

RECREATION FACILITIES FEES AND CHARGES

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1. OBJECTIVE

1. To ensure that appropriate fees are charged so as to assist Council in maintaining and improving its recreation facilities.
2. To ensure a fair and equitable approach in charging fees and charges based on a user pays system.
3. To use fees and charges to support development of junior sport within the City of Karratha.

2. PHILOSOPHY

2.1 Social Equity

The City has a basic philosophy of encouraging participation at as wide a range of recreation facilities as possible. In doing so it recognises that the economic, social and demographic profile of the community must be taken into account especially with respect to “capacity to pay”. As a basic principle there will be no concessions/subsidies on fees for any organisation, which is of a commercial nature or where the facility is being utilised for commercial or personal gain.

2.2 Financial

The City subscribes to the objective of establishing fees and charges which are affordable, transparent and equitable having regard to the type, use, function and purpose of the facility. The objective is to have a consistent approach in raising fees and charges between all facilities whether they are active reserves, pavilions or halls.

3. DEFINITIONS

The following definitions are applicable to assist in clarifying this policies provision: Recreation Facilities – Defined as Councils Active Reserves, Pavilions and Halls. Junior - Defined as any individual who is under the age of 18 years.

Senior - Defined as any individual who is between the ages of 18 and 54 years of age. In the case of there being a mixed age group (i.e. Juniors and Seniors) the booking will be charged on the basis of the predominate age group.

Junior Sports - Defined as those sports that are undertaken either in teams (as defined by the rules of the game) or individually by persons under the age of 18 years, and which utilise the City's recreation facilities. This definition also extends to other junior non-sport related community organisations.

Adult Sports - Defined as those sports that are undertaken either in teams (as defined by the rules of the game) or individuals, by persons who are over the age of 18 years and which utilise the City's recreation facilities. This definition also extends to other senior non-sport related community organisations.

Season - The word „seasonal“ or „season“ for the purpose of this policy means the seasons of summer and winter, for the purposes of defining seasonal hire. The summer season shall be regarded as the period between 1 October to the 31 March and the winter season from 1 April to the 30 September.

Active Reserve Hire - Defined as the usage of the City's Active Reserves for sporting and/or recreational purposes and include those areas under the City's control set aside for active recreation and sporting activities. These include Roebourne Oval, Bulgarra Oval (East and West), KEC Oval, Pegs Creek Oval, Millars Well Oval and Hampton Oval.

Pavilions and Halls - Defined as usage of the City's buildings for sporting and/or recreational or community purposes and includes Millars Well Pavilion, Pegs Creek Pavilion, Dampier Pavilion, Roebourne Community Centre and the Karratha Entertainment Centre.

Commercial User Groups - A commercial user group is one, which is a registered business with the Department of Consumer and Employment Protection and results in private pecuniary gain (i.e. income generation & profit), and those organisations that do not meet the criteria for incorporation under the *Associations Incorporations Act*. Those user groups deemed to be of a commercial nature would be charged the commercial fee for all use of the City's facilities.

Community User Groups - A community user group is defined as a non-profit organisation and shall include, but is not limited to, sporting clubs (that are incorporated under the *Associations Incorporations Act*), religious groups and demonstrated not-for-profit community groups or individuals that have a focus on community needs with a social benefit. This definition also applies to private bookings such as weddings, birthday parties, christenings etc. Those groups deemed to be of a community nature would be charged the community fee for all use of the City's facilities.

Casual Hirers - Those users of the City's recreation facilities that hire for a specific event or intermittent and/or irregular meetings during any given year to a maximum of 10 sessions per calendar year.

4. PRINCIPLES

4.1 Active Reserves

Fees and charges for active reserves are set utilising a user pays methodology that collectively aims to recover approximately 10% of the operating costs to maintain Councils active reserves.

The User Pays method is based on a set cost per standard player per use for the season. The method requires the nomination of a cost per use as adopted annually by Council when setting its fees and charges then multiplied by the average number of uses per week/season based on bookings provided by the Club/Organisation for seasonal grounds allocation, the number of teams in a Club / Association and the average number of players in the team.

Junior Sports shall receive a 75% discount on the set cost per standard senior player as adopted annually by Council when setting its seasonal fees and charges for active reserve use.

Junior sports shall be entitled to reimbursement of 50% of the cost of oval and court lighting.

All organisations or individuals who utilise active reserves outside of normal season use (e.g. season training) or are a casual hirers shall be charged a casual hire fee as set in Councils schedule of fees and charges. The junior discount is not applicable to casual hirers of active reserves outside of seasonal bookings.

4.2 Pavilions / Halls

Fees and charges for the use of Councils facilities will be set annually by Council to offset utility and maintenance costs to Council in the provision of each facility and therefore hire fees of each may differ accordingly.

Fees and charges shall be set for both commercial and community user groups. Junior sports, as defined in this policy, shall receive a 75% discount on the hourly community hire rate as adopted annually by Council when setting its fees and charges.

4.3 Support for Junior Sport

Any income generated annually from the hire of Councils active reserves shall be allocated by Council in a reserve fund and that those funds be used for:

- All types of junior sport development.
- Improvement of Council's recreation facilities.
- For the purpose of developing long term plans for a club or association with the intent of consolidating its viability.

Council shall also retain its current role in provisioning public amenities such as ovals, halls, swimming pools and courts for active and passive recreational pursuits and assist those organisations that aspire to institute their own facilities with a preference to the allocation of self-supporting loans and community grants & donations, as per Council's policies – Self Supporting Loans and Donations, Sponsorship & Community Grants.

4.4 Policy Exclusions

Application of Council's junior discount is not applicable to commercial user groups and the hire of Council's Pavilion kiosks, the Roebourne Multi Use Courts, Roebourne Aquatic Centre and the Karratha Aquatic Centre or available to education institutions for the hire of Councils recreation facilities.

5. CONSEQUENCES

This policy represents the formal policy and expected standards of the City of Karratha. Appropriate approvals need to be obtained prior to any deviation from the policy. Elected Members and Employees are reminded of their obligations under the Council's Code of Conduct to give full effect to the lawful policies, decisions and practices of the City.

6. REFERENCES TO RELATED DOCUMENTS

- N/A

Policy Number:	CS-04
Previous Policy Number:	CS-08
Resolution Numbers:	5364-Dec 1997; 10618-Sep 1997; 12738-Sep 2002; 13497-Oct 2004; 14223-Oct 2007; 14272- Dec 2007; 14308-Feb2008
Last Review:	February 2008
Next Review:	February 2009
Responsible Officer:	Manager Community Services

This Policy takes effect from the date of adoption by Council and shall remain valid until it is amended or deleted.