

SPORTS MANAGEMENT

VOLUME 14 Q3 2010



EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT...

...a national
strategy for sports
facility access

GROWING THE GRASSROOTS

**The FIL World Lacrosse
Championships offers a
legacy link for the sport**

Tanni Grey-Thompson

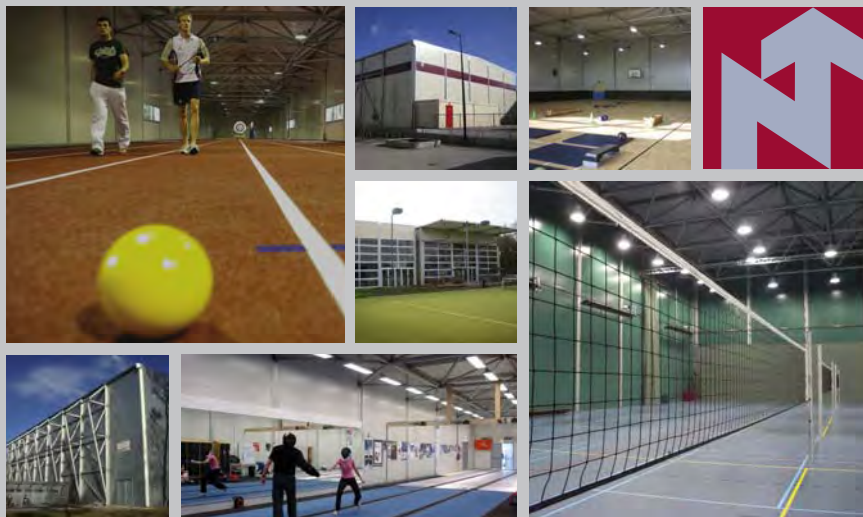
on equality for
women and the
disabled in sport



**Delhi 2010 Commonwealth
Games facility focus**

READ SPORTS MANAGEMENT ONLINE
WWW.SPORTSMANAGEMENT.CO.UK/DIGITAL

All the space you need



Neptunus offer semi-permanent Sports Halls and Leisure Centre buildings available for hire or purchase.

Neptunus offer you experience which brings together creative design and a comprehensive product range. We are proud of our reputation for delivering high quality facilities. Together we will create your perfect space.

Come and meet Neptunus and get impressed!

Hall 18, Stand 25 - LIW 2010 | Sport Show

NEPTUNUS Ltd

The Old Rectory | Main Street | Glenfield
Leicestershire LE3 8DG | United Kingdom

T (+44) 0845 180 40 01 | F (+44) 0116 232 01 50

sales@neptunus.co.uk | www.neptunus.co.uk





Lewis Ratcliff at the recent World Lacrosse Championships

e-mail: please use contact's fullname@leisuremedia.com

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Julie Albone

+44 (0)1462 471915

EDITOR

Liz Terry

+44 (0)1462 431385

MANAGING EDITOR

Karen Maxwell

+44 (0)1462 471920

NEWS EDITOR

Tom Walker

+44 (0)1462 471934

JOURNALISTS

Martin Nash

+44 (0)1462 471911

Pete Hayman

+44 (0)1462 471938

PRODUCTS EDITORS

Sarah Todd

+44 (0)1462 471933

ACTING PUBLISHER

John Challinor

+44 (0)1582 607970

DISPLAY ADVERTISING

David Hunt

+44 (0)1462 471902

Jan Williams

+44 (0)1462 471909

Julie Badrick

+44 (0)1462 471919

DESIGN

Ed Gallagher

+44 (0)1905 20198

Andy Bundy

+44 (0)1462 471924

Claire Topley

+44 (0)1462 471910

INTERNET

Dean Fox

+44 (0)1462 471900

Tim Nash

+44 (0)1462 471917

CIRCULATION MANAGER

Michael Emmerson

+44 (0)1462 471932

FINANCIAL CONTROL

Sue Davis

+44 (0)1395 519398

FINANCIAL ADMIN

Denise Gidea

+44 (0)1462 471930

Sports market analysed

The value of the sports economy in England reached £16.668bn at the end of 2008, according to a new report from the Sport Industry Research centre at Sheffield Hallam University – *Economic Value of Sport in England 1985-2008* – which outlines in detail how the sector has grown. This figure is explained as the 'gross value added' and is calculated as the sum of wages and profits generated. It compares with £3.358bn in 1985 and £13.649bn in 2003.

The report analyses numbers from a variety of areas, including participation in both sport and health and fitness, sports gambling, tv, video, publications and travel and sports clothing, footwear and equipment. It follows an earlier study by the same researchers in 2005 and uses numbers generated before that by Cambridge Econometrics in their report *The Value of the Sports Economy in the Regions*.

Commissioned by Sport England as a record of economic activity, the research looked at the public, private and voluntary sectors. It found that sport's annual contribution to the economy grew 140 per cent in real terms between the dates in question. In the same period, the English economy grew by 97 per cent in real terms, so the sports economy "outstripped that of the English economy as a whole". Researchers also established that the more recent growth between 2005 and 2008 was driven by "investment directed toward the London Olympics and long-term Sport England policy to increase sports participation."

The team at Sheffield concludes that sport's economic resilience reflects the growing number of people who "consider sports participation as being more a basic need than a luxury." It found consumers spent

At a time when government cuts are inevitable, having these numbers to hand will strengthen sport's case and enable our policymakers to defend the sector as an employment generator

£17.385bn on sport in 2008 – up 138 per cent from 1985 or 2.3 per cent of consumer expenditure.

The most significant areas of consumer spending on sport are participation subscriptions and fees, sports clothing and footwear and gambling. Together these three categories account for £9.517bn (at 2003 prices) or nearly 59 per cent of sport-related expenditure in England in 2008.

Sport's a big employer, with 441,000 people currently working in the sector – up from 304,000 in 1985. The majority – at 76 per cent – are in the commercial sector, with 11 per cent in the voluntary sector and 13 per cent in the public sector. Sport-related employment increased 45.1 per cent between 1985 and 2008, with the number increasing by 20.7 per cent between 2000 and 2008. The most recent research show sports-related employment between 2005 and 2008 growing by 2 per cent. In responding, minister for Sport and the Olympics, Hugh Robertson, said: "This report is proof sport is a serious industry – with job opportunities on the rise in the private sector, despite the recession."



The report gives us a clearer idea of the total value of sport when all aspects of it are considered and it's a great sign that this is being recognised at government level. The funding that goes into sports participation at a national and local level increases participation and engagement and this in turn has a knock-on effect for the private sector, where profits are gained by a wide variety of businesses.

At a time when government cuts are inevitable, having these numbers to hand will strengthen sport's case and enable our policymakers to defend public and voluntary sector sport as an employment generator and private sector partner.

Liz Terry, editor lizterry@leisuremedia.com **twitter:** [elizterry](https://twitter.com/elizterry)

the leisure media company publishes



IN THIS ISSUE



16 Paralympian Tanni Grey-Thompson



46 Making a splash in Cardiff



50 Lacrosse is going for gold



34 Innovative building materials



29 Expanding the pool of tennis players



67 Lighting requirements for sports events

3 Editor's letter

6 Write to reply

7 Analysis: John Goodbody
Another shake-up in sport

8 Industry news

13 People news

14 SAPCA update

16 Interview: Tanni Grey-Thompson
The Baroness discusses inclusive sport

20 Delhi 2010 Commonwealth Games: Facility Focus

23 Show preview: IOG SALTEX

The outdoor event offers live demonstrations and seminars for groundspeople

24 Everyone's talking about:

National access to sports facilities
Key people from within the industry share their views with Karen Maxwell

29 Do facilities hold the key to success in British tennis?

Phil Sandilands highlights the issues

34 Material world

What's new in fabric design by Rod Sheard

38 Singapore Youth Olympics

Behind the scenes with Cathy Livock

40 City sports

David Hart talks about the logistics behind the Manchester Great CityGames

44 Swimming in open water

Karen Maxwell tracks its rise in popularity since the 2008 Beijing Olympics

46 New Opening: Cardiff

International White Water Centre
Magali Robathan visits the Olympic-standard pumped water canoe slalom course and white water experience

49 2012 Profile: Shaun McCarthy

The chair of the Commission for a Sustainable 2012 talks to Karen Maxwell about how the Games could shape future policy



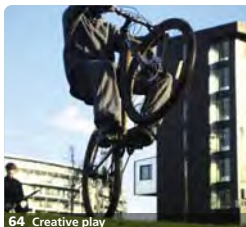
38 Singapore hosts the Youth Olympics



73 Upgrading indoor flooring



40 Running in the city



64 Creative play



44 Heading for open water

50 Grassroots: Lacrosse

How a sporting legacy will be created off the back of the recent 2010 World Lacrosse Championships in Manchester

54 Technical guidance for synthetic turf

SAPCA's Dr Colin Young outlines the latest developments for sports surfaces

57 Pitch design from the inside out

What's needed for sustainable natural sports surfaces by Dr Richard Earl

60 Equality in sport

Kath Hudson looks at the benefits of the new Equality Act for sports personnel

64 Adventure play

Nigel Richardson explains the concept

67 Developing sport floodlighting solutions

Kelvin Austin shares his views

70 Pedal power

Sports conditioning for cyclists

73 Nearly new

Refurbishing sports floors

76 SAPCA directory

79 Buyers' briefing

80 Sports directory

SPORTS MANAGEMENT

ISSUE 3 2010



digital magazine

See Sports Management online
www.sportsmanagement.co.uk/digital



news and jobs:

For jobs and news visit
www.sportsmanagement.co.uk
or sign up for e-news on
www.leisuresubs.com

subscribe:

Sign up for Sports Management at
www.leisuresubs.com or call:
+44 (0)1462 471915

attention buyers!

find suppliers and
innovation updates
www.sport-kit.net



buyers' guide:

For suppliers of products and
services, turn to page 80

SAPCA

Sports Management is the official magazine of the Sports and Play Construction Association (SAPCA), the trade body for the UK's sports facility construction industry. Sports Management and SAPCA work in partnership to promote high standards in the design, construction and maintenance of UK sports facilities

WRITE TO REPLY

Do you hold a strong opinion about your industry?
Where are things going wrong, or right?

Sports Management would love to hear from you.
Email: sm@leisuremedia.com



Manchester extends free swimming initiative

I'm sure disappointment has been felt around the country with the news that funding from central government for free swimming has been cut. Staying active is important for the health and wellbeing of the UK population and the under 16s and the over 60s have lost a great incentive to do so.

Improving Manchester residents' access to sport is a priority for Manchester City Council and the results from the free swimming scheme since it was introduced in 2008 speak for themselves.

Among the over 60s there were more than 50,000 visits to Manchester's public swimming pools recorded in the last 12 months. Among young people the figure is more than 135,000. In some areas we have seen the number of young people swimming increase by more than 50 per cent – with the biggest impact witnessed during the school holidays.

With such clear benefits to the people of Manchester, the city council has therefore decided to make it our priority to keep the service going.



Free swimming has proved to be a hit with Manchester residents

At a time when health problems such as obesity and heart disease are at an all-time high and threatening to put a greater strain on the health service – and particularly at a time when families are least likely to be able to afford to pay for sports activity – the council believes it is incredibly important to encourage people to take part in healthy activities and this scheme was a demonstrably effective way of achieving this.

We have now put a contingency plan in place, which allows the over 60s to swim for free in the city's public pools at any time and the under 16s can enjoy free swimming in the summer holidays.

I am very proud that we have been able to find a solution and can continue to provide this essential service to our residents. **Councillor Mike Amesbury, executive member for Culture and Leisure, Manchester City Council**

SPORTS HALL SOLUTIONS

I couldn't agree more with Marcus Kingswell's observations in his letter *Death of the Four Court Sports Hall* (SM Q3 10, p6). With space at a premium and finances for improvements scarce, we all recognise that the trusty school gym must serve as a multi-discipline gym; not only for PE and sports but of ten dance, drama and examinations.

I'm sure many of us recall the sports hall as the dark domain of dingy décor and over-polished wooden floors, but it needn't remain so.

There appears however, to be an ongoing reluctance to consider anything but the antiquated traditional-build sports hall, which is perplexing given there are

other lower-cost and more sustainable options deserving of exploration.

Why are we clinging to an archaic methodology for sport provision when there is a more sustainable, more eco-friendly, and more cost-effective alternative?

In order for us to lead by example and usher our young people into a greener

age, we must think outside the box and begin to consider more innovative, flexible indoor sports solutions. All we need is vision and imagination, and with this we are equipped to transform, rather than simply modernise, our sports space.

Nicola Smith, marketing manager, Collinson Plc

CORRECTION

With reference to the pitch care item within the Surrey Sports Park feature (SM Q1 10, p31), Sports Management would like to clarify that Kestrel Contractors were responsible for the park's natural grass construction.

Kestrel spread the top-soil, adjusted levels and cultivated the land for the centre in 2008 and 2009. The company also installed the sand slits, drainage and applied the sand.



John Goodbody reports on

Another shake-up in sport

British sport will be given another shake-up in the demand for greater efficiency as the government seeks to trim costs in every area of its budget with the Annual Spending Review. Due to be announced on 20 October, sport cannot expect to be immune and nor will it be.

The decision to merge three leading bodies is part of an understandable desire to cut the number of quangos in public life. Under the government's proposal, UK Sport, Sport England and the Youth Sport Trust will be merged and will be answerable to one board, although the three will remain as separate divisions within that body and will retain their existing functions. UK Sport will be responsible for elite British competition, such as funding athletes for the Olympic Games. Sport England will focus on community development and the Youth Sport Trust on schools.

This move virtually takes us back to where we were pre-1997, when the Sports Council was responsible for both sport in the UK and also for England.

In the announcement made by the Culture Secretary Jeremy Hunt, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland seem certain to retain their individual sports councils as they always have done, although the government department accepts that it "will have to work closely with them to finalise proposals".

You might ask why there was this separation of the English Sports Council – later rebranded Sport England – and the UK Sports Council – later rebranded UK Sport? One reason was that it would demonstrate to the government that the English Sports Council was being relatively underfunded compared with its counterparts in the other constituent members of the UK. This was not apparent when the Sports Council was responsible for both areas. As a result, Sport England secured money after 1997 that was more



Sport should be the same as defence, health or education, with the government responsible for the public money it's spending

commensurate with the far larger population for which it was responsible.

No doubt Richard Lewis, who was appointed to chair Sport England in April 2009, will be scrutinising the budgets in future to see how much they are cut – provided he survives the merger. So will Baroness Sue Campbell, the chair of UK Sport, whose distress at the news was scarcely disguised when she said that the merger "goes further than we had previously expected".

