

17 September 2025

Submission on Hunter Indoor Sports Centre - SSD-65595459

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the amended application for the proposed Hunter Indoor Sports Centre development. Venues NSW is the owner and operator of McDonald Jones Stadium, the Newcastle Entertainment Centre and is responsible for the redevelopment of the Hunter Park Precinct, which will deliver significant community benefits.

Venues NSW recognises the importance of facilities like the proposed indoor sports centre for the community; however, the amended application has not fully addressed concerns previously raised in November 2024. These concerns about the development include, but are not limited to:

- The assumption that overflow parking for the proposed indoor sports centre can be accommodated on Venues NSW lands;
- The implications for congestion in the precinct should events be held concurrently at McDonald Jones Stadium and the proposed indoor sports centre; and
- The probability of increased traffic congestion around the Hunter Park precinct and the subsequent effect on customer experience and stadium operations, during construction and post completion.

The Event Traffic Management Plan and Operational Management Plan for the proposed indoor sports centre rely on the availability of car parking at nearby facilities, including McDonald Jones Stadium and the Newcastle Entertainment Centre. Venues NSW has previously advised that it cannot guarantee the availability of parking at its venues for external use. In addition, these sites have recently been re-zoned as part of the state-led rezoning for Broadmeadow, which means that in the long-term car parking at these locations will be removed.

To assist, Venues NSW's traffic and transport consultant reviewed the amended application and provided feedback, available in the attached HISC - Technical Review.

If you would like to discuss our concerns further, please contact Dean Mantle, McDonald Jones Stadium Venue Manager on 0466 858 592 or dean.mantle@mcdonaldjonestadium.com

Yours sincerely



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