



# BALLYMORE NATIONAL RUGBY TRAINING CENTRE



# AN ELITE RUGBY AND SPORTS PRECINCT

1 New national headquarters for Women's Rugby and the Buildcorp Wallaroos

2 World-class training centre for the Queensland Reds men and women and the Queensland Reds Academy

3 International-standard multi-sports precinct to support high-performance teams and events including the 2027 Rugby World Cup bid, the 2032 Olympic bid and the FIFA Women's Football World Cup in 2023

4 A new precinct to support community rugby volunteer coaches, match officials, educators and players

5 A re-energised rugby stadium for Premier Rugby and representative games



To the Queensland Rugby Family,

Ballymore is the heart and soul of Queensland Rugby.

It is a name renowned through the world, the site of famous victories and exciting, heartbreaking defeats.

A ground which has hosted the best teams in the world and has nurtured some of the world's greatest players.

The National Rugby Training Centre and New McLean Stand will revitalise this legacy with a world-class elite sports high-performance facility.

It will for the first time, base a major national representative sporting team in Queensland, with the NRTC to be the new headquarters for the Buildcorp Wallaroos women's team, as well as the Queensland Reds men's and women's squads.

The NRTC is crucial to the future success of the Reds- with a world-class facility we can build world-class players for generations to come.

Integrated into the high-performance facility, the New McLean Stand will allow the staging of elite games such as Buildcorp Wallaroos Tests.

It will be an important part of major events such as the 2023 Women's Football World Cup and Australia's bid for the 2027 Rugby World Cup.

The NRTC can also become the heart of an Olympic-focused community and high-performance sporting precinct encompassing the Newmarket sports fields to the north.

The exciting design by respected Queensland architects Blight Rayner acknowledges the rich history of Ballymore while rebirthing the precinct for the 21st Century.

It is both the centrepiece and first stage of the redevelopment of Ballymore into a modern sports precinct. The redevelopment is essential to placing the QRU on the path to financial sustainability, and redirecting money to growing the grassroots of our game.

The project is already underway through a \$30 million commitment from the State and Federal Governments, with a further fundraising campaign underway to enhance and improve the precinct.

With your support we can realise the long-held dream of a new Ballymore.



Jeff Miller  
Chairman, Queensland Rugby Union



David Hanham  
CEO, Queensland Rugby Union



*The National Rugby Training Centre has been designed by award-winning Brisbane architects, Blight Rayner.*

*Blight Rayner are also the architects for the Queensland Government's significant New Performing Arts Centre at South Bank. Jayson Blight and Michael Rayner's previous major sports projects include the Anna Meares Velodrome at Chandler and the Thuringowa Riverway Stadium in Townsville.*

*The NRTC concept design phase has been finalised and is moving into detailed design and construction tender phases, with building set to commence in mid-2021.*

**The Ballymore National Rugby Training Centre will be the new national headquarters for Australia's Women's Rugby program and the national Buildcorp Wallaroos womens side, as well as a new training base for the Queensland Reds mens and womens teams and the Queensland Reds Academy.**

The NRTC will be:

- the new home of the Buildcorp Wallaroos and national headquarters for Women's Rugby;
- the centrepiece of a new community recreation and high-performance sports precinct; and
- the future home of new programs such as an International Academy for visiting teams, players and coaches – exporting Queensland's rugby IP to the world.



# THE NATIONAL RUGBY TRAINING CENTRE

Construction begins in mid-2021 on the Ballymore National Rugby Training Centre - the new national headquarters for Australia's women's rugby program, as well as a new training base for the Queensland Reds men's and women's teams and the Queensland Reds Academy.



The facilities include:

- New home of the Buildcorp Wallaroos and national headquarters for Women's Rugby
- Centrepiece of a new community recreation and high-performance sports precinct
- Future home of new programs such as Pacific Pathways and an International Academy for visiting teams, players and coaches – exporting Queensland's rugby IP to the world.

The NRTC will be one of the most advanced sports high-performance centres in Queensland.

