

Dear South Australian Water Polo community member.

January 10 , 2020.

On behalf of the board of Water Polo South Australia and the wider South Australian Water Polo community I am seeking your collective support.

Whether you are a current or former school or club player, coach or official, parent or friend of the extended S.A. Water Polo community, our sport needs your support NOW. Collectively we need to rally to Save Our Sport!

The well documented unsolicited proposal by the Adelaide Football Club, if successful will see the demolition of the current Adelaide Aquatic Centre and replaced with a purpose built training and administrative centre for the A.F.C., on a smaller footprint, with less water space designed to be suitable for community needs, places the future of Water Polo in South Australia at great risk.

Whilst the S.A.A.A.L.C. at Marion was built several years ago to cater for the needs of the elite level of our sport, the Adelaide Aquatic Centre has been and continues to be, the key location or foundation for the growth and development of Water Polo in South Australia. Both the Adelaide Tritons and Adelaide Vikings Water Polo Clubs have utilised A.A.C. as their training base for several decades. The A.A.C. is also the training base for several schools and indeed the key pool for the S.A. Schoolboys and Schoolboys competitions involving a total of 22 schools. W.P.S.A.'s club competitions are played at A.A.C. and junior state squads at the 14/16/18 & Under level are also based at the A.A.C. Given that the majority of the membership of current participants in S.A. Water Polo is based in the north east sector of the Adelaide metropolitan area it is crucial that A.A.C. remains a viable facility for our sport.

The City of Adelaide has stated that the "needs analysis" that is currently out for consultation will be a major factor in determining decisions and priorities made regarding the future of the Aquatic Centre site. In the current artists drawings of the AFC proposal mention is made and diagrams provided of lap swimming, hydrotherapy, learn to swim and play pools. More specifically, within the AFC proposal, there is no mention of or diagrams of Water Polo!

### **What can we do?**

To this end, on behalf of the board of Water Polo S.A., I implore that we ALL take the time to register our support for the continuance of Water Polo as an important part of the future of the Adelaide Aquatic Centre. To do so please log on to the link provided ;

<https://yoursay.cityofadelaide.com.au/aquatic-recreational-facility-afc-proposal>

and register your support before the cut-off date of February 19.

We ask that you register as a member of Water Polo SA and clearly state the need for water space suitable for current activities such as Water Polo and only support the Adelaide Football Club's unsolicited proposal provided that the Council insists that there remain access to a deep water pool facility.

In closing, if you are able to forward this to friends, relatives or any others who may be willing assist to Save Our Sport, it would be greatly appreciated. As a relatively small sport with a small membership base we need to call on EVERYONE to assist in a coordinated, bi partisan manner for us to be heard!

Whilst further strategies to be heard are being planned, this is a very important initial step by all involved.

Sincerely, Jon Harmer

WPSA Board Member, Life Member W.P.S.A.,

Life Member Independent Schools Sports Association,

Life Member & President Adelaide Vikings W.P.C.

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### **Adelaide Football Club Draft Proposal**

The City of Adelaide is currently considering an unsolicited proposal from Adelaide Football Club (AFC) to establish an administration and training base in Denise Norton Park / Pardipardinyilla (Park 2).

Council are seeking your views on the Draft Proposal at this stage. Should this process continue, there will be further opportunities to provide feedback as more details become available.

<https://yoursay.cityofadelaide.com.au/aquatic-recreational-facility-afc-proposal>

### **Key Dates**

- **Consultation closes** - 19 February 2020
- **Review of feedback** - February/ March 2020
- **Report to Council** - By 31 March 2020

