

Sporting Club Rebate Guidelines

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1. Objective

The Sporting Club Rebate Guidelines outline a rate incentive for properties owned by, or leased to, not-for-profit registered recreational and sporting associations that operate for the benefit of members and are open to the whole community.

2. Guidelines statement

This guideline supports those involved in sporting and recreational activities and helps the continuation of those activities.

The term sports club refers to Australian sporting clubs organised for the sole purpose of playing sports (either individually or as teams) with a registered Australian business number.

The terms game and sport are not defined and take their ordinary meaning. Games and sports extend to athletic games or sports (such as football and swimming) and non-athletic games (such as chess and bridge). They do not extend to stamp-collecting, keeping and showing pets, making model railways, maintaining vintage cars, or various social and recreational pursuits.

The sporting club concession is subject to annual Council approval as part of budget adoption.

3. Eligibility and applications

A full application must be lodged in the first year. This can be followed by an annual statutory declaration if the concession is to continue and the conditions of the concession are still in place.

Applications for the sporting club concession will only be approved in the following circumstances:

- i. The land must be wholly used for sporting or recreational activities
- ii. It is a not-for-profit society, association or club
- iii. It is established for the purpose of either a game or sport
- iv. The main sporting and recreational activities involve individual or team games and competitions and do not relate to any of the not allowable activities.

4. The following activities, but not limited to, are not allowable:

- i. Rod clubs/associations
- ii. Car racing clubs/associations
- iii. Shooting clubs/associations
- iv. Animal keeping/racing clubs/associations
- v. Model railway clubs/associations
- vi. Model aircraft clubs/associations

The owner or lessee is required to apply in writing using the approved application form. It is a requirement to provide the following documents to support your claim:

- i. A cover letter
- ii. Completed application
- iii. The association's constitution
- iv. Current audited financial statements
- v. ASIC not-for-profit registration
- vi. Any additional documents as requested by the City

A 75 per cent rebate of rates applies as a donation to recreational and sporting associations upon initial application to Council followed by a signed and witnessed statutory declaration each year.

Please complete the attached sporting club concession application form if applying for the first time. The association's constitution and current audited financial statements along with a cover letter must be submitted to verify that the association is not conducted for the financial profit of members and accordingly qualifies as a sporting association per section 6.47 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

If this is a continuation of a previously approved concession, please only complete a statutory declaration.

Rates assessments must be paid by the due date, irrespective of whether a concession application has been lodged. Overdue rates and charges will incur penalty interest after the due date. Any credit balances may be refunded on request, please note proof of payment will be required.

To avoid penalty interest or credit refund and applicable charges please submit your application before the due date specified on the annual rate notice.

5. Delegation

The Executive Director Corporate and the Manager, Financial Services and Rates can approve applications under this guideline without reference to Council.

6. Objection

Any objections or appeals by owners or lessees of properties regarding the decision will be referred to Council for determination.