

2.4 NAMING OF OAKLEIGH DISTRICT FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB ELECTRONIC SCOREBOARD

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Responsible Director: Julie Salomon

RECOMMENDATION

That Council advises the Oakleigh District Football Netball Club that it does not support its request to name the proposed scoreboard at Princes Highway West Oval, Oakleigh as the 'Ray Carr Scoreboard'.

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to submit a request from the Oakleigh District Football Netball Club to name its proposed electronic scoreboard at Princes Highway Reserve West Oval, Oakleigh.

BACKGROUND

Clubs, organisations and community groups from time to time seek to recognise persons who have supported them and the community through distinguished effort and commitment by naming facilities in their honour. While the requests are infrequent, Council recognises the importance of this practice and has developed guidelines to provide a consistent and standard procedure for naming Council facilities.

A copy of the guidelines are included as Attachment 1 to this report.

DISCUSSION

The Oakleigh District Football and Netball Club committee has requested approval from Council to name the proposed electronic scoreboard at Princes Highway Reserve West Oval, Oakleigh after Ray Carr.

Justification for the request from the club is included as Attachment 2 to this report.

The Club has supplied minutes of the committee meeting dated 27 February 2019 indicating unanimous support for the proposal and approval from Mr Ray Carr's spouse. The club feels by naming the scoreboard after Ray Carr, it is an appropriate way to recognise his service to the club and the community for the scoreboard. The scoreboard is scheduled to be installed in late 2019.

The scoreboard has been largely funded through a State Government grant of \$80,000 obtained by the club. At its meeting held 25 June 2019, Council considered a request by the club and resolved to waive the \$4,000 project management fee required to oversee the installation of the scoreboard. The Club has committed to providing \$8,000 in contingency funding for the scoreboard if the project costs exceed budget. Once installed the scoreboard will become an asset of Council although the club remains responsible for its maintenance and replacement.

The authority for approval for naming facilities lies with the Monash City Council and is subject to Guidelines for Community Request for the Naming of Council Facilities. There will be occasions when Council will be required to submit a proposal to the Registrar of Geographic Place Names.

The Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) audit the application against the Guidelines for Geographic Names Victoria and pending any objections would register the name in the official Victorian Registry of Places. Council would then be in a position to approve the naming of a facility.

It is important to acknowledge that Council's preference is to retain the existing name. It will only support a community request to name a Council facility under extraordinary circumstances. The Club's proposal justifies its request by nominating Mr Carr's exceptional playing record over 10 years at the club from 1974 and 4 further years as a junior coach.

Whilst Mr Carr's contribution is deemed significant in the context of the club's on field history at what could be described as the halcyon era of local football in Melbourne, the merits of officially naming a community asset are less justified.

It is important to note that the nominee remains an active member of the community and would therefore not be eligible against the Guidelines for Geographic Names Victoria.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The Guidelines reference Council's ability to submit a proposal to the Registrar of Geographic Place Names. The Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) would then audit the application against the Guidelines for Geographic Names Victoria and pending any objections would register the name in the official Victorian Registry of Places.

On the basis the request is to name a scoreboard and not a location or building, the matter has not been referred to DSE for consideration.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

The recommendation complies with the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.

CONSULTATION

No community consultation has been undertaken as part of the proposal.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no financial impact to Council for the club to name the scoreboard. The club will be required to fund any costs associated with installing a plaque or signage on the scoreboard.

CONCLUSION

The club's proposal outlines what is a distinguished playing record by Mr Carr for the Oakleigh District Football Club however does not justify the formal naming of a community asset. It is also noted that the request does not comply with the posthumous requirement of the

Guidelines for Geographic Names Victoria. On this basis it is recommended that the club seek alternate methods of recognition for its past players.