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Dedicated home for the Hobart Phoenix Basketball Association

THE ASK

The City of Hobart is seeking funding towards the construction of a dedicated basketball facility at Rugby Park to be used as a home base for the Hobart Phoenix Basketball Club.

KEY FACTS

Project value	\$22 million over five years
Funding sought	\$7.3 million (State Government commitment) \$11 million (Federal Government commitment)
Funding committed	City of Hobart contribution to be determined
Phase	DA documentation is currently under preparation
Project timeline	Two years with likely start date in 2025

WHY IT'S IMPORTANT

Currently, more than 15 000 people play basketball in Tasmania, and this number is growing. Many of these players are children. There are just 50 or so basketball courts available for use across the state.

Greater Hobart suffers from a severe shortage of basketball courts. Despite having the third highest population of any local government area in Tasmania, the City of Hobart provides just one outdoor basketball court, at South Hobart Oval, and this court does not meet regulations for matches.

In 2023 Basketball Tasmania said the state needs at least 26 new indoor courts to keep up with demand, following the runaway success of the Tasmania JackJumpers and the surge in interest in basketball.

While acknowledging both private and government investment in the development of new basketball courts in Tasmania's south in recent years, there are no other indoor community spaces for basketball being development.

The Hobart Phoenix Basketball Club is one of the many clubs experiencing exponential growth in Tasmania. Established in 1990, the club currently fields over 125 teams throughout the year, with up to 700 players hitting the court each and every week. However, the club does not have a dedicated home base and is heavily reliant on the hire of school courts and courts provided by private operators. The club is forced to play all matches outside of Hobart. Without a dedicated home the club is unable to create a community environment that fosters greater social, health and economic outcomes.



ECONOMIC BENEFITS

- This project would create an estimated 44 construction jobs and five professional services jobs such as engineering or architecture.
- Over the longer term the project could create up to two full time equivalent roles, which would be charged with managing the stadium, administration, cleaning and maintenance.
- An increase in recreational opportunities would also have indirect economic benefits by supporting a healthier community and reducing pressures the health system.

PROJECT BENEFITS

- New basketball stadium including four courts.
- New changeroom facilities.
- Accessible toilet and shower facilities.
- Administrative facilities to support club growth.
- Improved and increased parking including the provision of equal access.

