



NORTHERN TERRITORY CRICKET

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Casuarina NT 0811

NORTHERN TERRITORY
CRICKET

The Right Worshipful The Lord Mayor of Darwin
Kon Vatskalis JP
City of Darwin
Email: Lord.Mayor@darwin.nt.gov.au

2 July 2018

Dear Lord Mayor,

GARDENS OVAL LIGHTS

I am writing to express my disappointment about the decision made by Darwin City Council to install lights at Gardens Oval to a maximum lumen capacity of 300, a decision which has halved the capacity of the recommended lighting solution.

Since the NT Government made the commitment in 2017 to allocate \$3.5 million to Darwin City Council over the 2017-18 and 2018-19 financial years for the purposes of lighting urban sporting ovals, including Gardens Oval, NT Cricket has been working closely with AFL Northern Territory and Council staff to find a lighting solution to maximise the benefit for the local community. Following Council's decision to accept the NT Government's funding, cricket and football worked in partnership with Council to undertake a significant community consultation process to develop a detailed lighting design that addressed the concerns expressed by local residents, as well as identify a solution that was most cost effective for Council. This process cost both cricket and football in excess of \$50,000 collectively.

Following the community consultation process that took place in August 2017, in which 94% of respondents supported the proposal of installing lights at Gardens Oval to a maximum lumen capacity of 600, Council provided in-principal support for detailed designs and costing to take place based on the design put forward in the consultation process. During the design process the maximum lumen capacity was reduced to 500 which wasn't ideal for us, but it still met cricket's requirements and remained compliant with Cricket Australia's Community Cricket Facility Guidelines. The amended design was put to Council and again received in-principal support.

Therefore, the decision made by Council last week to install lights to a maximum lumen capacity of 300 without any consultation with cricket or football was incredibly disappointing and defied logic. In electing to make the decision that it did, Council decided to ignore the advice of the independent lighting expert engaged to construct the original design, and also ignored the wishes of the local Darwin community who expressed an overwhelming desire to see lights installed at Gardens Oval to a maximum lumen capacity of 500.

This decision means that the lights will only be suitable for junior cricket, leaving cricket in a position whereby there are still no suitably lit ovals in the Darwin or Palmerston area to host all levels of local cricket for men and women, a result that will significantly impact the growth of cricket in the Northern Territory.



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NT Cricket believes that Council could, and should, be better utilising the funds that the NT Government kindly made available to you by ensuring all levels of the cricket community can benefit from lights at Gardens Oval. Based on the public sentiments captured in the media over the past week it is clear the wider community also agrees with us.

I therefore ask that Council reconsiders its decision and proceeds with the original proposal of installing lights at Gardens Oval to a maximum lumen capacity of 500 instead.

If you would like to discuss this further please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

JOEL MORRISON
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
NORTHERN TERRITORY CRICKET

CC *Mr Scott Waters, Chief Executive Officer, City of Darwin*
Mr Grant Poulter, Acting Executive General Manager – Public Affairs, Cricket Australia
Mr Stuart Totham, Chief Executive Officer, AFL Northern Territory

The Right Worshipful The Lord Mayor of Darwin
Kon Vatskalis JP
City of Darwin
Email: Lord.Mayor@darwin.nt.gov.au

12 July 2018

Dear Lord Mayor,

GARDENS OVAL LIGHTS

I am writing to express my disappointment about the decision by the City of Darwin to only install lights at Gardens Oval to a maximum lumen capacity of 300.

This decision means the lights will only be suitable for junior cricket, leaving cricket in a position whereby there are still no suitably lit ovals in the Darwin area to host all levels of local cricket for men and women, a result that will significantly impact the growth of cricket in the Northern Territory. As Captain of the Waratah Cricket Club, I feel incredibly let down that you have knowingly made a decision to exclude our senior teams and players from being able to benefit from these lights.

