuring services, programs and activities are broadly advertised, and are affordable.

7.11 SUSTAINABILITY

There is an increasing trend to focus on all aspects of sustainability. This includes the desire and requirement for community facilities to be affordable (from a construction and ongoing operational cost base).

Materials and ESD initiatives, technology built in to the design. Flexibility in design also improves long term sustainable as buildings and other infrastructure are more adaptable.

Initiatives include passive solar design, use of photovoltaic cells, water capture and reuse, use of low embodied materials and purchase of 'green' energy. Incorporating these and other ESD initiatives in new buildings and other infrastructure helps reduce their carbon footprint.

Obtaining contributions from user groups to cover costs of providing the facility. Where a group derives financial benefit from a community's facilities, it should contribute to its upkeep.

7.12 NATURE PLAY

In recent times, there is strong trend to connect all children, their families and communities to nature. Guidelines are being developed to reintroduce nature play into play areas and the design of community parklands.

The opportunity to be in the outdoor environment is important for the development of children's motor and cognitive skills, interpersonal attitudes and emotions. The differences in outdoor environments such as neighbourhoods, parks, playgrounds, school grounds and natural environments can comprise rich sources of stimulation and affordances for children.⁵

As such, proactively providing opportunities to play in nature and natural environments is becoming critical and is recommended to include nature play areas in the Public Parkland Planning and Design Guide (WA) for newly developed parklands.

⁵ The Trends and Influential Factors of Children's Use of Outdoor Environments: A Review, Not Fadzila Aziz and Ismail Said, 2010

7.13 SKATE / WHEELED SPORTS FACILITIES

The number of children participating in bike riding, skateboarding and scootering has grown markedly in recent years. The design of skate facilities has also changed:

- The involvement of youth in the design of skate parks has become an important aspect in obtaining buy-in from local youth.
- The development of different facility types including skateable landscapes and combination facilities, often forming a youth precinct.
- Facilities designed to have varied spaces that cater for differing levels and abilities.
- The development of skate facilities in high profile locations centrally located with ease of access to other facilities such as shopping precincts, town centres and sporting reserves.
- Development of facilities using an integrated landscape approach.
- Pump tracks accommodate a range of users from bike riding learners to mountain bike and BMX training. They are a relatively small space footprint and can accommodate many users simultaneously.

A recent skate park / youth space implementation in the Avon region can be viewed at Beverley - [Moort Wabiny Park - Beverley, WA \(beverleywa.com\)](http://beverleywa.com)

8 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The 2011 Quairading Sport and Recreation Master Plan developed a set of guiding Recreation Facilities Policy Principles that were adopted as a recommendation and remain appropriate for the guidance of planning and development which remain appropriate in 2021;

- Diversity, Quality and Design
- Maximum Use of Land and Infrastructure
- Land Management Plans
- Support for Recreation Clubs

ABV's research and observations of best practice with regards to successful Sport and Recreation Facilities Master Plans have identified the following key elements (see below). These elements have been considered throughout the development of this plan:

1. **Financially sustainable** – recommended development opportunities provide a mix of facilities that are affordable and maintainable.
2. **Colocation, shared use, multipurpose designs** – where possible, development is designed to enable greatest use by a variety of users.
3. **Maximised utilisation** – where possible, developments should allow for the greatest utilisation possible.
4. **Contemporary** – developments should meet current designs, standards and trends to enable longevity of use.
5. **Accessibility** - Infrastructure should provide for access by all people, (regardless of age, ability, cultural background or level of social or economic advantage/disadvantage).
6. **Sustainability** - development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

9 SPORT & RECREATION FACILITY BENCHMARKING

The 8 neighbouring Shires to Quairading were benchmarked for typical or common sport and recreation facilities. A listing of the main sport and recreation facilities in the main town of each Shire is provided, followed by key observations of the data.

9.1 COMPARATIVE FACILITY PROVISION NEIGHBOURING LGAS

Quairading neighbouring LGAs comparative facilities provision

	Q	Bev	Bro	Bru	Cor	Cun	Kel	Tam	Yor
Aquatic indoor									
Aquatic outdoor									
Gym									
Courts outdoor	4	4	2	2	2	2	4	2	
Courts indoor									
AFL/Cricket oval									
Hockey	2			2					
Tennis	6 H	6 G	6 SH	4 H	5 H	6 H	4 H	2 H	8 H
Bowls	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Golf									
Shooting									
Archery									
Equestrian									
Skate park									

Notes to comparative facilities table above;

Tennis; H = Hardcourts G = Grass courts - Bowls; S = synthetic

The LGAs researched with abbreviations used in the table above (with population size 2016 Census ABS);

- Q – Quairading 1,019
- Bev – Beverley 1,745
- Bro – Brookton 975
- Bru – Bruce Rock 930
- Cor – Corrigin 1,146
- Cun – Cunderdin 1,457
- Kel – Kellerberrin 1,224
- Tam – Tammin 402
- Yor – York 3,606

9.1.1 OBSERVATIONS

- The majority of the surrounding 8 Shires have similar populations to Quairading (the exceptions being the Shires of York and Tammin in particular)
- All Shires had the following facilities; Outdoor aquatic, Outdoor courts, AFL / Cricket sized ovals, Hockey fields, Tennis courts, Bowls synthetic greens and Golf courses
- Quairading was the only Shire to have an archery facility
- Quairading does not have the facilities for the following activities that most neighbouring shires had; Shooting, Equestrian and Skate park
- Quairading does not have Indoor court or Indoor aquatic facilities as per the vast majority of Shires

10 EXISTING SPORT AND RECREATION FACILITIES

The sport and recreation facilities within the Shire are located in the following areas; Quairading, South Caroling, Wamenusking and Doodenanning. The Shire currently provides financial support through the Community Grant Program – subsidising operational costs. However the Clubs were not specifically referred to in the previous Masterplan.

