

# LACROSSE VICTORIA STRATEGIC FACILITIES PLAN



SUMMARY PLAN | JULY 2016

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Consulting Team wish to thank Lacrosse Victoria representatives for their involvement in, and commitment to, the preparation of the Strategic Facilities Plan. In particular, we thank the Lacrosse Victoria Board for their time, effort and insights.

We acknowledge the significant contribution made by a number of other stakeholders in the development of the Strategic Facilities Plan. Thank you to the lacrosse community, local clubs, individuals and organisations that have contributed significant information and feedback throughout the development of the Plan.

Lacrosse Victoria acknowledges the support provided by the Victorian Government in funding the study and complementing Sport and Recreation Victoria representatives whom formed part of the Project Steering Group. Lacrosse Victoria would also like to thank all Local Government Authorities who participated in a range of consultation methods throughout the development of the Strategic Facilities Plan.



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## ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

The Lacrosse Victoria Strategic Facilities Plan is delivered in two parts.

**Part A:** Lacrosse Victoria Strategic Facilities Plan – Summary Plan (this document)

**Part B:** Lacrosse Victoria Strategic Facilities Plan – Detailed Plan

Part A provides a summary of key facility planning priorities and supporting actions for the Lacrosse Victoria Board and relevant stakeholders, as well as a prioritised Implementation Plan.

PART B provides a comprehensive summary of existing lacrosse facility provision, stakeholder consultation, participation trends, future demand projections and strategic guidance on priorities and recommendations for Lacrosse Victoria to action with its partners and supporters over the next 10 years. The detailed Strategic Facilities Plan has been informed by a number of reports and summary analysis presentations, including:

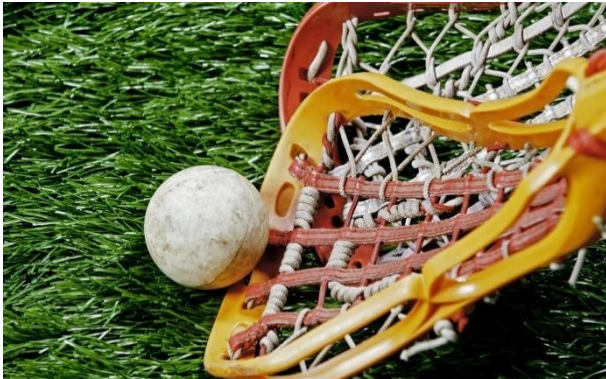
- Key Directions Paper
- Local Government Consultation Analysis Report
- Lacrosse Club Survey Analysis Report
- Lacrosse Participant Survey Analysis Report

These documents are available from Lacrosse Victoria on request.

# WELCOME

## A MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

It is my pleasure to introduce you to Lacrosse Victoria's *Strategic Facilities Plan* – a document that sets the future direction for lacrosse facility planning, provision and development across Victoria from 2016-2026. Having just recently joined the team at Lacrosse Victoria, I am excited by opportunities presented within this Plan and potential future facility landscape for lacrosse across the state.



While improving existing and planning for the development of new facilities are key infrastructure related priorities for lacrosse across the state, it is paramount we ensure our 'off-field' management and sport development arm of our organisation remains in the forefront of our future planning. This includes ensuring programs and services offered by our sport are inclusive and accessible for all, that we remain responsive to changing community trends and demands, and that the environment in which we deliver our sport is supportive and encourages sustained participation in our great game.

If we can do this, and deliver our 10 year Strategic Facilities Plan concurrently, we are on the right track to achieving our vision of being **'Victoria's fastest growing sport'**.

Dating back to 1876, lacrosse has a proud history as being one of the oldest sports in Victoria. With 17 clubs across Victoria and improved participation and exposure of the game through school based programs, it is time we became more strategic in our approach toward facility planning to guide the future direction, support, usage, access and resourcing of existing and new lacrosse facilities across the State.

With no ownership of any venues and limited funding available, we must ensure all investment into the sport is strategic and effective. In order for lacrosse to compete with mainstream sports, it is vital we develop strong strategic relationships with all levels of government, other sports organisations, schools and key stakeholders if our sport is to remain sustainable and grow into the future.

To support the achievement of the proposed strategic directions and priorities highlighted within this Plan, and to ensure the needs of the Victorian lacrosse community are met in the short, medium and long-term, a number of recommended actions have been identified for implementation over the next 10 years. The following pages provide a summary of key facility related priorities and supporting actions for lacrosse in Victoria over the next 10 years, with more detailed facility research, consultation findings and participation analysis provided in background supporting reports.

Thank you to all stakeholders who have helped inform and shape the overall direction of the Strategic Facilities Plan. I look forward to working with you on its implementation and further establishing the sport of lacrosse across Victoria.

**SAM WATSON**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SWatson'.

**GENERAL MANAGER**



# LACROSSE VICTORIA STRATEGIC FACILITIES PLAN



## DELIVERING THE STRATEGIC FACILITIES PLAN

The following strategic priorities for lacrosse in Victoria have been developed from project research, site investigations, stakeholder consultation and analysis of issues raised through development of the Strategic Facilities Plan.

