

ITEM 21

NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR RIMMER - REQUEST FOR HOME GROUND FOR ILLAWARRA STINGRAYS

Councillor Rimmer has submitted the following Notice of Motion –

“I formally move that Council –

- 1 Acknowledges that the Illawarra Stingrays are a National Premier League team based in the Wollongong LGA using various grounds for games and training.
- 2 Recognises the need for a home ground to be provided to the Illawarra Stingrays.
- 3 Is committed to finding them a home ground with their own lease arrangements or a joint / sub leasing arrangement that provides a home ground on terms that allows them an income stream toward financial sustainability.
- 4 Requests staff work proactively to locate a suitable home ground for the Stingrays and provide Councillors with a briefing on possible options at the briefing on 4 November.”

Background provided by Councillor Rimmer:

The Illawarra Stingrays were established in 2006 and currently has 120 playing members. They are the highest level of representative sport in the Illawarra.

The Illawarra Stingrays currently sub-lease at an association club. The lease however does not allow for them to display and kind of sponsorship signage nor raise any funds from the canteen. This means they have a very limited revenue stream.

The fastest growing sport in Australia is Women’s football and our own local team, competing in the National Premier League is without a home ground.

It is important to note, as with the Wolves, the Stingrays are not associated with Football South Coast nor do they come under their management. They should be provided with their own standalone ground with their own lease arrangements.