



HASTINGS COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE SERVICES
MEDIA RELEASE

Open Invitation to Community
Official Opening, Regional Sports Stadium Spectator Stand
SUNDAY JUNE 5, 2005

Wednesday 1 June, 2005

Hastings Council is celebrating the official opening of the new Grandstand at the Regional Stadium with a family day of entertainment and sport, culminating in the First Grade rugby league clash! Hastings Mayor, Rob Drew, will officially open the new \$1.8 million Regional Sports Stadium Spectator Stand, at 2.35pm on Sunday, 5 June 2005. There will be no ground entry fee for the day's events, which will include music, face painting, a jumping castle and 3 games of football kicking off at 11.30am this Sunday.

The opening will be conducted prior to the start of the Port Macquarie Sharks/Orara Valley Axemen First Grade rugby league match. "This will be a fitting opening with both teams currently placed towards the top of the points table in Group 2", said Rob Drew, Hastings Mayor. The Mayor has issued an open invitation to the community to be part of the festivities. "I'd like to encourage as many people as possible to come along on Sunday to enjoy the opening of such an impressive facility," he added.

This \$1.8M project commenced in August 2004 and was completed at the end of April 2005. Lahey Constructions from Kempsey were the building contractors, with ASF Horner of Wauchope supplying and installing the fixed seating and David Boram and Associates from Port Macquarie being the architects for the project. "The result is a high quality product and it is gratifying to realise that it has been undertaken so successfully by local people", said Cr Drew.

"This new-look facility should assist Port Macquarie in attracting an elite level of competition to the region, from rugby league to rugby union, and soccer to touch football, so it will benefit the whole community", he added.

The stand includes 950 fixed seats, six "corporate" boxes, a media box and a control centre. Facilities for people with disabilities have been provided for, including two elevated viewing areas with ramped access. As part of the Master Plan, provision for a future meeting room, change rooms and gymnasium have been allocated for in the area below the spectator stand structure.

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For comments contact Mayor, Councillor Rob Drew on 0408 635 144

For further information please contact:

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If you do not receive the complete message telephone F (02) 6581 8111