However, this government, like its predecessors, has once again dodged an important issue, highlighted by Denis Howell, possibly the best Sports Minister this country has ever had. In his book, *Made in Birmingham*, he asked: "What is the role of the Minister for Sport who has given away all his power to the Sports Council?" Tony Banks, one of his successors, put it more succinctly in 1997 when he was asked to speak at a CCPR conference on 'Who runs British Sport?' He began by saying "Well, it's not me."

Apart from Howell, perhaps the two outstanding Sports Ministers have been Colin Moynihan (1987-90) and Kate

Hoey (1999-2001). In 2005, they produced an independent sports review entitled *Raising the Bar* in which they urged the government to sweep away the quangos and set up a one-stop shop, the Sports Foundation, which would be chaired by the Secretary of State. He or she would dictate policy for sport in this country. Instead, what happens at the moment is that someone to the government's liking is appointed to chair the quangos instead of government ministers doing the job themselves.

This is not only a fudge, but it also wastes public money. The chairs of these quangos have to be paid and they also have to have paid administrators and secretarial assistance. A whole tranche of public administration would be saved if these quangos came directly under the government. Sport should be the same as defence, health or education, with the government directly responsible for the public money it is spending.

The government wants to save money and ensure a streamlining of administration. With the Olympics under two years away, now is the moment for it to act. ●

Dormant millions to improve sports facilities

The government is to look into the possibility of using abandoned betting accounts and other unclaimed winnings to benefit good sporting causes.

John Penrose, minister for tourism and heritage, said: "There is potential for some really good causes to benefit from this money. We have to look at all the options first but it seems a natural fit that funds from abandoned betting accounts should be used to benefit grassroots sports projects."

Don Foster MP has been tasked with compiling a report into how much money would be involved, as well as determining how a betting account can be classified as dormant and clarifying any legal ramifications surrounding the use of the money.

He said: "I'll be meeting representatives from all parts of the industry throughout the autumn to gain views and suggestions on how this can work."

"It would be great to see some local sporting facilities and initiatives



Funds from abandoned betting and bank accounts could fund new venues

getting some extra funding in these difficult financial times."

The review stems from a pledge in the Coalition Agreement to look into the best use of abandoned betting accounts. Foster will present his

findings – along with a possible proposal of new legislation – to the minister by the end of the year.

Once the findings of the initial report have been considered, a formal consultation process will follow.

Sobell decision overturned by council

Islington Council has overturned a decision by the previous administration to pursue the demolition and rebuilding of the Sobell Centre in Holloway, North London.

In September 2008, the Liberal Democrat-led council decided to approve plans for a new multi-million pound complex to replace the current facility, which first opened in 1973.

However, the now Labour-run Islington Council has moved to rescind the decision in favour of refurbishing the centre after it was claimed a public consultation did not include that option.

A report put before the council's executive last month said: "The previous consultation on the future of the Sobell Centre did not include any options for refurbishment. The current financial climate will not allow for a major renewal of the Sobell Centre and an incremental refurbishment programme will provide for its future."



The centre will now be upgraded

Islington Council recently reopened the centre's ice rink following the completion of work to improve the facility, which has included a new coolant gas supply and protective viewing surround.

The improvements form part of a wider £1.7m package to include repairs to the centre's roof and upgraded heating, lighting and ventilation systems.

Budget golf course concept launched

A new low cost golf course, which allows players to book tee times online without any membership fees, has launched in Guildford, Surrey.

The 18-hole Clandon Golf will operate purely on a 'pay as you play' basis and aims to attract players of all abilities. It has no club house or other facilities normally associated with golf clubs and all bookings and payments are made online.

The venture is the brainchild of Guy Buckley, formerly of IMG and the Clubhaus Group.

He said: "This project has been 12 years in the making. It has been a long road to get to this point where we can now open. My vision is 'Jaguar golf at Ford prices' and the whole idea is to give people the chance to play a fantastic course."

The course was built by Kestrel Contractors, which will also maintain the course on behalf of Buckley.

Table tennis for London's streets

Ping-pong tables were lined up across the concourse of London's St Pancras International railway station on 22 July to mark the launch of a month-long scheme to get more people playing the sport.

A total of 100 tables will be set up at locations across the capital as part of the Ping! initiative, with venues including Westfield Shopping Centre, Soho Square, Heathrow Terminal 3 and Tate Britain.

The English Table Tennis Association (ETTA) and the participatory arts group, Sing London, have teamed up to deliver the Sport England-funded scheme to provide tables for free, impromptu use.

A programme of masterclasses, competitions and other activities are planned, such as a 'singles for singles'



Arts group Sing London has teamed up with ETTA to promote table tennis

dating event. Around half of the tables will be retained on a permanent basis.

Sport England chief executive Jennie Price added: "Sport England's job is to make sure everyone has the chance to play a sport that interests them, and

sometimes that means taking the sport to the people, rather than the people to the sport. Table tennis has wide appeal, and I hope that thousands of people will take advantage of these outdoor tables and will enjoy playing."

£100m golf resort planned for Aberdeenshire

A £100m golf resort is being planned for Royal Deeside in Aberdeenshire, Scotland. The plans involve expanding the Inchmarlo Golf Centre, which is already a four-star resort with two courses (one of which is championship standard).

According to the Scottish newspaper *The Press & Journal*, the proposals include a 75-bed hotel that would include a leisure centre, spa, swimming pool and conferencing facilities. A new restaurant would link the golf club and the hotel.

The plans are the brainchild of Frank Burnett and his business partner Colin Wilson, who bought a controlling stake in the Inchmarlo club last year.

There are also plans for housing, an all-weather sports pitch and a Nick Nairn Cook School, which would be a tourist attraction. Despite its proximity to the £750m golf resort planned by Donald Trump, Sarah Malone, senior vice-president of Trump International – Scotland, was pleased about the resort.

She said: "This is welcome news. Alongside Trump International Golf

Links, Scotland, developments such as this will help the north-east to become established as a world-class golf tourism destination where visitors want to stay longer to experience the top-quality courses on offer."

She added that she hoped Aberdeenshire City Council will reach a decision by November this year.

Construction on Donald Trump's golf resort at the Menie Estate began in July after planning applications were given final approval by Aberdeenshire Council.

KENTISH TOWN SPORTS CENTRE REOPENS

The Kentish Town Sports Centre in London reopened on 26 July following a fully-comprehensive £25m redevelopment of the Grade II-listed Victorian building.

Facilities at the new centre include three swimming pools, a 90-station health and fitness club equipped by Technogym, a Kinesis area, a Power Plate zone, a large group exercise stu-

dio and a Wii Fit interactive zone. Work also included the refurbishment of the centre's heritage features – such as the main Willes pool roof and façade – and the creation of a new café.

The redevelopment project was undertaken by a team which included Roberts Limbrick Architects; construction consultants Davis Langdon; property experts Cyril Sweett; Max

Fordham Consulting Engineers; Alan Baxter & Associates; and Wates Construction. The building has achieved a Very Good BREEAM (environmental building assessment) rating and has been designed to be more eco-friendly and cheaper to run by using an existing bore-hole to supply water to the pools.

The centre will be managed by Greenwich Leisure (GLL).



An artist's impression of the new stadium

St Helens project approved

Plans for a new St Helens Rugby League stadium have been given the green light.

The 18,000-seat stadium will be built by Barr Construction – appointed by the Saints' development partner Langtree.

The project, which is being developed in conjunction with St Helens Council and the North West Regional Development Agency, will also boast a 3,000sq ft (279sq m) community centre – to be

managed by the council – the uses of which will be issued in the council's forthcoming Youth Strategy report.

Eamonn McManus, Saints chair, said: "This is a proud day for me as chairman of this great club. Our supporters will now see their club's new home rise out of this site. This stadium is fitting for a club of the tradition of Saints and demonstrates that we are a forward-looking club with our eyes fixed on the future."



Castleford Tigers to pursue stadium plans

Castleford Tigers rugby league club is to pursue plans for a new stadium after securing an agreement with developer Waystone that secures land for the development.

The announcement comes days after Wakefield Trinity Wildcats rejected a possible ground share with the Tigers and reaffirmed its commitment to the development of a new venue at Newmarket.

Waystone has been given the green light for the Glasshoughton venue as part of a wider 335-acre (136-hectare) mixed-use development, which includes a retail village.

Historic Victoria Leisure Centre to be revamped

Plans to replace the Victoria Leisure Centre in Sneinton, Nottingham, with a new £9m facility have been given the final approval by central government.

The plans were given the green-light by Nottingham City Council in June, but as the building is located within a conservation area and is owned by the council, the plans required the approval of Eric Pickles, the secretary of state for Communities and Local Government.

Designs for the complex have been drawn up by architects Levitate and form part of a wider £32m council-led scheme to upgrade leisure provision across Nottingham.

Plans include a six-lane, 25m swimming pool, a new café and retail space and fitness and health suites.

Visitors to UK spend £2.3bn on sport

According to a new survey by national tourism agency VisitBritain, three million visitors to the UK in 2008 spent £2.3bn watching and playing sport.

The survey shows that nearly two million visitors watched sport in Britain in 2008, the most recent year for which full figures are available. They often did this at an iconic venue such as Lord's or Hampden Park.

Meanwhile, 1.4 million visitors played some form of amateur sport at more modest British locations. Some of these visitor both watched and played.

VisitBritain calculates that sporty foreign tourists accounted for about 14 per cent of all spending by visitors in 2008, with a sporting visitor spending far more – an average of £900 per trip – than an 'ordinary' foreign tourist who typically spends £500.

Football is revealed to be the key attraction for foreign spectators. Around



Venues such as Lord's attract thousands of tourists each year

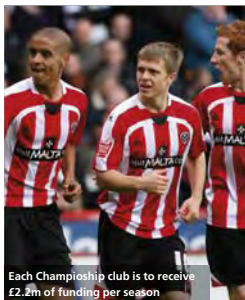
1.2 million went to a match, of whom 267,000 were Irish, 95,000 American, 88,000 German, 86,000 Norwegian, 75,000 Spanish, 65,000 Italian, 55,000 Australian, 52,000 Dutch, 46,000 French and 39,000 Swedish.

£372m deal for Football League

The Premier League has announced a £372m financial package to be shared by Football League member clubs over the next three years, after a number of rule changes were agreed.

At an extraordinary general meeting held in Derby, Football League members approved changes to regulations governing club finances, ownership and the criteria for grounds, as well as third party interests in players. As a result, clubs in the npower Championship are set to secure an additional £2.2m per season in extra revenue, with League One and League Two clubs securing £335,000 and £225,000 per year respectively.

Premier League chief executive Richard Scudamore said: "The extra revenue coming in every season for the next three will make an enormous difference



Each Championship club is to receive £2.2m of funding per season

to the individual incomes of those clubs, but more importantly will make planning for the future that much easier.

"Having common rules in areas such as player contracts and public disclosure of club ownership is something we have worked towards for a number of years."

INDUSTRY COMMENT



Hugh Robertson
Minister for Sport and the Olympics

During the five years that I shadowed this job in opposition, one of the most common complaints was about the level of bureaucracy in sport.

Given the current economic situation, it also makes sense to see what we can do, as a new government, to reduce the administrative costs that deter volunteers from getting involved with community sports clubs.

This is why I have asked the Sport and Recreation Alliance (SRA) – formerly the Central Council of Physical Recreation (CCPR) – to produce a report advising me on ways to cut the red tape and bureaucracy that hits sports clubs and holds back participation. For example, I want to ensure that the new vetting and barring system does not deter volunteers from getting involved in sport and place an unnecessary burden on clubs. I also want to see if health and safety legislation has elements within it that deter volunteers from helping and coaching young people in sport. Furthermore, I would like to see if there are ways to make it easier and quicker to help improve sports facilities and playing fields.

As Minister for Sport and the Olympics, one of my key priorities is to extend opportunities through sport to the maximum number of people. Volunteers are key to this so I want to make sure that, as a government, we strike the right balance between offering an appropriate level of protection but encouraging people to get involved.

Blow for Bristol stadium proposals

Bristol City Football Club's (BCFC) plans for a new 30,000-seat stadium have been dealt a blow after the local authority refused permission for a supermarket development.

Sainsbury's had lodged plans to move its Winterstoke Road store to the club's current Ashton Gate site in order to help fund the development of the proposed Ashton Vale regional stadium.

Bristol City Council's development control committee (south and east), however, went against the advice of planning officers and rejected the proposed supermarket scheme.

The npower Championship club has already received planning consent from the city council and North Somerset Council for the development of the Ashton Vale stadium.

£4.74M REVAMP FOR BIRMINGHAM SPORTS CENTRE

Birmingham's Aston University has announced that work is due to commence next month on a major £4.74m refurbishment of the Grade II-listed Woodcock Sports Centre.

The venue, which boasts one of the city's oldest operational swimming pools, will benefit from an extended gymnasium space, improved changing facilities and a purpose-built martial arts and dance studio.

Linford Building has been appointed to deliver the structural renovation

and refurbishment part of the scheme, designed by Warwick-based Robothams Architects and project managed by Edward Finch Partnership.

The existing swimming pool – originally known as the First Class pool – and the sports hall will be retained as part of the refurbishment, which is due to be completed by September 2011. The university took over responsibility for the Woodcock facility in 1980 from Birmingham City Council. The venue was listed two years later.



Work starts on new adiZone for Sandown

The Isle of Wight Council (IOWC) has confirmed that work has started on the construction of an adiZone multi-sports facility at Sandham Gardens, Sandown.

Basketball hoops, a football goal, a climbing wall, an outdoor gym and a dance area will be provided by the new adiZone, which has been funded by sports kit supplier Adidas and the Small Rural Towns Project.

The IOWC Safer Communities Partnership also contributed towards the site, which will become the 50th adiZone in the UK.



The facility includes two floodlit artificial football pitches

£1m pavilion for Peterborough

A new £1m community sports facility has been unveiled in Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, which forms part of a section 106 agreement between the local authority and developer Barratt Homes.

The project has comprised the creation of a pavilion, two natural football pitches – one adult and one junior – a floodlit four-court multi-use games area and a car park.

Kier Eastern and Agripower Contractors have delivered the new facilities, which have been developed on a 2.7 hectare (6.7 acre) site at the former British Sugar estate as part of a wider housing scheme.

Councillor Matthew Lee from Peterborough City Council said: "It's a boost for the area and I'm really pleased. It's been four years in the making and is now the third community centre in the ward."

Work begins on Oxford's Barton Pool scheme

Work has started on a scheme to redevelop Oxford's Barton Pool, which is set to boast a new 40-station gym, improved changing facilities and a new reception area.

