# Council Meeting

10 December 2020

## Separately Circulated Attachment

(as indicated this is circulated separately to the Agenda)

This attachment relates to Item 6
in your Agenda

(Appendix 6.1 – Draft Sports Facilities
Strategic Plan)

MARLBOROUGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

**DRAFT FOR COMMUNITY FEEDBACK**

# Marlborough District Council

# Sports Facilities Strategic Plan – 2021 - 2031

RSL

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# Document Info & Acknowledgements

Document version: Draft for stakeholder feedback

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## Acknowledgements

RSL would like to thank for following people and organisations for their input into developing this plan:

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### With Thanks To

Local, regional and national stakeholders who have contributed information toward this report.

**Covid-19 Pandemic**

The development of this plan has occurred during the global Covid-19 pandemic. This has caused some alterations to the timing of various stages of the project process, however there has been no substantial impact on the overall project. It is acknowledged that the Covid-19 pandemic may cause delays or changes to some of the proposed recommendations within this report. However, it is still unclear what the longer-term impacts of Covd-19 will have on sport and sporting facilities in

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# 2 Executive Summary

MDC facilitates and supports sport through the provision of a large number of spaces and places for training and competition. Many of these also have wider public amenity values.

This draft Sports Facilities Plan has been developed to understand the current and future facility needs and aspirations of sporting codes in Marlborough. The draft plan identifies what changes, updates or additions could be made to the MDC sports facilities network over the next ten years. This plan will be used to inform the MDC long term plan 2021-2031.

The identification of priority actions within this plan does not guarantee MDC support and further investigations will need to be undertaken in many cases to confirm the need and viability.

This plan has highlighted the changing demographic profile of Marlborough. While the population is showing modest growth, it is ageing and becoming more ethnically diverse. These changes will have an impact on what sports are preferred and how people participate in them.

Sports participation trends are also changing. There is declining participation among some sports while others are experiencing growth. There is also a move toward more informal, individualised sporting activities. Care should be taken when updating existing or developing new facilities to ensure there is the ability for facilities to be adapted over time to meet the changes in participation.

The Combined Schools Project represents the most significant opportunity for MDC to partner with other asset owners to provide enhanced facilities to the wider community. This will require priority being given to ongoing communication between MDC, MoE and the colleges as planning progresses.

There are a range of sporting facility considerations. These can be summarised as:

- Supporting the Investment in Sports Hubs.
- Facilitating increased shared use of existing facilities.
- Creating enhanced public amenity facilities to serve both sporting communities and the wider public.
- Increase the capacity of floodlit fields for winter sports codes.
- Maximising wider community value from the Combined Schools' Project.

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The following table outlines the recommended actions.

| | Actions |
|---|---|
| **0** | **Sports Hubs** |
| | Investigate a MDC staff role to provide coordination in the areas of sports hub governance, management and facility operations. |
| | MDC to facilitate sporting codes move to the Lansdowne Park Sports Hub. |
| | Continue to financially support the operational costs of sports hub in the Marlborough area. |
| **1** | **Sports Fields** |
| 1.0 | • Undertake feasibility study to assess need, location and financial model for additional floodlit sports field capacity (potentially artificial turf). |
| 1.1<br>1.2 | Upgrade facilities at A&P Park<br>• Develop change rooms at A&P Park.<br>• Confirm development of Pavilion either at A&P or elsewhere (Dependent upon outcome of feasibility study in 1.0). |
| 1.3<br>1.4<br>1.5 | Work with Marlborough Cricket to progress the Horton Park Master Plan<br>• Identify and confirm sport and wider community partners.<br>• Develop detailed business case.<br>• Implement priorities of Master Plan. (pending outcome of business case) |
| 1.6 | Monitor demand for sports fields. Re-allocate fields between codes before developing new MDC sites. |
| 1.7 | Working with the relevant sporting codes, undertake an audit of existing changing facilities to ensure they are suitable for use (gender appropriate, fit for purpose, accessible). |
| **2** | **Outdoor Hard Courts** |
| 2.1 | Investigate the need for covering some of the hard courts at Lansdowne Park for Marlborough Netball (and other potential users). |
| 2.2 | Maximise the value of the identified changing room upgrades at Awarua Park. This could include:<br>• Re-surfacing and improved floodlights for hard courts<br>• Consideration of the site as another Sports Hub for the district, including supporting wider community use. |
| 2.3 | Investigate the installation of additional lighting at the Pollard Park for an additional five tennis courts or consider a shared use model at Lansdowne hard courts (playing surface dependent). |
| 2.4 | Support Stadium 2000's need to re-surface 3-on-3 courts |
| **3** | **Indoor Courts** |

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| | Actions |
|---|---|
| 3.1 | Investigate the need for additional indoor court space in Marlborough. Should initial stakeholder feedback be confirmed then consider the range of options available, including but not limited to:<br>• Investigate additional MDC owned indoor courts adjacent to Stadium 2000.<br>• Assess the ability for other codes to share any covered courts that may be developed at Lansdowne Park.<br>• Work with the Combined Schools Project to maximise the wider community value of any indoor courts that are built. This could include:<br>  • Negotiate community access agreements.<br>  • MDC investment to ensure right sized, fit-for-purpose courts are developed that can be used by sports groups (and other community groups).<br>  • MDC to invest to increase the total number of courts that are built. |
| 3.2 | Facilitate Squash's continued community access to courts located at current MBC site. |
| 3.3 | Undertake a needs assessment to investigate alternative indoor court space for Indoor Bowls, Badminton and Table Tennis. |
| **4** | **Indoor Aquatic Facilities** |
| 4.1 | Should demand warrant, pursue partnership opportunities with existing school pools for increased community and programming access. |
| **5** | **Outdoor Aquatic Facilities** |
| 5.1 | Development of new MDC toilet facilities to consider potential locations that benefit both the wider public and existing water sport hubs (along with other outdoor sport participants). |
| 5.2<br>5.3 | Explore additional use of existing water sport facilities by other water sports and land-based sports, including:<br>• Storage and facilities for Waka ama in Picton / Waikawa.<br>• Explore access arrangements for other sports codes to access existing club sites for storage, change facilities and event coordination. |
| **6** | **Other Specialist Sports Facilities** |
| 6.1 | Confirm the lease arrangements for the Hockey Turf at College Park. If another long-term lease cannot be secured, then consider the Combined Schools Project as a potential partnership project. |
| 6.2 | Factor in renewal costs for the hockey carpet and shock-pad (circa 2028-2030). |
| 6.3 | Investigate a lawn bowling facility that could be shared by a number of clubs and potential other sporting codes and wider community groups. |
| 6.4<br>6.5 | Provide support to Marlborough Athletics to:<br>• upgrade all-weather long-jump area.<br>• investigate solutions for an appropriately scaled all-weather training area for a range of athletic activities. |
| 6.6 | Maintain existing levels of service for the cycling track. |
| 6.7 | Work with Marlborough Volleyball to provide sand that meets requirements for tournament play. |
| **7** | **Other Outdoor Sports Facilities** |
| 7.1 | Provide additional space for the Blenheim Canine Training Club at A&P Park; or work with the club to seek an alternative site that can accommodate their identified needs. |
| 7.2 | Pending the outcome of the updated Wither Hills Management Plan, explore the upgrade of road end services to serve the needs of mountain bikes, walkers, hikers, orienteers, and other outdoor activities. |
| 7.3 | Facilitate access arrangements for Marching at the Lansdowne courts and fields. |

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# 3 Introduction

The Marlborough District Council Sports Facilities Plan has been developed to provide the Marlborough District Council (MDC) with a framework to aid in the prioritisation of investment and support in sporting facilities. The Plan aims to understand the current and future needs and aspirations of sporting codes and what changes, updates or additions need to be made to the MDC sports facilities network.

This plan acknowledges the importance of partnerships between MDC and other agencies. The vast majority of the sporting sector in Marlborough rely on a partnership approach with MDC to ensure grounds and facilities are available to deliver sport to the community. There are currently opportunities for further partnerships in the community, particularly with the Combined Schools Project.

This plan will assist in outlining the needs of the sporting codes and a recommended approach by the MDC and will assist MDC to inform the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan.

## 3.1 Scope

The MDC Sports Facilities Plan is focussed on sporting activities that occur both indoors and outdoors and both on land and water. The MDC Outdoor Sports Facility Plan (2010) addressed 15 sports that are predominantly participated in outdoor activities. The wider scope of this current plan allows the MDC to understand the more diverse participation trends within the district and plan accordingly across a wider range of facilities and activities.

Some activities are not included in this plan as development plans and priorities are covered off elsewhere. This includes broader recreation activities such as walking and non-sport-based cycling (active transport).

This plan is not designed to capture all operational issues identified by codes, rather it provides an outline of the significant facility-based issues that MDC should consider addressing over time. Operational issues raised by codes have been fed back to the MDC outside of this report.

## 3.2 Methodology

The plan has followed normal planning processes, including

- An agreement of scope.
- A review of existing strategies, plans and documents that relate to this plan.
- Identification of the current network of facilities.
- An online survey of identified sports stakeholders was conducted in April 2020. Approximately 100 groups were asked for their feedback on the current state of their activity and any facility issues or plans they had. 55 groups responded, which indicates a satisfactory response rate. Key sport facility user groups that did not respond were followed up individually and their feedback was also considered.
- Analysis of themes arising from the online survey was conducted to help shape additional engagement.

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- Workshops with stakeholders were held to further explore the key emerging themes.
- Further follow up for additional information and clarification was also sought from some survey respondents.
- Drafting the plan, seeking feedback from MDC officers and producing a final version for community input.

Note: This Plan was developed during the response to the Covid-19 global pandemic. This impacted on the sequencing of information gathering and analysis. However, this was managed through the re-scheduling of project tasks. The Covid-19 pandemic has impacted on participation numbers for some sporting codes. It is too early to predict longer term impacts. However, previous events in New Zealand, such as the Canterbury earthquake sequence, show that a full recovery can occur in a relatively short period of time.

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# 4 Strategic Context

The following section provides background information on previous planning in Marlborough that may have an impact on the MDC Sports Facilities Plan. This section also outlines planning principles that assist in prioritising any recommendations on the future shape of the network of sports facilities.

## 4.1 Background Documents

A number of previous documents were reviewed in the development of this plan. Documents reviewed included:

- Marlborough District Physical Activity Strategy (2008)
- Marlborough District Council Outdoor Sports Facilities Plan (2010)
- Marlborough District Council Indoor [Cricket} Facility Preliminary Review (2014)
- Feasibility Report, Endeavour Park Pavilion, Endeavour Park, Picton Stage Two Development (Draft 2016)
- Marlborough District Council Sportsville Policy (2016)
- MDC Significance and Engagement Policy (2018)
- Blenheim Urban Area 2018 – Housing and Business Development Capacity Assessment (2018)
- Horton Park Preliminary Master Plan (2018)
- Marlborough District Walking and Cycling Strategy 2019-29
- Marlborough Boys and Marlborough Girls Colleges - New Schools Development Report Sport and Recreation Facilities (July 2019)
- Sport Tasman report on impact of Covid-19 on Sport and Recreation Organisations (2020)
- Top of the South Island Spaces and Places Plan (Sept 2020)

A summary review of all of these documents can be found in Appendix Three. Where appropriate this information has been considered in the development of this current plan.

MDC has previously developed an Outdoor Sports Facilities Plan (2010) and a supplementary review on indoor facility provision (with a clear focus on cricket). MDC has also taken part in the development of a Top of the South Spaces and Places Strategy in conjunction with Sport New Zealand. These three documents are summarised below.

### 4.1.1 Marlborough District Council Outdoor Sports Facilities Plan (2010)

Marlborough District Council developed an Outdoor Sports Facilities Plan in 2010. This plan was developed to articulate how public space would be distributed for use by Marlborough's sport and recreation community. The 2010 Plan had a ten-year timeframe and it is timely this is reviewed and updated in this current project.

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The 2010 plan included a narrower range of sports than this plan[1]. A key finding of the review of the 2010 Plan is that it has provided the MDC with a framework for decision making with regard to outdoor sporting facility provision. This has seen a significant number of the 2010 Plan recommendations being implemented over the last ten years. Key projects to have been completed or commenced during this time include:

- An upgrade of Lansdowne park, in particular.
    - the relocation of netball from Horton Park and the development of 15 new netball courts.
    - the development of a skin softball diamond and other grass diamonds.
    - Construction underway for a multi-use sports hub facility.

- Upgrade of cricket nets at Horton Park.
- Master Planning work completed on potential wider upgrade of Horton Park for cricket.
- The development of a Sportsville (code-sharing) Policy in 2016.
- Development of a bike skills area at Oliver Park.
- Feasibility study completed on potential facility development at A&P Park.
- Re-location of equestrian activities to Bothams Bend.

Some recommendations in the 2010 Plan have not commenced or have been superseded by other developments. However generally speaking, the 2010 Plan has enabled a wide range of sports to ensure the facilities they use are fit for purpose and future proofed.

### 4.1.2 Marlborough District Council Indoor [Cricket} Facility Preliminary Review April 2014

Marlborough District Council (MDC) was approached by the Marlborough Cricket Association (MCA) requesting assistance with the development of upgraded facilities including an indoor training facility at their current location, Horton Park. Marlborough District Council then engaged a Consultancy firm to investigate the current demand for an indoor facility.

The report found that in 2014:

- There was no clear demand to develop an indoor cricket centre at that time.
- The demand for improved cricket outdoor practice facilities was warranted and required.
- Minor improvements to the current netball courts at Horton park was desirable, particularly in relation to remediation of minor water retention issues.
- There was no obvious reason to alter or amend the Marlborough Outdoor Sports Facilities Plan (MOSFP) at that time. However, the relocation of netball to Lansdowne Park would have multisport and event hosting potential.

### 4.1.3 Top of the South Island Spaces and Places Strategy (2020)

[1] The 2010 Plan included Athletics, Cricket, Cycling (BMX, MTB, Road, Track), Equestrian, Football, Harriers, Hockey, Motocross, Multisport, Netball, Orienteering, Rugby Union, Softball, Tennis & Touch.

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In 2018 Sport New Zealand (Sport NZ) began work with Sport Tasman and local authorities in the "Top of the South" area to develop a regional spaces and places strategy. This is the first "regional" Spaces and Places Strategy for the Top of the South and is part of a wider initiative supported by Sport NZ to have 14 regional strategies across Aotearoa. The final strategy was completed in September 2020.