Site Audit

A site tour of facilities was undertaken and a high level audit report can be seen as Appendix 3 Quairading Sport and Recreation Facilities Site Audit, to this report. The audit has facility images and general condition observation comments.

General comments / observation from this audit;

- A number of facilities in the outlying areas are in poor condition
 - Tennis court surfaces and fencing require maintenance / renewal to ensure a safe, enjoyable experience for users
 - Court lighting could also be assessed for effectiveness and pole and footings safety
 - The communities of South Caroling, Wamensuking and Doodenanning should determine the need for each of their respective tennis court facilities to explore rationalisation of some facilities that may be excess to need
 - A fit for use condition assessment should be made and supported with quotations for repair / renewal to assist with decision making on renewal and rationalisation
- A number of facilities require maintenance works to improve quality to contemporary standards
 - Discussions at workshop meeting August 31st 2021 raised issue that ongoing maintenance of facilities is different to renewal / redevelopment. It should be considered within normal Shire / clubs and organisations annual maintenance and repair operational budgets as opposed to capital works sport and recreation master plan. ABV support this concept and suggest that definitions of maintenance versus renewal be defined to assist with future planning and budgeting.

WAFC Football Facilities Audit

A facility audit report of the Quairading Oval football facilities from the West Australian Football Commission (WAFC) updated in January 2020. The audit document can be seen as Appendix 4 to this report. Issues identified included;

- Player change facilities were nearing end of life with assessed quality as poor and was not suitable for female utilisation
- Inadequate umpire changerooms
- No separate first aid room
- No separate office or meeting room available
- Lighting less than 50 lux (since rectified)
- Total rating of 61%

11 CONSULTATION

Consultation and engagement with the community was crucial to the development of this sport and recreation master plan. The following opportunities were provided to the community and stakeholders to participate in the process:

Initial Information Gathering	Follow Up	Meetings / workshop
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Survey of sporting and recreation organisations within the Shire (emailed survey with 13 sporting clubs and 6 recreation organisations including the Quairading DHS returned) Community Survey (On line - Survey Monkey and hardcopy) Key Shire staff phone and in person meetings Neighbouring LGAs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phone meetings with identified key users for clarification purposes and where a survey was not returned (Purpose; ascertain requirements, concerns, ideas). DLGSC – discuss needs / regional issues Requests to some State Sporting organisations for documentation and feedback for Quairading Draft report is scheduled for public consultation once completed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sport & Recreation Committee meeting 27 July 2021 Workshop – 31 August 2021 – community & Sport & recreation committee

The following key themes were identified through the consultation process. A summary of the Sporting and Recreational organisation surveys consultation results can be seen on the next page whilst the Summary report of the Community Survey can be seen as Appendix 5 to this report.

11.1 COMMUNITY SURVEY – KEY FINDINGS

The following summarises the key feedback received from the community surveys. A total of 20 surveys were received.

Community – what facilities do you use for;

Formal sport
Spectate / socialising
Play social sport
Informal recreation
Passive recreation
Fitness

Most popular facilities

Oval, netball courts, tennis courts
Oval, netball courts, bowls
Bowls, tennis clubs, golf
Pool, nature reserves, footpaths
Nature reserves, oval, footpaths, pool
CRC, pool, oval, footpaths

What existing facilities do you think need improving?

Oval changerooms
Pool heating
Community building
Netball courts
Playground / parks
Walk cycle trails

If you could add 1 sport or recreation facility to the Shire what would it be?

Skate / wheeled sports / pump facility
Playground (all ages)
Indoor court

Any other comments on sport and recreation in the Shire of Quairading?

Numerous comments were received including;

- Positive feedback on the range of facilities for a Shire the size of Quairading
- Motivated people in Quairading
- No playgrounds
- No indoor courts
- Sports appear segregated and disjointed
- Pool needs heating & increased opening hours
- No female ablutions
- Club culture just as important as facilities

11.2 SPORT AND RECREATION ORGANISATIONS – KEY FINDINGS

Sporting and Recreation organisations were provided a survey which was completed and returned by 19 groups (13 sporting and 5 recreational and the Quairading District High School).

The key responses can be seen in the summary table below with common issues observed from responses;

Challenges for organisations;

- recruitment of players / members
- falling level of volunteers
- facility maintenance

Priorities for organisations;

- Maintenance and upgrade of facilities

11.3 SPORT AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN WORKSHOP

A workshop with attendees from the Quairading Sport and Recreation Committee was held on the 31st August 2021. The purpose was to consider and assess sport and recreation needs that had been identified through the consultation phase and form a priority ranking of need. ABV presented findings of consultation and facilitated the ranking process.

The summary table can be seen in Section 12.1 of this report.