Improvements will also be carried out to the 25m pool and existing studio as part of work at the four-year-old facility, which is to be renamed Barton Leisure Centre and is operated by Fusion Lifestyle.

An extension next to the pool and existing entrance will house the new facilities and has been designed in the same style as the complex and includes eco-friendly measures. The scheme is being funded using savings generated by Oxford City Council's decision to transfer the management of the centre to Fusion Lifestyle.

2012 organisers confirm £27m savings

Reparations for the 2012 London Games remain on course despite the government's decision to reduce the Olympic Delivery Authority's (ODA) budget as part of wider efforts to reduce public spending.

Organisers have confirmed that £27m worth of savings have been made in areas including construction site security and the media venues, as well as smaller alterations to the Basketball Arena and Velodrome. The latest *London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Quarterly Economic Report* also revealed that the Games' anticipated final cost has been cut by £6m to £7.261bn.

According to the ODA, more than £100m has now been saved during the last quarter and around £700m since the baseline budget was agreed in November 2007, which have helped offset increases in other areas.

Hugh Robertson, minister for sport and the Olympics, said: "This report



The overall cost of the Olympic project has been scaled to £7.261bn

shows they have delivered £27m of savings as part of the government's measures for reducing the deficit while keeping the Olympic programme intact.

"It also shows that the anticipated final cost remains stable despite the impact of the forthcoming VAT and tax increases. Given we are halfway through the most complex year in construction terms, this shows how well this project is being run."



STEWART REGAN LEADS THE SFA

Stewart Regan has stepped down as chief executive of Yorkshire County Cricket Club (YCCC) to lead the Scottish Football Association (SFA).

Regan replaces Gordon Smith as SFA chief executive, who announced his departure from the national governing body in April, after three years in the position.

Regan is a former director of the Football League Championship and strategic planning director at Bass Brewers. During his time at YCCC, he oversaw the opening of the new £21m Carnegie Pavilion.

YCCC chair Colin Graves said Regan has contributed enormously to the development of the club over the past four years.



WOODWARD JOINS IOC COMMISSION

The British Olympic Association's director of Olympic performance and former coach of England's 2003 World Cup winning rugby team, Sir Clive Woodward, has joined the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) newly-formed Entourage Commission as a representative of the 205 National Olympic Committees.

The Commission, chaired by 1988 pole vault Olympic champion Sergey Bubka, is responsible for addressing matters relating to coaches, trainers and athletes' support teams.

Woodward says: "The Commission will play a crucial role in developing the team behind the athlete."

Nigel Walker is named head of EIS

BBC Wales' Head of Change and Internal Communications and former international athlete and rugby player, Nigel Walker, is to join the English Institute of Sport (EIS) as national director.

Walker, who will leave the BBC later this year, represented Great Britain as a high hurdler and pursued a second sports career in international rugby in 1992.

"I'm looking forward to getting started at the EIS. It's a unique role that enables me to bring together all my skills, experience and interests," says Walker. "Having been a UK Sport board member I have



seen the challenges faced by the Institute but also the opportunities available to it."

Walker is also chair of UK Sport's Major Events Panel and a member of its Audit Committee.



FARRANT HEADS UP THURROCK COUNCIL

Thurrock Council has appointed Graham Farrant as its new chief executive. He will take over from the council's interim chief executive Bob Coomber.

Farrant brings experience in both the public and private sectors to his new role. He comes from a four-year chief executive position at pmpgenesis management consultancy, and was previously chief executive of Leisure Connection leisure management company. He was also chief executive of the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham and has 25 years' experience in local authorities, starting as an Environmental Health Officer at Westminster in 1982.

A graduate of Brunel University where he secured an MSc in Environmental Pollution Science and the University of Greenwich (BSc, Environmental Health), Farrant says: "I have extensive experience of working within challenging financial environments, an imperative for the lead officer of any public service organisation for the foreseeable future."

"There have been some issues at Thurrock Council, but I believe Bob Coomber has done a tremendous job in his interim post and I am looking forward to carrying on those improvements and making Thurrock a leading council providing top-quality services for all its residents."

Synthetic pitch workshop at IOG SALTEX

The Sports and Play Construction Association (SAPCA) will host a workshop within the seminar programme at this year's IOG SALTEX exhibition, at Windsor Racecourse on Thursday 9 September.

The workshop will provide expert guidance on how to choose the right playing surface for synthetic turf pitch projects, focusing on the needs of four sports: football, rugby union, rugby league and hockey.

The session will provide delegates with a greater understanding of the key factors that should be used in selecting surfaces, including: playing performance, type and intensity of use, standards of play, maintenance requirements, alternative products and whole-life project costs.



IOG SALTEX will be held from 7-9 September at Windsor Racecourse

SAPCA supports the CPFA conference

As part of its close relationship with the network of County Playing Fields Associations (CPFA), SAPCA again supported its annual conference in June.

This year's programme focused largely on the future of the CPFA movement, but included sessions on the recent Sports Facilities Inquiry and the newly-launched Queen Elizabeth II Fields

initiative. Dr Colin Young of SAPCA provided delegates with an update on useful sources of technical guidance for sports and play projects.

During the conference dinner, awards were presented to three individual CPFAs in recognition of their work. SAPCA presented the award for community sports development to the London Playing Fields Foundation

(LPFF) for its successful Coping Through Football project. This ground-breaking project saw the LPFF work with the statutory health service to provide a sustainable recovery model for one of the society's most marginalised groups, the long-term mentally ill.

Katherine Shutler of the LPFF received the award from SAPCA chief executive Chris Trickey.

From Leeds to Belfast

Last month, 200 delegates attended SAPCA's first regional exhibition of the year, which was held at the Royal Armouries in Leeds.

During the event, delegates were treated to a series of informative and educational seminars. The keynote presentation was delivered by Sport England's director of property, Charles Johnston, who spoke about the national strategy to improve the country's sports facilities.

The next event will take place at the King's Hall in Belfast on 19 October. Presented jointly with Sport Northern Ireland, seminar topics will include:

- Sports facility procurement
- A stadia safety programme
- Financial feasibility of synthetic pitches



Delegates at the Royal Armouries in Leeds

- Sports surface maintenance
- The design of modern sports facilities in schools
- The latest standards for sports facilities
- Construction requirements for outdoor sports facilities
- Raising the quality of natural turf for sport
- The design of indoor sports facilities

SAPCA ANNUAL TECHNICAL MEETING

This year, SAPCA will host its first Annual Technical Meeting at Loughborough University on 4 November.

This one-day event will keep SAPCA members up to date with the latest technical developments in sports facility construction with presentations and workshops on a variety of key topics, including: ground conditions and sub-base design; performance standards and testing; sustainability and water management; indoor structures and surfaces; natural sports turf and synthetic surface selection protocols.

Exclusive Leisure lifts golf trophy

SAPCA's annual golf tournament took place at a sun-drenched Staverton Park at the end of June, which proved a test of both skill and stamina for the 50 members and guests taking part.

The Exclusive Leisure pairing of Lee Towers and Steve Byrnes came out on top to lift the trophy, narrowly edging out the joint Football Association/Desso team of Alex Stead and Hannah Buckley, and the UK Athletics pair of Peter Sutcliffe and Robert Thickpenny.

Both Peter Sutcliffe and Hannah Buckley recorded the highest individual scores, with Peter declared the winner on count back.



Left to right: Lee Towers and Steve Byrnes win this year's trophy at Staverton Park Golf Club

Eric Page re-elected vice-chair at SAPCA AGM

Over 50 members attending the Association's AGM in May, re-elected Eric Page of Courtstall Services as SAPCA vice-chair for a new one-year term of office.

Page also now becomes SAPCA's finance chair following the retirement

from SAPCA's board of directors of Charles Lawrence. A special presentation was made to Lawrence to mark his service to SAPCA, having been a leading figure in the creation of the association 13 years ago. Charles was SAPCA's first chair, serving from 1997 to 2001.



Insert left to right: Charles Lawrence and Chris Trickey

New code of practice for natural sports turf

SAPCA's latest Code of Practice has been published, for the Design, Construction and Improvement of Natural Sports Turf. Copies are available to download free of charge from the SAPCA website.

The Code of Practice represents a consensus of expert opinion, with input from specialist contractors, leading turf consultants and agronomists, top groundsmen and sports governing bodies.

The new design guidance and construction standards will help to provide winter sports pitches, cricket pitches and tennis courts of the right quality that will be sustainable, affordable and responsive to good maintenance. The use of the Code of Practice will also help to ensure that funding for facility improvement and construction work is invested wisely.



Tanni Grey-Thompson

Karen Maxwell talks to Britain's most successful Paralympian about women's rights, disability issues and life after retiring from competitive sport

I have to admit that I was greatly looking forward to meeting Tanni – or I should say Baroness Grey-Thompson of Eaglescliffe – at her new abode in the House of Lords. She's renowned for her easy-going, down-to-earth nature although her prowess on the track and enduring support for sport and social initiatives has made her one of the most influential female sports administrators in the UK.

Champion of the track, of women's rights and the rights of disabled people, our paths hadn't crossed before, but she quickly empathised with my role as a woman in the mostly male world of sport and the fact that we were both working mums.

"Being an elite athlete was much easier than being a mum [to Carys, aged eight years] because I had more control of my life and there were systems in place to help me progress," she says adding that Carys has often accompanied her to training camps, black tie dinners and committee meetings. "The problem is giving women – many of whom need flexibility to balance home and work – the courage to move forward in sport," she explains. "For example, a man who thinks he's half qualified for a job will go for it, whereas a woman who's 99 per cent qualified will still think that she's not good enough. For me, it was my sporting success that's given me confidence."

Raising the bar

Arguably the most successful Paralympic athlete in the country, Grey-Thompson competed for GB for 20 years, which included five Paralympic Games. When she retired from wheelchair racing in

2007, she had won no less than 11 Paralympic and five World Championship gold medals and had come first across the line at the Women's London Wheelchair Marathon six times.

Mindful of equipping herself with the knowledge and know-how to move onto a "proper job" once her competing days were over, she also found time to sit on the Sports Council of Wales as a board member. In addition to this, she also sat on the English Sports Lottery Panel, was a board member at UK Sport, vice chair of the Lottery and was heavily involved in [what was then known as] British Athletics – in-between training and competing. "I had decided that I didn't want to spend the first two to three years after retiring wondering what to do next," she says. "There's nothing quite like the thrill of competing in front of 100,000 people, but I didn't want there to be either."

In her first year of retirement, Grey-Thompson joined the board of UK Athletics and did a bit of TV and radio work but said she didn't fancy a long-term career in the media. "It's good fun, but I knew I wasn't going to make a living commenting on the Paralympics every four years," she says. "So I decided to get more involved with sports politics."

Armed with a BA in politics from Loughborough University (not to mention the 24 honorary degrees she's been awarded by various academic institutions around the country), she also made a move away from sport and joined Transport for London (TfL). "I saw this as a great opportunity to gain more experience, especially financial experience," she explained. "In sport, £100m is a huge amount of money, but in transport terms it's a lift at Green Park tube station."





“The problem is giving women, many of whom need flexibility to balance home and work, the courage to move forward in sport”



Grey-Thompson has won 11 Paralympic and five World Championship gold medals

Welcome to Westminster

She was called to the House of Lords at the beginning of this year and has stated her interests to be in sport, education, women's rights and disability rights. "I've given myself two years to really know and understand the place and my role within it, and will then contribute where necessary," she explains.

Although she says her Maiden speech was truly terrifying, she's already finding her feet within Parliament. "I'm in the middle of a massive learning curve and I've been working really long hours, but everyone's been really friendly and helpful – no matter what bench they sit on – and I think the quicker I understand how this place works, the quicker I can contribute. I think perhaps one of the best pieces of advice I got when I came here is 'don't join a debate unless you know what you're talking about', so I'm listening and learning all the time."

Charitable causes

Grey-Thompson spends four days a week in Westminster, which she says is tough, bearing in mind that it's not a paid role, as she needs to fit her other commitments into her schedule. However, she still finds time to dedicate a day a week for community and volunteer activities. "I tend to use this time to visit schools, attend record of achievement evenings or coach wheelchair athletics," she explains.

She also dedicates her time to her role of trustee of two charities. One is a volunteering programme called V, which provides a million volunteering opportunities for young people. The other is the Laureate Sport for Good





Above: Inspiring girls in Jordan. Right: Track training and in Israel with Ed Moses



→ Foundation, which supports 76 programmes around the world that use sport as a tool to change young people's lives.

"I try to visit one project every year," Grey-Thompson explains. "Together with Ed Moses as chair plus Boris Becker and myself as vice chairs we are able to generate quite a bit of media attention to these causes. So far I've overseen projects in Jordan, Israel, Palestine and Rwanda and enjoy finding out women's and disabled people's experience in sport in other countries.

The charity works with local organisations within these countries to bring people together and change perceived attitudes towards their neighbours.

"We've helped to set up sitting volleyball tournaments for young Hutu and Tutsi post-genocide amputees in Rwanda and worked with children from opposing communities in Northern Ireland to help them understand that people who come from an opposing religious background are the same as them," she explains. "We also helped to find a way for young Palestinian girls to take up regular physical activity in an appropriate environment and dress that their parents were comfortable with and linked this to an educational programme on the health and physical benefits attached to regular activity."

On the subject of regular activity, Grey-Thompson admits that her varying commitments make it hard to keep up with her own exercise regime. "I do a lot of rehab work because my shoulders are pretty much destroyed. I do a couple of weight sessions a week and get out on my bike or chair when I can. People say it must be easy for an ex-athlete to keep fit but I programmed myself to do 120 miles a week – which isn't normal, so I'm learning about what's appropriate for where I am now. I'm still doing a few 10k races a year. Although whereas before I'd be upset if I was slower than 26 minutes, now I think that 34 minutes is absolutely fine."

A good Paralympic team indicates a progressive social programme for disabled people within that nation

Gearing up to 2012

With reference to her first experience in wheelchair racing aged 13, to the growth of media coverage and sponsorship in Paralympic events today, Grey-Thompson says it has changed beyond recognition and she's excited about the message London 2012 will send to nations across the world.

"Britain is one of the world's most successful Paralympic nations in terms of our athlete preparation and medal achievements," she says. "In Athens, for example, we finished second in the medals table behind China, which is quite a feat for a small island, when you think that China has over 800 million disabled people in its pool of potential athletes. A good Paralympic team indicates a progressive social programme for disabled people within that nation. We're in the fortunate position of having funding from UK Sport and the Lottery to help host successful events – in fact, no less than six World and European-level Paralympic events are being held in the UK this year."