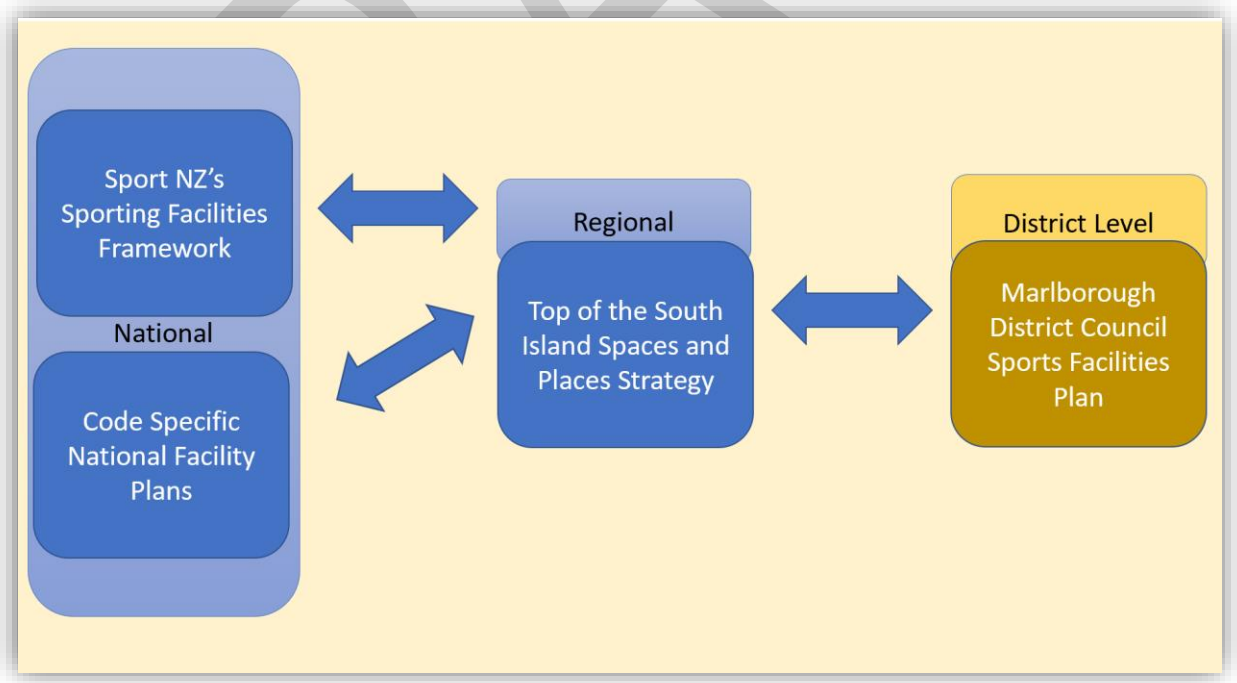
The Strategy outlines its purpose as providing *"a high-level strategic overview of the current and projected facility needs; it does not address local facility needs directly. It identifies the future priorities for regional and sub-regional facilities and provides a robust method to review and advise on priorities from a regional perspective using a principle led approach with assessment criteria.*[2]*"*

Recommendations from the Top of the South Spaces and Places Strategy are considered and (where appropriate) factored into the MDC Sports Facility Plan.

## 4.2 Sports Facilities Planning Landscape

This plan has been developed to understand the current and future supply and demand of sporting facilities in Marlborough. It provides local context to the hierarchy of sports facility planning occurring regionally and nationally as outlined in diagram 4.2 below.

Diagram 4.2 Sports Facility Planning Hierarchy




[2] Final Draft Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Strategy for the Top of the South Island – Global Leisure Group

National context and leadership is provided through Sport NZ's Sporting Facilities Framework. National sporting organisations also outline their required network of facilities. An assessment of regionally significant facilities is provided in the Top of the South Island Spaces and Places Strategy. The MDC Sports Facility Plan references these national and regional plans to ensure alignment and local context.

## 4.3 Sports Facility Planning Principles

Key principles have been developed for the MDC Sports Facilities Plan. These principles can be drawn on when sporting needs are being assessed and prioritised to allow recommendations to be made regarding the future network of facilities.

The key principles are taken from the Sport NZ Sporting Facilities Framework and are:

**Accessibility**

Facilities, spaces and places are available and can be accessed by all of those who need to access them to participate in sport.

**Sustainability**

Facilities are sustainable, from both environmental and financial standpoints.

**Future Proofed**

Facilities can adapt over time to meet needs that inevitably change over time.

**Meeting an Identified Need**

Facilities meet an evidenced, identified need within the Marlborough sporting community.

**Partnering and collaboration**

Where practical, MDC should provide leadership (in partnership with other organisations) when establishing and operating sporting facilities. This recognises the need for asset owners to work together to ensure an efficient and effective sports facility network is created.

**Integration**

Facilities should be developed to maximise usage of assets. The days of single sport assets, that are used for a few hours a week during one season are numbered. Where possible facilities should be shared by multiple codes to increase occupancy and enhance the ability to be sustainable.

The Top of the South Regional Spaces and Places Strategy (2020) also aligns to these principles and also incorporates some additional areas of consideration, namely; reflecting the community, ensuring activation of spaces and equally importantly social engagement among participants, officials and supporters. These principles have also been factored into this plan.

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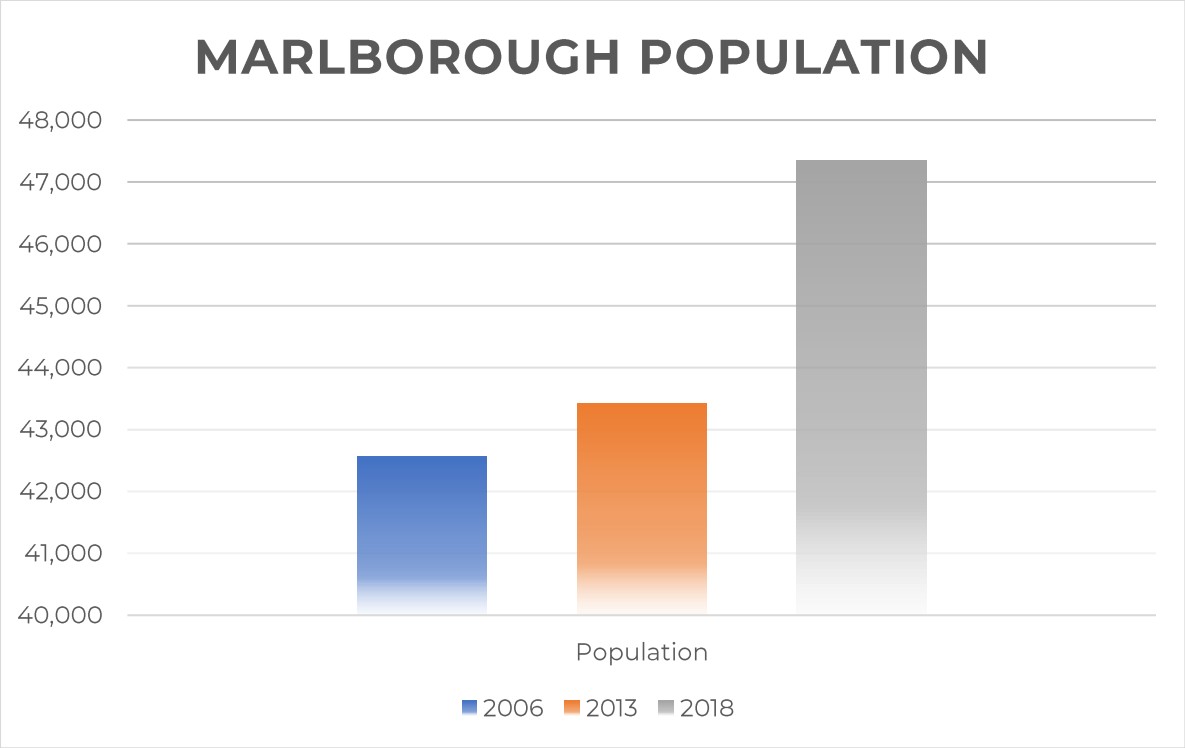
# 5 Marlborough Demographic Profile

The following section identifies the current and predicted future population characteristics of the Marlborough district and the potential impact this has on the sports facility network.

### 5.1.1 A growing population

Marlborough has had an increase in population by approximately 9% between the 2013 and 2018 Census. Graph 5.1 below shows the increase from 43,416 in 2013 to 47,340 in 2018. This population increase is in line with medium to high projections rates produced by Statistics NZ and is driven primarily through net migration into the region.

*Graph 5.1 Marlborough Population 2006 – 2013 -2 018*




The forecast population projections for Marlborough indicate some population growth over the next 20 years. The 2020 population estimates from Statistic New Zealand indicate the Marlborough population is still growing at a rate of over 1% per year and is now 50,200 (estimate as at June 30, 2020)[3].

Important factors to consider are the make-up of the population (age and ethnicity in particular).

### 5.1.2 An ageing population

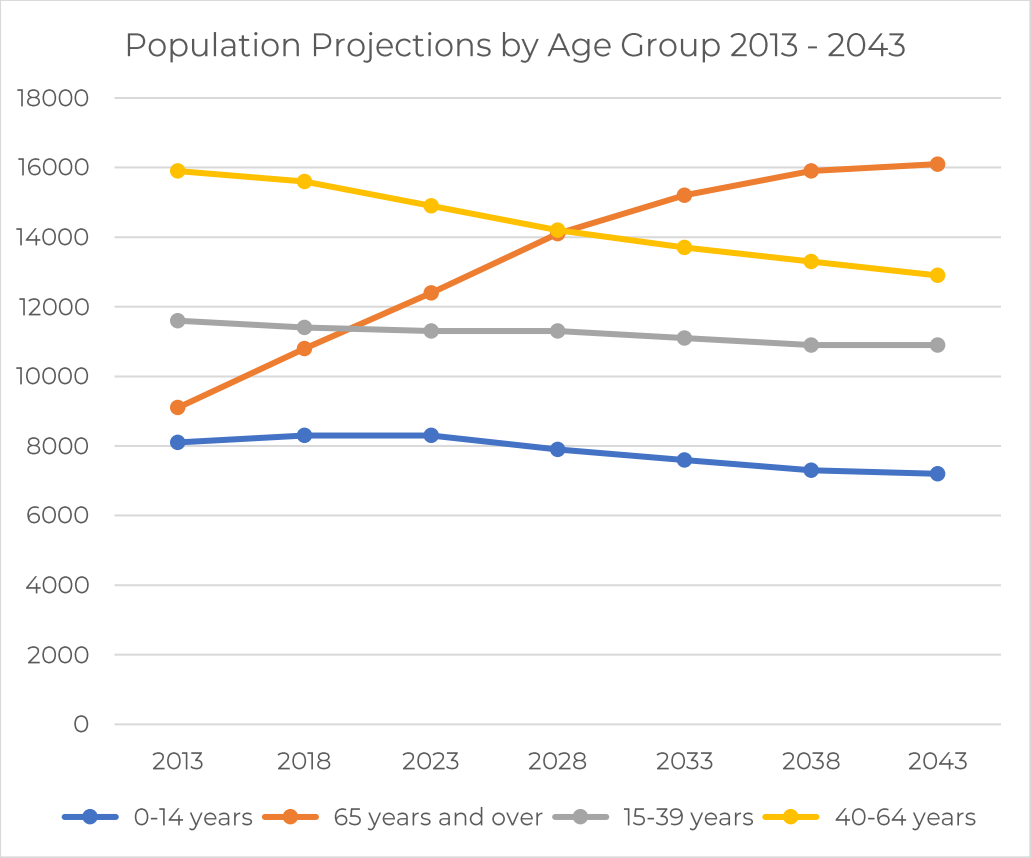
Marlborough's population is ageing. The Marlborough population is expected to have a significantly larger number of residents aged 65 years and older with other age groups

[3] www.stats.govt.nz Estimated resident population at 30 June 2020

experiencing declines in population levels. This is similar to many parts of New Zealand (and the Western world).

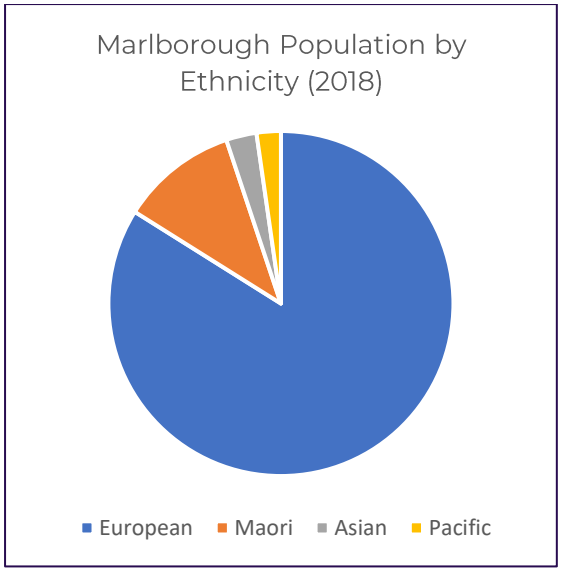
Graph 5.2 highlights the population projections by age groups.

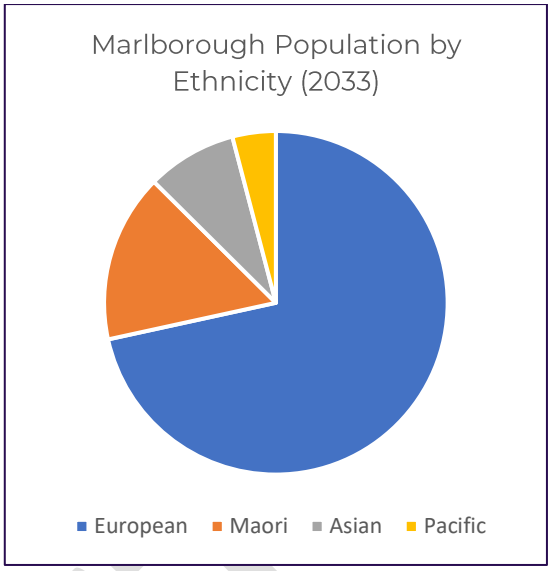
Graph 5.2 Population projections by age, 2013-2043




### 5.1.3 A more diverse community

The comparison pie graphs below highlight the increasing ethnic diversity of the Marlborough district. The Maori population is forecast to increase from 5,300 (11% of the total population) in 2018 to 9020 (16%) by 2033. Increases in other ethnic groups are also forecast to occur with the exception of NZ Europeans who while still making up approximately 40,700 of the population, will be a smaller percentage (84% in 2018 to 72% in 2033)




### 5.1.4 Geographic Spread

The majority of Marlborough residents live in Blenheim (60%)[4]. There are other smaller urban areas at Renwick, Picton, Havelock, Rai Valley and Seddon. This relative centralisation of the population in a somewhat large district leads to many of the sporting facilities being developed in or around Blenheim.

