

**5. RUAPUNA MODEL CAR CLUB
APPLICATION TO LICENCE PART OF MARYLANDS RESERVE**

RR 10242

Officer responsible Parks Manager	Author Area Parks Officer, Robyn Robinson
Corporate Plan Output: Consents 9.4 text 8	

The purpose of this report is to request Council approval for the granting of a license to the Ruapuna Model Car Club Inc. (RMCC) over 44.50 metres of Marylands Reserve.

BACKGROUND

Marylands Reserve is located between the southern arterial motorway and Birmingham Drive, Middleton and is situated in an industrial area. It is a large reserve, being 5.34 hectares in area which is classified as a recreation reserve under the Reserves Act 1977. The reserve is zoned Open Space 2 in the New City Plan which allows for sports parks and pavilions and wide recreational uses.

The Ruapuna Model Car Club Inc. (RMCC) has made application to the Christchurch City Council to obtain a license to occupy 44.50 square metres on Marylands Reserve. This will enable the club's existing driver's stand, timber pit lane and pit table to remain on the site plus allow for the building of a further driver's stand on the reserve.

The RMCC have been informally racing their model cars at Marylands Reserve for a number of years. They usually race at 1.00pm onwards once a month on the first Saturday of the month or the following Saturday if postponed due to inclement weather. During summer, the club take advantage of daylight saving and race on Tuesday evenings from 6pm.

Marylands Reserve is also used by the Canterbury Canine Obedience Club which holds a lease over the area on which its clubrooms are situated. The club uses the middle and eastern end of the Reserve for Sundays of most weekends. The Canterbury Society of Model and Experimental Engineers Inc has also been recently granted a lease to develop a ground level model railway track on the western part of Marylands Reserve. Neither of these activities conflicts with the RMCC as they operate in different parts of the reserve and use the reserve on different days to the RMCC.

It is proposed that the RMCC obtain a license to occupy the area covered by their fixed structures only. This will not include the track area as the track layout is grass mown each month and whilst is located close to the fixed location of the drivers stand, is changed regularly. RMCC do not require any electrical connection as they run their computer off a portable battery.

The RMCC also use a sealed track at Ruapuna Park that is subleased from the Christchurch Speedway Association. They require the Marylands site for off road racing of model cars. To provide a suitable off road track at Ruapuna major costs would be incurred to provide an appropriate level surface. The RMCC therefore request that their existing drivers stand remain on the Marylands Reserve site and a new stand also be approved.

PROPOSED LICENCE TO OCCUPY

It is proposed that a licence be granted to the RMCC to occupy an area of approximately 44.50 square metres on Marylands Reserve for the purpose of model car racing, on terms to be negotiated by the Property Manager, in consultation with the Parks Manager, for a period of 5 years subject to the following conditions:

1. The area granted to the licensee to occupy being available for public use at all times except when the facility is in use;
2. Public recreation on Marylands Reserve not being impeded by RMCC activity except when the facility is in use;
3. RMCC's existing drivers stand located on Marylands Reserve being brought up to current New Zealand building code standard;
4. A building consent being obtained prior to building the drivers stand, and locating it on the reserve;
5. RMCC providing proof of obtaining \$1,000,000 public liability insurance to the Area Parks Officer (Consents);
6. Before any work commences on the site discussions being held with the Parks Manager's designate, the Area Parks Officer (Sockburn), to ascertain the Council's requirements through the development phase of the construction of the new drivers' stand;
7. The licensed area, including structures and amenities being maintained by the RMCC in a safe and tidy condition at all times;
8. All costs associated with this application, development and subsequent maintenance of RMCC amenities on the site by the RMCC being met;
9. The RMCC not commencing operations until they have an Occupational Safety and Health Hazard Plan in place;
10. Any future relocation or extensions of fixed structures or amenities by the RMCC being subject to the Parks Manager's prior approval;
11. The application being publicly notified and the consent of the Minister of Conservation being obtained.

The above report was before the 6 July meeting of the Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board. The Board supported the Parks Manager's recommendation.

Recommendation: That the Council, pursuant to Section 54(1)(b) of the Reserves Act 1997, grant the Ruapuna Model Car Club a license to occupy 44.50 square metres of Marylands Reserve on which to locate the present and proposed driver's stands subject to conditions 1-11 as above.