However, she says there's still room for improvement. "It's vitally important that all the seats are filled at the London 2012 Paralympics. We want people to care

about our Paralympians in the same way that they might follow the likes of Jessica Ennis towards the 2012 Olympics."

Regarding inclusive access to and from the Games itself, I ask whether she's involved in creating a strategy for London's public transport in her role at TfL. "There's no remit but I get involved through the athletes committee at the London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games," she says. "There's 60 London Underground stations that have step-free access, but the whole network will not be wheelchair accessible by 2012. However, what we can do is provide people with the right information so that they have choices, which means training the 2012 volunteers to help people get around," she says.

Encouraging disabled children into sport in the first place is a major issue for Grey-Thompson and she says good access to sport and physical activity at a young age is key. "Too many children, for reasons of health and safety or ignorance, have negative experiences," she says. "It's not just the schools' fault – it's often the parents that wrap their children in cotton wool. Whereas I was brought up by my parents to believe that anything is possible." ●

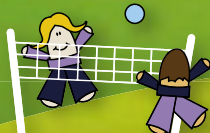
exhibit at

Sport

21-23 Sept 2010
NEC Birmingham

LEISURE INDUSTRY WEEK

let's get
active



LEISURE INDUSTRY WEEK 21-23 September 2010 · NEC Birmingham

Supported by National Governing Bodies of sport and the Sports and Play Construction Association (SAPCA), Sport at LIW remains the leading meeting place for all key stakeholders responsible for increasing participation, developing infrastructure and improving performance in the UK Sports Industry.

Exhibit in the Sport sector at Leisure Industry Week and get in front of people responsible for developing sport facilities and community sport opportunities.

For more information on exhibiting contact Jonathan Monks on 0207 955 3972 or jonathan.monks@ubm.com



For more information on LIW 2010 visit www.liw.co.uk/sm



DELHI 2010 Commonwealth Games

Karen Maxwell looks at how the Games' legacy will benefit Delhi and checks out some of the venues

The Delhi 2010 Commonwealth Games – the biggest cultural and sporting event ever held in India – officially commences on 3 October 2010, during which around 6,000 athletes from 71 nations and territories – representing one third of the world's population – will compete in 17 sports over 12 days of ceremonies and competition.

The Games will also feature an expanded sport programme from the 2002 and 2006 Commonwealth Games, which successfully integrated Paraspport events into the Games competition schedule. This year, the Paraspport programme will comprise 15 events, across four sports – swimming, athletics, table tennis and powerlifting – with 15 gold medals to compete for. All these events will be integrated into the main Games competition schedule.

Legacy

A major sporting event can offer huge international prestige for the host country, and so the 2010 Commonwealth Games is bound to boost brand India. The country is heralded as the next world economic superpower and this event will be another opportunity to project the nation on the world's stage.

The historic, colonial-style city of Delhi – home of 14 million people – is benefiting from a major facelift off the back of the Games, which will help to boost urban renewal, create jobs,

increase investment and transform the city's landscape. It's monuments and heritage building are being restored, areas such as East Delhi and the Yamuna riverfront are being developed and Connaught Place shopping area now boasts a new façade.

Another sector that's also seen huge improvements is transportation. Road infrastructure, flyovers and bridges have been expanded to improve transport links to the Games and the city in general, with a big emphasis being placed on expanding national highways and integrating the rail and bus transport system. Indira Gandhi International Airport is being modernised, expanded and upgraded. At a cost of US\$1.95bn (£1.24bn), Terminal 3 has improved airport passenger capacity to more than 37 million passengers a year and a new runway is being constructed to allow for over 75 flights an hour. The airport has also been better connected to the city via a six-lane expressway.

Two new power plants are also on target to enhance the electricity supply to the city and its surrounding areas and improved water distribution and solid waste management systems will add considerably to Delhi citizen's comfort post-Games.

However, it will be the Games' dramatically improved sports facilities, such as the new Olympic-size swimming pool and Delhi University gymnasium that will boost sports provision and everyday participation for Delhi's youth in future years.

Venues

Apart from Delhi's existing sports and ceremony facilities, 26 brand new training venues have been [or are in the process of being] constructed to house the different sports at the Games and 16 training venues are being upgraded. Apart from a few hiccups earlier in the building programme, the organising committee has now started the initial venue take-over process with venue operation teams moving into completed buildings.

"Almost 700 people have already shifted to the venues," says the

This event will be another opportunity to project the nation onto the world's stage



THE BRISKENHOLTS.COM/ALAMY/REUTERS



Delhi 2010 secretary general Dr Lait Bahnot. "Overlays work started on 15 July, we are on target to formally move into most of the venues by 15 August and into the remaining venues by the end of the month."

The 17 sports will be held at six venue clusters and five stand alone venues. Ceremonies, athletics, lawn bowls and weightlifting will be held at Cluster I – Jawaharlal Nehru Sports Complex; cycling, gymnastics and wrestling at Cluster II – Indira Gandhi Sports Complex; archery (qualification rounds) and table tennis at Cluster III – Yamuna Sports Complex; badminton and squash at Cluster IV – Siri Fort Sports Complex; hockey and archery finals (India Gate)

at Cluster V – MDC National Stadium Complex; and swimming and boxing at Cluster VI – Talkatora Garden Complex.

Green Games

The Games' organising committee signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the United Nations' Environment Programme of its intent to host a sustainable Games and to take the environment into consideration when constructing and renovating the sports venues.

Some of the green initiatives include the use of solar energy for water heaters and external lighting and maximising natural day lighting in the building design. Sensor-based, low-flow water fixtures have been used to reduce water

Jawaharlal Stadium will host the opening and closing ceremonies

consumption, some buildings harvest rainwater and wastewater has been treated for flushing and horticulture.

Thyagaraja Stadium has been singled out as the Games' model green venue. This building has been constructed from locally-sourced low-energy, recyclable building materials, such as fly ash lime bricks for the walls and recycled rubber for the flooring and carbon dioxide sensors have been fitted to monitor indoor air quality. The concrete waste products have been reused as aggregate in construction or road filling and steel bits for packaging materials.

the venues > > >

CLUSTER I – JAWAHARLAL NEHRU SPORTS COMPLEX

Hosted sports: Athletics, lawn bowls and weightlifting as well as the opening and closing ceremonies

Capacity: Ceremonies – 75,000; athletics – 60,000; weightlifting – 2,500; lawn bowls: green I – 416, green II – 680, green III – 448 and Green IV – 112

Named after the first Prime Minister of India, the Jawaharlal Nehru stadium is the third largest stadium in India and was constructed by the Indian government to host the 9th Asian Games in 1982. It also hosted the 1990 Asian Championships in athletics.

The stadium (pictured above) has undergone a refurbishment that has reduced the spectator seating capacity from 78,000 to 60,000.

CLUSTER II – INDIRA GANDHI SPORTS COMPLEX

Hosted sports: Gymnastics, cycling and wrestling

Capacity: 14,500

This complex includes the recently renovated Indira Gandhi stadium, the biggest indoor stadium in India. It's a three-tier, 14,500-seat venue with a built-up area of 72,425sq m.

Green features include thermal insulation of the roof, gypsum board partitions and wall panelings, external glazing with low energy tinted glasses and energy-efficient lighting fixtures.

In order to conserve water, the building accesses rain water harvesting via an existing lake within the complex.





DELHI VELODROME

Hosted sport: Cycling
Capacity: 3,800

This building is the first of its kind in India and meets the international UCI standards as a category 1 cycling velodrome. It features a 250m timber cycling track, 2,200 lux level sports lighting and a public address system for concert-level sound.

CLUSTER III – YAMUNA SPORTS COMPLEX

Hosted sports: Archery (qualification rounds) and table tennis
Training Venue: Gymnastics, lawn bowls, archery, hockey and swimming
Capacity: 1,500



CLUSTER IV – SIRI FORT SPORTS COMPLEX

Hosted Sports: Badminton and squash
Capacity: Badminton – 4,748, squash – 3,128

This complex offers five match courts and one warm-up court for badminton and 11 singles courts – convertible to five double courts – for squash.



CLUSTER V – MAJOR DHYAN CHAND SPORTS COMPLEX

Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium

Hosted sports: Hockey. **Capacity:** Pitch I – 16,055, Pitch II – 2,500

This stadium, also known for its cricket coaching facilities, was originally built in 1933 as a multi-use stadium and named the Irwin Amphitheatre. It was renamed National Stadium for the 1951 Asian Games and the famous hockey player Dhyan Chand's name was added in 2002.

Most recently, this stadium played host to the 2010 Men's Hockey World Cup and was the first venue to be unveiled for the 2010 Commonwealth Games.

It's refurbishment includes a new rectangular seating bowl and polygrass turf has been laid on its three synthetic pitches, two of which confirm to international standards and one for practice. The competitive pitches are floodlit with foldable towers which provide 2,200lux illumination for HDTV transmission.



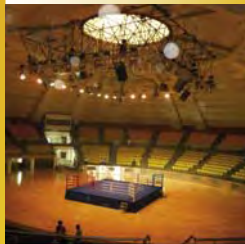
COMMONWEALTH GAMES VILLAGE

The Commonwealth Games Village will be home to 8,000 international athletes and team officials and easily accessible from all competition and training venues.

Spread over an area of 63.5 hectare (158.4 acre), the village has 14 blocks, 34 towers and 1,168 air-conditioned flats. There are a number of accommodation types ranging from two to five bedroom units, each with en-suite facilities which with only two occupants per room is the highest ratio of facilities provided for any Games.

The village also offers training areas, which includes a 400m eight-lane synthetic track, a separate area for throwing events, a 50m swimming pool, a weightlifting and wrestling area; a fitness centre and a leisure pool.

CLUSTER VI – TALKATORA GARDEN COMPLEX



Talkatora Indoor Stadium

Hosted sport: Boxing
Capacity: 3,035 spectators, 2,700 of which can be seated

This new 1.5bn rupees (£21m) stadium has one competition ring, four warm-up areas and a tunnel to facilitate movement of athletes from the facility block to the main stadium.

Natural resources were used in its construction and, where possible, natural habitat was preserved and integrated into the stadium's surrounding landscaped design.

Thyagaraj Sports Complex

Hosted Sports: Netball
Capacity: 4,495

The Thyagaraj stadium within this complex is a key example of environmentally friendly construction.

Built at a cost of US\$65m (£41m), across 16.5 acres, it was built using the latest green design techniques. Fly ash bricks were used in construction (a residue generated by the combustion of coal) and the solar powered energy system is expected to generate 1.4 million kWh of electricity a year to fulfill the power requirements of the stadium, with surplus electricity being fed into the grid. A 2.5 MW gas turbine has also been installed, its cogeneration system will use the exhaust gases to meet the stadium's air conditioning needs.

IOG SALTEX



An informative event for all groundscape professionals, this year's outdoor show offers product demonstrations and detailed seminars from over 400 exhibitors at Windsor Racecourse

This year's IOG SALTEX event – which takes place from 7-9 September at Windsor Racecourse – is a far cry from the first 'Field Day' event, which was organised by the National Association of Groundsmen at London's Hurlingham Club in 1938, with just 25 exhibitors. Today, the Institute of Groundsmanship's (IOG) annual event covers more than 50 acres of space and boasts products and services from over 400 exhibitors, ranging from tractors and landscape equipment to street furniture and playgrounds.

According to independent research conducted during last year's event, visitors could spend more than £1bn on groundspace and open space products and services in the coming year.

The research, which showed higher figures than those taken at IOG SALTEX 2008, revealed that more than 1,000 visitors were from organisations that spend over £1m each year on open space management products and services and more than 600 visitors were from organisations that spend over £500,000. This spending power is reinforced by the fact that 70 per cent of last year's visitors had buying power and 80 per cent of these said the event influenced their buying decisions.

This research also found that 80 per cent of visitors attended last year's show to look for new ideas and 86 per cent stressed the importance of watching demonstrations in an outdoor environment.

Mark Harrod (second left) presented last year's Volunteer Sports Groundsman of the Year Award to Ian Reid from Vipers RFC



Research found that 86 per cent of visitors stressed the importance of demonstrations in an outdoor environment

The sports zone

One of a number of special feature areas planned for this year's show is the Sports Zone. Located near the south entrance, exhibitors within this zone will feature a comprehensive range of products, advice and solutions.

Bobcom will showcase its line marking GMX applicator, the environmentally-friendly Bag Box and a new range of synthetic marking paints. Fleet Line Markers will demonstrate its range of line marking machines and paints. Stadia Sports will exhibit equipment for football, tennis, cricket, rugby, hockey and athletics, as well as badminton, basketball and volleyball. Stuart Canvas will demonstrate its range of rain and frost pitch covers.

Sport Turf Village

As well as showcasing landscaping, outdoor leisure and play surfaces and equipment, the show will feature the Sports Turf Village. Supported by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), pitch advisors and IOG training instructors will perform demonstrations on natural and synthetic turf including setting and marking out,

mowing, aeration, scarifying and fertiliser application for natural turf and brushing, weed and moss control, marking out and repairs to synthetic turf.

Awards

As a result of the partnership between four of Europe's largest organisers of open space management exhibitions, IOG SALTEX has announced the EDGE (Expo Demo Green Europe) Innovation Awards for the Construction and Maintenance of Open Spaces and the Design and Supply of Amenities. The ceremony will take place at Cardiff's Swalec Stadium on 25 November.

Designed to recognise leadership and innovation, the 16 categories will cover sport, young people and the environment. These include: the Groundsman's Groundsman of the Year; the Charterhouse- and Kubota-sponsored Best Maintained Artificial Pitch of the Year; the Mark Harrod-sponsored Volunteer Sports Groundsman of the Year; and the new Professional Football Grounds Management Team of the Year Award – established in recognition of the IOG's late chair, Alex Millar, a revered groundscape professional and a keen football fan. ●



Everybody's Talking About...

a strategy for access to national sports facilities

We asked key industry people to comment on the issues that surround places to play sport and whether the independent panel of the recent National Facilities Inquiry, chaired by John Inverdale, was right to conclude that there's no need to build new sports facilities to

sustain any significant increase in participation. Is re-investment in better-placed or better-used facilities and the closure of poor or unused ones the best way forward and what can we do to prevent school sport facilities lying vacant at weekends and in the evenings?

SUE SUTTON

CEO
ISPAL



ISPAL has recognised a lack of rationale for some facilities – with no assessment of need, location, duplication and ineffective policies at dual-use sites and too little investment for the best part of 35 years. The current budget cuts could therefore encourage some radical thinking and avoid some of the pitfalls encountered in the past.

