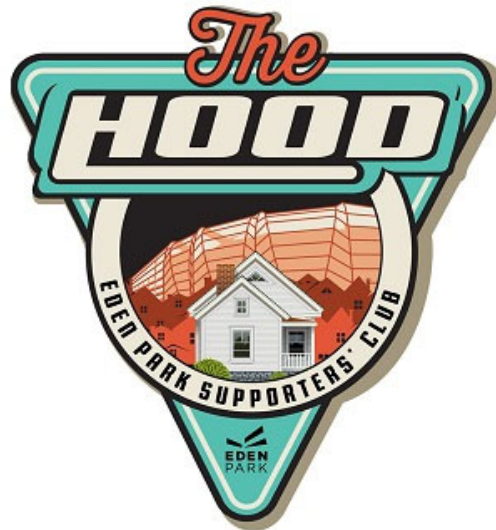


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**From:** Eden Park <info@edenpark.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 11 March 2021 4:16 pm  
**To:**  
**Subject:** The Hood: Turf Blessing, Blues tickets and domestic cricket



### **Turf Blessing**

Earlier this morning our new HG Hero Eden Park Edition turf was blessed by Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei in an unforgettable ceremony. The field perimeter was walked by a group of around 50 guests and TVNZ's Breakfast was there to conduct a live cross which can be [viewed here](#). This Sunday's Sky Super Rugby Aotearoa match marks the first activity on our fresh field.

The turf continues to be a special aspect of Eden Park with the All Blacks remaining unbeaten on the old field. We saw an immense demand last year when Kiwis had the opportunity to purchase their own piece of Eden Park turf and take home one square metre or return their entire backyard with a piece of the historic ground. This proved the mana that lies within our Park, after hosting the events including the 2005 and 2017 British and Irish Lions Series,

the first-ever T20 international match in 2005, the 2011 Rugby World Cup, 2015 Cricket World Cup, countless Bledisloe Cup clashes, as well as Auckland Rugby and Blues matches.

Our HG Hero Eden Park Edition turf sees a new era for the stadium as this is the first time a new field has been welcomed in 17 years. The product was grown on our turf farm in Karaka before being transport in giant turf rolls to the stadium. The turf, which consists of 5% synthetic fibres, will support our aspirations of both increased and varied content including hosting three Women's World Cup events and Te Matatini, as well as a range of other diverse content including concerts.

### **Blues v Highlanders**

Beating the Hurricanes away in the opening round was a fantastic start to the Blues' season and they will look to continue that start with a win against a Highlanders outfit that got more and more dangerous against the Chiefs last week. The Gordon Hunter Trophy will be on the line and if the Blues win they will make the record 10 all in contests so far.

We'll be here from 7am tomorrow at Entry G reception (limited to two tickets per household in The Hood). This weekend's Traffic Management Plan can be [viewed here](#). Please note, these tickets are only valid if Government signals Auckland can shift to Alert Level 1 in time for this match.

Gates open: 2.00pm

Kick off: 3.35pm \*A helicopter will be landing in the stadium to deliver the match ball.

### **Domestic Cricket – Auckland Hearts**

The Auckland Hearts are facing the Canterbury Magicians this weekend in the Hallyburton Johnstone Shield. If Auckland remains at Alert Level 2, the matches will proceed without fans. Gates will be closed to the public and only staff required to deliver the game will be permitted, with a range of COVID-19 measures in place. If Auckland is at Alert Level 1, fans are permitted and entry is free via Gate J.

Saturday 13 March and Sunday 14 March

Gates Open: 10.30am

First Ball: 11am



**EDEN PARK**

**NEW ZEALAND'S NATIONAL STADIUM**

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