### 5.1.5 Demographic Conclusions

Marlborough has an increasingly ageing population while at the same time becoming more ethnically diverse. This requires sporting groups to plan for change and adapt their offering accordingly.

As a population ages, sporting participation preferences are likely to change. Generally speaking, older residents do not participate in as many team sports that require higher levels of moderate to vigorous physical activity. Another significant change is many older adults have the ability to recreate during week days, which is often a period of time where sporting facilities are underutilised.

The concentration of population in and around Blenheim lends itself to being the regional hub for the majority of sporting codes (except where specific environmental factors are elsewhere such as the Marlborough Sounds for sailing).

The increasingly ethnic diverse profile of Marlborough also brings opportunities for residents to participate in a more diverse range of activities. This diversity may place additional pressure on MDC to provide spaces for a wider range of activities as they emerge.

[4] Census 2013 statistics utilising the Blenheim Central, Springlands, Mayfield, Whitney, Redwoodtown and Witherlea areas.

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# 6 Sporting Participation Trends

Sport NZ undertakes comprehensive research into the sport and recreation participation behaviours of New Zealanders. Approximately 94% of young people and 72% of adults participate in some form of sport or active recreation in any given seven-day period[5].

On average young people spend 11 hours per week participating in active recreation and sport activities. Participation is higher among boys than girls. Adults spend on average 5.2 hours per week participating in active recreation and sport activities.

Participation can vary with people's socio-economic position (where deprivation is high participation is lower) and where they live (rural participation is lower than urban participation).

The motivations for participation change with age as the primary reason for young people is for fun (76%) while for adults it is for physical wellbeing (72%).

A recent report commissioned by Sport NZ highlights six key factors driving sports participation in New Zealand[6]:

1. The offering of sport – How commercialisation, globalisation and sport branding are creating powerful offerings for consumers, sometimes supporting existing sports, and often challenging them with attractive new alternatives.
2. Individualisation - How technology and personal choices are creating individualised sports activity, as likely to be supported by the (internet) 'cloud' as it is by clubs and coaches. Individual sports are thriving.
3. Connection - Countering individualisation is how people strive for community and belonging through sport, increasingly enabled by technology, and challenged by an increasing diversity of cultures and sports offerings.
4. Lifestyle and health - As we live through the 'age of chronic disease' the value of sport and activity is highlighted. Organised sport and technology can help but medical and pharmaceutical interventions are emerging that enable a preferred body image without physical activity.
5. The built environment - Most of us live in cities. Are we modifying our city infrastructure and facilities to cater for tomorrow's diverse sporting needs?
6. The structure of sport - The trends above challenge the structure and leadership of sport in New Zealand. Do we have the right capacity, workforce and partnerships to respond?

There is an overall decline in membership of some of the traditional sporting codes as lifestyles have changed. At the same time some codes are experiencing growth. Basketball is set to become the most popular sport among young people nationwide, surpassing the traditional favourites of Rugby and Netball. Since the year 2000 secondary school

[5] Sport NZ (2019) Active New Zealand: Key Findings 2018 Survey Data

[6] Sport NZ (2015) Future of Sport in New Zealand: A report by Synergia for Sport New Zealand (2015)

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Basketball and Football numbers have increased by 52% and 20% respectively. During the same time period secondary school Netball and Rugby have seen a reduction of approximately 9% and 20% respectively.

There has been a move toward more individualised sport and active recreation pursuits that can be undertaken at times suitable to the participant. That said, there is still a critical place in communities for team sports and the benefits (socialisation, teamwork) that can be gained from this form of participation.

These participation trends should be closely monitored within the Marlborough context. MDC should consider these sporting trends as future sporting facility support is allocated.

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# 7 Marlborough District Sporting Facilities – An Overview

## 7.1 Current Situation

The Marlborough district has a significant range of sporting facilities for an area with relatively low population. This can be partly justified by the distance from other main centres (Nelson and Christchurch). Nelson is the closest urban area and many Marlborough based sports codes participate in "Top of the South" competitions.

Stadium 2000 is the regional facility for both indoor court and aquatic sports. This facility, owned by MDC and operated by a Trust, plays a critical role in the provision of space for a wide range of sports, either on a regular basis for training and competitions but also as an event venue for larger one-off activities for groups that usually use smaller, community facilities.

Although there are some newer sporting facilities in the district, the network of sporting facilities is generally ageing. MDC has looked at increased investment in the network recently, including the development of the Endeavour Sports Hub and the new hard courts and sports hub at Lansdowne Park.

MDC undertakes an annual survey of residents that asks for feedback on satisfaction levels of community facilities, of which parks and reserves, sports grounds and swimming pools are identified categories. On average residents indicate a consistent, high level of satisfaction for these areas of MDC provision[7].

The major sports facilities in the Marlborough District are identified below in table 7.1[8].

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[7] MDC Resident Survey results supplied for 2007-2013 & 2018

[8] A comprehensive inventory of all sporting facilities in Marlborough can be found via the Sport New Zealand Inventory Tool. The tool aims to capture details of all facilities in the Marlborough district and has been developed to assist local authorities and others in future facility planning.

*Table 7.1 Marlborough DC Sports Facilities*

| Facility | Main Sports Group Users | Comments |
|---|---|---|
| A&P Park | A&P Association, Canine Club, football | Older pavilion and changing rooms, utilised for a wide range of community events. |
| Athletic Park | Athletics, cycling (track), football, smallbore shooting | Full size field within cycle track. Artificial surface for long jump training. |
| Awarua Park | Rugby, tennis | A commitment to upgrade changing rooms for rugby. |
| Churchward Park | Riding for the Disabled, kart-sport | |
| College Park | Hockey, roller sports, rugby, cricket | Water-based artificial turf, roller sports track and surface, sports fields. |
| Endeavour Park | Rugby, football, cricket, netball, tennis | Picton's major sports hub facility, located adjacent to Queen Charlotte College. |
| Havelock Domain | Rugby, tennis, netball | Sports pavilion on site. |
| Horton Park | Cricket | Netball moved from Horton Park to Lansdowne Park in 2016. Horton Pavilion hired to other user groups. |
| Lansdowne Park | Rugby, softball, touch, netball, beach volleyball | Location of new sports hub facility under development. |
| Marlborough Equestrian Centre | Equestrian sports | Located at Botham's Bend. |
| Oliver Park | Football, cricket, rugby league | Standard sports park. |
| Pollard Park | Croquet, golf, tennis | Centrally located park, close to Waterlea Racecourse and Combined Schools site. All are exclusive lease areas. |
| Rewi Murray Polo Park | Polo in summer | Available capacity to cater for any growth in sports field sports. |
| Renwick Domain | Lawn bowls, tennis, rugby, football, cricket | The events centre is located at the Domain. |
| Seddon Domain | Tennis, netball, rugby , cricket | Community swimming pool also located at Domain however no formal swimming club.<br>Memorial Hall also used for indoor activities. Adjacent to Awatere Bowling Club. |
| Stadium 2000 | Aquatic sports (swimming, water polo, underwater hockey)<br>Indoor court sports (basketball, volleyball, netball, futsal)<br>squash | Marlborough's premier aquatic and indoor court facility, located in central Blenheim.<br><br>A range of other sporting user groups hire venue for larger events and tournaments. Also serves as the administration base for several codes. |
| Ward Domain | Casual tennis, pony club | Traditional domain. Pony club seeking an arena within the grounds. |
| Whitehead Park | Lawn bowls, croquet | Located adjacent to Rewi Murray Park. |

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There are also a large number of standalone facilities servicing single sports, such as golf, lawn bowls, tennis and others. Further detail can be found in section 8.0 that outlines various sporting code needs.

## 7.2 Sports Hubs

Marlborough District Council has placed significant emphasis through the investment in several high-profile multi-code, sport hub facilities (also known as Sportvilles). This support is confirmed through the MDC Sportsville Policy.

### 7.2.1 MDC Sportsville Policy

Marlborough District Council adopted the Sportsville Policy in 2016 to recognise the increasing importance of shared use facilities and the investment involved.

The Sportsville Policy identified seven core principles of Sportsville projects:

- Good governance
- Clarity of purpose
- Formal amalgamations are not always necessary
- Clustering of resources
- Staged progression
- Council support
- Club identity and development

The Council sees its roles in achieving success in these models as:

- Encouraging sports clubs and associations to develop Sportsville models.
- Supporting Sportsville projects through capital, financial and human resources.
- Prioritising requests for Council involvement in facilitating and supporting the development of Sportsville models.

Identification of Sportsville opportunities will be identified (amongst others) through projects identified in Strategies and Plans (such as this one).

### 7.2.2 MDC Sports Hubs

Existing MDC sports hubs are located in the following areas:

- Endeavour Park, Picton.
- Renwick Domain, Renwick.
- Awatere Hub, Seddon Domain.

The governance and operational model of these sports hubs is different from single purpose sports codes who hire or lease facilities for participation. Sports hubs require a governance structure, often independent of a council, to oversee the significant assets the sports hub is responsible for and to ensure the facilities are operated effectively. This additional complexity of a shared use facility can become a challenge for what are usually voluntary governance groups.

Two other sports hubs are either in concept stage or under development. The Lansdowne Hub is under construction and due to open in 2021. This is seen as the largest sports hub

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facility developed by MDC and will provide much needed changing rooms, administration and social spaces at Lansdowne Park. Several sports including Rugby, Netball, Touch, Volleyball and Softball have indicated they will utilise the hub in varying capacities. This hub may be further enhanced with the concept of the conversion of the existing rugby administration building into a high-performance training centre, incorporating onsite strength and conditioning spaces and equipment, alongside other specialist services such as sports medicine, physiotherapy and nutrition.

The A&P Pavilion upgrade is also proposed. This would see a new pavilion built on the park to provide public toilets, changing rooms, administration, and social spaces for existing user groups including the A&P Association and Marlborough Football. The pavilion would also be available for other community and sporting groups to hire.

## 7.3 Combined Schools Project

The Ministry of Education (MoE) has announced the development of a shared campus for Marlborough Girls College (MGC) and Marlborough Boys College (MBC). The proposed site is where the existing Marlborough Girls College and Bohally Intermediate are located, with Bohally being re-located on the existing MBC site.

In 2017 Sport New Zealand supported discussions to look for collaborative sports opportunities between the colleges and the wider community[9]. This report was developed based on a "Greenfields" site. The report was refreshed in 2019, reflecting the decision to use the McLauchlan St site.

The review considered 2019 school rolls for both colleges as well as potential use of community facilities by the schools' community and use of school facilities by the community.

The report made the following recommendations:

- A co-located college should co-locate sport and recreation in Blenheim, considering shared use opportunities with the wider community.
- Investment discussions with the MoE should take place on the proportion of school and community sharing and investment.
- A steering group related to this purpose continue beyond the MoE briefing process.
- Overall, the key recommendation was the need for greater consideration in the form of a recommended future assessment of the Co-Located Colleges' campus components, assets capacity and their proposed complementary nature to Stadium 2000, in both built and programme provision. This will assist specific design and the overall Business Case for the Co-Located Colleges and community investment.

The report also highlighted several recent case studies where Councils and the Education Sector have worked collaboratively and achieved enhanced outcomes for both the school community and the wider community.

[9] Geoff Canham Consulting (2019) Marlborough Boys and Marlborough Girls Colleges – New Schools Development Report Sport and Recreation Facilities

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The development of the Combined Schools' Master Plan is commencing in early 2021. Any discussions, negotiations and agreements need to occur in the short term to take advantage of this mutual opportunity.

### 7.3.1 Identified Needs

The 2019 report identified the sporting facility requirements for the combined schools. Details of these requirements can be found in appendix one. These needs have been further confirmed during the development of the MDC Sporting Facilities Plan. A summary of the combined schools 'requirements alongside identified community sport feedback and an indicative level of synergy on these types of facilities is outlined below in table 7.3:

*Table 7.3 Combined Schools' - Preliminary Assessment of Community Opportunities*

| Facility Type | Combined Schools' Requirements | Wider Community Sport Needs Identified | Level of Synergy (Low – Medium – High) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Indoor Courts | Four indoor courts (sprung floor or similar)<br><br>Dividable for various groups | Stadium 2000 at capacity during peak times. Community sport seeking additional court space. | High |
| Climbing Wall | Indoor Climbing wall to be used for Outdoor Education and Physical Education classes | No climbing wall within community (or Nelson area) for Tramping Club to offer training in climbing techniques. | High |
| Sports Fields | 1 – 3 Artificial sports turf field<br>6 natural grass fields | Additional quality floodlit training venues for winter codes. Demand pressures particularly high for football. | High |
| Hockey Turf | 2 Artificial hockey turfs | Existing single turf under demand pressure. Surface renewed in 2018. No guarantee of long-term lease of space. | High |
| Athletics Track+ | Off-site, artificial track | Athletics seek some upgrades to Athletic Park (long jump run up area). | Medium |
| Squash Courts+ | Existing courts at MBC are owned by the community | Ongoing Community access of existing courts is sought | Medium |
| Outdoor Hard Courts | 8 courts (4 per school) for P.E. and relevant sports | Currently use existing MGC courts as overflow for larger tennis tournaments. 15 Netball courts at Lansdowne. | Low |
| Beach Volleyball+ | Schools to use Lansdowne park site | Lansdowne Park courts have capacity for in-school time use. | Low |
| Swimming Pool | Provide a school-based pool | Stadium 2000 currently meeting the needs of aquatic sporting community. No significant demand pressures identified. | Low |
| A fitness suite | Two fitness suites, specific to needs. | No identified need from wider community. Potentially a more challenging partnership. | Low |

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| Facility Type | Combined Schools' Requirements | Wider Community Sport Needs Identified | Level of Synergy (Low – Medium – High) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Active Recreation Spaces | Nature and play based design incorporated into new campus | Out of scope for MDC Sports Facilities Plan. | - |
| Movement space | To be further investigated | Out of scope for MDC Sports Facilities Plan, however opportunity exists to explore community share model | - |

[+] Off Combined campus provision

## 7.4 Waterlea Racecourse

The Waterlea racecourse is located in close proximity to both the Combined Schools site and Lansdowne Park. The Waterlea racecourse has been the home of horse racing for over 100 years. The racecourse is a significant community facility, covering approximately 31 hectares of land.