Facilities are a means to an end – either increasing participation or raising standards of performance – so the argument for access to national facilities must have a sound, open and transparent business case. National solutions are not necessarily common across the four home nations and rural and urban issues need different solutions, but the thinking and planning still needs to be joined up and nothing built in isolation.

Strategically, you cannot decide on your needs until you know what you are trying to achieve. Sports facilities are needed to deliver the PE curriculum, extra-curriculum activities and community activities for adults – therefore we need a mix of schools and community facilities, or joint facilities.

ISPAL believes that local authorities must have the courage to rationalise facilities and investment should be directed where it will have the greatest impact. Research and consultation at a local level will establish this.

Now is the time to maximise the use of educational facilities and find innovative solutions with the private sector and commercial developers. The best model does seem to be where individual sports operate out of one centre. It generates more income, has a social element, creates a better atmosphere and will ensure continued investment into that facility.

CHARLES JOHNSTON

DIRECTOR OF PROPERTY
SPORT ENGLAND



Having the right number, quality and range of community sports facilities in the right places is important to getting more people playing and enjoying sport. That's why Sport England works with local authorities and other public sector bodies to help them strategically plan how they can best meet the sporting needs of their communities.

Our strategic planning service offers a range of tools which, when combined with local intelligence, can help councils understand local sporting demand, map current provision and plan for the future. These include Active Places, the Active People Survey, our market segmentation data and the Facilities Planning Model.

Through this approach, we can be confident that councils have the very best information, advice and evidence needed to make informed decisions about the provision of local sports facilities. Some councils have found that the best way to meet the needs of local people is to rationalise their stock and reinvest savings back into other facilities that are more accessible and better able to deliver customer demands.

A growing number of councils have adopted and implemented a strategic planning approach to their sports facilities. As a result, more people have better access to the facilities they require and revenue costs have been reduced significantly.

It's also vital that we maximise the use of the high quality sports facilities that already exist, where a proven demand and sustainable business plan supports its usage.

If these principles are applied, budget cuts need not have a negative impact on the number of people playing sport.

“ Nearly 70 per cent of sports clubs hire facilities for their activities and clubs that struggle to find regular bookings may not see the logic in closing them ”

Tim Lamb, CEO, CCPR



PHOTO: WWW.SPORTSINNOVATION.CO.UK

ALISON MOORE-GWYN

CEO

FIELDS IN TRUST



During the past 18 months – coinciding with the onset of the recession and a corresponding halt in development – we have seen a reduction in the number of playing fields threatened by both commercial and residential building plans.

However, we're conscious that this is a stay of execution until a resurgence in the economy. Use is the best form of protection for any playing field and so it's vital that facilities receive investment to be fit for purpose to ensure the communities they serve have access to opportunities for outdoor recreation all year round.

It seems a scandalous waste that so many schools have such fantastic facilities that are under lock and key out of hours when they could be providing a great service to local people. Integrating school facilities into community use has the added benefit of providing continuity for those who enjoy participating in team sports at school but generally do not pursue this into adulthood.

When playing fields are underused and a decision is made to dispose of them it's vitally important that securing the best recreational deal for the community is at the top of the agenda. Access to other available facilities should be considered and any proceeds from the sale should be channelled back into sport and recreation – prioritising outdoor facilities. The imbalance in investment between outdoor and indoor facilities (£1 to £4) needs to be addressed, given the important role that these free, accessible sites can play in improving health and wellbeing.

GRAHAM FARRANT

CEO

THURROCK COUNTY COUNCIL



It's clear to me that there are enough facilities across the country, but they are not necessarily in the right places, the best condition, or available when there's high demand. While we can talk in the abstract about long-term investment needs, the reality is that many centres have to get by without much-needed investment, which has a detrimental impact on how they are used by the local community.

Perhaps more importantly, there are hundreds of centres up and down the country where the lack of efficiency on the operator's part is restricting usage and opening hours and management arrangements are simply too inflexible to maximise participation. Too many centres that I have seen still have poor management standards and poor marketing. In so many cases local people looking for recreational and leisure activities have no idea what's happening in their local centres, or how good they really are.

We need to find a way of unlocking the potential in our underused facilities. I agree with the recommendations of the Facilities Inquiry that all schools should be under an obligation to open up their facilities for community use outside of the school day, or during it if they can make adequate security and access arrangements. There are plenty of dual-use sites where community leisure continues during the day and well into the evening. This gives the school pupils the benefit of investment and the latest kit, while the community gets access to more centres for sport and fitness.

Schools should be obliged to open their facilities for community use outside of the school day – if they can make adequate security and access arrangements



DAVID MINTON
DIRECTOR
THE LEISURE DATABASE COMPANY



Networked sports data will bring cost savings to at least five central government departments, more than 100 sports governing bodies and around 2,000 local, district and parish councils which have an interest in indoor or outdoor sports facilities. These savings will also be spread over tens of thousands of sports clubs, public and private bodies with an interest in sports and the general public.

Historically, all of these organisations have been maintaining sports sites, venues, facilities, clubs and contacts independently and to inconsistent data standards and without agreed definitions. However, this data often collects dust, so the Facility Inquiry found that many of the questions it asked had no factual answers and the panel of sports experts' recommendation was therefore 'a need for greater research'.

There's a certain Déjà vu to this statement. In 2000, politicians asked for a sports facility audit and found there wasn't one. Ten years on, Sport England has invested in core facility data which is now available to both professionals and the public via Active Places. This has produced enormous savings from wasteful duplication of updating and maintaining standalone databases and paper-based directories.

We now live in an age of instant access to more data than ever before, yet it's still bafflingly difficult to find out where you can participate in a wide range of sports. Type in 'sports in London' (for example) and you get back pages of organisations responsible for volunteering, events booking and training, but no participation. However, Sport England have plans to redevelop Active Places to open up more data to more people and allow customer feedback on the whole experience.

CHRIS TRICKEY
CEO
SAPCA



The Facilities Inquiry Report is certainly to be welcomed – anything that focuses greater attention on the need for improved sports facility provision must be helpful.

Yes, let's use greater strategic planning to identify what we really need, rationalise existing facilities where necessary, and maximise usage to ensure facilities' viability and long-term survival. We should also emphasise the need for better project design, not just to create modern sports facilities that attract users and promote community usage, but also to ensure that facilities continue to perform to high standards for years to come.

The pressures of the current economy demand an even greater need to wisely invest any funding for sports facilities. This also means that individual sports facilities should be properly designed and constructed by specialist companies with the requisite expertise and experience. Unfortunately this isn't always the case at present.

Too often we see project teams without essential sport-specific knowledge and procurement driven by lowest cost rather than best value, with the inevitable result that project specifications are inappropriate and facility quality is reduced.

The whole-life costs of new facilities should always be understood, including the relationship between usage, maintenance and eventual replacement, to ensure that facilities provide optimum performance and longevity within a realistic business plan.

There is a clear need for greater technical guidance and support for all those undertaking sports facility projects, from the local volunteer to the major project design team.



ALL PICS: WWW.SPORTSILLUSTRATIONS.CO.UK



We live in an age of instant access to data yet it's still bafflingly difficult to find out where to participate in sport

David Minton, director, The Leisure Database Company

MIKE HALL

PARTNER

FAULKNERBROWNS ARCHITECTS



Despite a decade of Lottery investment, our stock of community leisure facilities remains in poor health and often under-used, so cuts in public sector funding over the next few years will only exacerbate the problem.

Some years back, the Building Schools for the Future Programme seemed to offer a solution by 'piggy backing' local authority community leisure needs through usage agreements with new school facilities in the heart of our communities. With a few noticeable exceptions, the reality has been disappointing. PFI contractors are understandably reluctant to offer (and fund) a meaningful community programme and local authorities do not attach a high priority to this in selecting a partner.

In our experience, those facilities that have successfully integrated sport in a school context have had a true champion to cut through the miles of red tape and multiple agencies.

Increasing energy costs in decrepit old facilities may actually be the silver lining in a rather cloudy outlook. To adjust to a new carbon economy and sustainable communities, new energy-efficient facilities – of the right size in the right location – is a more sustainable way forward. Throwing limited funds at ageing facilities is often only a 'sticking plaster'

TIM LAMB

CEO

CCPR



Facilities, and their provision, are a key issue for CCPR. Nearly 70 per cent of sports clubs hire facilities for their activities and clubs that struggle to find regular bookings will not necessarily see the logic in closing them.

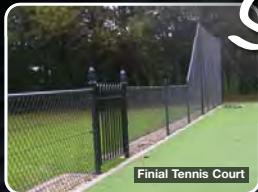
CCPR provided the secretariat to the Inquiry but the panel retained complete independence in its recommendations. The rationale behind this inquiry was that for many governing bodies, the availability and quality of facilities in the UK continued to be a barrier to growth and for some, to maintaining current levels of activity. But the depth of the issue had never been properly explored. So we were more than happy to help the panel to explore an issue that requires some real strategic thinking.

Now the report has been published, the members of the inquiry team are seeking support for its recommendations from education leaders, from local government and from ministers (indeed the Association of School and College Leaders has already offered its backing). Implementing the recommendations won't be easy. It will require buy-in from a wide range of stakeholders, rather than an edict passed down from Westminster. But with such a determined lot as John Inverdale and his crew behind it, nothing would surprise me.

J B Corrie & Co Ltd.

TENNIS & SPORTS FENCING

Specialists



Finial Tennis Court



Corrie Power Play Rebound System



Tuba Tennis Court



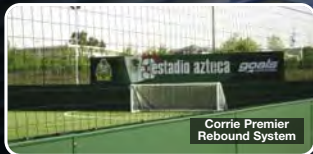
Right Angle Tennis Court



Tennis Ball Retention 45mm Chainlink



Corrie Image Rebound System



Corrie Premier Rebound System



ServeAce Tennis Practice Fence



www.jbcorrie.co.uk

The Fencing Specialists

Head Office: Frenchmans Road, Petersfield, Hampshire GU32 3AP

Tel: 01730 237100 Fax: 01730 264915

Email: sales@jbcorrie.co.uk

**New Brochure
OUT NOW**

Do facilities hold the key to success in British tennis?

In part one of a two-part report, Phil Sandilands, director of TrioPlus Tennis and former facilities director at the LTA, highlights some current issues

The answer of course is 'not solely'. But the stock and quality of tennis facilities in Britain do have a fundamental impact upon the potential for growth in participation and in the creation of suitable environments within which talented athletes can develop and hone their skills.

Tennis facilities need to be accessible, affordable and attractive, in order to sustain current tennis players and equally to attract and retain new participants. Players on the performance pathway need to have as a minimum, and at a young age, quality playing surfaces that help develop stroke-play and rallying and that foster physical and mental toughness.

Alongside these fundamental requirements, the sport needs sufficient covered facilities to increase playing

time. Indoor facilities not only enable year-long training and competition to take place, they also enable tennis coaches to continue to develop their skills and indeed to provide them with a vehicle for employment!

There's a lot of debate in tennis about whether Britain has sufficient facilities or not – there's even division in thought among the top players. Some top international players have stated they believe Britain has great facilities and that our top players have it too easy. During this year's Wimbledon, former British No1 Tim Henman was quoted as saying "British players need to start taking more responsibility for themselves", while former British No1 and BBC commentator Mark Petchey is adamant that the solution lies in better facilities in the right locations.

So what is the answer and do we have the right facilities in the right places?

Are there sufficient courts?

There's no doubt that significant funding – from the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA)

and its partners such as the Sports Councils of England, Scotland and Wales and the Sports Lottery, together with investment from clubs, private leisure companies, education and local authorities – has been instrumental in improving the stock of facilities since the early and mid-1980s. But there are also significant gaps in the map and many venues and clubs (some would say the majority) remain un-modernised and unattractive, due to lack of investment over the years. In addition to this, major tennis projects in the last few years have been relatively sparse.

The LTA states that there are 1,532 indoor courts plus a further 387 covered courts in the UK and that there are an estimated 23,000 outdoor courts. This equates to approximately one covered court per 30,000 of the UK population and one outdoor court per 2,600 population.

The Active People Survey 4 (April 2009 to April 2010), undertaken by Sport England, indicates that 960,900 players aged 16 and over play once a month. Adding tennis participation estimates



The tennis facility at Albert Park Recreation Ground in Haringey

Facilities need to be accessible, affordable and attractive to sustain current players and attract new ones



- in Scotland and Wales, gives approximately 1.04 million tennis participants.

Based on an LTA formula of 40 and 200 players per tennis court, servicing existing participation would theoretically require some 26,000 outdoor all-weather courts and 5,200 covered courts – without taking into account the number of players below 16 years of age.

The ratio between the types of tennis facility and playing hours created is at the heart of the LTA's 'Places to Play' strategy that aims to achieve, through facility investment, an additional one million playing hours.

Building one new covered court would provide 4,500 hours of play if it was used at full capacity and 800 all-weather courts could deliver over half a million hours of tennis each year.



This simple assessment shows there's some way to go to provide for current covered court needs in particular but does not take into account the quality of existing outdoor venue provision in terms of siting, infrastructure scope, modernisation or operations. Nor does it address the need for new provision to match the LTA's aspiration to significantly increase the numbers playing the sport in coming years.

Level of Provision	Guideline Facility Standards
LL 1 (ideally accessible within 10 mins walking time)	Servicing a rural community, village or parish <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 to 4 all weather courts in acceptable condition • A covered shelter and access to toilets close by (as a minimum), to a modern pavilion with changing provision, showers, social area and kitchen
LL 2 (ideally accessible within 10 mins drive time)	Servicing a neighbourhood within a larger settlement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 to 4 all weather courts in good condition (2 floodlit) • 2 to 4 mini tennis courts • Pavilion on site in good condition • Changing provision with modern showers • Social area and kitchen
District and Regional provision (ideally accessible within 30 mins drive time)	Servicing communities within the local catchment; servicing residents within a district and within a sub-region; strategically located venues for competition, training and coach education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 all weather courts (2 to 4 floodlit) • 3 to 4 acrylic or clay courts with seasonal covered structure • 4 mini tennis courts (1 tennis court marked out) • Pavilion on site in good condition • Changing provision with modern showers • Social area and kitchen • Gym / warm up area • Junior study / IT area • Coaching office • A small MUGA

Children on a performance pathway need quality playing surfaces to develop stroke-play and rallying techniques

Are the facilities in the right places?

It may come as a surprise to hear that some areas have too many facilities. Steve Martens, LTA player director recently gave his perspective on tennis facilities in Britain. "One of the next steps we're taking is doing a good mapping exercise where we can see the gaps in provision and also potentially where there may be over-provision – that is possible too," he said.