Activity	Club Organisation	Members	3 Main Challenges	3 Priorities
SPORTS				
2020/21				
AFL Senior	Quairading Football Club	72	Player recruitment Volunteers reducing Fundraising - need own bar	Function area with club bar New changerooms / bathrooms Lighting suitable for night training
AFL Junior	Quairading Junior Football Club	42	Volunteers for coaching, umpiring, committee Player numbers decline - fill teams	No facility needs
Cricket	Quairading Cricket Club	16	Preparing turf wicket (club personel) Training nets deterioration Reticulation for pitch is faulty	New practice nets Pitch irrigation repair Proper pitch curation
Netball Senior	Quairading Netball Club	14	Funding for court hire & equipment, uniforms Minimal support from Netball WA Shortage of umpires	Stop court flooding (roof cover best solution) Access to clean, organised, secure storage Umpire, coaching mentoring programs for succession
Netball Junior	Quairading Junior Netball Club	48	Netball WA training burden on volunteers Volunteers for coaching, umpiring, committee Transient population impact on players	2 new courts Storage - maintain current levels Ladies changerooms - suitable for home & away teams
Hockey Ladies	Quairading Ladies Hockey Club	36	N/A	Good playing surface Toilet & Shower facilities Lights
Golf	Quairading Golf Club	47	Finding new members Covering cost of mowing Keeping course well maintained	Purchase new mower (\$45k+ second hand) Purchase new slasher Purchase of fertilizer
Bowls	Quairading Bowls Club	85	Red tape running of bar - Liquor licensing	Renewal of green in 10 yrs (\$150k) - possible base works Possible shade structure
Tennis	Quairading Tennis Club	25	Increase membership numbers Increase junior participation Maintaining infrastructure	New courts Better clubhouse Family friendly facilities
Badminton	Quairading Badminton Club	7	Membership numbers Hall hire costs (covered by fewer members)	N/A
Swimming	Quairading Aquatic Club	31	Heavy compliance burden from Swimming WA High affiliation & insurance fees Lack of volunteers & parent helpers	Pool upgraded - excellent facilities
Wammenusking	Wammenusking Sports Club	35	Maintaining membership Coordinating volunteer labour Getting playing numbers each week	Maintenance of facilities Sun safe areas for children
Sth Caroling	Sth Caroling Social Club	7	Limited members Hall in need of repairs Coordinating fixtures - balancing commitments	Repairs to interior walls of hall Repair or resurface of courts Maintaining members to enable fixturing
RECREATION ORGANISATIONS				
Quairading GYM		60-70	N/A	Dedicated facility at community hub Require adequate space (reccomended 150 m2) Proposed design has too many entry points to gym
Quairading Agricultural Society		2019	Availability of entertainment options	Upgrade ablutions across showgrounds
	Exhibitors	40	Workload on volunteers / lack of new	A more 'grassy' surface across overflow area
	Attendance	1,000	Rising expenses - difficulty gaining grants	Undercover area for market stalls & entertainment
Q CRC	Business	43	Increasing cost of rent (and all expenses)	Adequate maintenance of building
	Clubs	35		
	Individuals	100		
QARRAS		63	Entertaining members - finding places/speakers Finding volunteers / office bearers	Very happy with current facilities
Q Stay Active		26	Aging population Illness Moving away to be in care	Facilities are great

12 IDENTIFIED SPORT & RECREATION NEEDS ANALYSIS

The following provides the analysis and recommendations for sport and recreation infrastructure and services in the Shire of Quairading:

Findings were made from a variety of sources; community survey, sports and recreation organisation surveys, Shire of Quairading Sport and Recreation Committee meetings and reporting, community workshop and Shire of Quairading strategic documentation.

The list of items that arose from the various sources were listed and presented to the community workshop on the 31st August 2021. At this workshop, participants were asked to assess each for the following characteristics;

- Hierarchy – was the item considered to service; regional, district or local catchments
- Equitable access – would the item provide a high, moderate or low level of equitable access for the community
- Expense – was the item considered a high, moderate or low expense
- Time frame - is the item needed in the short, mid or long term
- PRIORITY - rank the items priority on a scale of 1 (very high) to 5 (low)

12.1 SPORT AND RECREATION IDENTIFIED FACILITY NEEDS

A workshop with attendees from the Quairading Sport and Recreation Committee was held on the 31st August 2021. The following process was undertaken in order to consider and assess sport and recreation needs that had been identified through the consultation phase;

- Formed 2 working groups
- Review and consider the identified sport & recreation facility needs
- Assess items for;
 - Where they fit in terms of Hierarchy – Regional / District / Local
 - What level of accessible equity will they provide (ie accessible to the most people) – High / Moderate / Low
 - Item expense – High / Medium / Low
 - Time frame – Short / Medium / Long
- Rank the priority of the item 1-5 (1 high priority – 5 low priority)
- Discussion between groups to provide a final ranking

The following table summarises the workshop findings. (note not all items were assessed on every criteria, ranking priority was the average of the 2 group rankings).

12.1.1 SHIRE OF QUAIRADING SPORT & RECREATION MASTER PLAN PRIORITY RANKING

Identified facility needs	Heirarchy Reg / Dist / Local	Accessible equitable H/M/L	Expense H/M/L	Time frame Short / Mid / Long	Priority Rank 1 High - 5 Low
1 Camping Overflow area – grass for dust mitigation	R	H	L	S	4
2 Upgrade ablutions across showgrounds	D	H	M	S	1
3 Undercover area for market stalls (Ag show)	D	H	M	L	3.5
4 Gym - purpose design dedicated facility	L	H	M	L	2
5 Hockey facilities - toilets / change / shade	D	H	H	L	2
6 Hockey lighting improvement	L	L	H	S	3.5
7 Hockey - good quality playing surface	D	M	H	M	3
8 Football changerooms upgrade	D	M	H	L	1.5
9 Football suitable training level lighting	L	M	H	L	3.5
10 Football improved function bar area	D	H	H	L	4
11 Cricket new practice nets / relocated	L				2
12 Cricket pitch improved curation (maintenance)				S	3
13 Cricket adequate spectator facilities					3
14 Tennis Q new courts				M	2
15 Tennis Q Improved clubhouse facility		H	H	L	2
16 Tennis Q family friendly facilities				L	3
17 Sth Caroling repairs to Hall	L	M	M		3.5
18 Tennis Sth Caroling repair/resurface tennis courts	L	M	M	S	2.5
20 Wamenusking shading for childrens facilities	L	M	L	S	2.5
21 Netball court drainage / resurfacing	D				2.5
22 Netball changerooms provision (female 2 teams)	D				2
23 Swimming pool heating	D	H	M	S	1.5
24 Playground all ages (oval or town centre)	D	H	M	S	1
25 Walking trails upgrade / new	D	H	L	S	1.5
26 Indoor sports court	D	H	H	L	2.5
27 Skate park / wheeled sports (scooters & bikes)	D/L	H	H	M	2
28 Pump track	D	M	L	M	3.5
30 Mini golf (tourism recreation)	L	L	M	L	4.5
31 Oval scoreboard	D	H	M	S	2.5
32 Nature reserve development / upgrade	D	M	L	S	2.5
33 Doondenanning tennis courts resurface & fencing					2.5

