



FOOTBALL CENTRAL QUEENSLAND INC.

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The Honourable Matt Burnett
Mayor, Gladstone Regional Council

22 November 2018

Dear Matt,

Each year Football Central Queensland enters into a user pays arrangement with the Gladstone Regional Council for the use of Gerald Mylne Park (Palm Drive) for the length of our junior playing season (March to September). The total amount we pay each year is determined by both the fee per player set by the council plus the number of players that take the field as per our official census figures - we paid \$30,400 this year for instance (760 players). These players consist of our younger participants, from aged 5 through to 11 (this year we added our U12s due to changes in their playing conditions).

The fee per player we paid was \$40, a figure double what we paid the year before. About the middle of this year we were advised by Sport and Rec Officer Leah Baines that we would be charged an added \$15 per player for next year. I understand Leah is no longer at the council therefore I am seeking clarification around what we can be expected to pay as we prepare budgets and fee packages for next season.

Clearly asking our members to absorb a \$55 fee in their registrations in what is a depressed economic market is going to prove challenging, especially when trying to grow our numbers. And to be frank, such a fee doesn't reflect the quality of the facilities on offer. We are considering our options to move the entire playing cohort given this significant increase.

I believe council would prefer to gain some return for the upkeep and use of the area rather than nothing and propose that we either be charged the same as this year or if an increase be charged that that be no more than the 1.9% CPI increase declared for the October quarter of 2018. If either of these options are granted then we would be more prepared to use the area for the 2019 season, unless of course a cheaper option presents itself.

I respectfully ask that council carefully consider this request to keep our fees affordable on behalf of our Gladstone juniors and would appreciate a response as soon as possible in order to assist with the setting of our fees before the end of November.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jim Douglas', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Jim Douglas
General Manager