With some notable exceptions in the voluntary and education sectors, the development of covered court centres in the last two decades has been mainly in the private leisure sector (David Lloyd, Esporta etc) and in the public sector (via the LTA's Indoor Tennis initiative). While there's undoubted under-provision in this area in developing new facilities (compared with other European countries with similar climates), it's important to consider a hierarchy of provision for tennis. This is in recognition that most existing clubs and venues are modest in size compared to those on the continent and are physically embedded in their localities, which constrains the development of enhancements such as indoor courts. ►



stunning surfaces made child's play

That's exactly what you get from tennis court and MUGA surface systems from Sports Coatings.

Not just stunning looking but stunning in performance - with great grip, long-lasting durability, easy maintenance and bright, intense colours.

For advice on stunning surfaces for new courts and refurbishment, outdoors or in, contact Mike Burton.

Email: admin@sportscoatings.com
 Web: www.sportscoatings.com
 Tel: 01440 766366 Fax: 01440 768897

SPORTS COATINGS

TECHNOLOGY AT YOUR FEET



BRITANNIA

ADVANCED COATING SYSTEMS FOR SPORTS AND RECREATION SURFACES

Britannia Paints Limited
 Unit 7 and 8, King Street Trading Estate
 Middlewich, Cheshire CW10 9LF

T: 01606 834015
 F: 01606 837006
 E: sales@britanniapaints.co.uk

www.britanniapaints.co.uk

STADIA SPORTS

International at **broxap**

SPORTS AND ATHLETICS EQUIPMENT SUPPLIER



Visit us at **IOG SALT EX**
Windsor Racecourse
7th-9th September 2010
 on **Stand A43** in the Sports Equipment zone

web: www.stadia-sports.co.uk
 tel: 01353 668686 fax: 01353 669444

Stadia Sports International is now a division of Broxap Ltd

SportsCourts

UK Limited

Specialists in Tennis Court Construction & Maintenance for Local authorities, Councils, Schools, Tennis Clubs & the Private Sector

t. 01727 730707
www.sportscourts.co.uk

Court Maintenance

- Tennis Court Construction
- Tennis Court Renovation
- Pressure Washing
- Painting & Remarking
- Binding
- Fencing Systems
- Court Resurfacing
- Synthetic Grass Surfaces

Before After






Gosling Tennis Centre (left and above). Albert Road Recreation Ground (below)

➤ There are no formally adopted facility models for new tennis club development but there is benefit in developing guidelines both to assess the scope and quality of current provision and as aspiration targets for future development. The guidelines below could act as a basis to develop better standards through a realistic approach of enhancing current provision.

On the face of it, the above facility components appear to be relatively achievable, but it would be interesting to fully audit our current clubs and venues against these requirements to see how many actually achieve these standards within the 3 levels of provision. Certainly, the number of outdoor clay and acrylic courts for performance programmes is a major under provision and a significant challenge for the GB climate.

A major thrust of the Tennis Foundation is to seek opportunities to invest in public parks, at existing venues that can achieve better sustainability via having modern pavilions, multiple all weather floodlit courts and of course an enthusiastic coach with some form of tenure or ownership to organise and drive up participation.

Supported by Sport England, the Foundation has begun to focus on refurbishing tennis facilities in parks and making them more accessible, as part of the LTA's 'Places to Play' programme.

New tennis facilities which have already opened under this initiative include:

- **Albert Road in Haringey, London** – The courts have been upgraded with floodlighting and new mini tennis courts and a practice wall have been built. This means a significant increase in the amount of available court time for community use. At the opening, the site was awarded 'Beacon' status from the Tennis Foundation in recognition of its high quality, affordable community tennis programmes.
- **Clapham Common, London** – Eight courts have been refurbished with floodlighting. This will dramatically improve tennis opportunities at one of London's popular open air spaces.
- **Gosling International High Performance Centre, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire** – A new airhall was built over the existing courts – which were resurfaced to create an all year round facility. The centre has a strong

emphasis on affordable access and developing working partnerships with local clubs and schools. Gosling is the base for a number of national and international standard players, including 12 AEGON FutureStars who are recognised as some of the best juniors in the country for their age group.

Opening up and improving tennis facilities doesn't just have the benefit of getting people playing more sport. It can also have a powerful impact on communities and bring people together.

Robby Sukhdeo, a tennis coach who has operated the Albert Road facility for 10 years, said: "We get people of all backgrounds from across Haringey using the courts and the clubhouse is a real hub for the community. Four years ago we had 250 incidents of crime in the park, last year we had just one, so you can see the positive influence that sport in general and tennis in particular can have."

Quality of the environment

Obviously having new or well maintained courts does not automatically bring about increased participation or improvement in player performance. Tennis venues need a quality of environment that will attract and retain families and young players and the public is coming to expect modernised sports facilities as a matter of course.

The tennis experience not only means the quality of tennis courts, it also embraces the scope and quality of the social and changing facilities; the ease of participating and the friendliness within the club or venue; the number, energy and quality of the coaches; the range and balance of activity programmes; the amount of competitive opportunity; the level of social interaction; accessibility; safety; operational philosophy; modernisation and value for money. This is true for all tennis venues whether in the voluntary, public or private sector. ●

Opening up and improving tennis facilities can have a powerful impact on bringing people together



42" LCD HD ALL WEATHER OUTDOOR TV SYSTEM



Let your customers enjoy watching all this years major sporting events including the new football season, the Ashes and the Ryder cup outdoors in your smoking area, terrace or beer garden with our unique all weather waterproof TV system

Features include:

- Latest 42" LCD HD TV with built in free view
- Steel Powder coated all weather case
- Polycarbonate shatterproof front panel with optional anti reflective coating
- Twin security locks
- Special security wall brackets
- Innovative watertight cable entry system

All this for only £1699.00 + VAT

Designed for permanent outdoor commercial installations in:

- Pubs
- Hotels
- Holiday parks
- Golf clubs
- Sporting venues



WEATHER PROOF SCREENS LTD

01277 374953 / 07739167222 / 07711565339

www.weatherproofscreens.co.uk

MULTI-USE SPORTS HALLS

MODERN

BRIGHT

AFFORDABLE



MULTI-PURPOSE SPORTS

41.5m x 21.5m, Plymstock School, Plymouth

Collinson
Complete Building Solutions

Tel: 0800 840 6458 www.collinson.co.uk

Riverside Industrial Park, Tan Yard Road, Catterall, Preston, Lancashire, PR3 0HP

Zaun makes perfect fence.



Contact us for a FREE technical design and specification service or a FREE brochure.

ZAUN

Tel: 01902 796699

sales@zaun.co.uk

www.zaun.co.uk



MATERIAL WORLD

Rod Sheard looks at how the fabrics used for non-traditional sports structures have evolved and highlights the key benefits of those chosen for Populous projects

Fabrics have been used within the construction industry since the early experimentation in the 1970s, when Ted Happold (Buro Happold) pioneered tension structures that often involved clearly defined structural members, woven steel cables and thin fabric membranes. Other early examples of the use of fabrics include the Imagination building courtyard roof designed by Ron Herron and the Mound Stand roof at Lords Cricket Ground, designed by Michael Hopkins.

Ascot Racecourse grandstand

The first tension membrane structure that Populous designed in the UK was the grandstand at Ascot Racecourse, where the roof canopy – reminiscent of a summer parasol – was constructed from 52 separate hypar forms tensioned between steel trusses.

The fabric selected for this project was PTFE-coated glass-fibre which has the longest service life of all the fabrics available and was also the material used for the Millennium Dome.

PTFE is like Teflon and is therefore largely self-cleaning. The fabric is brown when installed and bleaches to white when exposed to ultra-violet light, at which point it lets through about 15 per cent of natural light – giving a lovely glow on the underside of the material.

Winning at Wimbledon

For the moving roof at Wimbledon, a material had to be selected which could withstand the movements expected, as

well as let enough natural light through to enable tennis to be played underneath it. This meant either using solid plastic sheets such as polycarbonate; plastic foils such as ETFE; or architectural fabrics. Plastic sheets were not a solution as they would be extremely difficult to fold and require a lot of support. ETFE foils were also difficult, if not impossible to fold, due to the inflated nature of the 'foils'. This left fabric as the only viable solution, although this too had its problems.

CASE STUDY – COVENTRY COMMUNITY SCHOOL

When a fire at Sidney Stringer School in Coventry destroyed 40 per cent of the school building, Spaciotempo found a quick solution so that disruption to learning was kept to a minimum.

A multi-use sports facility comprising two structures – for multi-sport, performing arts and gymnastics – were constructed from heavy-duty aluminium frames and benefited from thermo roofing and insulated UPVC walling.

The roofing system, which offers increased acoustic performance, comprises a PVC polyester membrane envelope, which is inflated with a low-pressure automatic pump. This minimises condensation, controls temperature and reduces structural noise. The walls are internally flush fitted and the specialist sports flooring is marked for multi-sport use.



Sussex Downs College, Eastbourne Campus, Cross Levels Way, Eastbourne, UK • 131' w x 160' l (39.9m x 48.7m)

Design Brilliance

“With the design of the structure, the reason we went for Sumit in the first place, was it gave us a great deal of flexibility - we could have it any way that we wanted - with the shape or size, and exterior or interior. It also allowed us to add [on] additional facilities.”

David Williams, Sussex Downs College, Sports & Recreation Manager



Sussex Downs College
131' w x 160' l (39.9m x 48.7m)



Berlin Voorhees Tennis Center
120' w x 180' l (36.5m x 54.8m)



West Worthing Squash and Tennis Club
119' w x 161' l (36.2m x 49.0m)

- Custom design • Leading steel-framed, engineered fabric technology •
- Clear-span up to 300' widths, by any length • Reduced operating expenses • Year round practice and training environment •

For More Information:

North America: 1.800.615.4777

UK: 0800 3891490

Outside NA & UK: +44 (0)1283 554120

Web: www.sumitstructures.com



CASE STUDY - VANCOUVER WINTER OLYMPICS



Temporary structures are increasingly being recognised for their ability to significantly reduce the carbon footprint left after major sporting events – as seen at the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver in February.

As the official supplier to The Netherlands Olympic Committee, Neptunus Structures installed a highly durable Alure structure fitted with training equipment, which enabled the Dutch athletes to maintain their training schedules during the Games.

The Alure was designed using modern recyclable components fitted with insulated wall panels and a rigid insulated roof, rather than a fabric option, which dramatically reduced running costs and emissions.

The main problem with the choice of architectural fabrics available at the start of the project was that they were based on glass fibre, coated in either PVC or ETFE. The problem with glass fibre is that as it is folded the fibres break down and the fabric would soon fail. It was calculated that this would require the fabric to be replaced once every five years – an expensive option for the client and not environmentally sustainable.

The search for an appropriate material ended when W L Gore developed a new version of its 'Tenara' architectural fabric. This had previously been used for sun shading and was not waterproof, but could be folded in excess of 50,000 times

The fabric used for Wimbledon's retractable roof is 40 per cent translucent



CASE STUDY - SUSSEX COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

Having embarked on a three-phase, £8m development project to improve the club's services, floodlighting and increase the ground's capacity to 7,000, Sussex County Cricket Club brought in Specialist Structures to upgrade the venue with a single-storey hospitality building, an upgraded executive suite and an upgraded player's club, using a SPACE system.

The modular construction technique, which uses strong but lightweight aluminium components is topped by a white architectural tensioned fabric roof, providing a 'light footprint' which was quick to install, with a minimum of disruption. The new buildings also feature integral platforms to ensure stable, level floors.

The walling in each pavilion is made from light tint safety glass held in an aluminium frame, designed with a low visibility profile and double bi-parting commercial doors with glass infill.

without failure. During the design process a waterproof version was developed with the added benefit of up to 40 per cent translucency (traditional architectural fabrics are only 15-20 per cent). This satisfied the folding requirements and generated the outdoor feel that the client required.

Olympic standard

The 25,000sq m roof of London's Olympic Stadium uses fabric as part of the tension structure, essentially infilling between the radially-arranged galvanised steel cables which link the perimeter compression truss to the inner tension ring like the spokes of a bicycle wheel.

As the roof structure is intended to be dismantled after the Games, a PVC-coated Polyester fabric was selected, as it did not need to have a long design life. This can last and retain its appearance for between five and 15 years, with the Mound Stand roof at Lords recently being replaced after more than 20 years of service. Structurally the material will last longer,

although it may look a little grubby, with recent advances in the development of PVC/Polyester fabric technology meaning that it is now fully recyclable, when returned to the supplier at the end of its life.

The wrap at the Olympic Stadium has also been designed to use a PVC/Polyester fabric. It is approximately 10 per cent translucent and can be digitally printed to allow the building to embrace the London 2012 celebrations.

Other buildings within the Olympic Park will also employ building wraps, with PVC/Polyester being used extensively. Some will use the fabric in an open weave 'mesh' form which is visually transparent when lit from within. The combination of very lightweight building envelopes, combined with modern printing techniques and imaginative lighting, will create the backdrop for the look and sustainability of the London Games.

Rod Sheard is senior principal of Populous architects (formerly HOK)

The most versatile **SPORT** buildings in the world



The state-of-the-art Meadowbank Sport Arena, Magherafelt, Ulster. 70m x 145m with sidewalls of 9m is currently the largest of its kind in Europe.

innovative **Fabric** **Engineered** structures



From gymnastics to soccer, tennis, hockey or basketball, RUBB Buildings can get you under cover quickly and cost effectively. RUBB buildings provide bright, clear span space with materials and engineering that ensure a long trouble free structure life...

RUBB Buildings has the ideal solution

- Proven Durability & High Quality Materials
- Modular Design
- Spans up to 100m by any length
- Bright, Efficient Space
- Superior Playing Environment
- Complete Relocatability
- Fire Safety Advantages
- Easily Extended
- Complete Environmental Control
- Low Life Cycle Costs
- Great Customer Service
- Quicker Project Cycle Times



UK - CERTIFICATE No. 95/0243

RUBB
BUILDING SYSTEMS

we will never stop innovating

RUBB BUILDINGS LTD, Dukeway, TVTE, Gateshead, NE11 0QE, England. Tel: 0191 482 2211. Fax: 0191 482 2516
E-mail - uk: info@rubb.co.uk usa: info@rubbusa.com
norway: sales@online.no

www.rubb.com

Singapore plays host to the first Youth Olympic Games



Cathy Livock looks behind the scenes in the run up to the 2010 Youth Olympic Games on 14-26 August and explains why Singapore is only at the start of its promising sporting journey

Gleaning skyscrapers, cutting edge technology, smart streets and graffiti-free trains. This modern metropolis is Singapore. Smartly presented, overwhelmingly efficient and host of the very first Youth Olympic Games (YOG).

