



Media Release – Super 6

February 13th 2020

Community rallies to secure popular sporting events future

The organiser of one of the inner west's most popular social sporting competitions says he's humbled by strong community support for the event to continue.

Leo Cirillo has been organising the popular Super 6 football competition since 2005 with over 10, 000 men, women, girls and boys having taken part at the Centenary Park-based competition. The Inner West Council has declined to renew his lease on the ground.

"Since the Inner West Council let us know our lease would not be renewed we've had hundreds of people call for the competition to continue," he said.

The support is gratifying but the comments more so because people are telling us Super 6 is popular because it's a community-based, family focused event," said Mr Cirillo.

"It's taken time and a lot of investment to grow Super 6 to get the competition to that point but having Dads and daughter's playing and supporting each other on the same night is great to see. Our focus on growing the number of women's teams also means we literally now have one of the most diverse social sporting competitions in Sydney."

The Inner West Council did not provide a reason why the lease would not be renewed.

"You don't run and grow a competition for 15 years without strong, broad-based community backing so we're a little bemused as to why Council isn't happy for it to continue on mid-week nights in the summer," said Mr Cirillo.

"I respect that the Council has its own governance processes and demand is high for sporting grounds but I'm not sure why we've been left in limbo given our track record."

Mr Cirillo said uncertainty was what killed community-based sporting events and any move to short-term or annual agreements would prove problematic.

"Once you say to people, 'look we think this comp will be happening, next year but that all depends on the Council,' you've lost them. By all means ensure there is appropriate process but I already have over 18 ring-bound folders of compliance paperwork on my office shelf as part of running the competition. In return for managing the compliance burden both commercial and non-commercial sporting organisations need some certainty," he said.

Within a week close to 500 people have already signed an online petition calling for the competition to be retained.



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The petition and comments can be viewed here:

https://www.change.org/p/mayor-clr-darcy-byrne-support-super-6-soccer-s-bid-3-year-lease-extension-at-cenetary-park-croydon?recruiter=1041590201&utm_source=share_petition&utm_campaign=petition_show&utm_medium=whatsapp&recruited_by_id=646b5af0-4950-11ea-8b7b-3ba98b6c934f&utm_content=washarecopy_20137043_en-AU%3Av2

Ends

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