

Alice Springs Town Council

Sports Facilities Advisory Committee Meeting (SFAC)

Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 4 March 2025 at 10:30am, Arunta Room.

Councillor Melky opened the meeting at 10:31 am.

ATTENDANCE

PRESENT

Mayor Matt Paterson

Councillor Eli Melky (Chair)

Councillor Kim Hopper

Members

Mr PeeJay Mabasa – Alice Springs Hockey Association

Mr Michael Trull – Alice Springs Cricket Association

Ms Kelli Zaleski – AFL Northern Territory

Ms Karla Goodman – Alice Springs Netball Association

Mr Philip Preece – Alice Springs Basketball Association

Mrs Nicole Jervis – Football Northern Territory

Mr Sam Hanzel – Alice Springs Baseball Association

Mr Aaron Blacker – Central Australia Rugby Union / Central Australia Rugby Football League

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Andrew Wilshire - Chief Executive Officer

Ms Nicole Battle - Director Community Development

Mr David Hair - Sports Liaison Officer

Ms Heidi Blacker - Executive Assistant (Minutes)

Mr Thomas Savaiinaea – Assistant Sports Liaison Officer (observer)

Name / Sporting Association	14 December 2023	26 June 2024	23 October 2024	March 2025
Mayor Matt Paterson	✓	✓	✓	✓
Councillor Mark Coffey	✓	A		
Councillor Eli Melky			✓	✓
Councillor Gavin Morris	✓	✓	--	--
Councillor Kim Hopper			✓	✓
Rugby Union / League	✓	✓	A	✓
Soccer	✓	--	✓	✓
Netball	--	A	✓	✓
Tennis	✓	✓	A	A
AFL Northern Territory	✓	✓	A	✓
Cricket	✓	✓	✓	✓
Baseball	✓	✓	✓	✓
Basketball	--	A	✓	✓
Hockey	✓	✓	✓	✓
Touch Football	A	A	✓	A

Legend:

✓	Attended
Proxy	Proxy attended in place of committee member
A	Apology received
--	No attendance and no apology recorded
	Not a committee member

1. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Mr Joel Crawford – Alice Springs Tennis Association

Mr Tim Pearson – Alice Springs Touch Association

Mr Nathan Mitchell – Alice Springs Baseball Association

2. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

No disclosure of interest was declared.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

3.1 Unconfirmed Minutes – Sports Facilities Advisory Committee 23 October 2025

Moved: Councillor Hopper

Seconded: Mayor Patterson

That the minutes of the Sports Facilities Advisory Committee meeting held 23 October 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

Kelli Zaleski (AFL) Advised she was an apology.

Action: minutes to be amended as above.

3.2 Business Arising from previous Minutes

3.2.1 Alice Springs Sports Collaboration & Development Group (ASSCD)

Director Community Development and the Council Sports Liaison Officer to organise another meeting for early December.

CLOSED OUT

3.2.2 License to Occupy Update

Updated list to be sent to SFAC members with the Minutes.

CLOSED OUT

3.2.3 Finance Report

CORRECTION the Financial Report to be corrected to read "Central Australian Rugby Football League" in the notes section.

The levied participation numbers to be included, and the investigate the possibility of sharing the participates in each sport within the SFAC committee.

CLOSED OUT

3.2.4 Terms of Reference

Director Community Development agreed to arrange for the SFAC Induction document to be shared to the committee.

That the nomination forms align with the Terms of Reference. This will be discussed in the operational meeting planned for December so that it accurately reflects the Terms of Reference.

CLOSED OUT

3.2.5 Shared Facility Cleaning

Council will seek costings / quotes for a cleaner to clean the Flynn Drive Oval sporting facilities twice a week.

This is to be address at the next SFAC meeting.

CLOSED OUT

3.2.6 Director Community Development to investigate a Sports Directory on the ASTC website

A link will be sent around the SFAC members with the Minutes.