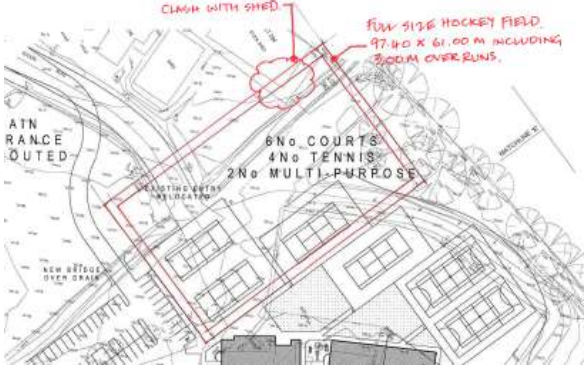
12.2 OPPORTUNITIES / ANALYSIS TABLE

The following section provides analysis of the identified needs with recommendations / opportunities.


Item	Analysis	Recommendation/Opportunity
<p>Recreation precinct</p>	<p>The Quairading recreation precinct has been the subject of discussions and investigations since the 2011 Sport and Recreation Master Plan. Exploration of efficient, shared, multi-purpose facilities have been supported where practical and possible to inform the latest concept plan (Aug 2021) see Appendix 2 Quairading Recreation Pavilion (August 10 2021).</p> <p>This concept indicates the following key outcomes;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A colocated recreation pavilion consisting of 2 main buildings • Refurbished existing pavilion / function room including childrens play area, welcoming frontage to car park, expanded function room, scorers box, tennis club office and storage with interface to new tennis courts location • New pavillion of approximately 690m2 replacing the existing change room block to include features; 2 sets of changerooms (including female suitable), first aid / trainers room, umpires changerooms, football social room. Community gym new toilets and covered patio area for spectators • The site will also have a new entrance roadway to allow for 2 new multi purpose hard courts (basketball / netball / etc) and 4 tennis hard courts with close proximity to pavilion and supporting amenities, new parking and formalisation of existing parking. <p>Many of the existing issues with buildings and facilities at the site (as reported by key stakeholders from consultation) will be rectified through the delivery of the concept plan as proposed. These items include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Football, cricket and hockey changerooms – insufficient change rooms, female friendly changerooms, umpires facilities, first aid, spectator shade and social facilities <p>Football and Cricket both have standards for the various levels of changeroom provision stanards which can be used as a guide and starting point for such facilities design. Due to AFL having more players than the other sports, by designing to these stadards, other sports wil be accomodated for in terms of facility size.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An electronic scoreboard for the oval has been identified as a facility need. It would be important that such a facility was flexible in design and operation (ie capable of community and sponsor messaging) and possibly mobile to enable the maximum use and optimum location for each user group. 	<p>Continue to progress the concept planning for the Recreation Precinct development.</p> <p>Provision of new shared changeroom.</p> <p>Provision of social facilities at the recreation precinct.</p> <p>Provision of electronic scoreboard at recreation precinct.</p>

Item	Analysis	Recommendation/Opportunity
Recreation precinct (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tennis courts, clubhouse & family friendly facilities Netball / basketball courts drainage /resurfacing, storage provision, changerooms Dedicated community gym facility. The dimensions of a gym should be considered for current membership and potential future member numbers (ie possible expansion areas) and activities (ie functional training and wellness classes). <p>The security of the gym should be considered with controlled entry / exit points, storage and ablution/change considerations for after staffed hours operations.</p> <p>The current status of the Precinct Concept Plan is summarised with the following recommendations made by the Quairading and Districts Sport and Recreation Council regarding the Precinct Concept Plan (Meeting Minutes 27th July 2021);</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>That the Concept Plan be revised to include a second ladies changeroom, a second umpires facility and modifications to the hard court layout;</i> <i>That the feasibility of hockey field location and surface be researched and considered;</i> <p><i>That once the Final Design Revisions has been received, Council proceed to engage a Quantity Surveyor to provide an Estimate of Probable Costs for Forward Planning and future Grant Funding Applications.</i></p>	<p>Relocation and upgrade of tennis courts within the recreation precinct</p> <p>Relocation and upgrade of multisport courts within the recreation precinct</p> <p>Provision of dedicated gym facility as part of the shared community building at recreation precinct.</p>
Lighting of playing fields	<p>Quairading oval lighting completed an LED upgrade in 2021 to the level of 50 lux (big ball training level). Funding from the CSRFF and Drought Community Project at an approximate cost of \$330k with grants of \$110k.</p> <p>Hockey playing fields – the recent upgrade to playing field lighting provides for lighting for the southern hockey field. This lighting is to 50 lux (big ball training level standard).</p> <p>The costs associated with upgrading lighting to higher levels (such as small ball lighting standards of around 250 lux) are extremely high and probably prohibitive for the number of players it would benefit. A further concern is the proximity of the playing field to the air strip which has height limitations for lighting infrastructure. Further lighting improvements will require investigation into solutions that do not contravene these restrictions.</p>	<p>Monitor the recent upgrade to lighting for suitability over the next few seasons.</p>
Reticulation of playing fields	<p>Reports by clubs that the playing fields reticulation was not operating correctly have been identified as an issue with the eastern pump. This pump is in need of renewal in near future. The Western pump has recently been renewed.</p> <p>This item could be considered a maintenance issue considered within capital replacement and maintenance budgets.</p>	



