

MEDIA RELEASE
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Eden Park Trust appoints new CEO

Eden Park Trust Board Chairman Doug McKay today announced that Nick Sautner will be its next Chief Executive Officer.

Mr McKay says Mr Sautner was the outstanding candidate for the role given his experience and his significant contribution since arriving at Eden Park in June 2016.

“Over the past twelve months, as General Manager Commercial, Nick has implemented a number of initiatives to grow revenue including an Icon Partnership programme securing Kia Motors New Zealand, Samsung, Kennards Hire, Vodafone, Powerade and AA Insurance,” Mr McKay says.

“And for the first time in the stadium’s history, corporate suites are fully subscribed and membership growth has exceeded 40%.

“Nick has also introduced and driven key community initiatives including a partnership with the Auckland RSA and a public art exhibition celebrating Eden Park’s surrounding neighbourhood.”

Prior to joining the Eden Park team, Mr Sautner had 15 years’ experience in the stadium, event and entertainment sectors. He has worked at the AFL, Melbourne’s Etihad Stadium and the West Australian Football Commission in Perth, in various executive roles including Chief Commercial Officer and Chief Operating Officer.

A passionate sports advocate and player, Sautner’s personal sporting accolades include being a record holding VFL player and he has been awarded club and competition life memberships as acknowledgement of his on-field achievements. Mr Sautner says he is delighted and proud to be appointed to this significant role.

“As an Australian, and like many, I have always considered Eden Park to be one of the world’s most iconic sports stadia,” he says. “Eden Park is known and revered globally.”

“I am honoured to lead the Eden Park team and this historic venue into the future. I look forward to working collaboratively with our venue hirers, local community, council and government, corporate sponsors and contractors for the benefit of the people of Auckland.”

Mr McKay says it is an exciting time for Eden Park and Auckland, with opportunities for new and different events, in conjunction with building on its globally recognised status.

Nick Sautner will commence as Chief Executive Officer on 1 November after taking over from Guy Ngata who will take up the new role as Chief Executive of Dubai Arena.

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For more information:

Melanie McKay
Senior Account Director
Wright Communications
027 410 1196

Doug McKay
Chairman
The Eden Park Trust

About Eden Park

Eden Park is New Zealand's national stadium and a globally-iconic sporting arena, located in central Auckland. Its rich sporting history and profile is unmatched by any other stadium in the country. From its beginnings as a cricket ground in 1903, Eden Park became the primary venue for major summer and winter sport in Auckland when, in 1913, the owner, Auckland Cricket, leased winter use of the ground to Auckland Rugby. A Deed of Trust establishing Auckland Cricket and Auckland Rugby as the beneficial owners of Eden Park was signed in 1926 and has since been enshrined in legislation. Most notably remembered for hosting the 1987 and 2011 Rugby World Cup Finals, Eden Park remains the home of both Auckland Cricket and Auckland Rugby as it has been for more than a century.

Eden Park Trust operates as a statutory not-for-profit body corporate, registered as a charitable trust with the Charities Commission. Its objectives are to promote, operate and develop Eden Park as a high quality multi-purpose stadium for the use and benefit of rugby and cricket as well as other sporting codes and other recreational, musical, and cultural events for the benefit of the public of the Auckland region.

Each year, more than half a million sports and entertainment fans from around the world visit Eden Park. The stadium successfully hosts sell-out crowds of up to 50,000 on match days and hosts more than 1,000 non-match day functions per year.