A compact city of epic proportions, it doesn't take long to work out why Singapore is such a good fit for this event. Singapore's strong belief in people as a resource has created a culture of reliability and conscientiousness that lends itself well to the core values of the Games – excellence, friendship and respect.

The YOG is the successor to the World Youth Games and is modelled on past successful events such as the Australian and European Youth Olympic festivals. One of its key aims is to drag kids away from their computer screens back onto the playing fields and inspire and encourage them to understand the importance of sport and healthy living. It will be done with a twist however, with some traditional sports taking an updated approach, such as basketball with a three-on-three, one hoop street-ball style set up designed to appeal to the younger generation.

The event is trying to move away from the elitist, competitive nature of international sport in an attempt to bring the youth of the world together in a moment of unity and solidarity, aimed to inspire and excite rather than exclude.

While athletes will be representing and competing for their country, it is

also possible to team up with athletes from other national organising committees and form mixed gender teams in sports such as archery, cycling, equestrian and many others.

In a country where education has been at the heart of the youth agenda for a long time, the YOG will go a long way to opening up the minds of young people to the benefits and opportunities created by sport.

Beating the competition

The bidding to host the 2010 Games took place back in 2007, when nine cities – Singapore, Moscow, Athens, Bangkok, Turin, Debrecen, Guatemala City, Kuala

The Youth Olympic Games will open the eyes of the young and old to aspire and inspire

Lumpur and Poznan – presented their candidature files to the International Olympic Committee (IOC). The list was shortened to five and then down to a final two in January 2008, with Singapore beating Moscow to the finish line with 53 votes to 44.

Singapore's focus on environmental sustainability, education and technology alongside its political and economic stability made it stand out as the ideal location for the Games. Singapore is an

innovator and an investor in people – so where better to host the first IOC-created global sports festival since the advent of the Winter Olympics back in 1924.

Singapore's existing commitment to the creation of the Singapore Sports Hub (the largest current sport and leisure PPP project in the world) was strong evidence of its determination to turn the city into a recognised sporting destination. pmplegacy has worked on this project more than seven years since carrying out the initial feasibility study and can testify to the determination of all the stakeholders to succeed despite challenging economic circumstances.

YOG also has the support of Singapore's National Youth Committee (NYC), which has been running since 1989 as the national co-ordinating body for youth affairs. An advocate, connector and enabler of young people, NYC strives to develop a vibrant and supportive environment for youth who are inspired to dream and committed to action.

It was clear from pmplegacy's initial involvement in preparing the bid that Singapore had a strong chance. Its variety of existing venues and well thought out culture and education programme really made it stand out from the crowd.

One big arena

The IOC bid book states that 'all sports venues must be located in the same city or region, and no new venues should be built.' A selection of 18 existing venues will be used across the city to host the 26





PHOTO: CHIAH CHENG PO



PHOTO: SINGAPORE YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES ORGANISING COMMITTEE



different Olympic sports and 201 different events. All of these are within a 32-minute bus drive time of the Youth Olympic Village and 17 of the 21 training facilities are within a 10-minute walk; turning the whole YOG area into one giant sporting arena.

This requirement to use only existing facilities helps to keep budgets in check and ensure that the hosting of the Youth Games is accessible to smaller cities. It also helps to place environmental sustainability at the heart of the event.

A youth inspired legacy

"I see the YOG as helping to transform sport in Singapore. Whether it be sport performance or sport participation, it will open the eyes of the young and old to aspire and inspire. The first edition of the YOG will leave a lasting legacy for many years," explains Bob Gambardella, chief of sports development and

the Singapore Sports Institute for the Singapore Sports Council.

Legacy plays an important role for any country involved in hosting a major event. With so much pressure on budgets and resources in the build up to an event there must be strong plans in place to maximise the potential wide-ranging benefits.

Legacy must be planned for well in advance and Singapore has done just this. A first class Culture and Education Programme has been running for some time now to help embed the Olympic Values within Singapore and around the world.

Young people in Singapore, through the Olympic Education Programme, will learn about at least four of the Olympic sports as well as the Olympic values. Every school in Singapore will twin with two schools around the world in order to interact and share experiences and cultures.

And it's not just about sport. There are many exhibitions and workshops encouraging community involvement across the arts and with 7,000 young people volunteering to help run the event there will be a skills and experience legacy that would not otherwise be achieved.

The programme is set to continue long after the event, with the continuing cultural and education events, the creation of annual Singapore Olympic Scholarships

The aim of the Games is to inspire and excite rather than exclude young people

for aspiring young athletes and the maintenance of the Youth Olympic Village as a hub of activity for young people.

The final countdown

Singapore is, in fact, only at the beginning of its sporting journey. In 2008 it was the first to host a night-time Formula One race and now in 2010 the first to host the Youth Olympics. What comes next, only time will tell – a Commonwealth Games bid perhaps?

For now, with only days to go until the opening ceremony, which will take place on the spectacular floating stage at Marina Bay, the excitement is sure to be building.

Singapore is first in the starting blocks. It has no predecessor to live up to but perhaps faces a more daunting task of setting the bar at a height that others will have to strive to reach and exceed. All the signs so far show that Singapore has risen to the challenge and is set to pull this off with all of its usual style and grace. ●

Cathy Livock is director of consulting at pmplegacy, part of Chime Communications

PHOTO: BY NG CHIEH KENG



The wide-ranging list of sport competitions at the YOG includes the obstacle slalom





Sports event organiser Nova International's David Hart explains the logistic challenges associated with taking the Powerade Manchester Great CityGames out of the stadium and onto the streets

CITY SPORTS

In 2009, Nova International chair Brendan Foster and his team recognised that stadium-based athletic events were declining in popularity and created the concept of The Great CityGames. A series of televised international track and field events staged in iconic city locations, this new concept has literally taken athletics out of the stadium environment and on to the streets – allowing the general public to get closer to the action in a unique and stimulating environment.

Managing Manchester

Nova events are by definition complex logistical exercises, but the activity undertaken for the Manchester Great CityGames is perhaps the most challenging and complicated of all.

In May this year, more than 40,000 people took part in mass participation

running events over one weekend in the city. Thirty-six thousand people ran in the 10k Bupa Great Manchester Run and in addition the whole Deansgate area of the city centre was closed to traffic to stage the Powerade Great CityGames where some of the world's fastest runners and members of the general public attempted their personal best on a specially constructed, completely flat, four-lane running track.

In order to deliver these world-class events effectively, Nova worked closely with Manchester City Council in a relationship that has developed since the first Great Manchester Run was staged in the city in 2003. A number of trusted suppliers are contracted to each event, which deliver quality service and have the capability to work within the strict time constraints imposed on the event, for set-up and breakdown. ➔



Tyson Gay beat Tommy Smith's 1966 world record for the 200m straight line in Manchester

BREAKING RECORDS

The Great CityGames events in 2009 and 2010 have proved hugely successful with British and World bests being set on the track. In 2009 double Olympic and World champion Usain Bolt set a world best time for the 150m distance and earlier this year American Tyson Gay set a world best for his 200m straight line performance.

The event also offered the chance for young hopefuls to try competitive sprinting for themselves by running against family, friends, work colleagues or other members of the public on the four-lane track. They were also able to see how their times fared against the international athletes who raced the same distance the following day.

leisure-kit.net

The website, email and search engine for leisure buyers

health & fitness

leisure

sport

spa

hospitality

attractions

theme parks

museums

subscribe online at www.leisuresubs.com
or call +44 (0)1462 431385



Now over
5,000
leisure suppliers
listed on our
NEW improved
search

Visit leisure-kit.net for the latest news about products and services for the leisure industry and subscribe to the **FREE fortnightly product report**

To advertise your product and reach over 20,000 leisure buyers call now on +44 (0)1462 431385 or email leisure.kit@leisuremedia.com

J B Corrie & Co Ltd.



THE FENCING SPECIALISTS



Welcome to **JB Corrie...**

Quality fencing manufacturers, expert fencing contractors, complete solutions and superb customer service make us The secure choice!



JB Corrie, Your fencing Choice

JB Corrie can help you achieve the reality to your concept. Examples of JB Corrie's services can be viewed on their recently launched website which is designed to be user friendly, helpful and informative.

www.jbcorrie.co.uk

JB Corrie & Co Ltd. Frenchmans Road, Petersfield,
Hampshire GU32 3AP
Tel: 01730 237100 Fax: 01730 264915
email: sales@jbcorrie.co.uk



One of the largest and most experienced sports timing & results companies in the World

TIMING, TRAINING & DISPLAY SOLUTIONS

e: sales@hssports.co.uk, t: 01260 275708

hs sports
Affiliate of Seiko Corporation



The Mondo track was measured for surface rebound for world record attempts

MANCHESTER'S MAJOR EVENTS STRATEGY

Since successfully staging the 2002 Manchester Commonwealth Games, Manchester City Council has developed a major events strategy for mass participation events to both showcase the city and inspire people into regular activity.

The first Great Manchester Run attracted 10,000 runners. This year saw 36,000 people pound the streets of Manchester and the city hopes to attract up to 45,000 participants by 2012.

During that year, this event will also be linked to other city-based, multi-sports, mass participation events, in which the council hopes to attract up to 100,000 people. Meanwhile, the council is currently looking into developing the track and field mass participation concept even further by possibly incorporating high jump, pole vaulting and long jump events around the city.

Other mass participation events currently in operation include the

Nova Great Swim in Salford Quays, which this year involved over 1,000 swimmers and the Great Schools Run, which saw 4,000 children from inner city schools compete at Sportcity Stadium on the longest day of the year.

A Great Dance school-based event involved 400 children this year and the council is currently working on Great Cycle and Great Walk events in the near future.

"Manchester City Council is Nova International's launch partner for every series of events," explains Neil Fairclough, deputy head of leisure at Manchester City Council. "We're a council that's not afraid to try different ways of doing things, such as allowing the fast net rules at the World Netball Series last year, the biannual, USA swimming event Dual in the Pool at the Manchester Aquatics Centre and the Revolution cycling event at the Manchester Velodrome, which attracts 15,000 fans every season."



► The specification for the Powerade Great CityGames demanded a running track that was versatile and of a quality that complied with the standards set out by the International Association of Athletic Federations (IAAF) for running track and field events. Nova contracted The Structure Group to undertake this exercise, which worked under the guidance of our project directors.

Tracking tips

The track build itself consisted of 48 hours of continuous construction. The city centre was turned into a building site with heras fencing and security as the cranes moved in to unload the steel structure to create a laser-leveled sports floor system.

Once the 255m floor system had been built, the track team moved into place to lay the Mondo track surface, as used in all major athletics championships. The track team experienced the added pressure of the official track testers measuring the surface rebound to enable the track to be signed off in case any world best times were achieved.

This activity was the end result of more than a year's planning with Manchester City Council to limit the impact on and

inform all local residents and businesses. A safety document was created, as with all our events, to ensure that everything (including TV, timing systems, cabins, barriers and high speed tracking cameras etc.) were put into place and removed safely.

There was an extra challenge required by the organisational team as the event was live on BBC television. However,

everything went according to plan. The track was removed through the night and the Deansgate area was returned to normal by noon on the Monday. ●

Formed in 1988, Nova International is the creator and owner of the Bupa Great Run series and the British Gas Great Swim series

SPORTS MANAGEMENT

For sports managers
and policy makers
who want to keep
briefed on the latest
developments in facility
provision, funding, policy
partnerships and development



SUBSCRIBE ONLINE WWW.LEISURESUBS.COM

OR CALL OUR SUBSLINE +44 (0)1462 471915

ADD THE FOLLOWING TO YOUR SUBSCRIPTION...



attractions management

Everything you want to know about the visitor attractions market. From theme parks, waterparks and zoos to museums, expos and science centres



health club management

Keep up to date with the health & fitness market by reading the leading title for the industry. Includes Spa, Europe and World specials



spa business

Read about the investors, developers, designers and operators who are shaping the rapidly emerging global spa sector



leisure opportunities

Fortnightly leisure recruitment, training, property and news publication which gets you the right job or the perfect candidate for your vacancy



leisure management

The magazine for professionals and senior policy-makers. Leisure Management looks at the latest trends and developments from across all leisure markets



spa opportunities - for free!

Fortnightly international spa recruitment, training and news publication
For your FREE copy visit www.spaopportunities.com

Special offer
Add leisure
opportunities to
your subscription
for only £10
(UK only)



SWIMMING IN OPEN WATER

Karen Maxwell looks at the rising popularity of competitive open-water swimming

Perhaps it's the challenge of swimming in the open, both mentally and physically, that compels people to push themselves to do what others daren't, but swimming with the lack of lane ropes and pool ends has certainly caught the imagination of a growing number of mixed ability swimmers.

The Outdoor Swimming Society (OSS) – which is dedicated to increasing the number of people who enjoy swimming safely in the UK's lakes, rivers and lidos – has seen its membership grow to 8,000 since it was founded in 2006. Offering a list of social and charity swimming events, swimming tips and encouraging people to post ordinance survey references to safe and trusted swimming sites

Beijing Olympic medalists competed at the inaugural Great North Swim in 2008



across the UK, the society has noticed that many of its members are extending their social swimming experience by entering competitive open-water swimming events across the country.

The Amateur Swimming Association (ASA) attributes this rapid rise in the sport's popularity to the success of the British team in the Beijing 2008 Olympic and Paralympic Games, where GB swimmers Cassie Patten, Keri-Anne Payne and David Davies returned from the Games with three medals. Since then, competitive swimming events, such as the British Great Swim, have opened the sport up to the wider public and put it at the heart of the adventure sports scene.

Great swim events

Colin Hill, head of Great Swim at sports event organiser Nova International, says the idea behind the Great Swim series of events was to make open water swimming more accessible. "Our aim was to create a mass swimming event that was easy to enter, included some world-class swimmers for televised interest and ensured a big fun element. We're delighted at how much it's taken off over the past two years and hope the series will become as popular as the London Marathon and the Bupa Great North Run."

In 2008, the first Great North Swim was staged at the Low Wood Marina in Lake Windermere. Entries to the 1,600m



swim sold out within two months of opening, with 2,200 swimmers taking part on the day. These included five of the six Olympic swimmers from the 10k open water swim in Beijing.