- Facilities for almost 100 players at the

one time with dedicated male/female changerooms

- Elite medical, physio and recovery facility
- Modern lecture theatre for coach, player and volunteer education
- Almost 4000sqm devoted to rugby
- 680sqm elite gym
- Integrated 3000-capacity grandstand replacing ageing McLean stand for club and junior representative matches
- Designed with future expansion in mind for rugby and other elite sports





# HONOURING OUR HISTORY, BUILDING OUR FUTURE

**For more than 50 years Ballymore has been the heart and soul of Queensland Rugby.**

Games such as the 1971 Queensland victory over the British Lions, the Reds' 1980 defeat of the All Blacks, the Wallabies narrow defeat by the Lions in 1989 and the record crowd for the Wallabies victory over the Springboks in their return to international competition in 1993.



Home not just to the Queensland Reds mens and womens teams, but a rugby factory nurturing and developing the best young talent.

The Ballymore National Rugby Training Centre and New McLean Stand will revitalise the precinct for the 21st Century while continuing to honour the great history of the ground.

The NRTC will include halls of fame outside the player locker rooms and the upstairs player

lounges and corporate facilities. Queensland's many trophies gathered over almost 150 years will be prominently displayed in a new reception area which will double as a showcase for the ground's rich history.

The QRU is working with a group of QRU Life Members to ensure our players are reminded of the legacy they are part of every time they enter the building.

# A PRECINCT FOR THE FUTURE

The new Ballymore masterplan futureproofs the precinct with spaces for sports health and education, an expansion zone for new sporting programs such as the Wallabies and exciting new community sports facilities.

Linking with the almost 80ha Newmarket Sports Precinct across Enoggera Creek, the redeveloped Ballymore has the potential to become part of a new Olympic precinct for the 2032 Games.

Ballymore has potential to become not just an Olympic venue, but a vital part of creating and training our athletes for 2032.

- Links to Hockey, Netball and Baseball facilities
- High-performance and community sport for women located together
- Potential 2032 Olympic venues for sports such as hockey, climbing and archery
- Olympic training precinct for Rugby Sevens and Sport Climbing and other sports

Rebuilding the precinct is dependent on completing the NRTC and New McLean Stand as the centrepiece building that will encourage new tenants and development in the next decade.





# CAPITAL COSTS

The Ballymore NRTC building is fully costed by Brisbane quantity surveyors Rider Levett Bucknall and the concept design is within a \$30 million budget.

The QRU is raising further funding through the Queensland Rugby Foundation to ensure the facility is world-class, with new field lighting, extra high-performance equipment and facilities such as sprint tracks and kicking areas.



### Committed funding

- \$15 million – Commonwealth Government
- \$15 million – State Government

### Fundraising plan

- \$5 million – Queensland Rugby Foundation



# THE NRTC DESIGN

## BlightRayner

The NRTC and New McLean Stand replaces the ageing McLean Stand on the western side of Ballymore's main field. The design is sympathetic to the design and history of the old stand.

The existing stand's capacity of 3008 (legally restricted to 1640 spectators because of past works which restricted access) will be replaced with a modern 3010-person capacity stand.

The existing undersize Field 3 will be relocated as the main training field, adjoining the NRTC on its other side.

The new building comprises a large high-performance gymnasium and double height pre-activation space, locker and change rooms, a recovery room with plunge pools and sauna at ground level, as well as physiotherapy, medical and emergency suites. The upper level comprises Queensland Rugby and Rugby Australia offices, and a players' lounge and meeting rooms that can convert to corporate

and media suites on match days.

Connecting the two levels are a double-height reception lobby and 60-seat auditorium for team and volunteer training.

These spaces are designed to showcase the almost 140-year history of Queensland Rugby.

Along the main field 2,610 spectator seats are accessed by an upper concourse. A further 400 spectators can be accommodated in the game-day hospitality suites.

The design is simple and understated, to maximise functionality within a tight budget and to embody a sense of local club rugby and community connection.

The minimalist design and structure form distinct geometric shapes that are intended to impart a spirit of committed purpose between the different teams and groups utilising the NRTC.





NATIONAL  
RUGBY  
TRAINING  
CENTRE





