



DUNGOG SHIRE COUNCIL

**Plan of
Management**

SPORTSGROUNDS

Adopted by Council 19 February 2008

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Introduction

This generic plan of management has been prepared to form the basis for the future management of all community lands classified as Sportsgrounds under the ownership or control of Council.

The Dungog Shire Council is responsible for the management of much of the publicly owned land in the shire. The *Local Government Act 1993, as amended* (the Act) requires Council to classify the lands as Operational or Community to restrict the alienation and use of the land. Operational land has no special restrictions other than those that may apply to any piece of land.

Classification as community land reflects the importance of the land to the community because of its use or special features. Generally, it is land intended for public access and use, or where other restrictions applying to the land create some obligation to maintain public access (such as a trust deed). The Act specifies restrictions intended to preserve the qualities of the land. Thus community land:

- cannot be sold
- cannot be leased, licenced or any other estate granted over the land for more than 21 years
- must have a plan of management prepared for it.

This Plan of Management provides a very broad policy framework for the future management of the land identified in the plan. It relies upon the completion of other planning processes and reference to other planning documents. The Plan is not intended to provide specific detail on management of a particular site. Other site specific plans may be developed as required.

Land subject to this Plan of Management

This plan of management applies to areas of land primarily used as sportsgrounds as identified below;

SPORTS FIELD	PROPERTY DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	AREA
Clarence Town Tennis Courts	Lot 11 Sec 7 DP 758250	128 Prince Street, Clarence Town	2023 sq m
Reg Ford Oval	Lot 32 DP 627020	41-51 Queen Street, Clarence Town	1.2 ha
Pony Club Ground	Lots 1, 2, 3, 4 DP 79439	118 King Street, Clarence Town	8511 sq m
	Lot 20 Sec 2 DP 758250	11 Grey Street, Clarence Town	1669 sq m
	Lot 21 Sec DP 758250	9 Grey Street, Clarence Town	1669 sq m
Clarence Town Swimming Pool	Lot 3 Sec 6 DP 758250	23 Durham Street, Clarence Town	2023 sq m
Clarence Town Park	Lot 701 DP 928847; Lot 4 Sec 6 DP 758250	27-39 Durham Street, Clarence Town	1.4161 ha
Dungog Netball Courts	Lot 152 DP 564688	73-79 Mackay Street, Dungog	4629 sq m
Bennett Park	Plt 1 Sec 29 DP 758366	60 Mackay Street, Dungog	Abt 4.043 ha
Salisbury Reserve Tennis Club	Lot 197 DP 729752	2235 Salisbury Road, Salisbury	1.00 ha
Gresford Sporting Complex	Lot 42 DP 706473	2 Gresford Road, East Gresford	2.831 ha
Martins Creek Tennis Club	Lot 270 DP 615051	27 Cory Street, Martins Creek	3682 sq m
Park Vacy	Lots 50, 51, 52, 53, 54 DP 15187	790 Gresford Road, Vacy	3410 sq m
Vacy Sportsground	Lot 100 DP 1009577	790 Gresford Road, Vacy	1.463 ha

Category and classification of land

Each piece of land covered by this plan is currently classified as Community Land under the Act and is further categorised as a Sportsground.

The categorisation of the land as a sportsground is consistent with clause 103 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 "Guidelines for categorisation of land as a sportsground"*. The clause states:

Clause 103 – "Land should be categorised as a sportsground under section 36(4) of the Act if the land is used or proposed to be used primarily for active recreation involving organised sports or the playing of outdoor games".

Owner of the land

The lands are owned by Dungog Shire Council, or owned by the crown and managed by Dungog Shire Council.

Core objectives for management of community land categorised as a “Sportsground”

Section 36(F) of the Act provides the core objectives for management of community land categorised as a Sportsground. The core objectives are:

- a) to encourage, promote and facilitate recreational pursuits in the community involving organised and informal sporting activities and games, and
- b) to ensure that such activities are managed having regard to any adverse impact on nearby residences.

Management objectives and performance target for the land

The management and performance target for the land is as follows.

- To ensure the playing fields, landscaping, buildings and fixtures within the sportsground are maintained in an acceptable state, such that the sportsground is a welcoming place to visit
- Provide multi-functional facilities that maximise both structured and unstructured recreational opportunities that are in keeping with the objectives and function of the site and the zoning of the land.
- Provide recreational facilities giving equity of access to the whole of the community.

How will Council achieve the objectives and performance targets?

Strategies for achieving the objectives and performance targets are:

- Including the sportsground in the Council’s regular inspection and maintenance schedule, for example; lawn mowing, shrub trimming, equipment checking and the like.
- Undertaking annual condition audits of the sportsgrounds and equipment to identify public safety issues for rectification.
- Consulting with user groups when developing management plans or proposing upgrading works.
- Implementing Council’s annual capital works program as detailed in the Council management plan.

How will Council assess its performance with respect to the objectives and performance targets in the plan?

The Council will assess its performance with respect to the objectives and performance targets in this plan, by:

- A regular internal review (random audit) of inspection and maintenance records, and
- Keeping a register of community comments and complaints, and the Council's response, and
- Regular review by Manex of capital works programs.

Leasing or licencing of the land

The Council may grant a lease, licence or other estate over the land or building on the land. The lease may be for any purpose commensurate with use of the land as a sportsground.

If a lease or licence is intended to be granted for a period of greater than 5 years, the Council will put that lease to tender pursuant to the provisions of section 46A(3) of the Act.