Item	Analysis	Recommendation/Opportunity
Cricket practice nets renewal & possible relocation	<p>The current practice cricket wicket synthetic surfaces are in need of renewal. This presents the opportunity to relocate the nets to another suitable location closer to the other supporting facilities such as toilets and social areas.</p> <p>Practice cricket nets optimum location criteria include; north / south direction up to 15 degrees off line in either direction, synthetic grass covering entire concrete pitch, short run up and delivery area to be concrete and synthetic cover, hitting zone area to be out onto large grassed area, close proximity to water fountain, toilets and social areas.</p>	Investigate optimum location and renew synthetic cricket wicket practice nets.
Cricket turf wicket irrigation repair & improved maintenance	<p>The quality of a cricket match can be determined by the standard of the turf wicket. Irrigation to the wicket is vital for its ongoing standard. Investigation and repair to any reticulation should be undertaken as soon as possible so as not to let the wicket deteriorate which would result in increased works and time to bring back to standard. This issue is considered to be an ongoing maintenance item that could be rectified within the normal works program</p> <p>Maintenance of turf cricket wickets is a specialist skill set that requires training for proficiency. A resource person should be identified and trained to ensure the quality of wicket is maintained to ensure the quality of the sport is not compromised.</p>	Identify the appropriate person to receive training in turf wicket maintenance.
Ablutions upgrade across showgrounds	<p>Poor standard and general lack of ablutions across the recreation precinct (particularly at event days such as the AG Show) impact on the experience for users and attendees.</p> <p>The proposed Recreation precinct redevelopment will see new toilets provided at that venue that can be utilised on show days/events. The other current ablutions are in need of upgrading also.</p> <p>It would appear worthwhile evaluating the cost benefits comparison between the upgrading of ablutions versus the hire of temporary facilities on large event days. The information can inform decision making with possible outcomes including, upgrade existing ablutions, retire existing ablutions and hire for events of a combination of some upgrades and some hire of facilities for events.</p>	Conduct a cost benefit comparison for upgrading ablutions across the showgrounds area versus use of hire facilities to inform decision making.

Item	Analysis	Recommendation/Opportunity
<p>Hockey – Synthetic practice surface</p>	<p>The desire for a hockey synthetic surface was expressed by the Hockey Club. The club indicated that a training surface could be shared with tennis club provided tennis wanted synthetic court surfaces. MCG architects provided scale overlay drawings that indicated it was not possible to fit a full sized hockey field where the tennis courts are proposed in the Recreation Precinct Concept planning (see below).</p>  <p>The reduced option of sharing synthetic grass tennis courts (4 courts as proposed by Tennis Club) was not deemed possible once the tennis club determined that they would like to retain synthetic hard court surface for its proposed new courts.</p> <p>The cost of a synthetic hockey training area is significant. Margaret River has recently implemented a synthetic training surface of approximately ½ size of a hockey field at approximately \$700,000. Balancing the need for this surface which would be for sole Hockey use, for less than 20 players is difficult when current grass facilities are available.</p>	<p>Maintain the existing Hockey playing fields at as high a standard as possible.</p>



Item	Analysis	Recommendation/Opportunity
<p>Undercover area for market stalls</p>	<p>The agricultural society has applied for a received grant funding to provide a roof structure of 24m x 10m which is currently being installed.</p> <p>The opportunity presents to utilise this area as an undercover area for sports training, general informal recreational and youth activities should the ground surface be suitable. A bitumen / floor surface could be marked for sports such as netball and basketball with a removable dual goal post at either end. This would provide a reduced size playing area, but ideal under cover training option for clubs and a suitable area for informal use in inclement or hot weather conditions (Netball court dimensions 30.5 x 15.5m with a 3m run off area. The facility could also provide lighting to allow evening utilisation of the area.</p> <p>The Shire of Williams have recently provided an undercover flexible space that sports utilise as well as livestock use for Agricultural show purposes.</p>	<p>Investigate suitable surface, lighting and sporting equipment options for the Agricultural Society undercover area to enable sports and recreation activity utilisation.</p>
<p>Indoor court</p>	<p>Indoor sports court provides protection from the weather winter and sun for many sporting and recreation activities. They are an expensive item of infrastructure (single courts are generally built for well in excess of \$1million).</p> <p>An alternative low cost option to provide an undercover sports court option could be considered initially whilst interest and demand is gauged. An example exists where the Shire of Williams has provided a roofed court facility which is also used as a ram shed pavilion.</p> <p>The Quairading Agricultural Society is in the process of erecting a shed within the showgrounds which may provide a first option for informal recreation and sports training utilisation (the size is not a full sized netball / basketball court). A staging progression maybe a larger shed to the size suitable for a netball / basketball court, to possible enclosing of the shed with side walls and ultimately a sprung floor system.</p> <p>(An example of an outdoor undercover netball court in next column).</p>	<p>Investigate future options for an indoor sports court with a potential staged approach.</p> 
<p>Pool heating</p>	<p>Pool heating will provide more user-friendly conditions particularly for children and the elderly who can find cooler water inhibits their enjoyment and subsequent utilisation of pools. It can also have the positive effect of extending the pool season when the cooler weather prevails.</p> <p>Community requests for heated pool water has been regularly received, including the recent community survey and the Quairading District High School.</p> <p>The Allocation of budget (approx. \$50,000) has been made for heat pump installation for the Learn to swim pool. The pumps are planned for installation by the start of the 2021 season.</p>	



Item	Analysis	Recommendation/Opportunity
<p>Skatepark & pump track</p>	<p>A skate park has been identified as a desirable facility from the community surveys and in Sport and Recreation Committee workshop meeting. It has also been noted as a common facility in the surrounding Shires (see Section 9 Sport and Recreation Facilities Benchmarking within this report).</p> <p>Successful skate parks, pump tracks and youth facilities in general are most successful when the local youth community feels a level of ownership of the facilities. Successful projects report buy in by the local skate community, committees formed from local skaters, scooters, wheeled sports enthusiasts is vital to success and progression of facility designs.</p> <p>The Shire of Beverley has recently opened a skate and pump track facility incorporated into a youth / family recreation area within the town centre (see images of the skate park below and pump track opposite). The facility can be seen at this site (see link Moort Wabiny Park - Beverley, WA (beverleywa.com)). Facilities include; Nature playground, skate park, pump track, 3 on 3 basketball pad, shelter.</p> <p>Project cost was \$860k, funded in the following way; Lotteries west \$426k, Stronger Communities fund \$16k, Community fundraising \$16k, Drought Communities Program \$402k.</p>  <p>A number of towns now provide variations on traditional skate parks with skateable elements that can be located over different parcels of land with irregular shapes (such as long narrow areas) that are intermingled with seating and other elements to attract a wide range of users. The recent sport and recreation workshop indicated that a skate park has a higher priority ranking than a pump track, therefore a potential staging of an overall facility could be considered.</p>	<p>Investigate options for a skate park and wheeled sports facility.</p>  <p>Beverley Pump Track</p> <p>Investigate options for a pump track facility.</p>

