



Dion Collins

Managing Director

0409 003 836

dion@rossplanning.com.au

About Dion

Dion, along with Scott Walker, took over the ROSS Planning reins in 2010 after working as a senior consultant here since 2006. Dion, with almost 20 years' experience in the sport and recreation industry, is a well-known sport planning consultant. His experience, along with his communication skills and dedication to his profession, makes him a leader in this industry. He remains focussed on providing high-quality outcomes for his clients. He has worked for local government, state sporting organisations and elite-level sport as participant, coach and administrator, and, as such is able to analyse projects from a range of perspectives.

Dion was previously the Sport and Recreation Development Officer with the Toowoomba City Council for seven years. During this time, he greatly enhanced his planning, development and management skills and was responsible for delivering a number of significant facilities, plans and policies. Dion remains actively involved in the sports industry as a coach and manager for elite young athletes. He is a current National Junior Coach and Australian Team Coach for Athletics and has accompanied teams to the Commonwealth Youth Games in India in 2008, the World Youth Championships in France in 2011 and Ukraine in 2013, and the World Junior Championships in Spain in 2012 and the United States 2014.

Dion has outstanding community consultation skills. A number of his projects have started with significant community animosity. However, his studies in sports psychology coupled with an ability to relate well with people from all lifestyles enables Dion to encourage stakeholders to think with an open mind. This approach has led to positive and productive outcomes.

Dion displays initiative and innovative problem-solving skills, enjoying success from the grass roots level in planning and building small sustainable clubs through to working with professional and state organisations. His ability to understand the unique needs of each client and community are an asset to the ROSS Planning team.

Education

- Bachelor of Applied Science (Human Movement Studies and Psychology), UQ (1997)
- Post Graduate Bachelor of Science (Sport Psychology - Honours), UQ (1998)

Employment history

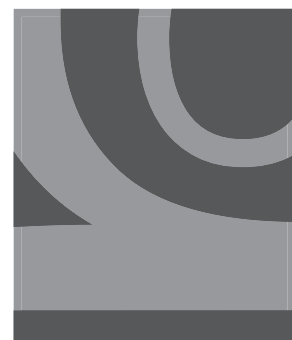
- 2010 - current Managing Director, ROSS Planning
- 2006 - 2010 Senior Consultant, ROSS Planning
- 2000 - 2006 Sport and Recreation Development Officer, Toowoomba City Council
- 1999 - 2000 Development Officer, Queensland Little Athletics
- 1996 - 1999 Technical Assistant, Queensland Cricket

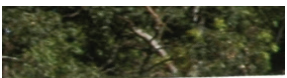
Memberships

- Member, Parks and Leisure Australia

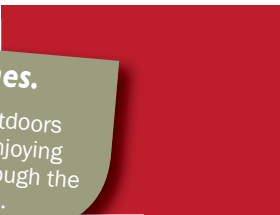
Achievements

- current - Athletics Australia National Junior Coach (Javelin)
- 2004 - 2006 Co-chair of the South East Queensland Local Government Sport and Recreation Professionals Forum
- Dion, as part of his former role with Toowoomba City Council, was pivotal in two significant cycling projects, both receiving impressive award recognition:
 - Toowoomba Mountain Bike Track. 2006 QORF (Queensland Outdoor Recreation Federation) award. Dion project led for Council from initiation through to construction.
 - Toowoomba Criterium Track. 2012 Queensland and National Parks and Leisure Australia Awards for Leisure Facilities. Dion was involved in project initiation, preliminary investigations and attracting government funding.





Behind the scenes.
Dion loves spending time outdoors with his family. Here, he is enjoying taking his kids for a walk through the mangroves at Moonee Beach.



Feature projects

Logan City Council – Sport Optimisation Strategy

Logan City Council wanted an independent assessment of the provision of fourteen particular sports across the local government area, with the view of ensuring that clubs were treated fairly considering their membership (current and potential) and resources. To achieve this, Dion took the time to work with the peak bodies and local clubs to appreciate funding constraints; historic, current and likely future memberships; and facility requirements. He then researched overarching trends for each sport, localised demographic influences and physical opportunities and constraints for each site. On feeling confident with the information compiled, Dion then moved to make recommendation for the clubs and council to consider (e.g. opportunities for amalgamations, relocations, expansions). After gaining agreement from all parties, Dion was able to deliver a quality project to Council with confidence that the recommendations were realistic and well-supported.

Carpentaria Shire Council – Sport and Recreation Plan

Carpentaria Shire Council, located in the gulf in far north Queensland, is not only a remote community but also one with a small population steeped in history. In developing the Sport and Recreation Plan for Carpentaria Shire Council, Dion had to immerse himself in the community – to understand the culture, lifestyle and geographic constraints. Additionally, the impact and influence of tourism, in particular the grey nomad market, was also an important consideration. These factors were essential in writing recommendations that were readily achievable by Council and the community.

Project experience

Below is a list of a range of the projects Dion has managed at ROSS Planning:

- Broken Hill City Council - Primitive Camping Feasibility Study
- Carpentaria Shire Council – Sport and Recreation Plan
- City of Palmerston - Physical Activity Strategy
- Gosford City Council - Open Space and Leisure Services Strategic Plan
- Ipswich City Council – Position Paper on Squash Facilities in Ipswich
- Logan City Council – Sport Optimisation Strategy – Volume 1 and 2
- Melton City Council - Melton South Recreation Reserve Master Plan
- Moreton Bay Regional Council - Management and Land Tenure Comparative Research Project
- Moreton Bay Regional Council - Sport and Recreation Strategy
- Mt Isa City Council - Sport and Recreation Plan
- Northern Energy Corporation Limited - Fraser Coast Shooting Complex
- Redland City Council – North Stradbroke Island Sport and Recreation Plan
- Rockhampton Regional Council - Open Space, Sport and Recreation Plan
- Salisbury City Council - Bridgestone Park Business Case and Master Plan
- Softball Queensland - State Facilities Plan
- Sunshine Coast Council - Quad Park Master Plan
- Tamworth City Council – Recreation and Open Space Plan
- Toowoomba Regional Council - Sport and Recreation Plan