

### 3.1. CL440134 - Australian Dodgeball championships 2025 discounted fee request

**Director:** Vanessa Parkes, Director City Living  
**Responsible Manager:** Kevin Jones, Manager Key Venues  
**File:** F24/224

Division is not required

**Previous item** CL440087

**Topic** The Australian Dodgeball Federation is seeking a 50% reduction in fees for its hire of the indoor courts at Blacktown Leisure Centre Stanhope, where it will host the 2025 Australian Dodgeball Championships event from 24 to 26 January 2025.

**Analysis** The quoted fee to hire the indoor courts is \$12,009. It is proposed Council approve a 25% (\$3,002.25) reduction of court hire fees for this event. This is consistent with previous reductions Council has endorsed for similar events. There will be no discount applied to other costs at the facility, e.g. staffing, catering.

The Australian Dodgeball Federation has indicated it will acknowledge and name Blacktown City Council as a partner with branding on its digital marketing materials, display of Council branding at the event and on the livestream/broadcast.

**Attachment/s** 1. Letter requesting fee waiver [**CL440134.1** - 5 pages]

**Report Recommendation** Approve the provision of a 25% reduction in fees to the Australian Dodgeball Federation for its hire of indoor courts at Blacktown Leisure Centre Stanhope on 24 to 26 January 2026.

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**Committee Recommendation** Approve the provision of a 25% reduction in fees to the Australian Dodgeball Federation for its hire of indoor courts at Blacktown Leisure Centre Stanhope on 24 to 26 January 2026.

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**Council Resolution** Approve the provision of a 25% reduction in fees to the Australian Dodgeball Federation for its hire of indoor courts at Blacktown Leisure Centre Stanhope on 24 to 26 January 2026.

### Key reasons

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**1. The event will promote Blacktown City and our facilities on a national basis**

- a. The Australian Dodgeball Championships is a national elite event hosted annually in different cities across Australia. The championships were hosted in Perth in 2024, and Melbourne in 2023. The event is scheduled to be hosted in Sydney in 2025.
- b. This event is organised by the Australian Dodgeball Federation which is governed by the World Dodgeball Federation.
- c. By hosting this event at Blacktown Leisure Centre Stanhope, the venue may be able to secure future local, state, national and international Dodgeball tournaments.
- d. This event will bring increased visitation with approximately 300 interstate athletes, coaches and support staff, as well as their families, friends and spectators. Many of these interstate athletes and their families will need to book accommodation nearby, contributing to the economy of Blacktown City.
- e. Secondary spend through food, beverage and vending sales at Blacktown Leisure Centre Stanhope is also likely to increase.
- f. The local community will have the opportunity to attend a national sporting event, with Council being recognised as the 'host'.

**2. Financial implications to Council**

- a. Council has previously offered discounted court hire fees for similar events.
- b. In July 2024, Council endorsed a 25% reduction for the 2023 Asia Pacific Dodgeball Invitational event (CL440087).
- c. There is no loss of income as the courts are not subject to a regular hire on the event dates.
- d. The increased patronage is likely to result in additional income to Council.

**3. The hirer has the capacity to pay**

- a. When considering requests for fee waiver or fee reduction, we require a copy of the financial reports from the respective organisation(s). This information is used to assist us in understanding whether an organisation has sufficient funds to pay our fees, and to determine the amount of financial assistance to be granted.
- b. We have reviewed the financial information of the Australian Dodgeball Federation. Its reported revenue for the year ending 30 June 2024 was \$82,811 and operating expenses of \$78,005.
- c. The Australian Dodgeball Federation is charging each team a fee of \$500, with an estimated 51 teams attending across all entry categories (men's, women's, and mixed gender). This would generate \$25,500 in revenue towards cost of hire and running the event.

## Context

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### 1. What is Dodgeball?

- a. Dodgeball is a team sport in which 2 opposing teams, each with 6 players (and up to 4 substitutes) try to throw balls and hit opponents while avoiding being hit themselves.
- b. The objective of the game is to eliminate all members of the opposing team by hitting them with thrown balls, catching a ball thrown by an opponent, or inducing an opponent to commit a violation, such as stepping outside the court.

- c. Dodgeball is a growing sport with over 2,900 active players.
- d. The Australian Dodgeball Federation has 20 affiliated leagues including 'Zany Sports', which is based at Blacktown Leisure Centre Stanhope.

\_\_\_\_ End of report \_\_\_\_\_