



Moree Water Park

Common Questions and Answers

The Moree Water Park (Park) was constructed by the Moree Plains Shire Council (Council) in collaboration with the Moree Water Ski Club (Club) for community water-based recreational and sport activities. The family friendly facility is designed to cater for an array of water based activities.

The Park consists of two water ski lakes built in compliance with International and Australian water ski tournament standards, which are 800 metres long. The third lake was built for a wide range of water sports in the shape of a circuit lake with an island in the middle. It is 1.2 kilometres long with two runs 100 metres wide.

Do I have to be a member of the Moree Water Ski Club to visit the Park?

Yes and No, There will be controlled access for the first 2016/17 summer. Club members and Boat Permit holders will have an access code to the gate and they will be responsible for their guests while ever they are there. Their guests are not required to be Club members.

A similar situation exists with the main Boughton Oval Football Field i.e. it is locked when not in use and has controlled use when unlocked and in use for games and training.

Why is the front gate locked?

This has been a difficult decision. The Club and Council deliberated on the access issues for a long period and settled on a locked gate policy for the first summer and proposed closed not locked gate policy for the summer of 2017-18 when the large general purpose circuit lake is expected to be filled.

In addition, Council and the Club are required to manage potential risks that may occur through improper use of the Park and will require the first summer to fully assess these risks.

Will the site become a haven for vandals and illegal activities at night?

This is a risk that the Club and Council will closely monitor during the first year of operation, which is why the gate will be locked for the 2016-17 summer. To deter undesirable activity, alarms and security cameras are planned to be in place for the 2017-18 summer when access to the Park is proposed to change to a closed not Locked policy.

The Park was built with funds received from rate payers; therefore it should be free for all.

Yes, the lakes were constructed with funds received from rate payers to comply with stringent environmental regulation to ensure ongoing operation of Moree's famous artesian pools. The development, maintenance and operation of the Park will be undertaken by the community in collaboration with the Club with an aim of little or no additional cost to Council.

Do I require a permit, if I want to use a non-powered vessel such as a skiff, canoe, sailing boat or windsurfer on the site?

No, a permit will not be required. However, there will only be limited access until the circuit lake is filled, which is expected in 2017/18, until then please contact the Club to arrange access.

Alternatively, Tarreelaro weir which is east of Moree and Mary Brand Park are good options for casual day use.

Can I use a towable device such as a Biscuit or Flyer?

A towable is not allowed on the two tournament (smaller) lakes due to safety and potential damage to the water ski course. However, a towable will be allowed on the circuit lake when it is expected to be operational in 2017-18. Some restrictions apply; please refer to the Club rules.

My power boat is already registered, which can be used for free on other waterways, why do I have to have a permit to use the Moree Water Park?

The Moree Water Park is a unique facility and powered vessels are required to operate under additional controls to comply with environmental, operational and safety standards of the Park. A permit will ensure that the vessel master understands and adheres to these conditions.

Does my vessel require current state registration?

Yes, it is a prerequisite that your vessel have current registration allowing it to legally operate on a NSW waterway prior to issue of a Club Park Permit.

Why is there a charge for a powered vessel permit?

The Club is required to pay an annual license fee to the Council. The Club has also committed to developing and maintaining the site, which will be at a considerable cost and the Club needs to generate an income to meet these costs. Additionally, the ongoing development of the Park will be dependent on grant funding and most applications require cash and in kind contributions to be successful.

What is the difference between a Boat Permit and a Club membership?

A Boat Permit will allow you to operate your powered vessel on the lakes while a Club membership will allow participation in scheduled Club events.

If I don't have a permit can I use my powered vessel on the lakes?

No, a permit is required, which can be obtained by making an application and submitting the appropriate information including a mechanical inspection declaration.

How do I purchase a Boat Permit?

Go to the Club web site to download the application package. The package will include a boat inspection and declaration form, a code of conduct and a set of Park rules. After completion of the relevant paperwork it may be submitted electronically, posted or dropped into the nominated addresses. *Please note Boat Permit numbers may be limited for the first summer (2016-17) until all the lakes are fully operational.*

After I receive my boat permit when can I use the Park?

A boat permit may be used during daylight hours all year round. However, during the 2016-17 season only the two tournament lakes will be operational. An on-line booking must be made to secure a time slot. Time slots will be limited and subject to the terms of use.

How long will it take to process the boat permit?

One should allow 14 days for a boat permit to be processed. On successful completion, you will be issued with a boat decal and code to the entrance gate.

How long will the boat permit last?

A boat permit will be valid from September to September. Permits purchased later will still expire in September the following year.

Can I purchase a boat permit for a day?

Yes, however the required paperwork will still be required to be completed and a 14 day processing period allowed for. Please contact the Club for details, alternatively Tarreelaro Weir which is east of Moree is a good option for casual day use.

Which boats require a permit?

All powered vessels that legally require registration including jet skis and smaller dinghies.