### PRIORITY 1

Enhance existing lacrosse facility accessibility, condition, quality and capacity.

### PRIORITY 2

Develop a suite of 'regional' and 'local' level facilities across Metropolitan Melbourne and regional geographic areas across the state.

### PRIORITY 3

Plan for the introduction of new lacrosse programs and services and related facility models.

### PRIORITY 4

Secure stakeholder support for Strategic Facilities Plan implementation.

### PRIORITY 5

Attract investment in future lacrosse facility planning and development that will improve the overall financial sustainability of the sport across the state.

They provide the Lacrosse Victoria Board, Executive and operational staff with the necessary direction to plan, identify and allocate resources towards the improvement of existing and development of new lacrosse facilities throughout the state.

Key priorities and supporting recommended actions have been prepared for implementation over the next 10 years.

Priorities have been determined based on the following key criteria:

- The immediate needs of the lacrosse community and the existing facility network
- Overall benefit the delivery of each priority will provide in maximising participation in lacrosse
- The ability and accountability of Lacrosse Victoria to support actions and their implementation
- Financial and resource commitments required.

Priorities and actions are focussed on improving the overall condition and accessibility of lacrosse facilities to ensure sustainability and viability of the sport throughout Victoria. All proposed actions should be initiated and undertaken in-line with the proposed Lacrosse Victoria Facility Hierarchy.



## IMPLEMENTING THE PLAN

Despite being the state's governing body for lacrosse it is important to recognise that it is not solely Lacrosse Victoria's responsibility to drive lacrosse facility development across Victoria. Stakeholder wide buy-in, implementation, communication, cooperation, involvement and ownership of recommended priority areas and supporting actions will be essential to the future sustainability and growth of lacrosse.

The Strategic Facilities Plan is an aspirational 10 year Plan and has been designed to be realistic and practical in its implementation, with key actions to be deliverable by 2026. It is important to note that lacrosse stakeholder and community demands, priorities and direction change over time, hence recommended priority areas and accompanying actions are to be used as a guide only, and subject to funding and resourcing availability.

Historical investment into Victorian lacrosse facility development has been varied and has primarily been driven through the local lacrosse community (as the main users and beneficiaries of facilities), local government (as the main owner and asset manager of facilities) and the state government (as a key contributor to community facility development).

It is important to note that lacrosse stakeholder and community demands, priorities and direction change over time, hence recommended priority areas and accompanying actions are to be used as a guide only, and subject to funding and resourcing availability.

As a joint user, and often the minor tenant of a shared facility, this investment has been primarily driven by lacrosse's co-tenant (cricket, hockey, soccer), with very few 'lacrosse specific' facility upgrades (hit up wall, box lacrosse) receiving external funding support in recent years. This trend suggests that investment in future 'big ticket' facility upgrades (new playing fields, pavilion upgrades, sports field floodlighting, ground redevelopment works) will be on the back of joint funding submissions (with other sports), and lacrosse specific facility improvements the responsibility of clubs and Lacrosse Victoria. This emphasises the need for Lacrosse to recognise its current limited funding capacity and partner future multi-purpose and shared use facility improvement initiatives.

Future investment into lacrosse facility development and the need for improved facilities is also likely to be heavily influenced by available funding as well as a rise in current participation levels, particularly within target groups including females and children.

Significant investment over time and collaborating with key partners, particularly local government and compatible sporting codes, will be critical for the Lacrosse Victoria Board, Executive and staff over the next 10 years.



## STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

The following diagram outlines the strategic framework and structure as well guiding principles for the future provision of lacrosse facilities and development initiatives throughout Victoria to 2026. Five key strategic priorities will guide the future direction of lacrosse facilities across the state and will be underpinned by a series of prioritised actions.

### VISION ► VICTORIA'S FASTEST GROWING SPORT

#### ► GUIDING PRINCIPLES

INCREASE ACCESS TO FACILITIES SUITABLE FOR LACROSSE ACROSS VICTORIA

SUSTAINED INCREASE IN THE OVERALL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN LACROSSE ACTIVITIES

PROMOTE AND ACTIVATE LACROSSE INTO NEW AREAS AND INCREASE AWARENESS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTICIPATION IN EXISTING LOCATIONS

STRENGTHEN EXISTING AND CREATE NEW LACROSSE, GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS TO INCREASE AWARENESS AND SUPPORT AND TO GROW THE SPORT OF LACROSSE

#### ► STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

##### PRIORITY 1

ENHANCE EXISTING LACROSSE FACILITY CONDITION, QUALITY AND CAPACITY

##### PRIORITY 2

DEVELOP A SUITE OF 'REGIONAL' AND 'LOCAL' LEVEL FACILITIES ACROSS METROPOLITAN AND REGIONAL GEOGRAPHIC AREAS ACROSS THE STATE

##### PRIORITY 3

PLAN FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF NEW LACROSSE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AND RELATED FACILITY MODELS

##### PRIORITY 4

SECURE STAKEHOLDER SUPPORT FOR STRATEGIC FACILITIES PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

##### PRIORITY 5

ATTRACT INVESTMENT IN FUTURE LACROSSE FACILITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVE THE OVERALL FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY OF THE SPORT ACROSS THE STATE

#### ► RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Individual prioritised actions and recommended timelines to support delivery of each of the above key strategic priorities are provided on the following pages. A more detailed Implementation Plan inclusive of stakeholder responsibilities is provided in the detailed Lacrosse Victoria Strategic Facilities Plan Report (Part B).



