**Expression of Interest for court usage**

The City of Darebin is currently seeking Expressions of Interest (EOI) from clubs and associations for the allocation of indoor court bookings for the Darebin Multi Sports Stadium and Darebin Community Sports Stadium.

The EOI process is being conducted to ensure a fair and transparent process for all potential user groups to register their interest in the indoor courts while the Darebin Multi Sports Stadium is under construction. The Council’s vision for the Darebin Multi Sport Stadium will not be a home base for any one club or group. However, the court space will be allocated to a variety of different user groups across a range of sport and recreation activities, to encourage shared community use of this exciting new facility.

The EOI process is specifically for groups to express their interest in ongoing bookings only. Ongoing bookings are considered as those that occur at regular intervals throughout each month. Current bookings at Darebin Community Sports Centre will remain in place until June 2022.

Guiding Principles have been developed by Council to ensure the EOI process for court usage meets the core outcomes of the vision for the facility, which are:

* Council’s clear and long-standing commitment to gender equality and women’s rights.
* Focus on gender equity through sport through seeking increased participation for girls, women and low-income residents.
* Reviewing the inclusivity of facilities and programs and reducing barriers such as fees and perceptions of safety.
* Demonstration of social inclusion activities for: people with disabilities, socioeconomic disadvantage, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples; gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, Intersex, Queer (LGBTIQ) people, older people; people from culturally diverse backgrounds and other new and emerging communities.
* Encouragement of active and sustainable transport modes.

**How to apply:**

The final decision on regular community use for both stadiums will be made by Darebin City Council using recommendations from the following EOI process:

* Applications submitted to Council via the following link: [www.surveymonkey.com/r/DarebinSportsStadiumEOI](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DarebinSportsStadiumEOI)
* Applications will be reviewed and assessed by an evaluation panel without preference or bias.
* Successful applicants will be notified and enter into a Service Agreement.
* Unsuccessful applicants will be notified and may be offered alternative times/access.
* This process will run each year and new user groups will be able to submit for court space at this time, if space becomes available, or alternately they will be able to hire through the casual booking system.

Applications open on March 24 and close May 5. Successful applicants will be notified in July 2021 and will enter into user agreements with Council and the operator of the facility.

The [EOI Guidelines and Scoring Criteria document](https://www.yoursaydarebin.com.au/27588/widgets/264750/documents/197970) can be found in the documents library.

For more information about the EOI for Darebin Indoor Sports Stadiums please contact James Carbone, Recreation Planning and Participation Coordinator, at [james.carbone@darebin.vic.gov.au](mailto:james.carbone@darebin.vic.gov.au).