Recent developments have seen the transfer of the ownership of the Racecourse to the Waterlea Park Charitable Trust 2020.

At this point of time it is unknown what future uses are proposed for Waterlea Park. However recent media reports[10] suggest the Trust has been given ownership of the Park to ensure ongoing community use of the space. Future use could see a wider sporting precinct being developed in the area for a wide range of user groups, pending approval of the Trust and identification of needs.

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[10] Wednesday Sun (12/08/20) *Waterlea gifted to Trust*

# 8 Marlborough Sporting Codes Identified Needs

During the development of this plan, sporting codes were asked to complete an online survey outlining the current status of their sport, their facility needs and any future plans they have for their code. Feedback indicates approximately 1/3 of groups reported an undersupply of space for their sport to train and / or participate. The facility related issues that were most prevalent were:

- Facilities not meeting modern specifications.
- Ageing facilities in need of upgrades.
- Lack of training lights and change rooms / toilet / storage amenities.
- More space required for their sporting activity.
- Uncertainty around the role the Combined Schools project may play in the future provision of community sporting facilities.

The following section provides a summary of each sport, by facility type. Local membership levels are based on feedback from the sporting codes. National trends are based on a compilation of Sport NZ data sets and the NZ Secondary School Sports Association annual participation data. Facility issues are those identified by the sporting codes.

## 8.1 Outdoor Field Sports

### 8.1.1 Cricket

Marlborough Cricket reports a total membership of 754 across six registered clubs and local schools. Membership is anticipated to increase based on the recent growth they have experienced in female participants.

Cricket relies on good weather conditions to help with wicket block and outfield management and Marlborough is ideally placed in this regard compared to many other regions.

Horton Park is the main venue used for cricket, alongside Oliver Park which also has multiple grass cricket blocks. Horton Park currently has three wicket blocks and all premier senior cricket games are played at this ground.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Facilities Used | • Horton Park (main venue)<br>• Oliver Park<br>• Renwick Domain<br>• Endeavour Park<br>• Simcox Stadium | | |
| Local membership trend (if known) | Increasing | National Trend (if known) | Decreasing |
| Facility Issues | • There is a reported current shortfall of training nets.<br>• Change rooms in Horton Park are not fit-for-purpose.<br>• Vehicular access to Horton Park Pavilion is challenging and limited.<br>• Indoor training venue is privately owned and space is limited for cricket training. | | |

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There are sufficient fields for cricket in Marlborough. There may be some emerging pressure for junior playing areas, however partnerships with existing school venues with artificial surfaces should be explored before there is any investment in additional infrastructure. Challenges revolve around practise venues, particularly access to indoor spaces. There is no publicly accessible indoor training venue for cricket. There is a limited supply of quality, outdoor cricket nets.

Marlborough Cricket has also identified the need to upgrade their aging pavilion facility at Horton Park. A Master Plan for Horton Park has been developed (in 2018) outlining the spatial requirements to meet Cricket's needs. The Preliminary Master Plan identified the spatial requirements for:

- A new pavilion,
- An indoor training area,
- New outdoor training nets,
- A reconfiguration of parking and access.

The Marlborough District Council Indoor [Cricket} Facility Preliminary Review developed in 2014 identified there "was no clear demand to develop an indoor cricket centre at that time.[11]"

Any new or upgraded pavilion or indoor training facility would require an element of shared use with other community groups to ensure sustainability.

Marlborough Cricket has indicated a willingness to undertake significant fundraising to support the development of a new centralised cricket pavilion at Horton Park, including the addition of indoor training functionality.

### 8.1.2 Football

Marlborough Football reports a total membership of approximately 2,000 across eight clubs. Football has experienced growth in participation over a long period of time and recently this has in particular been in the areas of young people and women.

While predominantly a winter sport, football also offers summer twilight leagues, therefore requiring year-round provision of fields.

There are field dimension sizes for various age groups that also need to be considered when allocating space for football. Recommended pitch sizes vary from 30 metre * 20 metre for games involving children under the age of nine, through to 70m x 50m for grades involving 11- and 12-year olds. Senior dimensions are approximately 90-100m X 60 – 80m, with some variation allowed.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Facilities Used | • A&P Park<br>• Athletic Park<br>• Endeavour Park<br>• Oliver Park<br>• Renwick Park | Football Is played across several parks in Marlborough.<br>The majority of games are played at A&P Park, Oliver Park and Athletic Park. Other fields are used occasionally for home |

[11] PRI Consultants (2014) Marlborough District Council Indoor [Cricket} Facility Preliminary Review

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| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | • Lansdowne Park (special events) | games (e.g. Endeavour Park, Renwick Park) or higher-level fixtures (e.g. Lansdowne Park) | |
| Local membership trend (if known) | Increasing | National Trend (if known) | Increasing |
| Facility Issues | • Football has limited fields that have lights that allow for evening training. Some teams cannot train due to undersupply.<br>• Youth teams are currently playing on fields too large for their grade (and ability).<br>• Football administration facilities are not fit for purpose. | | |

In 2019 MDC commissioned a feasibility report on the future of the A&P Pavilion. The report identified the existing pavilion is no longer fit for purpose and proposed the development of a new purpose-built community hub in the vicinity of the recently demolished grandstand.

### 8.1.3 Rugby Union

Marlborough Rugby is overseen by the Tasman Rugby Union (TRU) with support from the Marlborough Rugby Sub-Union (MRSU). Membership in Marlborough is reported at approximately 1,440 players, with 67% of members participating in junior and secondary school grades. TRU believe in the importance of both strong professional and community games.

There are six clubs in the Marlborough district. There are a number of cross-over games between the MRSU teams and teams from Nelson Bays.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Facilities Used | • Lansdowne Park<br>• Awarua Park<br>• Endeavour Park<br>• Renwick Domain<br>• Seddon Domain | Lansdowne Park is the first-class venue, used for National Provincial Championship games. Club games are dispersed around the various venues. | |
| Local membership trend (if known) | Decreasing | National Trend (if known) | Decreasing |
| Facility Issues | • Playing surface at Lansdowne No. 1 (scheduled upgrade in Dec 2020).<br>• Variable ground conditions across the network.<br>• Some training field flood lighting issues reported.<br>• Hub facility will address toilet access at Lansdowne.<br>• Change room upgrades at Awarua Domain (scheduled). | | |

The new Hub facility being developed at Lansdowne Park will be available for Rugby to utilise for training, administration and social gatherings. The TRU has indicated an interest in utilising the Hub facility for their Marlborough based sports administration needs and

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corporate hosting. The TRU sees advantages in additional spectator seating at the Hub end of Lansdowne park, to allow for corporate hosting at higher level games.

The TRU is investigating an upgrade to the Rai Valley School grounds to allow high performance squads to train at the grounds; effectively being the mid-point between Blenheim and Nelson. This would not be seen as an optimal addition to the network of community sports fields given the travel distance required and that there are enough fields to meet current and projected demand in Marlborough.

The need for increased quality of floodlighting is a relatively common theme across sports fields. This can only occur if the capacity of the turf at the field to be floodlit is at a level that allows increased use.

### 8.1.4 Touch

Marlborough Touch facilitates touch participation. There are approximately 1,700 people in Marlborough who play touch. Marlborough Touch want to get more high school age players participating regularly. Touch New Zealand is also looking to promote more social participation at a family/whanau level. Touch operates a centralised, module-based competition.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Facilities Used | • Lansdowne Park | | |
| Local membership trend (if known) | Increasing | National Trend (if known) | Stable |
| Facility Issues | • There is an undersupply of fields for touch.<br>• Field dimensions do not meet Touch NZ specifications<br>• The No 1 Rugby field and the netball courts at Lansdowne Park divide the touch fields into two areas making it difficult to administer games.<br>• Roles and responsibilities for the cleaning of amenity blocks needs to be confirmed. | | |

### 8.1.5 Rugby League

Tasman Rugby League is responsible for the running of the game across Marlborough and Nelson / Tasman and responded to requests for information. There is no adult competition within Marlborough. However, there is an attempt to resurrect a rugby league competition in Tasman that could include teams from Marlborough, if there was interest. There are some junior teams that play locally. The regional body, Tasman Rugby League, report there are sufficient facilities to meet demand.

Given the number of participants is small and the generic requirements of the code (playing field, change rooms etc) their needs can be met from the existing network of grounds. Oliver Park has a field available for teams, when the need arises. Should demand significantly increase there may be a case to consider re-allocation of existing sports fields.

## 8.2 Outdoor Hard Courts

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### 8.2.1 Netball

Marlborough Netball runs a centralised model of competition. All grades, except for Premiers, are held at the recently developed Lansdowne Park courts. Premier netball is played at Stadium 2000.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Facilities Used | • Lansdowne Park<br>• Stadium 2000<br>• Endeavour Park | | |
| Local membership trend (if known) | Increasing | National Trend (if known) | Stable |
| Facility Issues | • Plans to cover 3 or 4 courts.<br>• Limited availability of indoor courts.<br>• Key user of new Sports Hub, including change areas. | | |

Netball is looking to capitalise on the opportunities that the new Sports Hub facility at Lansdowne Park will bring.

Marlborough Netball want to cover some of the netball courts. Should these courts be covered it would reduce some demand pressures at Stadium 2000, however care would need to be taken to ensure the playing surface and surrounds at Lansdowne can be used by multiple codes to maximise usage and enhance sustainability. The next logical step for this would be to undertake a feasibility study to ascertain actual demand and needs from Netball and other user groups and how these can be best met.

### 8.2.2 Tennis

The Marlborough Tennis Association co-ordinates tennis activity within the area. There are 488 registered members of tennis clubs. Tennis operate a hub and spoke model of facility provision. A large facility exists at Pollard Park with smaller clubs based on several other reserves and schools in Marlborough. There are also public courts within Marlborough.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Facilities Used | • Pollard Park (16)<br>• Endeavour Park (2)<br>• Rapaura Recreation Reserve (6 grass)<br>• Renwick Domain (3)<br>• Awarua Park (2)<br>• Seddon Domain (2) | Pollard Park is seen as the regional centre for tennis competitions. There are currently five flood lit courts at Pollard Park,. |

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| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Local membership trend (if known) | Increasing | National Trend (if known) | Stable |
| Facility Issues | • Plans to provide further floodlighting for five existing courts at Pollard Park<br>• Plans for an additional court at Renwick Domain | | |

Tennis also utilises courts located on school grounds. The Marlborough Girls College venue has eight marked courts that are used for overflow for large scale tournaments hosted by the Marlborough Tennis Association. The future of these courts is currently unknown. Grovetown School (2 courts) is used for some club activities. Other school courts include Witherlea, Renwick and Springlands.

Rapaura Reserve Courts are only available to use in warmer months due to the grass surface. An opportunity exists to potentially upgrade the courts at Awarua Park for increased club and casual use. This could be completely as a standalone project or considered as part of a wider Awarua Park development plan.

## 8.3 Indoor Courts

### 8.3.1 Badminton

Badminton Marlborough co-ordinates the sport of badminton. There are approximately 110 members within Marlborough.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Facilities Used | • Simcox Stadium<br>• Stadium 2000<br>• Queen Charlotte College<br>• St Mary's Parish Hall | No regular time slot available at Stadium 2000. | |
| Local membership trend (if known) | Not known | National Trend (if known) | Increasing |
| Facility Issues | • Gaining regular access to Stadium 2000. | | |

Badminton hires Simcox Stadium in Blenheim for any training and competition. The cost of hiring facilities is perceived as too high by Badminton Marlborough[12].

### 8.3.2 Basketball

Marlborough Basketball co-ordinates local basketball competitions. There are 1,444 participants in basketball in Marlborough and this figure is reported to be increasing. Basketball is also experiencing growth at a national level, particularly among children and youth aged players.

[12] Regional Sport & Active Recreation Spaces and Places Strategy for the Top of the South Island (2020)

Basketball is mostly played indoors in New Zealand. There are a range of competitions held year-round at Stadium 2000. Marlborough Basketball do not use any school facilities to supplement Stadium 2000 as they are considered undersize[13].

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Facilities Used | • Stadium 2000 | | |
| Local membership trend (if known) | Increasing | National Trend (if known) | Increasing |
| Facility Issues | • Actively suppressing demand due to lack of court space, particularly in peak times. | | |

Basketball regularly hire the indoor courts and based on regular bookings would be the most regular hirer. There are three full size indoor courts with three additional outdoor ½ courts being developed. Stadium 2000 is interested in upgrading the surface of the outdoor 3-on-3 hardcourts to help alleviate some of the demand pressures of the indoor courts.

### 8.3.3 Table Tennis

Table Tennis is a relatively small participation sport in Marlborough. There are currently 73 participants in local competitions and this number has remained relatively stable over time.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Facilities Used | • Simcox Stadium | | |
| Local membership trend (if known) | Stable | National Trend (if known) | Stable |
| Facility Issues | • Tables are required to be put up and packed away after each session.<br>• Marlborough Table Tennis Association report adequate access to and supply of competition and training facilities. | | |

Table Tennis is one of a group of smaller participation, hard-court sports that hire space at the privately operated Simcox Stadium. Table Tennis are required to set up and pack down their equipment after each session. They currently have the ability to host eight tables.

### 8.3.4 Futsal

Futsal is an indoor version of football, played with a smaller sized ball. While a competitive futsal court is approximately 20m x 40m most under age and social games can be played on a court marked out for either basketball or netball. Futsal is played at Stadium 2000. Marlborough Football offer year-round opportunities for young people aged 5-16 years, across five different age groupings. Social Futsal is also played at Stadium 2000.

[13] Email comms with Marlborough Basketball Association 14/08/2020

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### 8.3.5 Indoor Bowls

Indoor Bowls is overseen by the Marlborough Indoor Bowls Association. There are 210 members from approximately 10 feeder clubs. Indoor Bowls hire all facilities related to the sport. Simcox Stadium is used for representative tournaments and is seen as the central venue where clubs come together for larger events and competitions. Redwoodtown hall is hired for representative training as the cost of hire of Simxcox is seen as being prohibitive for training purposes.

While the playing space provided at Simcox Stadium is regarded as adequate it has to be shared with other sports such as Table Tennis and Badminton. Indoor bowls report the level of the floor is not "true". Mats need to be laid down avoiding the line markings on the floor of other sports, limiting how the mats are laid out.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Facilities Used | • Simcox Stadium<br>• Clubs of Marlborough, school and community halls | | |
| Local membership trend (if known) | Stable | National Trend (if known) | Stable |
| Facility Issues | • Simcox Stadium floor not level.<br>• Other sports line markings inhibit the number of mats and where they can be laid out. | | |

There is adequate supply of venues for indoor bowls in Marlborough, acknowledging that mats need to be set up and put away after each session. There is a risk that hire arrangements at Simcox Stadium may change with short notice.