# PRIORITY 1

## Enhance existing lacrosse facility condition, quality and capacity

Lacrosse Victoria has an established club facility network spread across Metropolitan Melbourne, with all venues providing a range of infrastructure – some of which meets lacrosse’s needs and standards. However, many facilities and amenities have been planned and developed for alternative or seasonal sports that lacrosse shares these facilities with.



There is now considerable opportunity for Lacrosse Victoria and affiliated clubs to make a number of planned improvements to this network of facilities in order to provide a significant positive impact on lacrosse participation and the experience of all participants.

The lacrosse community should turn its **focus towards increasing the capacity and functionality of existing facilities through projects such as improved floodlighting, ground surface improvements, and refurbished change rooms and amenities to encourage greater use and inclusivity.**

Improvements to existing facilities in the short to medium-term should be prioritised over the development of new facilities in order to focus on strengthening the club environment and providing a base from which to leverage into the future.

Prioritisation of new venues and facilities should be led by clubs that are reaching or at capacity, or in newly emerging areas where lacrosse participation is growing without the provision of a facility.

Lacrosse Victoria and clubs need to communicate their commitment and preference to build the capacity of existing facilities (e.g. through improved accessibility, functionality, compliance and shared outcomes) over the development of new facilities to state and local government in order to generate greater support.

The adoption of the proposed Lacrosse Victoria Facility Hierarchy and related preferred facility guidelines will provide clubs with a guide as to the level of facility and amenity provision to aspire to and plan for, as well as generating consistency in provision at the local level across Victoria.

Lacrosse Victoria’s focus in the short-term (with the exception of new facilities in Hume and Melton) should be working with clubs and local Councils to develop and deliver individual facility renewal programs. Facilities that restrict growth due to their mix of amenities further limits the capacity of clubs and Lacrosse Victoria to implement strategic objectives.

Improvements that better manage participation growth, address infrastructure priorities and encourage diversity in participation through initiatives such as Quick Stix, Modcrosse and Sofcrosse will be a priority.

Being able to work with other seasonal facility tenants to collectively improve existing facilities and amenities that improve all user experiences will be a key strategy in clubs and sports attracting partner investment. Financial investment that Lacrosse Victoria is unable to provide and sustain via its current operating environment.

## FEMALE FRIENDLY FACILITIES

Enhancing existing (and future) lacrosse facility condition and capacity through female friendly and inclusive design is key to the future growth and sustainability of lacrosse.

As highlighted in Sport and Recreation Victoria's Female Friendly Sport Infrastructure Guidelines, there is no 'one definition for a female friendly facility'. Instead, making infrastructure more female friendly and more family orientated consists of a range of factors and attributes.

1. Buildings and surrounding areas that offer supporting resources, including:
  - Unisex change facilities that cater for the specific needs of males and females
  - Inviting social areas
  - Safe, clean and easily accessible facilities.
2. Organisations that offer supporting resources, including:
  - Inclusive policies and practices
  - Flexible timing of programs and competitions to cater for families
  - Children's care
  - Equality in use and flexibility in scheduling to encourage all participants.

The provision of more inclusive and female friendly lacrosse facilities will assist in supporting increased female lacrosse participation across the state (a key objective of Lacrosse Victoria). However, several key opportunities highlighted in Lacrosse Victoria's recent 'What Women Want' report will be just as important.



These opportunities include a review of the current competition structure and associated fixturing and scheduling, a shift in club culture and governance to be more inclusive of females, increasing the profile of the sport and diversifying available lacrosse programming and activities (e.g. more social or introductory programs).

National industry research has identified four common barriers to female participation in sport including insufficient numbers to form full teams, lack of female friendly change rooms and amenities, lack of female role models and the low level of female sport promotion.

Through delivery of this Strategic Facilities Plan, Lacrosse Victoria, local clubs and identified stakeholders have an opportunity to break down one of these barriers, increase the game's overall participation levels and profile, and furthermore entrench itself in Victoria's diverse sporting landscape.