The investment from the NT Government was provided to Council to ensure the entire cricket and football community could benefit, not just a few. The Darwin and Districts Cricket Competition urgently needs lights at Gardens Oval that can accommodate local cricket matches at all levels, so our senior players are very disappointed you have decided their needs aren't as important as the needs of junior cricketers or senior footballers.

My cricket club believes that Council could, and should, be better utilising the funds that the NT Government has made available to you by ensuring all levels of the cricket community can benefit from lights at Gardens Oval. I therefore ask that Council reconsiders its decision and proceeds with the original proposal of installing lights at Gardens Oval to a maximum lumen capacity of 500 instead.

Yours sincerely,



Brad Schmulian
CAPTAIN
WARATAH CRICKET CLUB

Cc *Mr Scott Waters, Chief Executive Officer, City of Darwin*
Mr Joel Morrison, Chief Executive Officer, NT Cricket

The Right Worshipful The Lord Mayor of Darwin
Kon Vatskalis JP
City of Darwin
Email: Lord.Mayor@darwin.nt.gov.au

12 July 2018

Dear Lord Mayor,

GARDENS OVAL LIGHTS

I am writing to express my disappointment about the decision by the City of Darwin to only install lights at Gardens Oval to a maximum lumen capacity of 300.

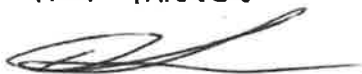
This decision means the lights will only be suitable for junior cricket, leaving cricket in a position whereby there are still no suitably lit ovals in the Darwin area to host all levels of local cricket for men and women, a result that will significantly impact the growth of cricket in the Northern Territory. As Captain of the Pint Cricket Club, I feel incredibly let down that you have knowingly made a decision to exclude our senior teams and players from being able to benefit from these lights.

The investment from the NT Government was provided to Council to ensure the entire cricket and football community could benefit, not just a few. The Darwin and Districts Cricket Competition urgently needs lights at Gardens Oval that can accommodate local cricket matches at all levels, so our senior players are very disappointed you have decided their needs aren't as important as the needs of junior cricketers or senior footballers.

My cricket club believes that Council could, and should, be better utilising the funds that the NT Government has made available to you by ensuring all levels of the cricket community can benefit from lights at Gardens Oval. I therefore ask that Council reconsiders its decision and proceeds with the original proposal of installing lights at Gardens Oval to a maximum lumen capacity of 500 instead.

Yours sincerely,

TIM GARNER



**CAPTAIN
PINT CRICKET CLUB**

*Cc Mr Scott Waters, Chief Executive Officer, City of Darwin
Mr Joel Morrison, Chief Executive Officer, NT Cricket*

The Right Worshipful The Lord Mayor of Darwin
Kon Vatskalis JP
City of Darwin
Email: Lord.Mayor@darwin.nt.gov.au

12 July 2018

Dear Lord Mayor,

GARDENS OVAL LIGHTS


I am writing to express my disappointment about the decision by the City of Darwin to only install lights at Gardens Oval to a maximum lumen capacity of 300.

This decision means the lights will only be suitable for junior cricket, leaving cricket in a position whereby there are still no suitably lit ovals in the Darwin area to host all levels of local cricket for men and women, a result that will significantly impact the growth of cricket in the Northern Territory. As Captain of the Tracy Village Cricket Club, I feel incredibly let down that you have knowingly made a decision to exclude our senior teams and players from being able to benefit from these lights.

The investment from the NT Government was provided to Council to ensure the entire cricket and football community could benefit, not just a few. The Darwin and Districts Cricket Competition urgently needs lights at Gardens Oval that can accommodate local cricket matches at all levels, so our senior players are very disappointed you have decided their needs aren't as important as the needs of junior cricketers or senior footballers.

My cricket club believes that Council could, and should, be better utilising the funds that the NT Government has made available to you by ensuring all levels of the cricket community can benefit from lights at Gardens Oval. I therefore ask that Council reconsiders its decision and proceeds with the original proposal of installing lights at Gardens Oval to a maximum lumen capacity of 500 instead.