Item	Analysis	Recommendation/Opportunity
Playground	<p>A number of small play areas are located within the main town site, but nothing of significance or that could be considered a “destination” playground. Many local towns report that travellers will schedule or have impromptu stops at towns with visible, significant playgrounds. There are obvious economic and tourism benefits associated with such facilities.</p> <p>The local community can also benefit from such a facility with social capital built from its role as a meeting place and providing space and structure for children’s socialisation, imaginative play and physical activity.</p> <p>Planning and design has been undertaken for a significant nature playground (project costs of approximately \$840,000) to be located at the town centre on the site of former New Valley Ford Caryard and to be known as the Kwirradig Koort Community Park. A funding application has been submitted to LotteryWest with hopes for a project delivery by the end of the 2021/22 financial year.</p> <p>A Shared-use agreement for public access to the Quairading District High School facilities, including playground is in the process of being formalised currently.</p>	<p>Subject to funding being accessed, commence Kwirradig Koort Community Park nature playground construction as planned.</p> <p>Formalise a Shared use agreement with the Quairading District High School, allowing public access to the school facilities including playground.</p>
Mini golf facility	<p>Mini golf facilities provide an informal recreational activity suitable for all ages. They also can provide a tourist activity / attraction.</p>	<p>Investigate mini golf facility provision.</p>



<p>Trails / pathways</p>	<p>Walking is the most popular form of physical exercise for West Australians with approximately 47% of the population participating.</p> <p>Town recreation precinct</p> <p>Pathways in general allow features to be more accessible to more people. The Town recreation precinct area could improve its accessibility by providing a loop pathway that provides stable, flat surface suitable for accessing all areas of the precinct by foot, bike, wheelchair etc. Healthy Active By Design Guide for Movement Networks indicates the following important considerations when enhancing movement networks; the provision of safe, connected, continuous, easily navigated connections, where streets, footpaths and cycle ways connect to each other. The connections should be well lit with shade and shelter as well as directional signposts, and all such facilities should be designed for all users including the young, the elderly and those with disabilities.</p> <p>The provision of seating / rest spots under shaded area provide place for recreation pursuits such as walking / enjoyment of outdoors as well as spectator options for formal sporting activities. It could also provide a fitness trail with distance markers that loops the area, enabling people to utilise including at night when sporting lights are being used or with low / no cost solar lighting, promoting increased physical activity.</p> <p>Cycle trails have similar physical activity and tourism benefits as pathways and walking trails. Where possible, walking trails could be made suitable for dual use to provide options for both cycles and walkers. Currently the Department of Transport in conjunction with the Shires of Beverley, Chittering, Dandaragan, Gingin, Northam, Toodyay and York is developing the Avon Central Coast Regional 2050 Cycling Strategy (due to be released mid 2021). This is a long term vision across the region including an aspirational cycling network covering key town sites and interregional connections. This strategy can be found at the following link; Long-term cycle network (transport.wa.gov.au).</p> <p>Given the close proximity to Quairading and the potential benefits of inclusion in such a strategy, it would appear beneficial for the Shire to enquire as to future inclusion opportunities within this regional plan.</p> <p>Nature Trails</p> <p>The Quairading Nature Reserve and Toapin Weir are facilities that offer passive recreation opportunities (Toapin Weir includes; free camping with toilet, electric bbq, non-potable water and a fire pits).</p> <p>The addition and maintenance of trails within will provide more people the opportunity and incentive to experience the natural offerings of the areas as well as offer tourism benefits.</p> <p>Recent developments / planning for these facilities include below with works scheduled for 2021/22;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renaming of Quairading Nature Reserve to its cultural name; Nookaminnie Rock Nature Reserve 	<p>Continue to invest in footpaths within the Shire, enabling walking / riding as active forms of transport wherever possible.</p> <p>Investigate the opportunity for a sealed pathway fitness trail around the Quairading recreation precinct area as part of the precinct concept planning.</p> <p>Investigate opportunities to enhance and promote trails within the Quairading Nature Reserve and Toapin Weir.</p>
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Item	Analysis	Recommendation/Opportunity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrades to signage and branding and maintenance of trails through reserves Digitizing of trails and uploading on Trails WA website Groves (South side of Nature reserve) is undergoing initial planning for road access to the culturally significant area of the Nature Reserve and possible construction of basic supporting facilities. 	
Security and Trail Lighting	<p>Security level lighting around sporting facilities prevents anti-social behaviour and vandalism at these venues during night time.</p> <p>If a fitness / walk path trail is provided within the recreation precinct, lighting of that trail would benefit those wishing to be physically active at night utilising the trail.</p> <p>Recent developments in solar lighting provides a security lighting level with low (to zero) operating costs that are proving advantageous over the life cycle (Shire of Beverley recent installation).</p>	Consider the provision of security level lighting for infrastructure and pathway/trails at the recreation precinct.
South Caroling	<p>The South Caroling Hall is a building with historical value. Its 100th year is approaching and presents an opportunity for possible funding grants to assist with repairs.</p> <p>The tennis court facilities (surfaces and fencing) are in need of repair and maintenance. It would be prudent to investigate the number of courts needed prior to embarking on repairs or resurfacing. Lighting should be investigated for need, operating levels and safety of infrastructure.</p>	<p>Investigate repair requirements / quotation for South Caroling Hall and seek possible funding grants.</p> <p>Investigate need for the number of tennis court facilities required. Once determined seek quotations on required works to courts / fencing and lighting.</p>
Wamenusking Sports Club	<p>The tennis court facilities (surfaces) are in need of repair and maintenance. It would be prudent to investigate the number of courts needed prior to embarking on repairs or resurfacing. Lighting should be investigated for need, operating levels and safety of infrastructure.</p> <p>Children play areas are in need of suitable shading for sun safe play. It was recently determined to erect shade over the children's play area with a CBH grass roots grant (\$3,000 and with additional reserve funds).</p>	Investigate need for the number of tennis court facilities required. Once determined seek quotations on required works to courts.
Doodenanning Sporting Club	<p>The tennis court facilities (surfaces and fencing) are in need of repair (possible replacement) and maintenance. It would be prudent to investigate the number of courts needed prior to embarking on repairs or resurfacing. Lighting should be investigated for need, operating levels and safety of infrastructure.</p>	Investigate need for the number of tennis court facilities required. Once determined seek quotations on required works to courts, fencing and lighting.

