

**Simon Scott**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 13 January 2023 9:51 AM  
**To:** PAC  
**Subject:** Submission  
**Attachments:** SUBMISSIOON.docx

Attached is my submission re proposed stadium. Neil Herbert

## SUBMISSION

1 – Macquarie Point – after a decade of State Government procrastination and indecision - A Federal Government investment of \$50 million there is now a glaring disparity from the original proposed development which included – Antarctic Exhibition – Apartment Blocks – Open Spaces - River Access – now turning point and possible solution to obtain a licence to include a new Stadium – to meet requirement and approval by the AFL.

2 - The AFL Task Force submission – no requirement of a new Stadium – the essential questions therefore is what input/role the Tasmanian Government had forcing Tasmania to spend \$1 billion dollars – the question should be asked is there a hidden agenda? There being one roofed Stadium in all Australia (owned by the AFL) smoke screen/inducement – Clubs can still veto the licence.

3 – Government assumptions and forward estimates (estimate is a guess) the cost of the proposed stadium \$750 million – construction to start 2025 – (everyone knows the longer builds take the more costs likely \$1 billion( critical issue on going costs of ownership – long term capacity to fund operations and infrastructure arrangements – management and staff – unrivalled AFL monopoly – hardly guarantee financial success hosting 5 games per year – AFL can dictate day or night fixtures – less favourable opposition teams and time slots etc. Obviously championed by sectional corporate and vested interests.

4 – The Federal Government donation of \$375 million (sports rorts) in the present economic climate – AFL \$15 million if the business case is so strong why is there no third party?

5 – Costs of servicing \$1 million loan? Detail funding shortfall affecting services for the rest of Tasmania.

6 – Blundstone and Utas revamped stadiums each will accommodate 24,000 patrons. It is worth noting four Mainland AFL stadiums seating capacity – 2 under 24,000 – 2 under 15,000 – average attendance at Blundstone 8,000 and Utas 10,000 – operational expenditure millions and likely revenue negative.

7 – Assume new Authority Stadiums Tasmania would be funded by Government to manage -if new stadium built all Governments negative comments on Blundstone will disappear and it will become head of Cricket.

8 – It is important to address the changing times – broadcast of all major sports – the AFL and Racing Victoria are now conducting surveys into the dramatic decline in attendance and operating revenue - there is change in society – ultimate threat and long term implications for regional sports this has an impact on local communities and their lifestyle. Regions supported

by hundreds of volunteers facing diminishing participation. Are we charging headlong into the same centralisation.

Neil Herbert