## PRIORITY 1 - IMPLEMENTATION PLAN



Critical or short term action with specific timeframe



Ongoing action

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
1.1 Adopt the proposed Lacrosse Victoria Facility Hierarchy model and utilise its structure to prioritise lacrosse facility developments across Victoria.											
1.2 Communicate and promote Lacrosse Victoria's Facility Hierarchy model and preferred facility standards to Victorian lacrosse and government stakeholders.											
1.3 Advocate to state and local government, Lacrosse Victoria's commitment to and support of inclusive, multi-purpose facilities that encourage increased participation, especially females.											
1.4 Prioritise the provision of female and family friendly facilities (including unisex change rooms, amenities, referee rooms and social environment) to provide a more welcoming environment that supports and encourages increased participation and community connectedness.											
1.5 Conduct an infield audit of all existing facilities used for lacrosse against preferred facility guidelines and assess their capacity and scale of improvement works required.											
1.6 Conduct a floodlighting assessment on international standards for lacrosse and investigate comparable 'fast moving small ball sports' preferred lighting standards in order to develop a position on recommended lighting provision for lacrosse training and competition activities.											
1.7 In alignment with the facility hierarchy model and recommended facility use/purposes, develop a set of preferred lacrosse programming and management/operational service levels for a club, regional and event level facility.											
1.8 Encourage feedback from lacrosse stakeholders (clubs, associations, facility owners/managers) on preferred facility standards and modify as required.											
1.9 Support lacrosse clubs to work with local government to develop individual facility renewal programs with priority given to facility access, functionality and sustainability.											
1.10 Protect existing lacrosse facility ground usage via the provision of statistical data and reporting that demonstrates demand for lacrosse facilities to local, regional and state planning bodies.											
1.11 Develop and share case studies of successful lacrosse facility development and improvement projects (e.g. multi-purpose training nets) and their benefits, outcomes and impact on participation and activity levels.											

# PRIORITY 2

## Develop a suite of ‘regional’ and ‘local’ level facilities across metropolitan and regional geographic areas across the state

While improving the capacity of existing lacrosse facilities is paramount to supporting existing clubs and participation programs, having a strategic spread of new facilities in identified areas of growth across Melbourne, as well as into regional Victoria will help to grow and sustain the sport into the longer-term beyond 2026.

A future suite of local and regional lacrosse facilities will best serve the sport when aligned with Lacrosse Victoria’s participation programs and initiatives, as well as future competition and zone structures. This will also allow for the targeted provision of outdoor and indoor lacrosse facilities within close proximity to help promote both formats of the sport.

Establishing facilities in new lacrosse areas outside Metropolitan Melbourne will also need to be driven by newly formed lacrosse clubs, programs and local people. At present only formalised lacrosse facilities outside of Melbourne exist in Bendigo, however demand for future participation programs have been identified in several other regional areas.

Capitalising on this new growth via education institutions will also help to identify available grounds and facilities at universities and high schools, organisations that support the bulk of the core age playing market for lacrosse participants (being age 10 to 29 years).

Long term, subject to demand, development of facilities in Victoria’s major regional cities should be further investigated in-line with the future structure of the competition to ensure that facilities are strategically located to support and facilitate sustained competition and club growth.

The Strategic Facilities Plan does not advocate for the blanket development of a significant number of new facilities, however a small number of targeted facilities are already planned and being developed. These include two joint hockey-lacrosse facilities in the suburban growth areas of Hume and Melton. These facilities will be available for lacrosse use before the end of 2016.

Other new opportunities exist for new regional level facilities in Bundoora (with Latrobe University) and the south-east growth areas of Casey or Cardinia. It is critical that any newly planned or developed facility has a supporting lacrosse club and participation development plan in order to maximise their access and use.



Another key priority identified for the Victorian lacrosse community would be the upgrading of P.J. Lynch Reserve (in Altona) to a regional level facility and investigating the upgrading of combined facilities at Eric Raven and Dorothy Laver Reserves in the City of Boroondara also to a regional level venue.

Melbourne’s eastern and western suburbs are currently the areas of greatest current participation, and developing these regional venues as a first stage of regional provision over new facilities at the Latrobe University and Casey/Cardinia sites will assist Lacrosse Victoria to better plan, design, introduce and manage regional facilities.

## PRIORITY 2 - IMPLEMENTATION PLAN



Critical or short term action with specific timeframe



Ongoing action

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
<p>2.1 Work with local government and other stakeholders to investigate opportunities and the feasibility to develop four regional lacrosse centres in Melbourne's north, south, east and west. Preliminary sites/geographical areas identified as potential locations for regional centres include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Melbourne West – P.J Lynch Reserve (Altona)</li> <li>Melbourne East – Dorothy Laver / Eric Raven Reserves</li> <li>Melbourne North – Latrobe University (Bundoora)</li> <li>Melbourne South – City of Casey (Casey Fields or new greenfield development)</li> </ul>											
<p>2.2 Investigate the possible consolidation / amalgamation of lacrosse clubs and facilities in areas of high provision (e.g. Caulfield, Malvern, Glen Iris, Hobsons Bay areas) in order to achieve a better distribution of facilities, larger and more sustainable clubs/facilities and the ability to cater for future growth.</p>											
<p>2.3 Work with Councils to develop new dedicated or enhanced multi-purpose precincts within identified potential lacrosse growth areas (and those with Council support) including Maribyrnong, Hobsons Bay, Casey/Cardinia, Hume, Melton, Wyndham, Geelong and Whittlesea.</p>											
<p>2.4 Subject to future demand and growth of the sport, seek to develop a lacrosse presence in at least five of Victoria's 10 major regional cities including: Geelong, Shepparton, Latrobe, Wangaratta, Ballarat, Bendigo (existing club), Horsham, Mildura, Warrnambool and Wodonga.</p>											
<p>2.5 Work with Universities, High Schools and the Department of Education to identify opportunities to utilise existing school facilities (indoor and field) to provide additional opportunities to accommodate and grow the sport of lacrosse.</p>											

