

**Subject: LMM 23/07/2024 - NEWCASTLE PREMIER LEAGUE T20 CRICKET
COMPETITION**

MOTION

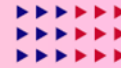
That Council:

1. Congratulates the Newcastle Hunters cricket club and their organising committee on the successful start of Season 3 of their Newcastle Premier League (NPL) T20 cricket competition last month with 16 teams including representing India, Australia, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.
2. Notes the incredible work of this organisation to build this grassroots cricket league in Newcastle, following the recognised need for playing competitive cricket in wintertime in the Hunter Region.
3. Notes the impressive growth of the competition from 8 teams in 2022, to 14 in 2023, to 16 in 2024 with games played across Newcastle, Lake Macquarie, and that since 2023 Cricket NSW has collaborated to support the NPLT20.
4. Note that as well as developing a grassroots winter cricket competition, as an active sports club in the city for the last decade, the Newcastle Hunters organise sporting competitions in soccer, badminton, athletics, and volleyball.
5. Acknowledges the significant role this multicultural cricket competition plays in supporting migrants and refugees in our community by promoting community harmony and social cohesion through sport.
6. Notes that the Newcastle Hunters provide socio-economic support to their community via their small charity wing and has been awarded the NSW Premier's Community Service Award for COVID-related community work.
7. Recognises the significant impact that the City of Newcastle Grants and Sponsorship program has in supporting community organisations like these that build the diverse cultural fabric of the city.
8. Thanks the Newcastle Hunters for their ongoing work to make Newcastle a welcoming, inclusive and culturally diverse city.

BACKGROUND



Season 1 NPLT20 Final Presentation, 11 September 2022



NEWCASTLE PREMIER LEAGUE T20



The reason for the evolution of NPL was the lack of opportunity for playing competitive cricket in the Hunter region during winter season. Till last year, serious cricketers had to travel to Sydney from Newcastle, if they wanted to play proper cricket during winter.



Our reputation as an established sports club prompted cricket enthusiasts approach us with requests to organize a winter cricket competition. As a sporting club it was our responsibility and commitment to the community to address the numerous expressions of interest that we received. Thus originated the first season of NPL T20 which was the first of its kind in the Hunter region that also concluded as a mega success. A quick glimpse at the first season of NPL would be

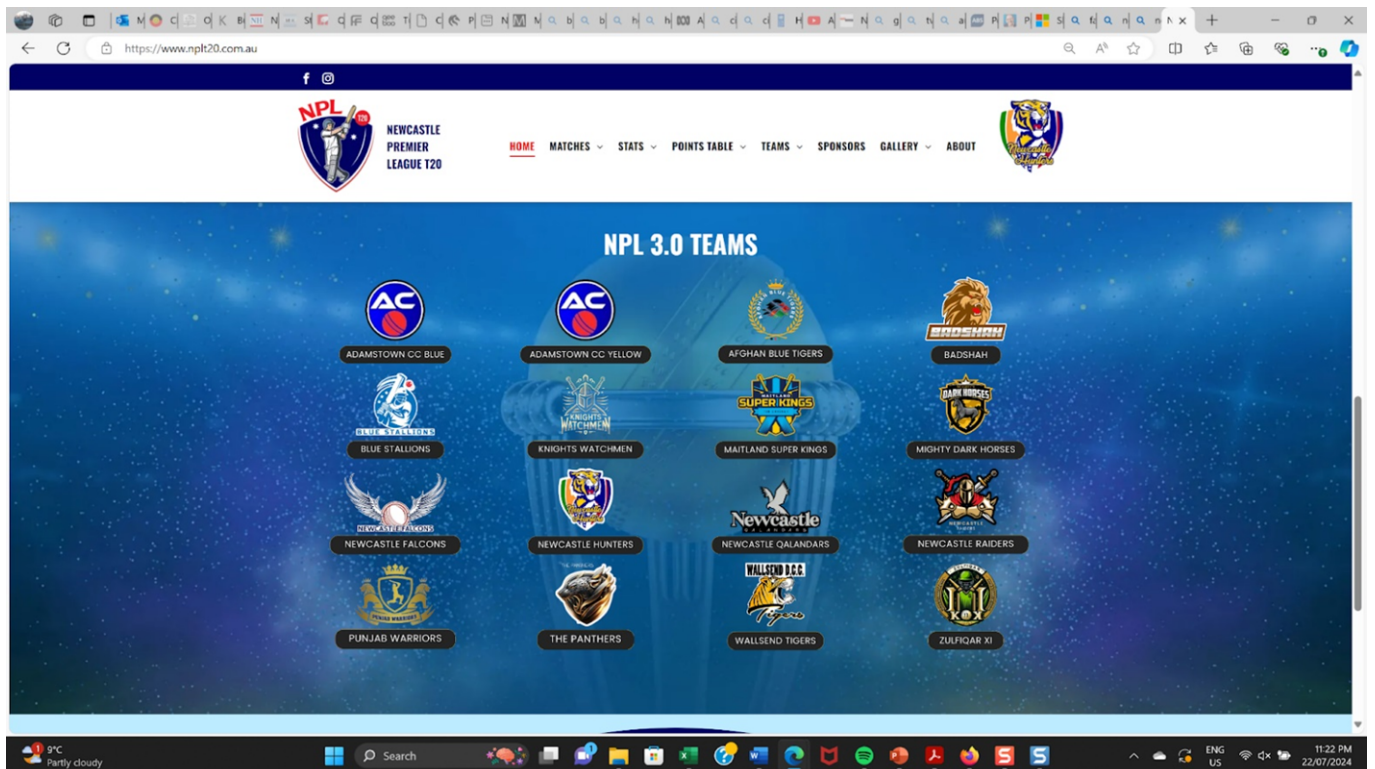
- 8 participating teams
- 16-week season
- Attractive prizes and recognition awards including weekly achievement awards.
- Around 15 grounds across the Hunter region.
- Organizer supplied T-shirts bearing the sponsor logos used by all participating teams.
- Official umpires



About the NPL: Newcastle Premier League T20



Season 2: Poster, NPL T20



Season 3: NPLT20 Teams