

Stadium Management Authority announcement
Tuesday 31 August 2010, 11am
Convention Centre

Ian McLachlan speaking notes

- Premier, Minister, Ladies and Gentlemen.
- This morning, SACA and the SANFL take the next step towards realising an opportunity that simply cannot afford to be missed.
- Today, we confirm that it is entirely possible for cricket and football to be played at Adelaide Oval to the benefit of both codes.
- Letters to that effect have been exchanged and our joint commitment to government made.
- In the past months extensive work done by representatives from both cricket and football working on the various Stadium Management Authority groups has produced an excellent and detailed result.
- And the evidence is overwhelming - a revitalised Adelaide Oval will deliver the best outcome for cricket, football and the state.

- I take this opportunity to thank the Premier for the unwavering support he, and his government, have provided to the joint venture.
- I am pleased that today this continues with the announcement that the government will provide a further \$5 million from its \$535 million contribution to allow the venture to progress to the detailed design and tender stages.
- I also take this opportunity to thank Leigh Wicker and the football fraternity for the work they have done and the genuine spirit of goodwill they have brought to the discussions.
- SACA is now in a position to continue the important process of further consultation with SACA members.
- The plan is to hold a second information night to coincide with the AGM later this month.
- Resolutions to permit the joint venture to go ahead will be considered at a Special General Meeting to be held later this year.
- There is a lot of work still to be done. But there is no doubt that the rewards will be more than worth it.
- Today's commitments to Adelaide Oval and to the redevelopment of the Riverbank Precinct will change how Adelaide hosts and enjoys great sporting and entertainment events forever.

- History has witnessed some great moments at Adelaide Oval.
- As one of South Australia's iconic venues, the Oval has hosted royal tours and memorial services for Dame Nellie Melba, Pope John Paul and former Test cricketer David Hookes.
- Some of the world's best-known entertainers have performed there with Paul McCartney, Michael Jackson, Madonna, Elton John and Billy Joel and ACDC all playing to capacity crowds.
- There was the infamous Bodyline Test played in 1933, and who can forget Shane Warne's Day 5 bowling spell that saw Australia claim the Ashes last time England toured.
- SACA believes football can be played again.
- Football believes this can happen again.
- I am convinced it will.