SUBMISSION TO THE PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS IN RELATION TO THE PROPOSED GLENORCHY SPORTS CENTRE

SUBMITTER - NORTHERN SUBURBS HOBART PICKLEBALL CLUB INC.

Our club became aware of this project through a press release from the Premier in early July of this year. We wrote to Active Tasmania to gain some information about the project in particular to raise awareness that our growing sport of Pickleball should be considered in any facility planning. Our email to Active Tasmania was forwarded to the Major Projects Branch of the Dept of State Growth. They responded and indicated that they had reached out to the peak sporting bodies (in our case Pickleball Tasmania) to participate in the planning and design process. We are advised by Pickleball Tasmania that they have not be consulted on this project.

Our club has experienced substantial growth since its inception in August 2022. We started with 23 players at that time. We became an incorporated club in November 2023 with 75 members and our growth has continued on an upward trajectory. As at September this year, our membership stands at 164. As well as our membership, players from other Hobart based clubs often join us in our social and competitive games. In fact, 388 players are registered to play at our venues which includes our 164 members.

We currently play most of our games at the Moonah Sports Centre but due to other bookings we are not able to get regular additional playing slots. We have an arrangement to hire the hall at Glenorchy Primary School one evening a week but this venue is only satisfactory for social pickleball. We hire the outside courts at the Cadbury Tennis Club on Sunday mornings and this venue is very much weather dependent. We are very much centred around the northern suburbs of Hobart.

We are very interested in finding another suitable venue to cater for our growth in membership and playing demand. We would be seeking a venue where courts can be hired during the day and also evenings. The proposed Glenorchy Sports Centre would seem to suit our requirements and as a result we would be interested in being involved in the planning and design process.

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