

LE-BA Boardriders Club Inc

Holly Archibald
Event Support Officer
Ballina Shire Council

July 25, 2012

Submission re: Events on Public Land Policy

Dear Holly,

The draft Events on Public Land Policy is comprehensive and covers areas that were silent in the previous policy. There is however, one area that is not covered under the policy and that is consultation with relevant community and sporting groups in the shire. If an individual or organisation is planning to run an event in the shire the peak group (which ever is relevant) needs to have some input into the planning and approval of the event.

For an example, if council received a proposal to run a 7's Rugby tournament (similar to the one held in Byron shire) in Lennox Head then the *Trojans Rugby Union Club* should have some say in who runs the event, where and when. The same would apply if a proposal was received to run a surfing competition; *Le-Ba* would be consulted if it was for short boards and *Lennox* and/or *Ballina Long boarders* would be consulted for a long board competition.

Having local sporting groups involved in the formal process for approving relevant events would ensure these events have the expertise and local knowledge to run a successful and safe event. It would also promote the use of local resources such as umpires, referees and judges. A big part of our successful *Skullcandy* event was that we used mostly local officials, – not ones flown in from Sydney or Perth. This also builds capacity within the club and we now have a judging and officiating program linked in with Surfing NSW.

Le-Ba recommends that Section 5 (The Proposal) sub section 5.5 Consultation – should include the above information. If you would like to discuss this further please contact me on the number below or email.

Yours Sincerely,



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10.5 Policy Review - Events on Public Land.DOC

POLICY NAME: EVENTS ON PUBLIC LAND

POLICY REF:

MEETING ADOPTED: Resolution No.

POLICY HISTORY:



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OBJECTIVE

The objectives of this policy are to;

- Provide a documented process on how event organisers may obtain approval to hold an event on public land in Ballina Shire such as parks, open spaces or streets under the ownership and/or control of Ballina Shire Council.
- Ensure that event organisers are aware of Council's requirements so as to assist and encourage the efficient organisation of events; and
- Ensure that event organisers receive requisite approvals in a timely and orderly manner.

BACKGROUND

Events are conducted regularly in Ballina Shire, from street parades and marches, fun runs, cycle races, music festivals, cultural celebrations, sporting events, open air theatres, concerts, circuses and the like.

Ballina Shire Council values the importance of local events that aim to showcase the rich cultural diversity and history of our local Ballina Shire community and that deliver economic, social and environmental benefits. However council also recognises that events can have significant environmental and public safety implications. The premise to this policy is to promote good practice by event organisers so that the benefits to the community can be maximised and negative social impacts minimised or eliminated.

Event organisers are made to comply with a number of requirements as set out by Council's regulatory framework when conducting an event. Council anticipates that the following policy will be beneficial in providing a formal process to ensure such requirements are met.

This policy does not cover events held on private land; lodgment is required through a Development Application.

DEFINITIONS

The following definitions are applicable for the purpose of this policy:

Council	Ballina Shire Council
Event	Often one time, or infrequent occurrences of limited duration that provide the general public with leisure and social opportunities beyond everyday experiences. Events are distinct and organised programs usually of sporting, cultural, community or special interest group significance.
Public Land	Land under the ownership or care and control of Council
Private Land	Any land that is not public land

Event Guidelines	A document designed to assist event organisers with the Regulations and procedures associated with staging events on public land in Ballina Shire.
Long term	Greater than one year and a maximum of three years

SCOPE OF POLICY

This policy applies to:

- Council employees
- Councillors
- Community members
- Not for profit community groups
- Commercial organisations
- Event organisers
- Sporting organisations

RELATED DOCUMENTATION

Related documents, policies and legislation:

This policy should be read in conjunction with;

- Application Form - Events on Public Land
- Event Guidelines
- Policy – Donations
- Policy – Festival & Event Support Program
- Policy - Markets

POLICY

Events held on public land in Ballina Shire such as parks, open spaces or streets under the ownership and/or control of Ballina Shire Council will require lodgement of a completed Events on Public Land Application Form. Applicants must refer to the Event Guidelines when completing an application.

Event applications may be subject fees and charges and/or ground bonds in accordance with Council's Adopted Fees & Charges.

Applications will be assessed with approval conditions issued in accordance with the Event Guidelines.

Long Term Event Approvals

Existing events in the Ballina Shire requiring long term approval (for a maximum of three years) are to be processed operationally by way of the Events on Public Land Policy each year.

New events to the Ballina Shire requiring long term approval (for a maximum of three years) requires advice to Councillors and is to be processed operationally by way of the Events on Public Land Policy each year.

When a clash of dates or venues occurs with event organisers requiring event approval on public land, and this issue cannot be resolved operationally, then this will be determined by Council.

Provisions for Financial Support

Festival and Event Support Program

Council's Festival and Event Support Program provides \$50,000 in funding to support festivals and events held within Ballina Shire. The annual allocation is based on the financial year, with community organisations and non-profit groups planning such festivals encouraged to apply. Applications typically open in December each year with funding announced in March. Refer to Council's Festival & Event Support Program policy.

Community Donations Program

Council provides an annual allocation of funding through the Community Donations Program to assist community groups in the provision of services that benefit the community. Applications typically open in April each year with funding announced early in the financial year. Refer to the Council's Donations – Financial Assistance policy.

REVIEW

The Events on Public Land Policy is to be reviewed every 4 years.