### 8.3.6 Volleyball

Marlborough Volleyball coordinate the sport's activities for approximately 440 players.

Marlborough Volleyball run competitions from Stadium 2000 and report the facility is fit for purpose.

Feedback from Marlborough Volleyball indicates the type of sand used for the beach courts at Lansdowne Park does not meet the requirements of Volleyball New Zealand (VNZ) for tournaments. A change of sand type would allow Marlborough Volleyball to host tournaments such as the NZ Masters events.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Facilities Used | • Stadium 2000 (Indoor)<br>• Lansdowne Park (Beach) | | |
| Local membership trend (if known) | Increasing | National Trend (if known) | Increasing |

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| | |
|---|---|
| Facility Issues | • Sand type at Lansdowne Park does not comply with VNZ standards.<br>• No seating adjacent to Beach Volleyball area. |

### 8.3.7 Netball

Netball use Stadium 2000 for some higher-level competition games. For more detail see the Outdoor Hard Courts section of this report.

## 8.4 Other Indoor Sports (with Specialist Requirements)

There are a number of other sports that are played indoors but do not use general court space such as that which is available at Stadium 2000. These sports often have specialist requirements that cannot be accommodated in a shared use environment.

### 8.4.1 Gymnastics

The Blenheim Gymnastics Club is the only Gymnastics Club in Marlborough. There are 300 members who participate at a club building located on Opawa Street. It is approximately 900m$^2$ and meets local level participation needs. Gymnastics use Stadium 2000 for larger events.

A national Gymsports Facility Strategy was completed in 2017 that highlighted the current facilities in Marlborough did not meet the needs of the relevant clubs[14].

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Facilities Used | • Opawa St | | |
| Local membership trend (if known) | Increasing | National Trend (if known) | Stable |
| Facility Issues | • Older style warehouse (seismic strengthening complete). Cost of new facility beyond the means of child-based club.<br>• Hired to other user groups when available.<br>• Limited use of Stadium 2000 due to hire costs. | | |

A high level of utilisation by the gymnastics club (approximately 42 hours per week). Gymnastics requires a significant amount of specialist equipment and matting to be put in place in order to participate. It is reasonably impractical for this equipment to be set up and packed away for each session. A facility that is dedicated to gymnastics is a practical and common-sense approach. There is an ability for some other user groups to utilise some areas within the current facility, such as martial arts and low impact exercise groups, should there be available time.

### 8.4.2 Martial Arts

[14] Gymsports NZ (2017) Gymsports National Facility Strategy

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Martial arts is the term used for a wide range of self-defence and combat skill activities.

Blenheim Seido Karate responded to the online survey. They operate from the Senior Citizens Hall and acknowledge the importance of a wooden floor.

While no other responses were received there are several other martial arts studios operating in Blenheim, generally utilising school and community halls.

Stadium 2000 is used for larger scale events. There are no reported facility issues.

### 8.4.3 Smallbore Shooting

There are a number of gun clubs located in Marlborough. Two survey responses were received from smallbore rifle clubs.

The Services Smallbore Rifle Club (SSRC) reported having 15 members and the Blenheim Smallbore Rifle Club (BSRC) reported having 12 members.

The SSRC (based at the Clubs of Marlborough) report no significant facility issues while the BSRC located at Athletic Park indicated their facility was not up to current building standards with regard to accessibility and poor parking conditions.

### 8.4.4 Squash

There are two squash clubs in Marlborough with approximately 175 squash members. This is made up by a mix of regular and casual participants.

One club is based at Stadium 2000 (four courts) and the other utilises the courts located at Marlborough Boys College (three courts). As with many sports, peak times see high demand for court bookings. Squash has also identified opportunities for newer, interactive games to encourage young people to become involved. Stadium 2000 air conditioning is reported to provide inconsistent temperatures and there is limited access to a space for social functions.

There are enough courts to meet the demand in Marlborough.

The long-term future of the squash courts at MBC is unknown. The courts are owned by the squash club but are on land leased from Iwi. There will need to be discussions between asset owners to determine the long-term future of these courts.

## 8.5 Aquatic Sports – Indoors

### 8.5.1 Swimming, Water Polo, Underwater Hockey

This section covers competitive swimming, water polo and underwater hockey. A range of user groups access the indoor (and outdoor) pools at Stadium 2000. These pools are public pools, owned by MDC and operated by the Stadium 2000 Trust. The range of user groups is far broader than just sports clubs. As such sports clubs need to book pool space for their activities.

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Often sports clubs require pool space during peak times. Therefore, there is an acknowledged level of compromise to ensure enough space can be provided for all those who need pool space.

The National Aquatics Strategy[15] commissioned by Sport NZ indicates the Stadium 2000 facility is capable of hosting regional events / competitions for Swimming, Water Polo, Canoe Polo, Lifesaving, Underwater Hockey and Synchronised Swimming.

There are a number of school pools in the Marlborough District that provide a place for school communities to have water-based experiences such as learn to swim and water safety.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Facilities Used | • Stadium 2000 | Indoor and outdoor lane pools<br>Spa / Sauna<br>Health and Fitness Suite<br>Meeting and administration spaces<br>Storage | |
| Local membership trend (if known) | Swimming –stable<br>Waterpolo – n/a<br>Underwater Hockey – increase | National Trend (if known) | All stable |
| Facility Issues | • No significant aquatic facility issues reported | | |

## 8.6 Aquatic Sports – Outdoors

There are a number of sporting codes that utilise natural waterways for sporting activity. While there are minimal changes to the "on water" aspects for the codes there are a number of "off water" requirements that need to be considered.

### 8.6.1 Rowing

There are three clubs and three secondary schools participating in rowing in Marlborough[16]. The participants may be members of both a school and a club, therefore it can be difficult to ascertain exact participation numbers. It is estimated Marlborough caters for approximately 150 rowers.

Rowing occurs on the Wairau River and in Queen Charlotte Sound.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Facilities Used | • Wairau Rowing Club<br>• Blenheim Rowing Club<br>• Picton Rowing Club | |

[15] Aurecon (20XX) *National Aquatic Facilities Strategy.* Produced for Sport New Zealand

[16] www.Rowit.nz , a database for rowing participation in regattas lists six clubs in Marlborough but no details could be found of recent participation by a number of these clubs.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Local membership trend (if known) | Stable | National Trend (if known) | Stable |
| Facility Issues | • Escalating insurance costs.<br>• Older clubroom facilities on Wairau River. Blenheim Rowing Club report requiring upgraded ablution facilities.<br>• MBC Rowing Club has indicated they intend to move to the Wairau Club base. | | |

### 8.6.2 Canoeing

Organised canoeing in Marlborough is coordinated by the Marlborough Triathlon and Multisport Club. The club has a membership of approximately 50.

The club has no facilities of their own and access the Wairau River from the Wairau Rowing Club beach. There is currently no access to toilets or changing facilities and the club is interested in shared facility options.

### 8.6.3 Yachting

The sport of yachting is synonymous with the Marlborough Sounds. While the majority of activity is recreational by nature there is some sporting activity. The Queen Charlotte Yacht Club has a reported membership of 380. This is anticipated to increase with the development of the new facility in Picton.

Yachting is one of many sports that has indicated the increasing resources required to comply with more rigorous health and safety requirements. The QCYC envisage the new facility being multi-use and inclusive of other water sport user groups.

### 8.6.4 Waka Ama

Waikawa Waka Ama Whanau operate a club from the shores of the Waikawa and Picton foreshores. Short-term waka storage is provided by Port Marlborough New Zealand Limited at the Waikawa Marina. Waka Ama are interested in pursuing the use of the Arapawa Rowing Club sheds as a base for storing waka and other related equipment.

Larger waka are very long (approx. 13 metres) requiring lengthy storage space. Secure hard stands provide a cost-effective option for storing waka.

### 8.6.5 Water Skiing

Competitive water skiing is undertaken by approximately 20 participants in Marlborough. The Marlborough Water Ski Club is seeking use of private waterways.

## 8.7 Specialised Surfaces

There are some sports where a specific surface is required that is potentially more difficult for other user groups to share.

### 8.7.1 Golf

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There are seven golf clubs in the Marlborough district. Of the seven clubs, five are nine-hole courses. MDC leases apply to the Blenheim Golf Club, Wairau Valley Golf Club and Awatere Golf Club. Marlborough has a geographically dispersed network of golf facilities, reflective of the population.

Participation in golf clubs is generally moving from regular membership towards casual green fee players.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Facilities Used | • Awatere Golf Club<br>• Blenheim Golf Club<br>• Marlborough Golf Club<br>• Nopera Golf Club<br>• Picton Golf Club<br>• Rarangi Golf Club<br>• Wairau Valley Golf Club | | |
| Local membership trend (if known) | Unknown | National Trend (if known) | A move from membership to casual green fee players |
| Facility Issues | • No significant issues identified | | |

The national facilities strategy for golf, developed in 2013, highlighted some critical issues across the network of golf facilities:

- Lack of income diversity and at the same time increasing operational costs
- Lack of genuine differentiation between courses (too many 18 hole courses)
- Untapped target markets
- Time is the critical barrier that influences casual golfers
- Ongoing financial sustainability of smaller clubs

### 8.7.2 Hockey

Hockey Marlborough oversees hockey in Marlborough. There is a reported membership of 584. The majority of players are in the 5-12-year age range. The sport has moved from grass to artificial turfs and is now centralised at the single water-based turf located at College Park in Blenheim.

The national Hockey Facility Strategy was developed in 2010 and updated in 2016. The 2016 updated strategy indicated potential demand for additional turf space for Hockey in Marlborough following local analysis.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Facilities Used | • College Park Artificial Turf | | |
| Local membership trend (if known) | Increasing | National Trend (if known) | Increasing |

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| | |
|---|---|
| Facility Issues | • There is a reported under supply of artificial turf for both training and games. Hockey has indicated the need for additional turf space.<br>• Existing site is part of College Park lease with Rangitāne, this lease has 8 years to run. |

In the short-term possible use of school multi-use turfs as training spaces for junior teams should be pursued. This may alleviate pressure on the only designated artificial hockey turf.

The existing turf and shock-pad at College Park were replaced in 2018. The turf will need to be renewed in approximately 10-12 years (2028-2030). Hockey relies on third party funders to renew turfs.

In the medium-term further investigations should occur to assess the need for additional turf space and or possible new location due to time the lease has to run.

### 8.7.3 Roller Sports

Roller sports is overseen by the Blenheim Roller Skating Club and has a membership of approximately 50. Membership is relatively stable.

A rink and bank track are located at the College Park precinct, alongside the Hockey Turf. The track does not meet NZ Standards regarding width. The rink requires ongoing maintenance and the Club has identified the need for additional shade in summer months. The ancillary building is in poor condition.

The Lansdowne Netball Courts and Athletic Park Cycling Track are used for speed skating. Artistic and Speed Skating use Stadium 2000.

### 8.7.4 Lawn Bowls

The Marlborough Bowls Association (MBA) is responsible for overseeing the sport of bowls in Marlborough. There are approximately 430 members with a large percentage aged 70 years or older. The MBA report a decreasing membership. This is in line with national trends for the sport. There are several clubs in Marlborough with memberships of approximately 20.

The national facilities strategy for bowls indicates that for a club to be sustainable a membership of approximately 187 is required, with single club communities being an exception. Using this metric, the Bowling Club facilities within the Blenheim area could be considered for consolidation.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Facilities Used | • Awatere Bowling Club<br>• Blenheim Bowling Club<br>• Havelock Bowling Club<br>• Picton Bowling Club<br>• Renwick Bowling Club<br>• Riverside Bowling Club<br>• Springlands Bowling Club<br>• Whitehead Park | | |
| Local membership trend (if known) | Decreasing | National Trend (if known) | Decreasing |

| | |
|---|---|
| Facility Issues | • An over-supply of grass greens<br>• An undersupply of all-weather greens |

Bowls in Marlborough is in a similar position to many regions of New Zealand; declining membership placing sustainability pressures on clubs. While an ageing population may slow down the decline in membership in some clubs an opportunity exists to investigate additional (covered) all-weather greens, potentially as part of wider sports hub developments, to ensure the sharing of some facilities. Existing bowling clubs within suburban Blenheim may in the future be suited as wider community hubs to cater for a broad range of activities for older adults and others.

In some regions bowling clubs have pooled resources to develop covered greens that ensure the game can be played throughout the year.

### 8.7.5 Croquet

Croquet is played at two venues in Blenheim[17]. There is a total of 89 members across the Brooklyn and Blenheim Croquet clubs. A total of 10 lawns exist across the two venues, suggesting there is adequate supply of playing surfaces for the sport.

Croquet are interested in engaging more young people through the introduction of the Croquet NZ secondary schools' programme.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Facilities Used | • Pollard Park<br>• Whitehead Park | | |
| Local membership trend (if known) | Slight increase | National Trend (if known) | Stable |
| Facility Issues | • Lawns are in a good condition.<br>• Would like access to Hockey turf for training opportunities.<br>• Increasing operational costs.<br>• Lack professional turf specialists to maintain lawns. | | |

### 8.7.6 Track Cycling

There are 50 track cyclists registered with Cycling Marlborough. Athletic Park is home to Track Cycling in Marlborough. The outdoor track was constructed in (circa) 1960 and is not seen as a fit-for-purpose competition venue now that indoor velodromes and smaller sized outdoor velodromes have been constructed throughout the country[18].

A new outdoor velodrome has been constructed in the Nelson area which is suitable for regional competitions. The development of an indoor velodrome in Marlborough (as a standalone facility) would be very difficult to justify. Any future developments would need to consider the ability for use by other user groups[19].

[17] Croquet has also been observed at Nopera Golf Club

[18] New velodromes are generally 250m in length. The Athletic Park track is approximately 440m.

[19] An example is the ILT Velodrome in Southland that has indoor courts in the centre of the track that can be used for tennis and other activities.

### 8.7.7 Athletics

Athletic Park is the home for athletics. There is a grass track (reported to be in excellent condition) and a purpose-built long jump run up area. There is an older style stadium, complemented with two sets of bleachers.