# PRIORITY 3

## Plan for the introduction of new lacrosse programs and services and related facility models

Competing interests for people's leisure time is driving change in the way sports are operating and the types of activities that are being provided.

Demand for different (and shorter) formats, flexible programs and scheduling, relaxed rules and more accessible opportunities is growing, and lacrosse's existing suite of outdoor, natural grass, club facilities are no longer going to be able to solely cater for participant needs into the future. More floodlit fields with increased capacity, synthetic surfaces that can accommodate more users, modified school programs and indoor evening activities are all driving participation.

Across Victoria, there are a limited number of facilities that suit lacrosse's changing community needs.

In addition to meeting the changing needs of participants, Lacrosse Victoria will also require access to a number of showcase venues for marquee events and finals matches. A range of these venues already exist throughout Metropolitan Melbourne, such as Lakeside Stadium in Albert Park. Access to existing venues that have all the facilities, amenities and services required will help to promote the sport, grow spectator attendances, provide incentives for player pathways and offer players with an opportunity to play on a bigger stage, without the need for major infrastructure investment by the sport or its partners.

### PRIORITY 2 - IMPLEMENTATION PLAN



Critical or short term action with specific timeframe



Ongoing action

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
3.1 Research new models and trends in facility provision and use for lacrosse (e.g. synthetic surfaces, indoor box lacrosse) and identify key opportunities for Lacrosse Victoria to grow all forms of the sport and to capitalise on new sport and business opportunities (e.g. masters indoor program, junior indoor development program, social/introductory programs, summer competitions on synthetic surfaces, night competitions etc.)											
3.2 With support from state government, seek to secure commitment from a venue operator (capable of accommodating major events and competitions, e.g. Lakeside Stadium) for key Lacrosse Victoria events to enable greater promotion of the sport and revenue opportunities.											
3.3 Identify potential indoor facilities located in close proximity to proposed regional facility locations and negotiate future use of these venues to create a link between all formats of the sport and develop a greater presence in these geographic areas (Melbourne's north, south, east and west).											



# PRIORITY 4

## Secure stakeholder support for Strategic Facilities Plan implementation

Establishing the sport of Lacrosse in Victoria as an attractive, fun, inclusive and well managed sport and recreation option, as well as achieving Lacrosse Victoria's vision of becoming 'Victoria's fastest growing sport' will require not only a committed approach from Lacrosse Victoria, but a collaborative and integrated approach from all industry related stakeholders.

While Lacrosse Victoria is encouraged to develop and build on partnerships and regular communication with a variety of stakeholders, research conducted throughout development of this Plan has identified the following key stakeholders (in no particular order) who will be influential 'shapers' of the future Lacrosse landscape in Victoria, and hence should be considered priority groups for future Lacrosse Victoria engagement strategies.

**Ongoing communication and partnerships with key stakeholders is a key priority for the long term sustainability of lacrosse throughout Victoria.**



- **State Government** – as a financial supporter and strategic partner in hosting showcase events.
- **Local Government** – as the provider of existing lacrosse club facilities and likely contributors to their ongoing improvement and development, in addition to the planners of future local facilities.
- **Local clubs** – as the delivers of lacrosse activities and programs in a family friendly environment that encourages participation and player development.
- **Education institutions** – schools, teachers and their staff who would introduce and drive lacrosse activities for students, connect with local clubs and potentially make their grounds and facilities available for community use.
- **Other Victorian State Sporting Associations** – such as Cricket Victoria, Hockey Victoria and Football Federation Victoria as joint users of existing community sporting facilities that lacrosse clubs use and share.

Ongoing communication and partnerships with these stakeholders is a key priority for Lacrosse Victoria. Communicating and selling Lacrosse Victoria's future vision for the sport to these groups will aid Lacrosse Victoria in not only the retention and improvement of existing facilities, but the growth and sustainability of lacrosse facility provision in the future.



