



The President
Melbourne Cricket Club Committee
Yarra Park
Brunton Avenue
East Melbourne VIC 3002

Thursday, 10 April 2025

Dear Mr Oldfield,

The MCG's MEAA union delegate team is deeply concerned about the incident that occurred during the AFL Round 4 match between Collingwood and Carlton at the MCG on April 3, 2025, where a deadly weapon was brought into the MCG by a patron.

The incident was highly distressing for staff, and it calls into question the effectiveness of the security measures currently in place at the MCG.

While the prompt response to apprehend the individuals is appreciated, the security system's failure to detect the weapon before it was brought onto the premises is very concerning.

Because of this, we ask that the MCC:

1. Conducts a full and thorough investigation of the incident;
2. Conducts a comprehensive audit of the current security measures in place at the ground;
3. Includes a representative from the MEAA union delegate team in these processes, and that the results are shared with the team.

We also ask that MCC management provides answers to the following questions:

- Has there been a reduction of security staff, specifically Securecorp staff, following the implementation of the AI-driven Evolv Express screening technology?
- What does a typical shift look like for Securecorp staff who do the manual secondary screening? How long do staff work in the role of the manual secondary screener before being rotated or switched? What measures are in place to prevent fatigue and ensure quality assurance?

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- What is the level of training provided to staff who operate the AI screening technology and what quality assurance measures are in place to ensure it is being used properly?
- How often is the AI screening technology checked and calibrated, what is the process for doing this, and who is responsible for it?
- What is the false positive rate of the AI screening machines?

Further, we have concerns with some elements of the statement issued by CEO Stuart Fox in response to the incident.

In the statement, Mr. Fox indicated that the incident was a result of a breakdown in the thoroughness of the secondary and manual screening process.

We are concerned that, in the timeframe that the statement was issued, it was not possible to properly investigate and identify the reasons the incident occurred. We do not believe that it was appropriate to pre-empt a full investigation that takes into account all potential contributing factors.

In particular, genuine and reasonable concerns with the MCC's reliance on AI technology were not raised as a potential contributing factor to the incident.

It is our understanding that the US Federal Trade Commission has previously sued Evolv, alleging the company made false claims about its AI-powered security screening system. In 2022, IPVM reported that the false positive rate of the Evolv technology can range between 5 and 60 percent.

We ask that any future statements made by the MCC do not aim to identify the cause of the incident until a full investigation occurs.

To assist in dealing with this matter with urgency, we ask that the MCC provide a response to this letter within five business days.

Thank you,

MEAA Union Delegate team

CC: Melbourne Cricket Club Committee
Stuart Fox, CEO
Lizzie Gregory, Executive Manager – Event Operations
Josh Eltringham, General Manager – Venue and Event Services