<http://liveworkalice.com.au>

CLOSED OUT

4. FINANCE REPORT STATEMENTS

Mover: Councillor Hopper

Seconded: Philip Preece

The Sports Facilities Advisory Committee finance report be received and accepted.

Discussion

All sports are currently up to date with levies, noting that Cricket and Baseball are yet to be invoiced. No invoices issued for Rugby and Softball due to the fact that neither sport is currently running a competition.

5. REPORT OF OFFICERS

5.1 Sports Development Officer

Discussion

Facility Update

At the time of writing, it was hoped that the promised date of 1 April 2025 would see Anzac Oval ready for use by Rugby, however, much of the required works remains outstanding. Representative from NT Rugby recently visited the facility and doesn't believe that the ground will be playable prior to May. In the meantime, Jim McConville remains available for use by Rugby for training/games as required. Government is aware of the issue and are committed to completing all outstanding works as quickly as possible.

Discussion regarding the current pressure for training space in the lead up to the winter sports season, including some possible solutions.

Mayor Paterson noted the additional pressure that is likely to be experienced when Traeger Park becomes unavailable in the lead up to the AFL game on 1 June.

Question raised about Rugby's ongoing participation on SFAC given that they no longer play on a field owned by ASTC. Flagged for further discussion at a future meeting.

ACTION: Sports Development Officer to convene an urgent meeting with winter sports regarding access to ovals.

Terms of Reference

Director Community Development advised that SFAC meeting schedule will remain six per year. No other updates to the ToRs were required, noting that the SFAC nomination form has been updated to better reflect the conditions of ongoing membership.

Masterplan

Currently there is no funding available through the NTG for a new Masterplan, meaning that funds will either need to be found via SFAC and/or Council. There is also a number of other variables that are likely to impact this work including the potential development of a Centre of Excellence at Traeger Park, following a \$57 million investment into the Redtails/Pinktails, as well as the proposed NTG upgrade of Centralian Middle School.

In the meantime, Cr Melky has been visiting sports with Council staff in order to get a better sense of their strategic priorities. So far, visits have occurred with Netball, Soccer and Basketball with further meetings planned for the coming weeks.

RESOLUTION

1. That SFAC makes a recommendation to Council that funding is provided for the development of an all-encompassing sports masterplan for Alice Springs.
2. In the event that Council does not agree to provide full or partial funding, SFAC committee resolves to fund the project using SFAC funds.

Moved: Aaron Blacker

Seconded: Philip Preece

CARRIED (24/)

6. CORRESPONDENCE IN/OUT

Nil

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

In the future, it will be requested that more information to be provided by the sports when requesting general business agenda items. This is to ensure that all members have the information required in order to make an informed decision.

7.1 Alice Springs Basketball Association – Stadium Floors

Phillip Preece spoke to this agenda item. It has been over seven years since the hardwood floors were installed, with little/no proactive maintenance being undertaken in order to ensure their ongoing longevity. Alice Springs Basketball has recently contacted Stadium Australia (who installed the floors) to engage them to undertake a current assessment and to develop an ongoing maintenance plan.

RESOLUTION

1. That SFAC provide \$1,000 in funding to Alice Springs Basketball Association to engage Stadium Australia to undertake a current condition report/maintenance schedule and to provide a report back to SFAC.

Mover: Philip Preece

Seconded: Karla Goodwin

CARRIED (24/)

ACTION: Director Community Development to discuss next steps with Phillip Preece.

8. OTHER BUSINESS**8.1 Ongoing Advocacy for Alice Springs**

Discussions around the upcoming Federal Election and how SFAC could potentially pitch a 'What Alice Springs Needs'.

Mayor Paterson advised that individual sports should be pushing their own requests to federal government rather than SFAC.

8.2 Ross Park

Updated provided to Nicole Jervis regarding current works to repair a water leak at Ross Park.

Discussion around the need for a fence between soccer and netball. Concerns raised regarding accessibility for parents with children participating across both codes.

9. CLOSURE OF MEETING

Chair closed the meeting at 11:54am

10. NEXT MEETING

TBA via email – bimonthly.