## PRIORITY 4 - IMPLEMENTATION PLAN



Critical or short term action with specific timeframe



Ongoing action

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
4.1 Develop a communications and marketing plan to inform key stakeholders of the Strategic Facilities Plan and the future direction for lacrosse in Victoria for the next 10 years.											
4.2 Consider development of a Facilities Advisory Committee to provide advice and recommendations to the Lacrosse Victoria Board on the current state of and future development opportunities of lacrosse facilities in Victoria.											
4.3 Attend local, regional and state sport and recreation forums to improve relationships with local and state planning bodies, particularly local government who own/are responsible for the management of the majority of lacrosse facilities across the state.											
4.4 Participate in all state and local government reviews and/or strategy development projects that may affect the future of lacrosse in Victoria and provide necessary lacrosse expertise where required.											
4.5 Seek to develop and improve existing relationships with primary/secondary schools, universities and TAFE programs to encourage and promote junior participation and facility access for lacrosse programming and competition opportunities.											
4.6 Encourage and promote lacrosse's flexibility and willingness to share underutilised facilities with other sports, demonstrating improved facility use, sustainability and diversity of opportunities for the community.											
4.7 Continue to work with State Sporting Associations, LGAs and other bodies on multi-sport venue planning, design and management initiatives and seek to develop MOUs for shared use with key compatible sports.											
4.8 Seek greater involvement in the future planning of multi-purpose facilities with compatible sports such as those listed above to expose the sport to greater facility access, usage, development and funding opportunities.											
4.9 Seek to meet with and strengthen relationships with LGAs located in identified potential lacrosse growth areas (e.g. Maribyrnong, Hobsons Bay, Casey/Cardinia, Hume, Melton, Wyndham, Geelong and Whittlesea).											

# PRIORITY 5

## Attract investment in future lacrosse facility planning and development and improve the overall financial sustainability of the sport across the state

Future investment into lacrosse facility and sport development initiatives is likely to be heavily influenced by available funding, evidence of increased participation levels and the ability of local clubs and Lacrosse Victoria to generate interest and associated partnerships with key sport and government funding partners.



Historical investment into Victorian lacrosse facility development has been varied and has primarily been driven through the local lacrosse community (as the main users and beneficiaries of facilities), local government (as the main owner and asset manager of facilities) and the state government (as a key contributor to community facility development).

As a joint user, and often the minor tenant of a shared facility, this investment has been primarily driven by lacrosse's co-tenant (e.g. cricket, hockey, soccer), with very few 'lacrosse specific' facility upgrades (e.g. hit up wall, box lacrosse) receiving external funding support in recent years.

This trend suggests that investment in future 'big ticket' facility upgrades (e.g. new playing fields, pavilion upgrades, sports field floodlighting, ground redevelopment works etc.) will be on the back of joint funding submissions, and lacrosse specific facility improvements the responsibility of clubs and Lacrosse Victoria. This emphasises the need for Lacrosse to recognise its current limited funding capacity and partner future multi-purpose and shared use facility improvement initiatives.

Whilst encouraging to see over half of Victorian lacrosse facilities undergoing regular minor renewal works (63% of surveyed clubs reported investment in facility upgrades over the past three years), the heavy reliance on local and state government for funding support is a trend Lacrosse Victoria and associated stakeholders (in particular clubs) need to address as competition for funding increases.

Seeking external funding through state and local government is encouraged and common across all sports, however Lacrosse Victoria and affiliated clubs must improve their financial capacity and knowledge of existing funding schemes and contribute not only financially to the improvement of 'built facilities' but invest in club development initiatives such as volunteer training, improved programs/services, club fundraising events, club promotion and sponsorship attainment.

Ensuring the future and growth of the sport aligns with other partner objectives, such as growing women's and girls participation through the provision of appropriate amenities and a family friendly environment. This will assist in securing relevant and associated infrastructure investment.

## PRIORITY 5 - IMPLEMENTATION PLAN



Critical or short term action with specific timeframe



Ongoing action

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
5.1 Advocate for 'planning' (federal/state/local government funding) to deliver on key recommendations outlined in the Strategic Facilities Plan (e.g. infield auditing, regional facility feasibility planning).											
5.2 Advocate with the Department of Transport Planning and Local Infrastructure (DTPLI) for lacrosse funding applications to be recognised as priority projects through the Community Facility Funding Program.											
5.3 Develop a sponsorship policy and available package/s to increase Lacrosse Victoria's revenue opportunities and ability to support lacrosse development throughout Victoria. Encourage local lacrosse clubs to also develop sponsorship packages to increase club financial sustainability.											
5.4 Continue to identify and support local projects eligible for Victorian or local, state or federal government investment.											
5.5 Provide up to date information to clubs on external funding opportunities via Lacrosse Victoria's website (e.g. Australian Sports Commission funding, Australian Sports Foundation, SRV Community Facility Funding Programs etc.)											
5.6 Work with clubs to lobby and support local Councils, schools etc. to apply for funding to improve existing or develop new lacrosse facilities and opportunities for increased participation.											
5.7 Encourage clubs to identify LGA community grants funding schemes for program and small capital works projects and to apply regularly.											
5.8 Encourage local lacrosse clubs to review their relevant LGA's Recreation/Leisure Strategies and identify how their club's programming and services aligns with Council's sport/recreation participation objectives and related funding schemes.											
5.9 Continue to work in partnership with State Sporting Associations and other bodies on multi-use, joint facility and precinct planning projects in order to maximise sports investment into key future projects.											