Item	Analysis	Recommendation/Opportunity
Falling volunteer rates	<p>Falling volunteers was listed by many sport and recreation organisations as a major challenge for them. The Shire of Quairading also list “volunteer fatigue” as a strategic risk for the Shire within the Strategic Community Plan.</p> <p>Volunteering Australia report volunteers for Not for Profit organisations has been dropping considerably in recent times (2010 – 2019 approximately 9% in formal volunteering rates) and this has been exacerbated with Covid19 (source Volunteering Australia – ABS General Social Survey 2019).</p> <p>Volunteering resource information could be shared with sport and recreation community groups within the Shire. Volunteering WA provide a resource hub of such information which could form part of a clubs volunteering strategy for the Shire of Quairading;</p> <p>Volunteering Resource Hub (volunteeringhub.org.au)</p>	<p>Investigate ways in which sport and recreation volunteering is advertised, possibilities of volunteer sharing and recognition Shire wide. Develop a volunteer strategy for the Shire’s community organisations.</p>
Disability Access & Inclusion	<p>The current DAIP is under currently being reviewed for the next time period. A number of facilities were observed to likely not meet contemporary access and inclusion standards. It would be advantageous for the Shire to undertake a disability, access and inclusion audit of sport and recreation facilities to enable all future facility redevelopments / improvements to consider rectification within the planning process.</p>	<p>Conduct a disability access and inclusion facilities audit for all sport and recreation facilities within the Shire.</p>



12.3 SUMMARY OF SPORT AND RECREATION PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

Following the analysis undertaken, the recommendations have been grouped into the following tables based on their proposed time frames and then in order of their priority ranking.

12.3.1 SHORT TERM RECOMMENDATIONS: 0 - 3 YEARS

Short Term (0 - 3 Years)	Priority ranking
Subject to funding being accessed, commence Kwirradung Koort Community Park nature playground construction	1
Conduct a cost benefit comparison for upgrading ablutions across the showgrounds area versus use of hire facilities to inform decision making	1
Formalise a Shared use agreement with the Quairading District High School, allowing public access to the school facilities including playground	1
Continue to invest in footpaths within the Shire, enabling walking / riding as active forms of transport wherever possible	1.5
Investigate optimum location and renew synthetic cricket wicket practice nets	2
Progress Recreation Precinct development to detailed design, costing (Capital and life costings) and phasing stages for program to be "shovel ready".	2
Develop a volunteer strategy for the Shire's community organisations.	2*
Conduct a disability access and inclusion facilities audit for all sport and recreation facilities within the Shire	2*
Provision of electronic scoreboard at recreation precinct	2.5
Maintain the existing Hockey playing fields at as high a standard as possible	3
Investigate opportunities to enhance and promote trails within the Quairading Nature Reserve and Toapin Weir	2.5
Investigate suitable sun shade options for Wamenusking Sports Club and funding grants for children's play areas	2.5
Facilitate strategic workshops with South Caroling, Wamenusking and Doodenanning Clubs to determine sporting and recreational needs of these communities including the number of tennis court facilities. Once court need is determined seek quotations on required works to courts, fencing and lighting	2.5
Identify the appropriate person to receive training in turf wicket maintenance	3
Monitor the recent upgrade to playing field lighting for suitability over the next few seasons	3.5
Investigate suitable surface, lighting and sporting equipment options for the Agricultural Society undercover area to enable sports and recreation activity utilisation	3.5

* Priority rating by ABV

12.3.2 MEDIUM TERM RECOMMENDATIONS: 4 – 7 YEARS

Medium Term (4-7 Years)	Priority ranking
Investigate options for a skate park and wheeled sports facility	2
Relocation and upgrade of multisport courts within the recreation precinct	2*
Relocation and upgrade of tennis courts within the recreation precinct	2*
Investigate options for a pump track facility	3.5
Investigate repair requirements / quotation for South Caroling Hall and seek possible funding grants	3.5
Investigate the opportunity for a sealed pathway fitness trail around the Quairading recreation precinct area as part of the precinct concept planning	5*
Consider the provision of security level lighting for infrastructure and pathway/trails at the recreation precinct	5*

* Priority rating by ABV

12.3.3 LONG TERM RECOMMENDATIONS: 8 – 10+ YEARS

Long Term (10+ Years)	Priority ranking
Provision of new shared universal changeroom at the recreation precinct	2
Provision of new or upgraded social facilities at the recreation precinct	2
Provision of dedicated gym facility as part of the shared community building at recreation precinct	2
Provision of adequate storage facilities for the clubs at the recreational precinct	2
Investigate future options for an indoor sports court with a potential staged approach	2.5
Investigate mini golf facility provision	5

* Priority rating by ABV

13 POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

The following details potential funding sources for sport and recreation recommendations within this report.