Athletics has requested the development of an all-weather running track for winter training. This would not need to be a full 400m track. It could be a "j-track" which would be approximately 200m and allow for curve training.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Facilities Used | • Athletic Park | | |
| Local membership trend (if known) | Increase | National Trend (if known) | Stable |
| Facility Issues | • Ageing long jump facilities.<br>• Lack of all-weather surface for training and competitions. | | |

Athletics would like to be able to erect some advertising signage to generate revenue to contribute to an all-weather surface.

### 8.7.8 Softball

The Marlborough Softball Association coordinates the game in the area. There are 250 registered players involved in the game. 70% of participants are primary school aged, 20% youth and 10% adults.

Softball is centralised at Lansdowne Park. There is a permanent softball diamond "skin" and two grass diamonds. There is space for other grass softball diamonds should the sport experience growth.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Facilities Used | • Lansdowne Park | | |
| Local membership trend (if known) | Increase | National Trend (if known) | Decline |
| Facility Issues | • Lack of accessible storage facility.<br>• Accessibility and visibility of current playing fields.<br>• Difficult to link with the new Sports Hub building given softball's location on Lansdowne Park.<br>• Fencing does not meet NZ Softball requirements (1.8m height.)<br>• Toilets in poor condition. | | |

## 8.8 Motor Sports

### 8.8.1 Speedway

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Eastern States Speedway is located off Pak Lims Road, near Renwick. The club offers motorsport activities and leases land from the MDC, which is due for renewal shortly[20]. The club wants to upgrade the floodlighting and install a modern toilet block.

Any developments by speedway should be after a new lease is confirmed.

### 8.8.2 Jetboating

Jetboating share local waterways with other users. There are approximately 170 members of the Nelson-Marlborough Branch of Jet Boating NZ. Numbers just for Marlborough were not supplied.

Jetboating also provides an important search and rescue capability for the area. Securing ongoing access to waterways and launching sites are key focus areas of the Branch.

## 8.9 Other Outdoor Sports

### 8.9.1 Canine Training

The Blenheim Canine training Club operates from the A&P Park. It has a small facility with storage on site. The club has 50 members and offers dog training classes for the wider dog owning community. The club hosts several events each year. The identified facility needs are:

- An additional 15 metres of space adjacent to the current arena to allow a consistent surface for existing trial events.
- An additional ring (30m x 40m) that would allow the hosting of two championship shows to be held annually. Currently the club is required to re-locate for these larger events.
- Permission to park campervans overnight on the grounds during events.

### 8.9.2 Equine Sports

Blenheim Polo Club responded to requests for information. They currently have a membership of approximately 15 and the facilities are adequate for the numbers and level of play. The club note previously planned ablution facilities at Rewi Murray Polo Park were difficult to justify.

There are a number of other equine sports, with much of the activity occurring on private land including three Pony Clubs regularly holding pony rallies throughout Marlborough[21]. Bothams Bend is the home of the Marlborough Equestrian Park. The establishment of the Park was a direct outcome of the recommendations of the Marlborough District Council Outdoor Sports Facilities Plan 2010.

### 8.9.3 Mountain Biking

[20] Email correspondence with Eastern States Speedway 13/08/2020

[21] https://www.sporty.co.nz/marlboroughpc/Home

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The Marlborough Mountain Bike Club report an increasing membership. However, unlike many sporting activities there is a significant variation between membership of mountain biking as a sport and participation in mountain biking as an activity.

Marlborough has a variety of mountain biking terrain. The most well-known tracks are at the Wither Hills Farm Park in Blenheim and Victoria Domain in Picton. There are over 50 kilometres of cycling and walking tracks at the Wither Hills Farm Park and 30 kilometres of tracks at Victoria Domain. Tracks can be closed due to fire risk, limiting options during the periods of the year when mountain biking is most popular.

Whites Bay and the Mt Robertson trails are also popular locations while multi-day rides can also be undertaken in Marlborough, such as on the Queen Charlotte shared use track operated by the Department of Conservation. The Jentree Mountain Bike park is a privately owned area on Taylor Pass that is working to establish a world-class mountain bike destination park.

### 8.9.4 Cyclocross

Cyclocross relies on the use of open spaces (parks, reserves and river side stop banks) to form circuit courses for events. There are approximately 120 participants in cyclocross activities in Marlborough. The sport runs a pay as you go model and relies on venues that have toilet facilities to lower the operating costs. The cyclocross organisers would like to have access to other community facilities as a club.

### 8.9.5 Orienteering

The sport of Orienteering has a membership of approximately 80 people. It relies on using public open spaces to set up courses for participants to complete. Events usually start and end at a car park and traverse several open space areas.

Orienteering would like to have a secure storage area for their event trailer and are open to sharing with other groups. A shared meeting room would also be beneficial for training purposes.

### 8.9.6 Tramping

Tramping facilities such as walking tracks, shelters and overnight huts are not included in the scope of this report. However, two points of interest to arise from the Tramping Club's response are:

- Membership has doubled since the Covid-19 enforced lockdown period. This is perhaps a reflection of the community's desire for a greater connection with the great outdoors during this time.
- There is no artificial rock-climbing wall in the top of the South. A rock-climbing wall allows trampers and climbers to practise techniques in a controlled environment.

### 8.9.7 Road Cycling

Cycling identified the need for a criterium circuit that would be separate from the roading network to eliminate the need for costly and sometimes prohibitive road closures and traffic management plans.

### 8.9.8 Marching

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The Marlborough Marching Association report a membership of 30 marchers. Training can occur at most grounds or halls. Stadium 2000 is the only indoor venue large enough to host marching competitions. Lansdowne Park hard courts provides an ideal training venue.

### 8.9.9 Triathlon / Multisport Club

*See Canoeing*

### 8.9.10 Snow Skiing

Rainbow Ski field is located some 2.5 hours' drive from Blenheim. The Rainbow Ski Club responded to the online survey and stated snowmaking and grooming equipment require upgrades. Areas of the ski field used for competitive races also require additional upgrade works.

The committee is working on a plan to increase use of the facilities including summertime use. The club would like to build accommodation on the mountain so that school groups can use it in summer and winter.

### 8.9.11 Outward Bound

Outward Bound is a significant provider of personal development courses. Located at Anakiwa and hosting approximately 1,900 "students" per year, Outward Bound reports their facilities are currently fit-for-purpose.

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# 9 Sports Facility Summary

The following section provides a summary by facility type of the discussions with sporting codes and further analysis around possible solutions to meet identified needs.

## 9.1 Sports Hubs

Sports hubs are re-shaping the provision of sport in Marlborough. Renwick, Endeavour and the Awatere hubs are all home to multiple sporting codes, sharing the benefits of co-location.

MDC has significantly invested in these sports hubs and this investment could be further enhanced through the creation of a role to provide coordination, support and guidance to sports hubs. This role would be timely given the current development of the Lansdowne Park hub and a possible sports hub at A&P Park.

## 9.2 Sports Fields

MDC has a network of sports fields, predominantly providing for community sport activities. The major users of sports fields are Cricket and Touch in summer months and Football and Rugby Union in winter. There is an increasing demand from some codes for access to fields at times other than their traditional season (e.g. summer Football). Many older facilities do not have change rooms that are suitable for use by female participants.

Football report a lack of floodlit training capacity. A&P Park is not suitable for an artificial surface given the other user requirements of this park. Therefore, any formal investigations should consider the evidence of need and potential locations.

An additional factor for consideration is the proposal to develop a new pavilion at the A&P Park. Marlborough Football has indicated the desire to centralise administration, train and playing functions at A&P Park. If an artificial turf is warranted, then the development of this pavilion may need to be re-assessed. This would not reduce the need for the new changing rooms at A&P Park.

Marlborough Cricket has indicated their intent to re-develop their offering at Horton Park. With Netball now played at Lansdowne there is some additional space for cricket, and other user groups that may want to share space[22]. The Master Plan developed for Horton Park has indicated “a significant element of shared use with others is considered a critical factor in the ongoing sustainability” for the Pavilion[23]. The Master Plan highlights there is space available for additional shared use facilities if there is an identified need. The Master Plan recommends that the needs of Cricket and potential partners are tested through a formal feasibility and business case process.

[22] Judo is a current regular hirer of the facility.
[23] (2018) Horton Park Preliminary Master Plan

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## 9.3 Outdoor Hard Courts

The Lansdowne Park hard courts used by netball (and occasionally by some other codes) are recently developed and in excellent condition. There is potential for some of these courts to be covered with a canopy structure to provide shelter from the elements.

Other sports codes would also benefit from the covered courts either directly or indirectly. Sports would be able to use the covered courts while at the same time this would alleviate some demand pressures at Stadium 2000 should all Netball revert to the Lansdowne courts. There is a trend for Netball to move indoors, for climate and health and safety reasons.

Tennis has a number of clubs in the district and has identified additional floodlit courts would benefit the code.

Stadium 2000 is working with MDC to install 3-on-3 outdoor basketball courts that can help with capacity issues, provided the playing surface is fit for purpose.

## 9.4 Indoor Courts

Current facilities are at capacity during peak periods with several codes actively suppressing demand (including Basketball and Futsal). This has been identified as a significant issue in the *Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Strategy for the Top of the South Island*[24].

Stadium 2000 reports maximum capacity of the indoor courts (particularly during the peak week night hours). This has been exacerbated as more codes have sought indoor court space over time (Netball moving some competitions and training indoors, Futsal establishing leagues along with the steady growth of Basketball). It is reported that the Woodbourne court is difficult to book.

The outcome of proposed discussions with the Combined Schools project have a significant impact on actions which should be taken by MDC. The Marlborough District has an opportunity to address peak time capacity issues through a shared use model for the proposed facilities at the Combined Schools site. This would allow school use during those times during the day that are generally quieter and wider community use when required.

There are several options that could be investigated to increase the indoor court capacity:

- Use of the proposed covered courts at Lansdowne Park, depending on surface specifications.
- Hire of local school halls, while not regulation size for Basketball, could be used by junior teams for practice and / or games to reduced demand pressures at Stadium 2000.
- Investigate alternative new court facility (only if all other options are not deemed viable).
- Co-investing in the combined school indoor courts to ensure they meet community sport requirements.

[24] Draft document, pending outcomes of consultation.

A shared use model between community and schools is gaining in popularity. Recent examples illustrate where investment from both the Education sector and the wider community has seen better outcomes for both parties[25].

Gymnastics requires a space where equipment can remain in place and is not required to be packed away after each session. The current facility, although older, is currently a workable solution.

Two smaller Smallbore Shooting Clubs operate in Blenheim. Should any requests be made of MDC, consideration should be given to a shared use model by both clubs at an existing venue.

Squash operates at two venues. The future of the squash courts at the MBC site is not confirmed. Should squash remain as part of the school swap with Bohally then no additional action is required.

## 9.5 Indoor Aquatic Facilities

The Stadium 2000 facility is currently meeting the needs of aquatic sporting user groups. The National Aquatics Facility Strategy considers there is sufficient water space to meet the wider needs of the Marlborough population.

An opportunity may exist to form an operating partnership with the Combined Schools to access their pool (if one is retained or developed) for additional learn to swim space, should demand warrant this.

## 9.6 Outdoor Aquatic Spaces

There are further opportunities to cluster activities around facilities:

Stakeholder feedback recommended a shared use toilet shower block servicing the various groups using the Wairau River.

The Queen Charlotte Yacht Club is interested in opening up their facility to other user groups. This presents itself as an opportunity for others located in the area to negotiate access agreements.

## 9.7 Other Specialist Sports Facilities

There are a wide range of sports that require specialist facilities to train or compete.

Hockey is currently played at College Park. Short term solutions to demand pressures include the use of existing school multi-turfs for lower level training. At the same time, and

[25] The Peak complex in Rototuna, Hamilton is a new $9.2m, four court venue, (opened in 2017) operated by a Trust with shared investment between Hamilton CC and MoE.



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pending the Combined Schools Project, investigate the need for an additional dedicated hockey turf in Blenheim.

Lawn Bowls has a number of clubs in Marlborough. Marlborough Bowls report several clubs have low membership numbers.

Croquet operate from two venues in Blenheim. Croquet would like some access to the existing hockey turf for training.

Track cycling and Athletics operate from Athletics Park. These facilities are ageing. The grass track is suitable for training and lower level competitions but those venues with artificial surfaces (e.g. Saxton Field in Nelson) are preferred for events and competitions.

The Combined Schools Project provides an opportunity to explore an appropriate all-weather training surface for a range of athletic events. Consideration should be given to supporting the upgrade of the long jump facilities at Athletic Park. Any more expansive developments should be tested via a formal feasibility.

Similarly, the cycle track is an older style venue that is longer than the modern velodromes. MDC should continue to maintain the existing facilities at an acceptable level.

Softball has indicated interest in being part of the Lansdowne Hub. The current playing facilities for softball (especially the batting cage and fencing) require additional maintenance to ensure they remain fit-for-purpose.

When sand is required to be replenished at the Lansdowne beach volleyball courts work with Marlborough Volleyball to source the type of sand that is specified for tournament play.

A climbing wall as part of the combined schools project would benefit the wider outdoor sports community as there is currently no suitable venue in Marlborough or Nelson.

## 9.8 Other Outdoor Facilities

There are a wide range of other outdoor facilities catering to a number of sporting codes.

A&P Park is the home to the Blenheim Canine Training Club. The club requires additional space and room for storage of equipment. If these requirements cannot be met at A&P Park, without disruption to other activities, then MDC should work with the club to secure a new appropriate location.

A number of codes that meet at a location and then participate in the outdoors require ablution and change facilities. Examples include orienteering, mountain biking, triathlon/multisport and road cycling.

There have been requests to extend the arena at the Botham Bend Equestrian Centre and investigate the option of covering part of the arena, (subject to feasibility study outcome).

Marching's identified need for access to training space can be accommodated through the existing network of parks, indoor courts and outdoor hard courts.

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# 10 Conclusions and Recommendations

The Marlborough district has a wide variety of sporting groups accessing a range of facilities. MDC facilitates and supports sport through the provision of spaces and places for training and competition.

This plan has highlighted the changing demographic profile of Marlborough. The population is relatively stable in terms of size. It is ageing and becoming more ethnically diverse. These changes will have an impact on what sports are preferred and how people participate in them.

Alongside demographic changes, there are sports participation trends that also impact on what network of sports facilities MDC should provide or partner with others on. There is declining participation among some sports while others are experiencing growth. There is also a move toward more informal, individualised sporting activities. Care should be taken when updating existing or developing new facilities. MDC should ensure there is the ability for facilities to be adapted over time to meet the participation changes that occur.

The Combined Schools Project represents the most significant opportunity for MDC to partner with other asset owners to provide enhanced facilities to the wider community. This will require priority being given to ongoing communication between MDC, MoE and the colleges as planning progresses.