# APPENDICIES - LACROSSE VICTORIA FACILITY HIERARCHY AND GUIDELINES



## LACROSSE VICTORIA FACILITY HIERARCHY

As there is no existing facility hierarchy already established for Lacrosse in Victoria, the following table sets out the proposed Lacrosse Victoria Facility Hierarchy which will guide the future support, provision and development of new/upgraded lacrosse facilities throughout Victoria over the next 10 years. Its development has been informed by the Federation of International Lacrosse's playing field dimension guidelines, however with no other formally recognised facility guidelines or standards available for lacrosse, should be used as a guide only and not mandatory.

It is important to note that the following facility hierarchy and related preferred facility standards (provided on following page) are aspirational targets for existing lacrosse facilities and recommended for new lacrosse facility developments.

HIERARCHY LEVELS	TEN YEAR ASPIRATIONAL PROVISION	PARTICIPATION PATHWAY
▶ <b>EVENT FACILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Footscray Hockey Centre</li> <li>▶ Hawthorn Hockey Centre</li> <li>▶ Lakeside Stadium</li> <li>▶ State Netball And Hockey Centre</li> </ul>	EVENTS, SHOWCASE GAMES AND MASS PROGRAM ACTIVITIES
▶ <b>REGIONAL FACILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ P.J. Lynch Reserve (West Region)</li> <li>▶ Dorothy Laver/Eric Raven Reserve (East Region)</li> <li>▶ Latrobe University, Bundoora (North Region)</li> <li>▶ City Of Casey / Cardinia – Location TBC (South Region)</li> </ul>	COMPETITION, EVENTS, CLUB ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS
▶ <b>CLUB FACILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Angliss Reserve, Benedikt Reserve, Bridge Road Sports Precinct, Caulfield Park, Epsom Huntly Reserve, Fearon Reserve, Fleming Park, Greenwich Reserve, Lower Eltham Park, Maiden Gully Reserve, Malvern Cricket Ground, Mont Albert Reserve, Newbury Park, The Albert Ground, Treyvaud Memorial Reserve, Western Oval, Wooten Road Reserve</li> </ul>	CLUB COMPETITION, TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT
▶ <b>INDOOR FACILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Altona Indoor Lacrosse</li> <li>▶ Puckhandlers</li> <li>▶ Monash University</li> <li>▶ Ashburton Pool and Recreation Centre</li> <li>▶ City Of Casey / Cardinia – Location TBC</li> </ul>	INDOOR COMPETITION, TRAINING AND MODIFIED PROGRAMS
▶ <b>TRAINING FACILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Maribyrnong Sports Complex</li> <li>▶ Melbourne High School Hockey Pitch</li> <li>▶ Access to additional school / university / TAFE facilities to accommodate club training activities</li> </ul>	TRAINING, MODIFIED PROGRAMS (QUICKSTIX, MODCROSSE, SOFCROSSE)

# FACILITY GUIDELINES



## MAIN PAVILION AND AMENITIES SCHEDULE

The following area schedule outlines the required, desirable and optional areas for lacrosse clubrooms and supporting amenities at each level of the Lacrosse Victoria Facility Hierarchy. When designing a new sporting pavilion or refurbishing an existing facility used for lacrosse, the area schedules outlined below should be considered in conjunction with other sporting code and community facility requirements and local planning and policy conditions.

The following table should be seen as a guide only, with the only mandatory facility requirement for lacrosse being the Federation of International Lacrosse's playing field dimensions (110m x 60m) which is highlighted in the Playing Field and Support Infrastructure facility guidelines table on the following page.

The definitions below have been used within the following page's tables and should be referenced to help explain lacrosse's facility preferences.

<b>Required</b>	Facility element required to ensure play can occur at relevant hierarchy level
<b>Desirable</b>	Play can occur, but may be compromised or user experience lessened without it
<b>Optional</b>	Play can occur with little to no impact on user experience
<b>Not Required</b>	Facility element of no benefit to relevant facility hierarchy level

