
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 21/06/2024 2:46:17 PM
To: Council Northernbeaches Mailbox
Subject: TRIMMED: Att: Anne-Marie Young DA2024/0675 Submission
Attachments: DA2024-0675 Submission.pdf;


Hello Anne-Marie,
Attached is our submission for the above DA for outdoor Pickleball Courts at Pittwater RSL.

Please note the request at the bottom of the document to remove all personal identification information from the document when posted onto the council website and title it as "Submission - Details Withheld".

I will also be submitting a separate audio file of Pickleball play from the outdoor site used by the Acoustics firm for their measurements so that the assessing panel can have a better understanding of what residents would be subjected to.

Thank you for your assistance with this.
Regards,
[REDACTED]

Submission – DA2024/0675



The proposed outdoor Pickleball courts on the top level carpark of Pittwater RSL at 80-82 Mona Vale Rd will be highly distressing to ourselves and all residences along Mona Vale Rd between the intersections of Foley St and Emma St due to the intrusive nature of the sounds emitted from this sport and its location.

These courts do not conform with

- Pittwater LEP article 1.2j
"protect the health and wellbeing of current and future residents"
- Pittwater 21 DCP which has as part of its purpose to
"improve the quality of life for our community and future generations"
- Zone R2
"Not permitted - Recreational Facilities (outdoor)".

The "popping" sound made by the hollow plastic ball hitting the hard paddle will be of such an impulsive and multiple nature, causing constant annoyance and lack of peaceful enjoyment of both our internal residential spaces and backyards. There are many social media and internet articles from overseas supporting this. In this post-COVID world, Working-From-Home and online University studies will be made difficult to concentrate due to the incessant popping of Pickleball play 13 hours each day. Shift workers will have their sleep interrupted and we will not be able to open our windows to allow fresh air to circulate through our residences any time between the proposed operational hours of 8am - 9pm.

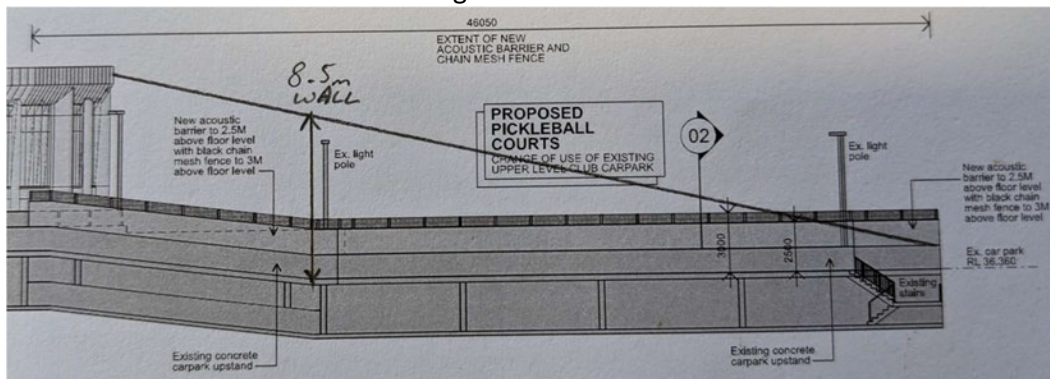
I have separately submitted an audio file of Pickleball play taken at the outdoor courts of the Willis Recreational and Sports Centre and I would like all panel members to play it looped for a couple of minutes, at a comfortable listening level with no other sounds in the room, while trying to concentrate when working or reading a book, to more fully understand and assess the impacts this will have on residents living within hearing distance of the proposed courts.

Overseas where Pickleball has been a growing sport for quite some years, there are many examples of excessively intrusive noise generated, resulting in psychological stress and legal action with courts being closed down when located within 500 feet (150m) from affected residences. The location of these courts are only 55m from the closest residence.

Referring to the Statement of Environmental Effects I would like to draw attention to some inaccuracies in it.

- Page 11 Environmental Objectives

- The impacts are NOT for the most part internalised as the courts are outdoor and allow noise to carry to residential properties.
- The recommended 2.5m high acoustic barrier AROUND the courts will NOT stop REFLECTED noise from the face of the main RSL structure as happens now from music and chatter on “The Deck” adjacent. The submitted drawings also only show this barrier being proposed along the northern side of the carpark. If this reflected noise is to be stopped reaching nearby residences, then an 8.5m wall would be needed at the eastern end of the courts as in the below diagram.



- Page 12 A4.14 Warriewood Locality

- Though the site is situated in Warriewood Locality, the noise impacts will be affecting residences in the Mona Vale Locality and assessment of the application should take any requirements of this into account also.

- Page 15 4.3.2 Acoustics

- Again it is mentioned that an acoustic barrier will be installed AROUND the edge of the courts though submitted drawings only show it along the northern edge and it will not stop REFLECTED noise to residences from the face of the main RSL structure.

Referring to the Acoustic Report I would like to draw attention to inaccuracies and omissions in it.

- In the EPA Noise Guide for Local Government

- starting on page 167 section 6.4.3 - Impulsive Noise, it states "some of these characteristics may sometimes require detailed consideration and assessment to account for the likelihood of greater annoyance."
- There is no evidence this has been done with only standard noise measurements being documented.

- In the Protection of the Environment Act 1997 No.156

- Schedule 6 Dictionary defines offensive noise as
“(a) that, by reason of its level, nature, character or quality, or the time at which it is made, or any other circumstances”
“(ii) interferes unreasonably with (or is likely to interfere unreasonably with) the comfort or repose of a person who is outside the premises from which it is emitted.”

- The NSW Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing

- have a standard noise condition which states
"The L_{A10} noise level emitted from a licensed premises shall not exceed the background noise level in an Octave Band Centre Frequency by more than 5dB between 7:00am and 12:00 midnight at the boundary of any affected residence."
- Measurements of the Pickleball Courts at the Willis Recreation and Sport Centre in the Acoustic report have been done using L_{Aeq} which produces a much lower reading of the noise level of play than would be recorded if the correct L_{A10} measuring scale required by the OLGR.

- As the noise generated by Pickleball play is of an impulsive nature much like that of a nail gun, ISO 1996-1:2016 and ISO 1996-3:2022 standards are relevant but have not been detailed or applied.

- ISO 1996-1:2016
 - Section 3.5.3 details outdoor ball games as a "Regular Impulsive Sound Source".
 - Section 6.3 Noise Annoyance - Adjusted levels
Describes adjustments which should be made along with Annex A.2 - Adjustments for Sound Source Rating Levels.
- ISO 1996-3:2022
 - details adjustments to L_{Aeq} measurements taken of such impulsive sounds sometimes upto +9dB.

It is for all the above reasons **we OPPOSE** the application for the 6 outdoor Pickleball Courts on the top level of the Pittwater RSL carpark at 80-82 Mona Vale Rd.

Instead it is suggested that they should be in a fully-enclosed structure with no openings facing the residences in close proximity to the north. Not only would this remove the impact on nearby residents, but also provide all-weather play with resulting extended time use of the facilities.

Kevin Lee

NOTE: WE REQUEST NORTHERN BEACHES COUNCIL TO REMOVE ALL IDENTITY INFORMATION FROM THIS DOCUMENT AND POST IT UNDER THE HEADING "SUBMISSION - DETAILS WITHHELD"