

# CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL

## Draft LTCCP 2009-19

### - Received via Web

Submissions close on 16 April 2009

**I do NOT wish to present my submission at the hearing, and ask that this written submission be considered**

**Are you completing this submission:**

On behalf of a group or organisation

**If you are representing, how many people do you represent?**

**Name:**

Steven Cooper

**Organisation Name:**

Korfbal Canterbury

**Organisation Role:**

Regional Sporting Organisation for the sport of Korfbal

**Contact Address:**

20 Blakiston Street  
Hoon Hay  
Christchurch

**Postcode:**

8025

**Daytime Phone:**

3537906

**Evening Phone:**

3384078

**Email:**

chair@canterbury.korfbal.org.nz

**Email Address for copy of submission:**

steve.bern@xtra.co.nz

**Date:**

16 April 2009

**Your Submission:**

We wish to submit on the following parts of the LTCCP, relating to the provision of sports and leisure facilities.

Proposed upgrade for Cowles Stadium.

Korfbal has been a regular user of Cowles Stadium for more than ten years. We use it for regular competitions on Tuesday evenings through the winter. We also use it for training sessions for our representative squads and our parent body, Korfbal New Zealand, use it for national tournaments.

While we support the proposed upgrade for Cowles in principle, we would be pleased to see more specific detail on what the proposals are, and would appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback on these in order to maximise our benefit from use of the stadium. In particular, we are anxious to ensure that if the stadium is to be re-configured, it can be done in such a way that a full size korfbal court (20m x 40m) can be configured in the upgraded facility, which at present is not possible. It is worth noting that this size would similarly benefit the sports of futsal and handball, which are also presently played in Christchurch.

We further request that consideration be given to bringing the timing for the upgrade forward to 2009/10.

Proposed new south-west leisure centre.

We presume this facility is what was flagged in consultation on the Metropolitan Sports Facilities Plan (MSFP) in 2008, proposed to be situated

adjacent to Addington Raceway and the WestpacTrust Centre. We wholeheartedly support the Council's decision to proceed with this facility, as signalled in the LTCCP, and look forward to more detail emerging through the MSFP process.

At present, compared with similar sized cities in New Zealand and overseas, Christchurch suffers a serious and embarrassing lack of multi-purpose indoor court space, such as our sport and sports similar to ours require. This has undoubtedly inhibited the development of our sport, and we believe of other sports as well. In our view, this cannot be rectified too soon. While we support the proposed development of a leisure centre in the south-west of the city, we request that the timing of it be brought forward, and suggest that a start date of 2012/13 rather than 2014/15, would be well-received by the potential users of this facility.

When Sport Canterbury brought together sports similar to ours in 2008 as part of consultation on the MSFP, there was strong support for the proposed facility, and suggestions that, even with eight to 12 courts, it would struggle to accommodate demand. We expect these points will be reinforced by others through the LTCCP consultation, and urge the Council to make haste with proposals for the facility, which will be an excellent investment for the city in terms of participation by young people and grass roots players in a number of different sports, including we hope, our own.

As per our submission above on the upgrade of Cowles Stadium, as a potential user of the proposed leisure centre in the south-west of the city, we would appreciate being consulted as to the specifics of its development to ensure it provides us with maximum opportunities for the development of our sport.

In summary, Christchurch has considerably less indoor court space than would be expected for a city our size, as is clear from the current heavy use of existing Council-owned facilities, particularly during winter months.

To address this, we recommend the Council increases resources in order to accelerate activities it is presently embarked on, and in particular continues to consult widely with all potential users of future facilities. We also suggest further exploration by the Council of opportunities to plan, finance and operate sports and recreation facilities in partnership with other organisations.

Thank you  
Steve Cooper  
Chairperson Korfball Canterbury