

Media Release

The Hon Martin Pakula MP

Minister for the Coordination of Jobs, Precincts and Regions – COVID-19

Minister for Industry Support and Recovery

Minister for Trade

Minister for Business Precincts

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events

Minister for Racing



Wednesday, 1 July 2020

STEPHEN GOUGH NEW CHAIR OF KARDINIA PARK STADIUM TRUST

One of Australia's most decorated stadium and sports administrators has been appointed as the new chair of the Kardinia Park Stadium Trust.

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events Martin Pakula announced that Stephen Gough would take up the important post from today, following the retirement of Michael Malouf from the Trust. Mr Gough has more than 23 years experience leading the administration of elite club and stadium operations in Victoria.

Mr Gough led the Carlton Football Club from 1993 to 2000 before he was appointed chief executive of the Melbourne Cricket Club – a position he held for 17 years, overseeing major developments of the Northern and Great Southern stands at the MCG and developing the hugely successful Australian Sports Museum.

In 2015 he was appointed by the Victorian Government to a steering committee that developed a new operational model for Kardinia Park stadium, leading to the establishment of the Kardinia Park Stadium Trust in 2016.

In 2018 Mr Gough was made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for his services to sports administration and stadium management in Victoria.

The Kardinia Park Stadium Trust administers, promotes and manages GMHBA Stadium and attached land with an overarching objective of contributing to the economy, community and liveability of the Geelong region and the state.

Other members of the Trust board are Gillian Costa, Rob Hulls, Libby Mears, Dan Simmonds, Joe Calafiore and Bernadette Uzelac.

The jewel of Kardinia Park is GMHBA Stadium, the home of Geelong Football Club and host of more than 90 local, national and international events each year, attracting more than 400,000 visitors.

The Trust is in the planning phase for the fifth stage of the stadium's redevelopment, which will help it to retain its mantle as Australia's best regional stadium.

Minister Pakula thanked Mr Malouf for his significant contribution to the Trust, taking the organisation through a major transformation and overseeing the redevelopment of the precinct into a sporting hub of international quality. Mr Malouf was an inaugural member of the Trust in 2016 before being appointed as its second chair.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events Martin Pakula

"There are few people in the country more qualified to be the chair of a major stadium precinct than Stephen Gough and I know he will do a great job."

"The people of greater Geelong and south-west Victoria are justly proud of Kardinia Park and we're ensuring it stays a premier sport and entertainment asset."

Quote attributable to Kardinia Park Stadium Trust Chair Stephen Gough

"After helping to develop Kardinia Park's operational model five years ago, I'm excited to be coming back at such an important stage in the precinct's development."

Media contact: Shaun Phillips 0407 553 763 | shaun.phillips@minstaff.vic.gov.au