

Board of Governance
Baseball New South Wales

Dear Board Members,

We are writing to you as players, parents and supporters of baseball in the Manly Warringah region.

It has come to our attention over recent weeks that one of our junior clubs, North Sydney has proposed moving from the Manly Warringah region to the Ryde region.

This is of significant concern to us as it would materially reduce our playing numbers - particularly in juniors - and threaten the competitiveness and even sustainability of our Charter over the medium-to-long term.

This reduction would leave our juniors numbers – the future of our game - at less than one third of that in the Ryde region. This would make it difficult for Manly to retain playing fields, host a strong club competition and field competitive representative teams. Given this, our ability to attract new players to our sport would be significantly weakened.

Having North Sydney transfer to Ryde would bolster a “super region” and leave Manly as a “rump region”. Surely, this cannot be in the interests of a thriving baseball program within New South Wales, both at a club or representative level.

To illustrate our relative competitiveness, the current Manly Little League Majors All Stars team had only 19 kids trial of which 15 were chosen. Weakening our Charter by removing one of our strongest clubs, North Sydney, can only deplete our depth and competitiveness even further.

This situation would have flow on effects with parents looking for an alternative sport for their younger son or daughter to join given the uncertain outlook for baseball in Manly.

We understand there is friction between the administration of the Manly Region and the current North Sydney club committee, but there are many very good relationships between parents and players across all clubs in the Region. We believe there is a better way to resolve this friction and efforts should be made to resolve the issues before damaging action is taken. Having North Sydney leave Manly may result in a few winners amongst some North Sydney people, but it will leave multiple times more losers across players, parents and supporters who remain.

Surely this situation could be more sensibly and maturely addressed through a period of consultation and compromise rather than the drastic and harmful action of having North Sydney leave the Region.

We ask Baseball NSW to please consider this matter in light of the above and help support the future of Baseball in Manly.

Please do not permit the North Sydney junior club to transfer from the Manly charter to Ryde.

We would welcome the opportunity to elaborate on this situation at your convenience.

Yours faithfully,

David Greer
Timothy Peel
Matthew Goddard

On behalf of players, parents and supporters of baseball in Manly Warringah