Funding Source	Type or projects they will fund
Grants	<p>CSRFF (DLGSC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cricket pitches Safety fences Court resurface or upgrade Upgrade to clubrooms/pavilions Sports floodlighting Court construction <p>Lotterywest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skate parks Playgrounds Trails (recent changes now align funding support with Trails WA Strategic Plan Pillars) <p>Building Better Regions Fund (Australian Government)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Various - to generate jobs and economic benefits to regions Round 5 of this funding program has closed and recipients are due to be announced in the third quarter of 2021. Further rounds may be offered in due course. <p>Other</p> <p>There will potentially be other grant opportunities that may be applied for as the master plan is progressed</p>
Rates and Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infrastructure

COMMUNITY SPORTING AND RECREATION FACILITIES FUND (CSRFF)

Administered through the DLGSCI, the CSRFF provides funding through a competitive application process for small and large sporting infrastructure projects, however will provide a maximum of one-third of the total estimated cost (excluding GST) of the applicant's project. Priority will be given to projects that lead to facility sharing and rationalisation. Multi-purpose facilities reduce infrastructure required to meet similar needs and increase sustainability. The 2021 /22 funding round has a budget of \$12million.

Small Grants: \$2,500–\$66,666 will be allocated to projects involving a basic level of planning. The total project cost for grant must not exceed \$200,000. Grants given in this category must be claimed in the financial year following the date of approval. For projects with a grant request below \$2,500 it is expected that the applicant should be able to fully fund these.

Annual Grants: \$66,667 – \$166,666 will be allocated to projects with a planning and construction process that will be complete within 12 months. The total project cost for annual grants is between \$200,001 – \$500,000. Grants given in this category must be claimed in the financial year following the date of approval.

Examples of annual projects:

- upgrades to clubrooms/pavilions
- upgrade to swimming pool

- large floodlighting project
- court or bowling green construction
- reticulation system for a grassed playing field.

CSRFF forward planning grants

\$166,667–\$2,000,000 will be allocated to the large scale projects where the total project cost exceeds \$500,000 and may require an implementation period of between one and three years. Grants given in this category may be allocated in one or a combination of the years in the triennium.

Examples of forward planning projects:

- multipurpose leisure/recreation centre
- swimming pool – new or major upgrade including heating to allow increased use
- construction of large synthetic fields
- playing field construction
- clubroom – new or major upgrade
- large ablution block/change rooms.

LOTTERYWEST

LotteryWest provide funding for the following types of projects:

- Creation of skate parks
- Development of playgrounds
- Earthworks, play equipment and shade facilities
- Temporary infrastructure that may make public spaces more welcoming for people

LotteryWest grants do not support the ongoing operation and maintenance of community spaces.

BUILDING BETTER REGIONS FUND (Australian Government)

The Building Better Regions Fund is a grant designed to support regional areas with new infrastructure to help create jobs and drive economic growth and build stronger regional communities into the future.

The most recent advertised round was to support drought assisted areas. A round 6 is advertised on web site as follows; *The Australian Government announced \$250 million in the 2021-22 Budget towards a sixth round of the BBRF.*

The Round Six Grant Opportunity Guidelines consistent with the existing BBRF framework will be made available on the Business Grants Hub website when finalised, along with other supporting documents, to assist potential applicants.

It would be prudent for the Shire of Quairading to monitor this and other future federal government funding opportunities.

STRONGER COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME - (Australian Government)

The Stronger Communities Programme supports the Australian Government’s commitment to deliver social benefits in communities across Australia.



The Stronger Communities Programme provides each of the 151 Federal electorates with \$150,000 to fund small capital projects up to a maximum of \$20,000. These projects aim to improve local community participation and contribute to vibrant viable communities. Federal Members of Parliament (MPs) identify potential projects and invite applications from their electorate.

Round 6 of this program has closed for applications.

ACTIVE REGIONAL COMMUNITIES GRANTS (DLGSC)

Opportunities for regional people to participate in sporting and active recreational activities.

The Active Regional Communities (ARC) Grants program aims to increase the opportunities for regional people to participate in sport and active recreation activities in regional Western Australia and is tailored to meet the ever-changing demands and challenges of sport and active recreation groups within the nine diverse regions of the State. It is ongoing and can accept applications at any time.

Available for;

- Community organisations
- Regional organisations
- Local governments
- State Sporting Associations
- Active recreation organisations
- Sport or active recreation clubs

Categories and amounts

- Participation (Grants up to \$5,000)
- Capacity Building (Grants up to \$5,000)
- Event Hosting (Grants up to \$5,000)

WA HIKING PARTICIPATION GRANTS (DLGSC)

Growing hiking participation in Western Australia.

The WA Hiking Participation Grants program is aimed at growing participation in hiking in Western Australia through the development and delivery of new opportunities for participation, skill development and/or building the capacity of leaders (including guides, instructors and volunteers).

Applicants are encouraged to be creative and innovative in the development of their projects. Projects should align with the [WA Hiking Strategy](#), encourage participation and capitalise on the benefits of trail running and bushwalking.

Available for;

- Community organisations
- Local Governments
- Local active recreation clubs and associations



14 APPENDIX 1 – SHIRE OF QUAIRADING SPORT AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS SUMMARY



15 APPENDIX 2 – QUAIRADING RECREATION PAVILION CONCEPT (AUGUST 10 2021 MCG ARCHITECTS)



16 APPENDIX 3 – SHIRE OF QUAIRADING SPORT & RECREATION FACILITIES SITE AUDIT

The following site audit was undertaken July 27 2021. Most facilities were viewed externally and was undertaken for the purpose of viewing and gaining an understanding of facilities general condition. (see separate attachment).



17 APPENDIX 4 – WAFC VENUE INSPECTION AUDIT QUAIRADING OVAL 2020



18 APPENDIX 5 – COMMUNITY SURVEY SUMMARY REPORT

