

Innovative Sports Precinct Master Planning

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Brett Lavale is the Group Manager for Monash Sport (Monash University) and currently oversees sport, leisure and recreation operations across all of the University's six Victorian campuses, including one of Melbourne's largest sport precincts at Clayton campus.

Brett has a wealth of experience in the commercial and community sport sectors with management roles for major sports and leisure facilities including Harold Holt Swim Centre, Aqualink Nunawading, Melton Waves and Monash Aquatic and Recreation Centre. Brett's passion is for developing high performing teams which achieve quality outcomes.

Brett has a significant strategic planning background and has recently managed a number of master planning processes and capital developments for sport, leisure and recreation precincts on Monash University campuses, having spent two years as a senior consultant for Stratcorp Consulting (now a division of Coffee Consulting).

Brett has recently completed a Master of Management postgraduate degree at Monash University.

The draft Sports Precinct Master Plan for Monash University responds to key drivers identified by the University, including a desire to reduce the overall footprint of the sport precinct and improve integration with the broader campus.

The 20-year Master Plan has been developed having regard to the overall Clayton campus master planning process which occurred in conjunction with this project. The Sports Precinct Master Plan incorporates a key objective identified in the Campus master planning to establish a significant building at the southern gateway to the campus. There is also a master planned direction to create an arts and sports precinct linkage which facilitates integration of student and broader community experiences on campus.

The proposed built form presents an exciting opportunity for the University which aside from addressing Monash Sport needs, could potentially accommodate a range of other complimentary uses including:

- Residential accommodation.
- Executive accommodation.
- Conference and function facilities.
- Specialist teaching and research space.
- Bicycle transport hub.
- Short courses accommodation.
- The Club (staff social club).

The Sports Precinct Master Plan provides an indicative layout and some artists impressions of both indoor and outdoor recreation facilities that are required to address the current and anticipated future needs of students, staff and alumni, whilst retaining the capacity for significant ongoing community use and engagement.

The Master Plan planning process has involved consultation with existing sports clubs, users and key stakeholders, including staff representatives from a range of departments across the campus.

Key features of the Master Plan include (but not limited to):

- Built Form:
 - Significant reduction in overall footprint.
 - Demolition of the Doug Ellis Swimming Pool and replacement with a new pool.
 - Extension to provide an additional two indoor multi-use courts.
 - Additional multipurpose program rooms and spaces.
 - Development of a club social facility and administrative hub.
 - Development of a large function room to cater for Monash Sport uses and broader campus needs, including to compliment activities conducted at Robert Blackwood Hall.
 - Enhanced integration and physical connections.
 - Establishment of a major signature building at the southern gateway.
 - Improved functionality, design, layout and sustainability (including financial and environmental performance).
 - Replacement of ageing infrastructure.

- Outdoor Spaces:
 - Significant reduction in overall footprint.
 - Establishment of multiuse synthetic sports surfaces.
 - Retention of selected high quality natural turf surfaces.
 - Improved amenities, facilities and support infrastructure.
 - Creation of social spaces and areas for informal recreation, sport and physical activity.
 - Establishment of a fitness track and walking circuit.
 - Enhanced integration and physical connections.
 - Identification of opportunities for water harvesting and reuse.
 - Protection and enhancement of significant trees and natural values.
 - Capacity for usage flexibility and adaptability.
 - Refurbished Games Hall.

The plan includes concept plans, staging and indicative capital costs as well as analysis of potential funding streams. A number of benefits of the proposed plan will be outlined in the presentation.

Implementation of the Master Plan will contribute positively to the student experience by delivering integrated informal play and recreation precincts which facilitate multi-use opportunities for events, social play and informal recreation by students. The execution of some of these master planned directions has commenced.

A modified version of this presentation was presented at the 2011 Aquatics and Recreation Victoria national conference in Melbourne in August 2011.