Sports hubs have become an increasingly important component of the network of sports facilities in Marlborough. MDC's continued support of these sports hubs should be further enhanced through a dedicated role to support these groups and to ensure the use of these facilities is maximised.

There are a range of sporting facility considerations. These can be summarised as:

- Supporting the investment in Sports Hubs.
- Facilitating increased shared use of existing facilities.
- Creating enhanced public amenity facilities to serve both sporting communities and the wider public.
- Increase the capacity of floodlit fields for winter sports codes.
- Maximising wider community value from the Combined Schools' Project.

Proposed actions are listed by facility type. Many of the identified actions are dependent on the outcomes of discussions around a potential partnership with the combined schools' project.

## 10.1 Governance and Leadership

MDC has a key role to play in the provision of sports facilities and through supporting sports user groups. MDC should:

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- Facilitate regular sports groups forums (perhaps at the beginning of summer and winter seasons) to confirm expectations and provide networking opportunities.

- Continue to explore partnerships and shared use models and exchange of information with sports groups, other users and asset owners.

- Specifically engage in the sporting components of the Combined Schools Project to ensure the best value outcomes for the wider community.

- Engage with the Waterlea Park Charitable Trust to determine potential partnership opportunities.

## 10.2 Actions

| | Actions |
|---|---|
| **0** | **Sports Hubs** |
| | Investigate a MDC staff role to provide coordination in the areas of sports hub governance, management and facility operations. |
| | MDC to facilitate sporting codes move to the Lansdowne Park Sports Hub. |
| | Continue to financially support the operational costs of sports hub in the Marlborough area. |
| **1** | **Sports Fields** |
| 1.0 | • Undertake feasibility study to assess need, location and financial model for additional floodlit sports field capacity (potentially artificial turf). |
| 1.1<br>1.2 | Upgrade facilities at A&P Park<br>• Develop change rooms at A&P Park.<br>• Confirm development of Pavilion either at A&P or elsewhere (Dependent upon outcome of feasibility study in 1.0). |
| 1.3<br>1.4<br>1.5 | Work with Marlborough Cricket to progress the Horton Park Master Plan<br>• Identify and confirm sport and wider community partners.<br>• Develop detailed business case.<br>• Implement priorities of Master Plan. (pending outcome of business case) |
| 1.6 | Monitor demand for sports fields. Re-allocate fields between codes before developing new MDC sites. |
| 1.7 | Working with the relevant sporting codes, undertake an audit of existing changing facilities to ensure they are suitable for use (gender appropriate, fit for purpose, accessible). |
| **2** | **Outdoor Hard Courts** |
| 2.1 | Investigate the need for covering some of the hard courts at Lansdowne Park for Marlborough Netball (and other potential users). |
| 2.2 | Maximise the value of the identified changing room upgrades at Awarua Park. This could include:<br>• Re-surfacing and improved floodlights for hard courts<br>• Consideration of the site as another Sports Hub for the district, including supporting wider community use. |

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| | Actions |
|---|---|
| 2.3 | Investigate the installation of additional lighting at Pollard Park for an additional five tennis courts or consider a shared use model at Lansdowne hard courts (playing surface dependent). |
| 2.4 | Support Stadium 2000's need to re-surface 3-on-3 courts |
| **3** | **Indoor Courts** |
| 3.1 | Investigate the need for additional indoor court space in Marlborough. Should initial stakeholder feedback be confirmed then consider the range of options available, including but not limited to:<br>• Investigate additional MDC owned indoor courts adjacent to Stadium 2000.<br>• Assess the ability for other codes to share any covered courts that may be developed at Lansdowne Park.<br>• Work with the Combined Schools Project to maximise the wider community value of any indoor courts that are built. This could include:<br>  • Negotiate community access agreements.<br>  • MDC investment to ensure right sized, fit-for-purpose courts are developed that can be used by sports groups (and other community groups).<br>  • MDC to invest to increase the total number of courts that are built. |
| 3.2 | Facilitate Squash's continued community access to courts located at current MBC site. |
| 3.3 | Undertake a needs assessment to investigate alternative indoor court space for Indoor Bowls, Badminton and Table Tennis. |
| **4** | **Indoor Aquatic Facilities** |
| 4.1 | Should demand warrant, pursue partnership opportunities with existing school pools for increased community and programming access. |
| **5** | **Outdoor Aquatic Facilities** |
| 5.1 | Development of new MDC toilet facilities to consider potential locations that benefit both the wider public and existing water sport hubs (along with other outdoor sport participants). |
| 5.2<br>5.3 | Explore additional use of existing water sport facilities by other water sports and land-based sports, including:<br>• Storage and facilities for Waka ama in Picton / Waikawa.<br>• Explore access arrangements for other sports codes to access existing club sites for storage, change facilities and event coordination. |
| **6** | **Other Specialist Sports Facilities** |
| 6.1 | Confirm the lease arrangements for the Hockey Turf at College Park. If another long-term lease cannot be secured, then consider the Combined Schools Project as a potential partnership project. |
| 6.2 | Factor in renewal costs for the hockey carpet and shock-pad (circa 2028-2030). |
| 6.3 | Investigate a lawn bowling facility that could be shared by a number of clubs and potential other sporting codes and wider community groups. |
| 6.4<br>6.5 | Provide support to Marlborough Athletics to:<br>• upgrade all-weather long-jump area.<br>• investigate solutions for an appropriately scaled all-weather training area for a range of athletic activities. |
| 6.6 | Maintain existing levels of service for the cycling track. |
| 6.7 | Work with Marlborough Volleyball to provide sand that meets requirements for tournament play. |
| **7** | **Other Outdoor Sports Facilities** |
| 7.1 | Provide additional space for the Blenheim Canine Training Club at A&P Park; or work with the club to seek an alternative site that can accommodate their identified needs. |

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| | Actions |
|---|---|
| 7.2 | Pending the outcome of the updated Wither Hills Management Plan, explore the upgrade of road end services to serve the needs of mountain bikes, walkers, hikers, orienteers, and other outdoor activities. |
| 7.3 | Facilitate access arrangements for Marching at the Lansdowne courts and fields. |

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# 11 Appendices

Appendix One: Detailed Sports Facility Requirements for Combined Schools Project

Appendix Two: Activity Behaviours

Appendix Three: Secondary Data Review

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## 11.1 Appendix One: Detailed Sports Facility Requirements for Combined Schools Project[26]

| Table 1 | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Facility Recommendations**<br>***2017 Assessment of need for schools, based on hours and amount of use by both schools, based on schools' timetable for data*** | **Comments** | **Facility Requirements**<br>***2019 Assessment of need, based on school roll of 1250*** |
| **Four indoor courts** | Netball sized, with minimum 3.05m run-offs for court surrounding space to allow for spectators and officiating. | **Four indoor courts** |
| | 'Sprung' floor, wooden preferred. Multiple floor/ code markings, compliant with relevant specification. | |
| | 'Dividable' with sport curtains and allowance for perimeter seating added to brief by colleges in 2019 | |
| | Tournaments/ Events capability. Rigourous enough to be driven on, for events set-up. | Addition of Climbing Wall, added to brief by colleges in 2019. Recommended by colleges as an external funding opportunity. |
| **Functional Design Layout** | Design and placement solutions for 'Front of House' capability for out of hours use or by arrangement. | **Functional Design Layout** |
| | A range of detailed briefing needs by the colleges as contained in this report, inclusive of Individualised toilet units that are non-gender specific and a referees' room. | More storage was an addition by the colleges in 2019:<br>• 350m2 'super warehouse', away from main building<br>• HPE storage in indoor stadium building |
| **Fitness Suite** | A range of detailed briefing needs by the colleges as contained in this report. | **Fitness Suite**<br>A separate boys and girls fitness room (1 each) was an addition by the colleges in 2019: |

[26] Source: *Marlborough Boys and Marlborough Girls Colleges – New Schools Development Report: Sport and Recreation Facilities.* Geoff Canham Consulting (2017, rev. 2019).

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Sports fields**<br>• **1 X Artificial sports turf field 1 Ha**<br>• **2Ha Live grass** | Separate to Hockey turf artificials and Athletics Oval. Balance of sports fields (Ha) in live grass turf compliant with relevant specification. Consider not providing personal vehicle storage in favour of more green space. (Current requirement for site would see more than 1Ha wasted in asphalt areas to store vehicles during school hours. Critical to specification quantity is design consideration of existing creek running through the McLauchlan Street site. | **Sports fields**<br>• **1-3 X Artificial sports turf field 1-3 Ha**<br>• **6-8 Ha Live grass, 4 fields MBC, 2 fields MGC**<br><br>Addition of Artificial and grass area sports fields added to brief by colleges in 2019. Recommended by colleges as an external funding opportunity. |
| **Active Recreation Spaces**<br>To be accommodated in general design and plans | Incorporating Play, nature-based and play-based solutions and education opportunities. Ensure contact with nature opportunities and design for social imperatives. | **Active Recreation Spaces**<br>• To be accommodated in general design and plans |
| **Hockey turfs** | 2 X Artificial Hockey Turf (Compliant with relevant specification) with the footprint available for a third. Existing off-site reliance to continue. | **Hockey turfs** |
| **Athletics Track - artificial surface** | Existing off-site reliance to continue. | **Athletics Track - artificial surface**<br>Initially a requirement, in 2019 this changed to an offsite oval, but still an artificial surface |
| **Associated PE teaching and indoor 'breakout spaces 'and detailed needs** | -Minimum of 4 classrooms each school attached to and in close proximity to the gym space.<br>-Storage requirements<br>-Staff workspaces and management spaces | **Associated PE teaching and indoor 'breakout spaces 'and detailed needs** |
| **5 Outdoor Hard Courts** | 5 Tennis courts, able to also be marked for Netball court use, Compliant with relevant specifications. Large enough area to accommodate a whole PE class, per sports team at once. Ability to be used all year round in all weather. | **8 Outdoor Hard Courts, 4 for each college** |
| **Dance/Movement space** | To be further investigated if a purpose built/ exclusive space and with any Community Share opportunities. | **Dance/Movement space** |
| | Retain the Boy's College donated pavilion/ "essence of the pavilion" | **Pavilion**<br>• Retain the pavilion/ essence of the pavilion, to be |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | | accommodated in general design and plans |
| **Squash** | Existing Stadium 2000 and clubs' provision to continue. | **Squash** |
| **Swimming Pool** | Existing Stadium 2000 provision to continue. | **Provide a school-based pool**<br>Recommended by colleges as an external funding opportunity. The option to retain a school-based pool was added to brief by colleges in 2019. |
| **Beach Volleyball** | To use soon to be constructed courts at Lansdowne Park. | |

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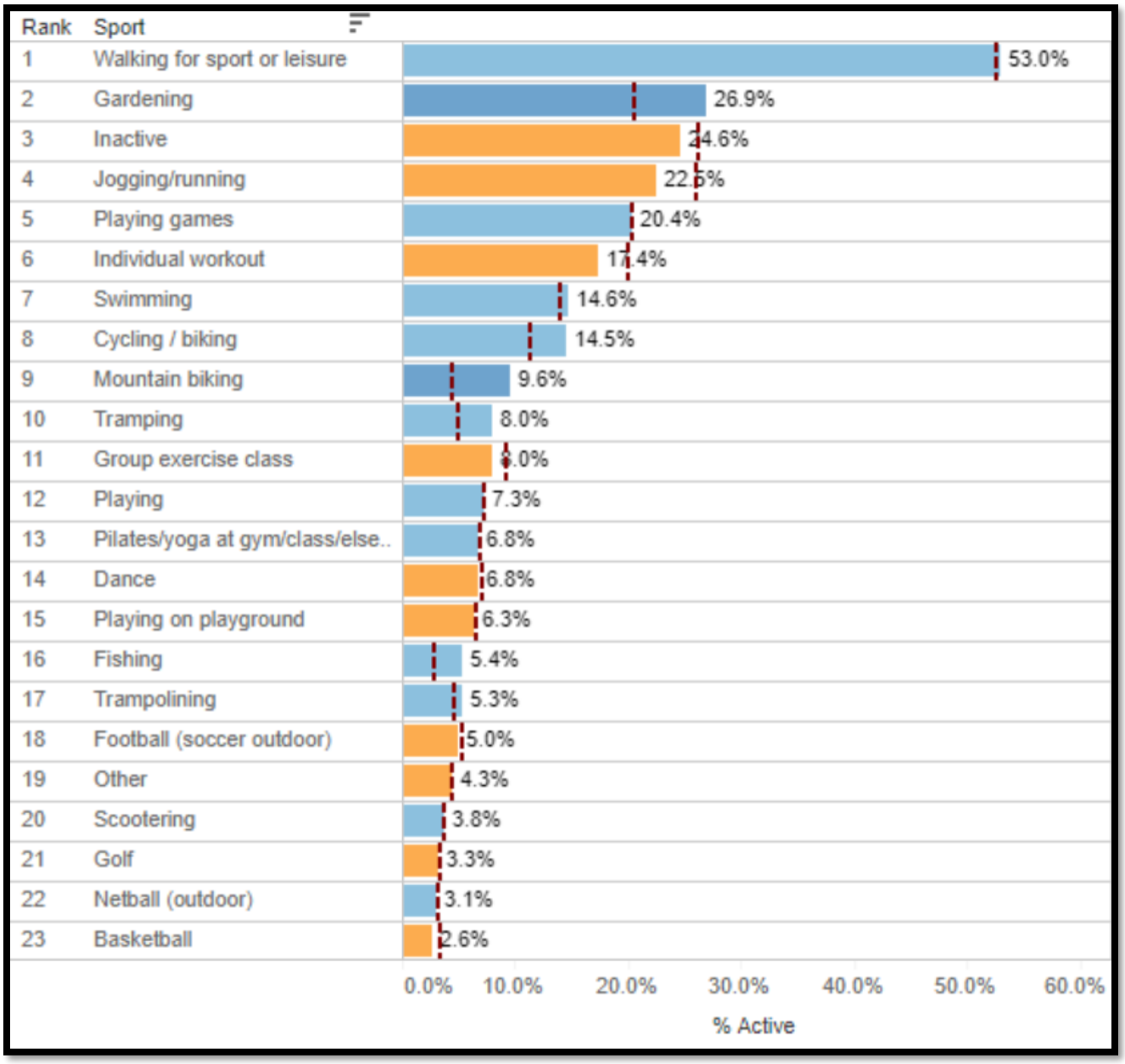
## 11.2 Appendix Two: Marlborough Activity Behaviours[27]

The following table outlines the indicative activity levels in Marlborough. The red dashed line is the national average levels of participation for each activity. In some cases (e.g. gardening) Marlborough is significantly more active than the national average. In other instances (e.g. jogging/running) Marlborough has lower indicative levels of participation in those activities. There are a number of active recreation activities in this table that are out of scope for the MDC Sporting Facilities Plan.