Yours sincerely,

Samuel Underhill


**CAPTAIN
TRACY VILLAGE CRICKET CLUB**

Cc *Mr Scott Waters, Chief Executive Officer, City of Darwin*
Mr Joel Morrison, Chief Executive Officer, NT Cricket



CRICKET AUSTRALIA

13 July 2018

The Right Worshipful The Lord Mayor of Darwin
Kon Vatskalis JP
City of Darwin
Email: Lord.Mayor@darwin.nt.gov.au

Dear Lord Mayor,

GARDENS OVAL LIGHTS

I am writing on behalf of Cricket Australia (CA) to express our concern about the decision by Darwin City Council to install lights at Gardens Oval to a maximum lumen capacity of 300, as opposed to the previously agreed and financed capacity of 500.

CA was pleased with the Northern Territory Government's commitment last year of \$3.5 million towards lighting several suburban sporting ovals, and the proposal to install lights at Gardens Oval was warmly welcomed by CA and NT Cricket alike as it aligned with CA's *Community Cricket Facility Guidelines*.

Sufficient flood lighting of cricket facilities in northern Australia is of critical importance to CA. It enables greater utilisation of existing facilities, supports player welfare and safety by providing an opportunity for people to play cricket in more comfortable conditions, and in locations where daylight hours are more scarce lighting supports better participation outcomes.

I understand the community consultation process that took place in August last year yielded 94% support for the proposal to install lights to the levels required for cricketers of all ages, so we were surprised by Council's decision last month to revert to lighting at only 300 lux.

This decision means that lights will be suitable only for junior cricket, leaving cricket with no suitably lit ovals in Darwin to host all levels of local cricket for men and women. Further, we believe in the principle that lighting upgrades at sporting venues should be conducted to meet the needs of all users.

I respectfully ask that Council reconsiders its decision and proceeds with the original proposal of installing lights at Gardens Oval to a maximum lumen capacity of 500.

If you would like to discuss this matter, please contact me at Grant.Poulter@cricket.com.au or (03) 9653 8880.

Yours sincerely,

GRANT POULTER
ACTING EXECUTIVE GENERAL MANAGER PUBLIC AFFAIRS

CC *Mr Scott Waters, Chief Executive Officer, City of Darwin*
The Hon Michael Gunner MLA, Chief Minister of the Northern Territory
The Hon Lauren Moss MLA, Minister for Tourism and Culture
Mr Bruce Walker, Chairman, Northern Territory Cricket
Mr Joel Morrison, Chief Executive Officer, Northern Territory Cricket



MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND CULTURE

Parliament House
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Darwin NT 0801
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The Hon Kon Vatskalis JP
The Right Worshipful Lord Mayor of Darwin
City of Darwin
GPO Box 84
DARWIN NT 0801

Dear Lord Mayor

I am writing regarding the Northern Territory (NT) Government's commitment of \$3.5 million to the City of Darwin for the purpose of lighting urban sporting ovals, including Gardens Oval 1.

Northern Territory (NT) Cricket and AFLNT, two popular sporting bodies, have worked in close partnership to undertake appropriate community consultation, including the development of a detailed lighting design to address concerns of local residents. Through community consultation, I understand that 94 per cent of respondents supported the proposal to install lights at Gardens Oval at a capacity of up to 600 lux.

One of the key objectives for the NT Government is to improve opportunities for Territorians to participate in sport and recreation activities, by maximising use of existing facilities for as many users as possible.

Unfortunately, NT Cricket has advised that 300 lux level lighting will only be suitable for junior cricket, meaning the lights at Gardens Oval would not be suitable to host all levels of local cricket outside of daylight hours.

The NT Government investment in lights at Gardens Oval should take into account potential future needs, and I therefore request the City of Darwin to reconsider its decision on Gardens Oval and upgrade the lighting to a capacity of 500 lux to ensure that it suits the needs of current and future user groups.

Yours sincerely

LAUREN MOSS
16 July 2018

