



MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday, 30 June 2016

YMCA wins contract to manage Marion Leisure & Fitness Centre

Marion Council has today announced YMCA South Australia as the successful company to manage the Marion Leisure and Fitness Centre.

Council has awarded the YMCA the contract to manage part of the Morphettville complex for the next five years from September 1.

The YMCA will create a new Wellness Centre offering health and fitness programs aimed at older adults and people with a disability, as well as rehabilitation services.

Hiring of the popular sports stadiums will be expanded by encouraging greater use by schools and disability groups.

The gym in its current format, which has been declining in recent years amid strong competition, will shift to the new model while the sauna and spa will be closed.

Mayor Kris Hanna said the changes would improve the quality of services offered at the Marion Leisure and Fitness Centre and deliver better value for ratepayers' money.

"Council is looking forward to working with the YMCA to offer new services to the community," Mr Hanna said.

"The Wellness Centre is another way to promote the health and fitness of our older residents."

Council and YMCA have written to health club members notifying them of the changes and inviting users to transfer their membership to the Wellness Centre.

YMCA Acting Chief Executive Officer Andrew Mundy said: "YMCA South Australia is excited to continue to manage the Marion Leisure and Fitness Centre and to provide the community with supported health and fitness programs".

"The focus of the Wellness Centre will be the provision of older adult fitness programs, disability services, rehabilitation and exercise physiology with fully supported programs that encourage active participation in a welcoming space," Mr Mundy said.

"We will introduce new fitness equipment to support the change."

Council has secured the futures of existing tenants Gymnastics SA and Koorana Gymnastics by offering them long-term leases at the centre.

Contact: Craig Clarke (City of Marion) 0434 600 637; Lisa Stewart (YMCA) 0459 988 325

The YMCA has been providing quality aquatic and recreation management services for more than 160 years and is South Australia's most experienced and innovative operator of community recreational facilities.

In February 2015, the YMCA was engaged to manage the centre following the departure of CASA Leisure Pty Ltd.

At the time, Council announced it would be reviewing the operations of the centre to ensure it delivered the best value for the community.

Users of the gym requiring more information can contact the centre directly on 8294 6488 or marionleisure@ymca.org.au

Contact: Craig Clarke (City of Marion) 0434 600 637; Lisa Stewart (YMCA) 0459 988 325



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