PREFERRED SIZE (M2)						PREFERRED PROVISION LEVELS				
PAVILION / AMENITIES	EVENT	REGIONAL	CLUB	INDOOR	TRAINING	EVENT	REGIONAL	CLUB	INDOOR	TRAINING
CHANGING ROOMS / AREA	30-45m2 X 2	30-45m2 X 2	20-30m2 X 2	20-30m2 X 2	20-30m2 X 2	Required (2 unisex change rooms per field)	Required (2 unisex change rooms per field)	Required (2 unisex change rooms per field)	Desired	Desired
AMENITIES (PLAYER TOILET / SHOWERS)	25m2 X 2	25m2 X 2	15-20m2 X 2	15-20m2 X 2	15-20m2 X 2	Required (2 unisex amenities per playing field)	Required (2 unisex amenities per playing field)	Required (2 unisex amenities per playing field)	Desired (1 set of unisex amenities)	Desired (1 set of unisex amenities)
ACCESSIBLE TOILETS	Male 15m2 Female 15m2 Accessible 5.5m2	Male 15m2 Female 15m2 Accessible 5.5m2	Male 10m2 Female 10m2 Accessible 5.5m2	Male 10m2 Female 10m2 Accessible 5.5m2	Male 10m2 Female 10m2 Accessible 5.5m2	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required
REFEREE CHANGE ROOM (INCLUDING SHOWER & TOILET)	15m2	15m2	15m2	15m2	15m2	Required (1 x unisex change room)	Required (1 x unisex change room)	Required (1 x unisex change room)	Desired (1 x unisex change room)	Optional (1 x unisex change room)
MEDICAL / FIRST AID ROOM	15m2	15m2	10m2	10m2	10m2	Desired	Desired	Desired	Optional	Optional
KITCHEN & KIOSK	25m2 Commercial size kitchen to be considered	25m2 Commercial size kitchen to be considered	15m2 Assuming kiosk level amenities only	15m2 Assuming kiosk level facilities only	Not Required	Required	Required	Required	Desired	Desired
KITCHEN STOREROOM (BUILT INTO OVERALL KITCHEN / KIOSK AREA)	8m2	8m2	5m2	5m2	Not Required	Required	Required	Desired	Desired	Not Required
SOCIAL COMMUNITY OR MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM (INDOORS)	150m2	150m2	100-150m2	80m2	Not required	Required	Required	Required	Optional	Not Required
ADMINISTRATION AREA / OFFICE	15m2	15m2	15m2	15m2	15m2	Required	Required	Desirable	Optional	Optional
INTERNAL BUILDING STORAGE	40m2	40m2	30m2	As Required	As Required	Required	Required	Required	Desirable	Desirable
EXTERNAL BUILDING STORAGE	40m2	40m2	30m2	As Required	As Required	Required	Required	Required	Desirable	Desirable
CLEANER'S STORE	5m2	5m2	5m2	5m2	5m2	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required
UTILITIES / PLANT ROOM	As Required	As Required	As Required	As Required	As Required	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required

## PLAYING FIELD AND SUPPORTING INFRASTRUCTURE

The playing field and supporting infrastructure items identified in the below table represent 'lacrosse's preferred levels of provision' in order to facilitate lacrosse training and matches at each facility hierarchy level. The below table is best utilised in the preliminary scoping, feasibility and design stages of new venues and projects, but may also be used to inform facility or site redevelopment projects.

COMPONENT / CAPABILITY	EVENT	REGIONAL	CLUB	INDOOR	TRAINING
PLAYING FIELDS 110m x 60m (MINIMUM PER SITE)	X 1	X 3	X 1	Not Required	X 1
PLAYING FIELDS - 110m x 60m (DESIRABLE)	X 2	X 4	X 2	Not Required	X 1
NATURAL GRASS PLAYING FIELD - 110m x 60m	X 1	X 3	X 1	Not Required	X 1
SYNTHETIC GRASS PLAYING FIELD - 110m x 60m	Not Required	X 1 Desirable	Not Required	Not Required	Optional
WARM UP / TRAINING AREA	Desirable	Desirable	Optional	Not Required	Desirable
BOX LACROSSE (OUTDOOR)	X 1 Desirable	X 1 Desirable	Optional	Not Required	Optional
BOX LACROSSE (INDOOR)	Not Required	X 1 (Located in close proximity)	Not Required	X 1 Required	Not Required
SPORTS FIELD FLOODLIGHTING	Required	Required	Required	Not Required	Required
IRRIGATION / ACCESS TO WATER	Required	Required	Desirable	Not Required	Desirable
PLAYING FIELD FENCING (900MM or 1050MM)	Desired	Optional	Optional	Optional	Optional
SCOREBOARD (PER PLAYING FIELD)	Required	Required	Required	Required	Not Required
TIMEKEEPER / SCORER BOX	Desirable	Desirable	Optional	Optional	Not Required
PLAYER AND COACH DUG OUTS	Required (can be portable)	Required (can be portable)	Desirable (can be portable)	Not Required	Not Required
GROUND MAINTENANCE STORAGE	Desirable	Required	Desirable	Not Required	Not Required
CAR PARKING (MINIMUM)	75 spaces	75 spaces	40 spaces	20 spaces	20 spaces
SPECTATOR SEATING (STRUCTURE)	300 seats desirable	100 seats desirable	Optional	Optional	Not Required
SPECTATOR VIEWING (COVERED)	Desirable	Desirable	Desirable	Desirable	Not Required
SITE / PERIMETER FENCING	Required	Desirable	Optional	Not Required	Optional
SITE / VENUE SIGNAGE	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required
MALE AND FEMALE PUBLIC TOILET (INCLUDING ACCESSIBLE TOILET)	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required







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*sport and leisure planning*