

HAVE YOUR SAY ON OUR SPORTSGROUNDS

Our sportsfields are overused and there is not enough space for everyone to play.

Participation in sport is increasing, especially women, juniors and over 35's competitions, putting even more pressure on our limited grounds.

In response to calls from sporting groups for more sportsgrounds Council has looked at the facts and identified potential actions to resolve the shortage.

We need your feedback - read more and have your say on the Northern Beaches Sportsgrounds and Golf Courses Discussion Paper.

NORTHERN BEACHES
COUNCIL

northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au

FACTS

Sportsfields

- 122 sportsfields covering 116.5 ha
- Half the area of sportsfields per capita compared to other similar size Sydney councils
- 50,000 members from 17 sports
- A 24 ha shortfall (around 25 sportsfields) based on the current supply and demand which will increase to 41 ha by 2031 if no action is taken
- Sports participation is increasing, with average increases of 10% across all major sports over the past 3 years
- Many surfaces are worn out as Council seeks to allow as many people to play as possible, leading to overuse
- All this means hundreds (if not thousands) of kids and adults are being turned away by sports that would love to have them play

Golf Courses

- Seven public and six private golf courses covering 453 ha
- Double the supply of courses per capita compared to Sydney-wide
- 4,000 public members a decrease of 16% over the last decade
- 6,000 private members a decrease of 10% over the last decade
- Study by Golf Business Advisory Service states that a reduction in golf courses may assist to achieve greater sustainability.

THE ACTIONS FOR THE FUTURE OF OUR SPORTSFIELDS

Land is limited on the Northern Beaches. Actions for the future supply of sportsfields:

Action 1 - Better use of existing fields (\$270,000/ha)	Action 2 - Convert 10 fields to synthetic (\$3 million/ha)	Action 3 - Buy private land in land release areas (funded by development)	Action 4 - Convert existing open space eg golf course land (\$1.8 million/ha)	Action 5 - Buy private land using ratepayer funds (\$7 million+/ha)
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Implementing actions 1-4 progressively addresses the shortfall by 2027.

The alternative is to do nothing, meaning a shortfall of supply, deteriorating playing surfaces and ultimately not enough fields for everyone to play.

Visit [yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au](https://www.yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au) to see the full Discussion Paper, find out about our drop in sessions and make a submission.

Submissions close Sunday 7 May.