



Subject: Development Application (A61069) – Lot 100 (No.2), Yanget Road, Kojarena, WA

The nature of sporting events proposed in the application, will be for sporting clays. The club is registered as Echidna Park Sporting Clays and are affiliated with the state association, Sporting Clays WA, national association Sporting Clays Australia and international association Fédération Internationale de Tir aux Armes Sportives de Chasse ("FITASC").

Sporting Clays WA encompasses eight clubs in Western Australia and a total of 47 clubs across Australia. FITASC also hosts multiple championships throughout the world that many of our members nation-wide participate in. In addition to competitions being attended by members state, country and world-wide.

What is sporting clays?

Sporting clays is a world-renowned sport offering many pathways for members Australia-wide, from the elite level representing the country on an international stage, to representing the state at a national competition. Sporting clays also caters for the more informal, social recreation with family and friends at their local club.

Sporting clays is a simulation of game hunting using a variety of clay targets. These targets range from a standard size of 120mm, midi 90mm, mini 60mm, battue or rabbit. The layout and arrangement of these targets are entirely at the discretion of the course-setter.

By replicating scenarios such as a duck taking flight, a rabbit darting across the ground, or birds emerging from the trees, sporting clays provides a challenging simulation of hunting. This variety in target presentation renders sporting clays as one of the most demanding disciplines within clay target sports. Furthermore, sporting clays is recognised and supported by the Department of Local Government, Sport, and Cultural Industries.



Proposed locality.

The area surrounding the suggested sporting clays area is owned by Warrine Pastoral Company. It is an isolated area with the closest neighbour approximately 2 km away. While most of the land owned by Warrine Pastoral Company is utilised for agricultural activities, the proposed sporting clays area consists of remanent bushland, offering no agricultural benefits whatsoever.

Furthermore, the advantage of Warrine Pastoral Company owning all the adjacent land, substantially mitigates environmental risks to neighbouring properties concerning noise and traffic.

At a regular club event, 4 grounds are utilised. However given the nature of the sport, these grounds change at each event. Please refer to the attached site plan that displays an example of 15 ground options that are available to use at any event.

Sporting clays ranges favours landscape that includes masses of bushland, shrubbery, hills, and uncleared areas. This not only allows the course-setter to present a variation of quality targets, but it also creates a great environment for noise absorption. The proposed sporting clays area does not display any rockfaces, valleys, or cleared land, which significantly increases noise reflection and travel.

Safety.

Whilst Echidna Park Sporting Clays encourages all our participants to have fun during our events, however; safety is and will always remain our number one priority. The safety of our members and guests alike is absolute paramount.

All firearm owners (for sporting purposes) must undergo a safety awareness test prior to their licence being issued by the Western Australia Police – Firearms Department.

Anybody that wishes to participate in our events that does not hold a current firearms licence, is supervised by one of our experienced members. Prior to the commencement of any shoot, the supervisor will introduce the participant, to sporting clays, which will outline the rules of the sport, and give a safety demonstration of the firearm being used.

Under no circumstances shall the safety of our members and guests be jeopardised. The club has a zero tolerance towards any behaviour that is deemed unsafe. We are proud to say that we have had zero safety breaches thus far. Safety is taken extremely seriously within our sport and some safety breaches can result in a life ban.

Sporting Clays WA works alongside the Western Australia Police Force to ensure that all active sporting clay courses have bene set up and adhere to a range standard.

Environment.

There are many environmental aspects when operating a sporting clays club and Echidna Park is fully committed to mitigating these risks as effectively as possible.



As noted in our Environmental Management Plan, Echidna Park Sporting Clays has implemented the following control measures:

➤ **Water management**

Echidna Park Sporting Clays is fully equipped with four 25,000L water tanks to collect rainwater to allow for sustainability throughout the club. We are aware of the environmental impact that plastics cause, and we encourage all members and guests alike to utilise the water tanks to refill their water bottles, therefore minimising the use of plastic.

➤ **Eco-Friendly Targets**

Our clay target suppliers are becoming more environmentally aware and thus evolving to produce more eco-targets. Corsivia, is an international company that is reducing their environmental impact by producing biodegradable, environmentally friendly targets. It controls the use of products that is harmful to the environment without affecting the quality of their product.

Echidna Park Sporting Clays is committed to using environmentally friendly targets made from completely natural raw material. The Corsivia target *Green Dream* is manufactured with natural resin and contains no Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons. Another environmentally friendly target on offer is the *Eco Smart* target, which is manufactured with eco resins and >10 Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons.

➤ **Emergency Evacuation / Fire Emergency**

Prior to any event at our club, the Target Director or Safety Officer provides all participants a safety briefing. Included in this briefing is the safety muster points at the club, which are clearly signed on the ground.

All boundaries to the shooting areas have maintained fire breaks as per shire regulations.

Should there be a fire emergency on the day of an event, the club is equipped with a working fire tender, that is fully fuelled and maintained with spare keys situated in the clubhouse.

The proprietor is a City Brigade Captain and current Fire Control Officer and many of Echidna Park Sporting Clays members are volunteers of the brigade and farmers that are highly experienced with fire management. However, should the situation evolve and become out-of-control, 000 will be called and the club will be safely evacuated.

➤ **Waste Management**

The club has a recycling program in place, where all members are encouraged to separate recyclable products such as cans and bottles from general waste for disposal at the local Containers for Change depot in Geraldton.

➤ **Lead Management**

Warrine Pastoral Company has selected an area of remnant bushland for Echidna Park Sporting Clays to utilise as it has no agriculture benefits whatsoever.



A sporting clays range has no fixed traps therefore the set up of the shooting stands are changed at every event. The fallout of shots fired is therefore not concentrated to one specific area, so the issue of lead contamination is low-risk.

However, Echidna Park Sporting Clays, is happy to carry out a baseline soil sample and monitor every five years, to ensure that there is no contamination in the soil.

Records for this monitoring will be kept by the Club Secretary and results will be made available to the Shire upon request.

➤ **Vehicle Access and Traffic Management**

As events are scheduled for weekend's only, the traffic on the main roads will avoid peak times during a working week.

Sporting Clays is a very family and friend-oriented sport, in saying this, a lot of participants carpool to the club, and on larger events (should they be scheduled), buses will be utilised to provide a transfer service to and from Geraldton.

For any vehicles accessing the club, there is only one entry and exit point. This also controls the flow of traffic to monitor who is in attendance. This entry point will be locked at all times outside of event days.

Echidna Park Sporting Clays is also equipped with a large gravel parking space suitable to park more than 300 vehicles.

➤ **Noise Management**

As previously noted, the landscape utilised for a Sporting clays club favours masses of bushland, shrubbery, hills, and uncleared areas. This creates a great environment for noise absorption. The proposed sporting clays area does not display any rockfaces, valleys, or cleared land, which significantly increases noise reflection and travel.

Given the locality of the proposed shooting area, the closest neighbouring property is approximately 2km away and all adjacent land is owned by the Applicant