[27] Sport New Zealand – Insights Tool data. The participation data show preferences and interest in different sports across area units. The modelled participation data uses regional Active NZ data, last 7 days participation rates and projects participation in different sports to specific area units based of the demographic profile on the area. This then givens an indication of interest and preferences in sports of the area unit, based on the demographic profile.

## 11.3 Appendix Three: Secondary Data Review – Additional Information

### 11.3.1 Marlborough District Physical Activity Strategy 2008

In 2006, a Regional Physical Activity Strategy was completed for the Top of the South (encompassing Buller, Tasman, Nelson, Marlborough and Kaikoura territorial authorities).

While developed 12 years ago, the Strategy does have relevance and identifies a number of projects that have been competed in the district, along with identifying others that could still be seen as a priority, such as partnership projects with schools around access to indoor court space.

Among the priority actions identified was the development of district-level activity strategies. For Marlborough, this is the Marlborough District Physical Activity Strategy 2008.

The aim of the strategy was to have clearly identified measurable strategic aims for the most effective and efficient delivery of physical activity, maximising up take by the Marlborough community over the ensuing three to five years.

- The vision of the Strategy is:

*Marlborough residents are active, happy and healthy by being more active, more often, lifelong.*

- The outcome of the Strategy is:

*The health and wellbeing of Marlborough residents are improved through active lifestyles.*

- The main objective of the Strategy is:

*An average 1% annual increase in the proportion of Marlborough residents who are sufficiently physically active for health and lifestyle benefits.*

The Strategy defined physical activity as:

"Movement required on a daily basis to sustain health. Physical activity opportunities include, amongst other things, sport, active recreation, physical education, fitness activities, active transport and play".

Forty-one specific actions relating to 8 different goals were identified. The actions specifically relating to sport and recreation facilities and assets are listed below.

| Number | Action | Commence | Lead Agency |
|---|---|---|---|
| 24 | Identify opportunities f or s school/community facility partnerships that aim to optimise utilisation for competition, training and other community use. Examples include:<br>• Assess the feasibility of collaboration | 2008/2009 | Marlborough District Council; Schools |

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| Number | Action | Commence | Lead Agency |
|---|---|---|---|
| | among several schools within a community to maintain just one or two school pools that could also be made available for public use.<br>• Assess the feasibility of making school gyms available for community use. | | |
| 25 | Undertake a feasibility study of expanding Blenheim Pool. | 2008/2009 | Marlborough District Council |
| 26 | Assess the feasibility of developing a multi-purpose recreational facility in Picton, in conjunction with the current pool development (similar to Stadium 2000 in Blenheim). | 2008/2009 | Marlborough District Council |
| 27 | Develop cycle lanes on roads, in line with the Marlborough Walking and Cycling Strategy. | 2008/2009 | Marlborough District Council |
| 28 | Investigate the feasibility of establishing a subsidised public transport system between towns within Marlborough and promote the benefits of using public transport rather than private vehicles. | 2010/2011 | Marlborough District Council; Marlborough Roads |
| 30 | Develop and/or promote at-home programmes and resource kits for different groups of the population. | 2010/2011 | Sport Marlborough; Tasman Regional Sports Trust |
| 31 | Commence an accessibility audit of all MDC reserves and facilities and develop an upgrade strategy to ensure access compliance. | 2010/2011 | Marlborough District Council |
| 32 | Marlborough District Council to work with Department of Conservation to develop a common format for signs, maps and other published material displaying information on tracks | 2009/2010 | Marlborough District Council |
| 33 | Marlborough District Council to work with Department of Conservation and other forestry land management organisations to clarify public recreation access to Crown forestry lease land within the district | 2009/2010 | Marlborough District Council |
| 34 | Develop a n audit tool to ensure tracks, amenities and information about tracks are developed and maintained sufficiently and consistently. | 2009/2010 | Marlborough District Council |
| 35 | Develop linkages between walking and cycling tracks within and between towns. One example would be to develop tracks which link the various vineyards around the Renwick region. | 2010/2011 | Marlborough District Council |

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### 11.3.2 Feasibility Report, Endeavour Park Pavilion, Endeavour Park, Picton Stage Two Development (Draft, 2016)

The purpose of the report was to assist Endeavour Park Pavilion Society Inc. to make decisions on what the thresholds are for them to decide when to activate implementation of 'Stage Two' of the development of the Endeavour Park- Pavilion, Picton.

The report concluded that the existing facility was currently not operating at capacity and the priority should be to strengthen the operation of Stage One first before considering an extension to the pavilion.

### 11.3.3 Marlborough District Council Sportsville Policy (2016)

This is a Marlborough District Council policy aimed at providing direction on how to best implement the concept of 'Sportsville' (multi-code sports hubs) in Marlborough.

It identified 7 core principles of Sportsville projects:

- Good governance
- Clarity of purpose
- Formal amalgamations are not always necessary
- Clustering of resources
- Staged progression
- Council support
- Club identity and development

The Council sees its roles in achieving success in these models as:

- Encouraging sports clubs and associations to develop Sportsville models.
- Supporting Sportsville projects through capital, financial and human resources.
- Prioritising requests for Council involvement in facilitating and supporting the development of Sportsville models.

Identification of Sportsville opportunities will be identified (amongst others) through projects identified in Strategies and Plans such as this one.

### 11.3.4 Blenheim Urban Area 2018 - Housing and Business Development Capacity Assessment

The National Policy Statement on Urban Development Capacity (NPS UDC) requires local authorities classified as having high and medium urban growth to prepare housing and business development capacity assessments. These forecast demand and "feasible" development capacity, and the likely take-up of capacity on at least a three-yearly basis.

The key findings that are relevant to this plan mainly revolve around demographic data:

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- Estimated population of 46,600 people in 2018.
- Marlborough's population growth has trended close to Stats NZ's high growth projections over the past five years with significant peaks of growth in 2015 and 2017.
- Most of the growth can be attributed to migration with an average natural increase of only 100 people per year.
- Growth in the Blenheim Urban Area accounts for approximately 60% of total growth in the Marlborough District.
- Population is ageing rapidly, with one third of residents projected to be 65 years of age or over by 2043, and the proportion of residents in the working age group projected to decline.
- Marlborough also has the highest forecast growth in labour demand in the country for 2017 to 2020. This means migrants will be needed to fill labour shortages and young people will need to be encouraged to stay and work in the region.

### 11.3.5 Sport Tasman Sport and Recreation Organisation Impact Responses to COVID-19: April 2020

In April 2020, Sport Tasman undertook communication with organisations on the impact of Covid-19 on the local sport and recreation sector.

Initial discussions centred on four questions:

1. What impact COVID-19 has had financially on the organisation?
2. What has been the feedback from participants/community members?
3. Where do you need support most right now, or what might you find useful right at this moment to help you?
4. What, if any, are some creative ideas you may have explored, on how to keep people within your specific community active and engaged?

A follow-up survey asked specifics around:

- Financial position.
- Funding.
- Access to working remotely and alternative ways of working.
- What support may be required from Sport Tasman in the short and medium term.

Summary of responses:

- 77 organisations responded, most in the Nelson/Tasman area (65%) with 19% coming from Marlborough.
- Most organisations (62%) have access to the necessary technology and facilities and the ability to work remotely.
- Around 12% of respondents' current cash flow and reserves will support operations for one to four weeks without wage subsidy support. Almost 85% will be supported for three months or longer.
- Winter codes were more concerned than summer codes about funding, lack of fees from participants and facility costs to pay once they are allowed to engage again.
- 57% are considering different ways of working.

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- 50% of respondents are keen to explore collaborative, sports hub type concepts and resource sharing.
- Comments on future assistance and support were categorised into the following areas:
    - Opportunity to consider facility hire costs once alert levels are relaxed.
    - Advocacy with councils over a number of different aspects.
    - Offering planning support and guidance around collaboration across the sector.
    - Provide regular information about what is happening within the sector.
    - Provide information on funding availability and criteria around funding.

### 11.3.6 Engagement and Significance Policy 2018

The Engagement and Significance Policy 2018 included in the 2018-28 Long Term Plan sets out how and when the Council will engage with its community in Council's decision-making processes.

The policy defines the level of significance of a decision, whether there is a legislative requirement to consult and what feedback will be given on decisions made. It references Council's separate policy on engagement with Maori.

### 11.3.7 Horton Park Preliminary Master Plan June 2018

The Horton Park Preliminary Master Plan was prepared to understand the future spatial requirements for the Marlborough Cricket Association (MCA) at Horton Park following the transfer of Netball to Lansdowne Park. The report provided several options for how the needs of cricket could be realised at the Park.

An options analysis concluded that:

1. The primary accessway onto the park is moved to Houldsworth St.
2. Horton Park Wicket Block 2 is re-purposed to become a training block only.
3. A new pavilion is further explored which would free up space for the cricket playing areas.
4. Space is provided to allow the extension of the boundary for Horton Park Block 1.
5. Space is allocated for an Indoor training Venue

The report recommended that:

1. Land is set aside for future development for MCA, as outlined in the Preliminary Master Plan.
2. MCA work closely with MDC to investigate the feasibility of shared use options for the proposed Indoor training Venue and existing or new Pavilion.
3. Alternative community uses are explored for the land adjacent to where MCAs has identified their needs.

### 11.3.8 Marlborough Walking and Cycling Strategy 2019-2029

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The purpose of this strategy is to provide a framework to increase walking and cycling participation and safety in Marlborough with the primary focus on walking and cycling to work and school, for recreation and to increase tourism potential in the district.

This strategy was developed by Bike Walk Marlborough in partnership with the Marlborough District Council, NZ Transport Agency and Marlborough Roads and replaces the previous strategy updated in 2010.

It identifies the following challenges for walking and cycling in Marlborough:

- Safety: Between 2011 and 2015 there were 73 reported pedestrian and cyclist injury crashes in Marlborough. With an increase in pedestrian injury crashes in 2015, both in number and severity. Higher number of cyclist injury crashes occurred in 2012 and 2015.
- Uptake of Walking and Cycling –Commuting to work or school: The percentage of people walking and cycling to work in Marlborough is nearly double the national average. However, the overall trend in Marlborough is that walking and cycling to work has been declining since 2001.
- Uptake of Walking and Cycling –Sport and Recreation: Walking in Marlborough is slightly higher than the national average (0.8% higher), while jogging running in Marlborough is lower than the national average (3.2% lower). 15.9% participated in cycling/biking (4.8% higher than the national average), while 9.1% participated in mountain biking (5% higher than the national average).
- Ageing Population – As the population continues to age, there will be greater need for improved pedestrian facilities, and transport options to ensure residents do not become socially excluded.
- Incomplete Networks: Walking networks in urban areas are largely complete in terms of provision of footpaths, however there are opportunities to improve crossing facilities as this is where pedestrians are most at risk.
- Conflict between Multiple Users: Increased recreational uptake of both walking and cycling increases conflict between multiple user types (e.g. pedestrians and cyclists) with associated safety challenges.

It identifies the following opportunities for walking and cycling in Marlborough:

- Cycling Funding: Interest in developing cycle facilities has gained momentum in recent years, and co-investment for walking and cycling projects and initiatives at the national level increased significantly in recent years.
- Compact Townships and Small Township Programme: The urban areas of Blenheim, Renwick, Picton and the Wairau Plains are largely flat and distances relatively short, making cycling and walking ideal modes for active travel.
- Bikes in Schools: The national Bikes in Schools programme facilitates schools to provide bike track facilities along with school bikes that students can use at school to enable students to ride a bike on a regular basis while at school.

A number of strategies were identified in the Document. Those relating to facilities or assets are:

- Enhance urban walking and cycling connections through new projects to encourage active transport of all ages and abilities.

- Ensure that new subdivisions provide convenient and attractive linkages for walkers and cycling through and between subdivisions.
- Ensure that Council's safety management system for roads, such as traffic calming and local area traffic management plans, include the safety of walkers and cyclists.
- Provide walkers and cyclists with good links within and between Marlborough's towns and with surrounding districts.
- Adopt best practice guidelines and standards for the design, construction and maintenance of all walking and cycling facilities.
- Provide direction signs and information for walking and cycling route options.
- Address safety issues in the urban environment for walkers and cyclists.
- Implement a monitoring system to track usage of Council's walking and cycling facilities.
- Ensure public transport is linked to active transport modes by taking a whole journey approach.
- Ensure that Marlborough District Council planning and other relevant documents are consistent with this strategy.

### 11.3.9 Marlborough Boys and Marlborough Girls Colleges - New Schools Development Report Sport and Recreation Facilities – July 2019

This report reviewed the 2017 assessment of need for sport and recreation facilities for the Marlborough Boy's and Marlborough Girl's High Schools should they move to a co-located site in the future.

The review considered 2019 school rolls for both colleges as well as potential use of community facilities by the schools' community and use of school facilities by the community.

The report made the following recommendations:

- A co-located college should co-locate sport and recreation in Blenheim.
- These co-located sport and recreation facilities should be considered from a full community share perspective.
- In considering successful examples from elsewhere it shouldn't be assumed that only the community should fund community share facilities, i.e., discussions with the MoE should take place on the proportion of school and community sharing and investment.
- From a strategic perspective Marlborough has already undertaken significant work for the provision of sport and recreation facilities and is in a position of a high level of data confidence and alignment. As such it is recommended that a form of steering group related to this purpose continue beyond this MoE briefing process.
- Overall, the key recommendation is the need for greater consideration in the form of a recommended future assessment of the Co-Located Colleges' campus components, assets capacity and their proposed complementary nature to Stadium 2000, in both built and programme provision. This will assist specific design and the overall Business Case for the Co-Located Colleges and Community investment.

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A summary of the on-site Facility requirements is listed below:

- Four indoor courts including climbing wall
- Indoor PE teaching and break-out spaces
- Fitness Suite
- 1-3 artificial sports turf fields
- 2 x Artificial hockey turfs
- 6-8 Ha of grass space – 6 fields in total
- Active recreation spaces
- 8 outdoor hard courts
- Dance/Movement space
- Pavilion
- Swimming pool

Off-site requirements.

- Athletics track – artificial surface
- Squash courts (Stadium 2000)
- Beach Volleyball courts (Lansdowne Park)

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