What is the annual mechanical declaration?

The mechanical declaration can be found on the Club's web site and is required each year. It is the responsibility of the boat permit holder to ensure that their vessel complies at all times when used at the Park.

If I have a boat permit can I bring friends?

Yes, however they are your guests and you are responsible for their behaviour and compliance to the sites code of conduct. They are not required to be Club members. Any behavioural or operational breaches may result in cancelation or suspension of your Boat Permit.

Can I distribute the code on the gate lock?

No! The code is for your use only and entitles you to access the Park. The lending of your code is strictly prohibited and failure to adhere to this may result in the surrendering of your Boat Permit. You are responsible for managing access to the Park by your friends and must ensure the gate is closed at all times. Upon leaving your session you must ensure the gate is locked.

What is the difference between the smaller lakes and the big circuit lake?

The two smaller or tournament lakes have been built to international standards for slalom water skiing. All powered boat activities are allowed on these lakes. The tournament lakes are limited to one boat operating at a time due to environmental noise restraints and safety. The circuit lake has a larger boat capacity and is designed to cater for a multitude of activities.

How long will it take to fill the Lakes?

The two tournament lakes are already full, while the circuit lake is expected to be filled for the 2017-18 summer.

Where can I find out what is happening at the Park?

The Club web site and face book will be the central point of information. It will have all the relevant details and contacts.

I do not have a boat but would like to water ski, what do I do?

By joining the Club, you will have access to sanctioned events including tournaments, coaching sessions and come and try sessions. There will also be a buddy system where you can use the Club web site to contact owners prepared to invite guests.

If I join the Club what do I get?

Access to Club events such as coaching clinics tournaments and come and try days and to a guest buddy system when developed. This is an opportunity to be a part of an organisation that will benefit many in the community.

Will I be expected to help with working bees?

Clubs rely on members to share with the work load to accomplish projects. A Club requires many skill sets and your contribution be it management, driving, coaching or tree planting **will be greatly appreciated**. The more people involved, the quicker the Park will be developed. The more people contribute, the more you will get out of it and the better the Park will be.

How much will a Boat Permit cost?

Fees 2016-2017

New Permit \$350 *(including a bonus family membership valued @ \$190)*

Renewal \$300

What does it cost for a Club family membership? (those without a boat)

Fees 2016-2017

New \$190 *(Immediate family member)*

Renewal \$150 (*Immediate family member*)

How many members are allowed with a family membership?

A family membership applies to the immediate family, i.e. consists of up to two parents and/or guardians and their siblings up to the age of 18 at the time of joining.

Can I go fishing on the lake?

It is not intended to stock the lake with fish at this time; however this may be an option in the future. A plan will be developed should this be considered. The Club is talking to fish restocking experts who will advise best species and when to introduce the fish.

Can I camp at the Park?

Camping will be allowed when the camp grounds are developed. The Club web site will advise the latest information on this. Moree also has some excellent camp grounds and other accommodation in very close proximity to the Park. Primitive camping will be allowed during sanctioned Club events.

Please note that circumstances may change as the Club develops and the lakes are filled. The Club values constructive input.



How will the water quality be managed in the Park

The council will be carrying out regular water tests and monitoring the salinity of the water. The lakes have been designed to allow for the artesian water to flow through the lakes system and ultimately into a final evaporation cell which is yet to be built. Modelling indicates that increased salinity levels will stabilise at this point. The Artesian water has a higher mineral content than fresh water rivers and dams but significantly lower than coastal waters.

Should I flush my vessel motor after use.

The club recommends flushing all engines after use.. There will be a flushing taps at the boat ramps in the summer of 2016/17.

I don't have a boat but would like to join the club what will it cost

Family membership . Two principal carers and children under the age of 18 @ 1st of September the year of joining \$

New membership - summer season 1st Sept . 31st August

Family (<i>Immediate family inc children u18</i>)		\$ 190
Individual <i>Over/18</i>		\$ 80
Junior		\$ 40
Associate <i>non skiing</i>		\$ 30

Discounted renewal of existing memberships - summer season 1st Sept . 31st August

Family (<i>Immediate family inc children u18</i>)		\$ 150
Individual <i>Over/18</i>		\$ 60
Junior		\$ 30
Associate		\$ 25

Why is a new membership more expensive than renewing?

The club wishes to encourage on going memberships and acknowledge the contribution that existing members would have made during their time in the club. New members would not have contributed yet and will have the opportunity to benefit from the discounted rate the second time around.

How much will boat permit cost if I just want it for the day.

The club has yet to set a day rate for the lakes however the application and paperwork will be the same as an annual permit to comply with the park regulations and liability management issues. Given that only one boat can operate at a time on the tournament lakes slots may be limited during peak times. The hourly rate is likely to be between \$50 and \$100 per hour subject to booking and availability. When the main lake is operational in 2017/18 it envisaged that permits will still be required however booking may not be required.