Last year, British Gas became a sponsor of the Great Swim Series and the event took place over two days to meet the increased demand – with 7,000 entries within a few weeks of opening. Due to the rising popularity of the sport, another three swims were added to the calendar; the British Gas Great London Swim (Royal Victoria Dock), British Gas Great East Swim (Alton Water reservoir, Suffolk), and the British Gas Great Scottish Swim (Strathclyde Loch) with more than 10,000 swimmers taking part across the four events.

In 2010 entries have almost doubled, and it's expected that 20,000 participants will take part across the series. Great Swim has also introduced new

GETTING READY TO JUMP IN

Dan Bullock, ASA swimming coach, lifeguard, founder of SwimforTri and regular ironman and open water contestant gives his advice on swimming techniques for open water.

"At the very least the swimmer should wear a costume, but a wet suit is preferable for warmth, buoyancy and efficient flexibility. Goggles are also an option and a brightly coloured hat for high visibility is provided at swim events.

"A good front crawl technique will carry through nicely from the pool to the open water, although sighting needs to be worked on (the break in rhythm to look forwards), which is an advantage if swimming breaststroke. It's also a good idea to prepare for the mass starts, which can resemble a cross between a rugby scrum and the start of the London Marathon.

"Regarding practice, training in open water is the best way to improve. Many newcomers may not feel as confident in the colder water, due to the lack of clarity and the possible wetsuit restrictions, so frequent supervised and well instructed lessons will help. Mistakes could include wearing the wetsuit inside out or swimming off at a tangent due to the stroke being unbalanced but these can easily be corrected."



The Great Swim series has helped to open the sport up to the wider public

Our aim was to create an event that's easy to enter, included elite swimmers and ensured a fun element

events, which include the British Gas Great Swim 500 (at the East Swim, Scottish Swim and North Swim) and the British Great North Swim: The Extra Mile. This is a two-mile continuous swim, taking place at Lake Windermere, and is perfect for those who fancy pushing themselves that little bit further.

In a similar vein, the British Gas ASA Open Water National Age Group and Youth Championships has become so popular that qualification times were introduced last year making the event more competitive. This 500m swim is open to swimmers aged 11 years and over and is aimed at those who are not old enough to take part in the one mile swim or for those who would prefer to swim a shorter distance.

Advance preparation

According to the ASA, there are a number of factors and guidelines that should be observed when planning an open-water swim event.

Most importantly race organisers should follow local advice and historical data well in advance before determining the course location and measurement. In addition, an emergency system should also be planned to either stop the event or change the course in case the weather or water conditions deteriorate.

As part of this preliminary planning, the water quality is of prime importance. The Environment Agency, National Rivers Authority or local coastguard should be contacted before the event for advice on the area of water to be used. Water

testing should be arranged and the results displayed for competitors to view prior to entry to the water.

Of course competitive events rely on effective timing and results systems with results processed quickly. Ideally the system and marshals should have a trial run beforehand to iron out any problems.

According to Hill, the Big Swim events also have to cater for those new to swimming with two separate teams (water side and land side) working together to create a safe and enjoyable environment. New timing systems were developed for the Event Control to check which swimmers were still on the water or when they checked out, which is independent of the timing system. In addition, new elite floating gantries have been developed for these events and more interactive websites have been created to help share knowledge and information on this fast-growing sport. ●

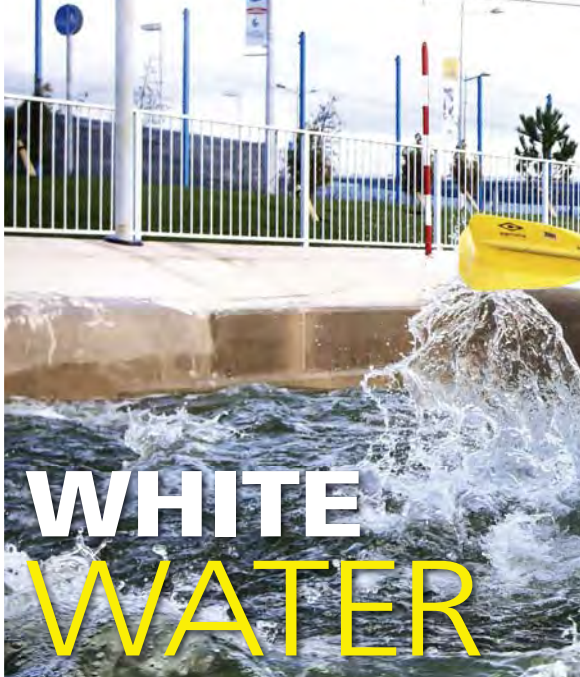


Magali Robathan visits the Olympic-standard, £13.3m white water attraction in Cardiff's International Sports Village, which promises paddle sport provision for elite athletes as well as corporate and leisure users

It's a chilly morning at the Cardiff International White Water centre (CIWW). Several kayakers are paddling around the course, while another plays in one of the white water features. Around one of the bends, a group of instructors from training provider Rescue 3 are testing the course for its suitability for swift water rescue courses.

"Could you turn it up a bit?" shouts one of the wetsuit-clad instructors from the water. With a couple of clicks of a mouse, the amount of water being released by the centre's four pumps is adjusted from eight to 10 cumecs (cubic metres per second or a tonne of water per second). The instructor disappears under a torrent of white water, then reappears moments later, giving the thumbs up.

This flexibility is key to the water sport offer at CIWW, which opened on the International Sports Village site in Cardiff Bay at the end of March. Unlike a river, the water quality and speed are not affected by the weather and the course itself can be changed using moveable plastic barriers to accommodate elite athletes, first time white water



WHITE WATER

rafters, experienced paddle sports enthusiasts and everyone in between.

The 250m course is the UK's first Olympic-standard pumped water canoe slalom course. It was designed by French company HydroStadium, which has also designed similar courses for the Athens, Sydney and Beijing Olympics. CIWW took just over a year to build and cost £13.3m, with £9m coming from the Cardiff Harbour Authority, £1m from Tourism Wales and a £3.3m capital loan from the council. The centre is being managed by Cardiff Harbour Authority on behalf of Cardiff Council.

"We offer a fantastic white water experience in the middle of the city that is dynamic, exciting and safe," says CIWW centre manager Chris Hadfield. "The opening of this centre brings another world class facility to Cardiff, it makes paddle sports accessible to communities and it attracts people from all over the UK to Cardiff. And from a corporate

and conferencing perspective, we offer something completely unique."

As well as the course itself, the centre features a café, a retail area and two conference rooms. It also has a retained water pool, separating the course from the River Ely. This pool allows novices to practice paddling away from the rapids and provides the centre with a safe area to run a range of introductory paddle sports courses boasting EU and Blue flag bathing standards. The other unique feature is the conveyor belt, which means users can travel from the bottom to the top of the course without having to get out of their craft.

"The conveyor belt maximises our commercial potential," says Hadfield. "The public gets more time on the water and it opens us up to different users. On other courses you have to get out of the water and walk your raft back up to the start of the course. Physically, some people just can't do that."

A million people could wander down the path to CIWW and be exposed to white water for the first time



A long time coming

Planning for the centre began a decade ago, when Canoe Wales, the national governing body for canoe sports in Wales, approached the Cardiff Harbour Authority. The Cardiff Harbour Authority was looking at facilities for a visitor attraction as part of its strategy for development and the two organisations discussed various projects.

"Part of our remit was to look at developing facilities for canoe sports," says Richard Harvey, CEO of Canoe Wales. "One of the problems we have had is that river conditions vary so much. This can lead to frustration and embarrassment if you are trying to put on an international event. Also it's a challenge finding places you can go to practice the sport and develop it 365 days a year."

The idea to develop an artificial white water centre was born. Canoe Wales funded the initial feasibility study and several sites for its location in the Cardiff Bay area were considered. By 2006, the options had been narrowed down to two sites on the Bay: one on the International Sports Village (ISV) site and one within the Graving Docks.

By this time, the ISV was picking up momentum and the proposed white water centre fitted well into its theme of 'water, snow and ice'. The ISV site was chosen and construction work started in 2008.

Today the ISV site features the 50m Cardiff International Pool and a temporary ice rink, as well as CIWW. An indoor snow centre, a permanent ice rink – which will become the home of the Cardiff Devils ice hockey team – and a large hotel are planned.

CIWW's location is a massive advantage, says Hadfield, with the international pool currently attracting 800,000 people a year and the temporary ice rink attracting a further 200,000 a year. "That's a million people coming to the site for recreational purposes anyway," says Hadfield. "That's a million people that could potentially wander down the path to CIWW and be exposed to white water for the first time."

Initially it was hoped that the centre would be considered to host the 2012



An Olympic training camp for 2012, CIWW water activities include riding the rapids, bodyboarding, kayaking and canoeing

Olympic canoe slalom. However, the British International Olympic Committee chose to develop Broxbourne in the Lee Valley instead, at which point the focus for CIWW changed. "It was a disappointment for Wales, for Cardiff and for us as a team," admits Hadfield, "but it just made us more focused on the leisure and corporate markets and on attracting Olympic training camps."

CIWW is on the list of Olympic training camps for 2012 and Hadfield says several countries have expressed an interest in using it to train before the Games.



White water rafting is one of the biggest sources of revenue for the centre

Opening up the centre

While the centre is set up to host international events and Olympic training camps, Hadfield is keen to emphasise its accessibility for the general public. "Everyone in the paddle sports world is aware of us, but making the public aware of CIWW and how unique we are is one of our biggest challenges," he says. "We don't want to be seen as just an Olympic standard facility, because that might put people off who think we are only for elite athletes."

The centre is currently developing partnerships with several hotels in Cardiff to offer CIWW visitors special deals and packages. "We want to draw on the bigger attractions of Cardiff, so that people coming to the city to watch football or rugby, or go shopping, will also think about coming here and trying something new for a couple of hours," says Hadfield.

The white water rafting is one of the biggest sources of revenue for the centre. CIWW offers a two-hour white water rafting session for £49 per person (peak), including hire of a raft, all equipment and an experienced guide. The hen and stag markets, as well as corporate and team building days are key to building this core activity.



The challenge is making the most of the times when the pumps are on by attracting as many people as possible

Other activities include hot dogging – riding the rapids on a one- or two-person inflatable kayak – and Hydro Speed, which involves a float similar to a bodyboard. The centre offers a variety of courses and additional off-site activities including rock climbing, gorge scrambling, sea kayaking and surfing.

Visitors with their own kayaks or canoes can pay £10 and play on the white water whenever the pumps are on, or £4 to practice in the retained water pool. The pumps are expensive to run, so part of the challenge is making the most of the times when they are on by attracting as many people as possible. "Today, for example, the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) is training here, so the pump time is paid for," says Hadfield. "When the pumps are running we work to maximise that time by letting people know via websites and different media. We drive all our bookings towards set pump times, and when those bookings are full we open another session and advertise that."

CIWW is also a recognised training venue and has partnered with the RNLI and South Wales Fire and Rescue. Other focuses for the centre include working with schools and colleges and the Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme to provide a range of educational and paddle power activities.

Design planning

At the design stage, Hadfield and his team visited a number of white water centres for ideas. They were particularly inspired by Dutch Water Dreams in the Netherlands and consulted extensively with the management there. Hadfield is particularly pleased with the first floor café, which provides views over the

course, and the intimacy of the site. "We wanted the facilities to be as close to the water as possible," says Hadfield; the training room, first aid room and café all provide direct access to the water.

The centre is on a public right of way, meaning people can wander in from the walkway along the River Ely. This, says Hadfield, is an advantage, meaning that more people see the course. "It's good for our partners too," he adds. "The RNLI like it because it gives them exposure. The public can watch their training exercises and it means they can see where the money they are donating is going."

A range of planned events will also raise the profile of the centre, with canoe festivals, open days and a live music and white water rafting event called Rock and Raft all planned for the coming months.

Canoe Wales, in association with CIWW, will also be running a series of national competitions and international events, which it hopes will generate interest in the centre and in paddle sports generally.

"We've got plans to run international slaloms and freestyle competitions and offer great links and infrastructure for spectators to come and watch," says Canoe Wales' Richard Harvey. "When the water goes off the course can be adjusted and the spectators can be out on the water within 15 minutes. Hopefully they'll then get bitten by the bug."

It's early days for the centre, and Hadfield knows that the offer must adapt and be flexible. For now though, he's taking pleasure in seeing the centre open and filled with people enjoying themselves, and he's especially pleased that it's happening in his native country. ●

Magali Robathan is managing editor of Leisure Management magazine



Shaun McCarthy

Karen Maxwell talks to the chair of the Commission for a Sustainable 2012

What does your role involve?

I chair a commission of 14 volunteers who are experts in various aspects of sustainability; they help shape the work of the commission and give us the benefit of their knowledge and experience.

My main activity is in engagement. I'm in constant dialogue with senior executives from the various organisations delivering the 2012 London Olympic Games and with the many interested parties and stakeholders such as NGOs, local authorities, government departments and professional institutions.

What are the main objectives for a sustainable London 2012?

The commission provides the Olympic Board and stakeholders with commentary, supported by objective evidence, to demonstrate whether key stakeholders have:

- Robust plans and processes to deliver sustainable development objectives
- Evidence that sustainable development objectives are being achieved
- Sustainable development plans and performance to support a sustainable legacy

We also provide a credible point of reference for all stakeholders, with respect to sustainable development assurance issues.

What are you currently working on?

Right now we're concerned about the Olympic Delivery Authority's (ODA) plans

to deliver 20 per cent renewable energy now that it has decided not to build a wind turbine on the Olympic Park.

We're also concerned about the London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games' (LOCOG) development of management systems. They have some great strategies but few firm targets for sustainability performance which may impact their decision-making capability in the run-up to the Games.

Much of the work done to date by London 2012 has been groundbreaking, particularly in the areas of carbon, food and waste. Our main concern is the dissemination of this legacy of knowledge. We are convinced that the ODA and LOCOG are doing what they can to communicate lessons learned but we are less convinced that government and industry bodies are receiving the message. We don't believe the Games will be truly sustainable if they do not change behaviour in the wider context and government has an opportunity to shape policy and change the way it procures goods and services as a result of lessons we have learned from London 2012.

The commission has voiced concerns over the Olympic Park legacy promises – what needs to be done to bring these into line?

If the promises to "set new standards of sustainability" and make the "Olympic

Park a blueprint for sustainable living" are to be achieved, government needs to define what is meant by these expressions and put in place a programme of work to achieve it.

For example, the ODA is setting class-leading standards in sustainability, health and safety. We need to understand how these lessons will be disseminated to ensure that all future large construction projects apply these standards and to encourage exceptional projects to exceed them.

Hosting an Olympics is an inherently unsustainable thing to do; we can only justify the environmental impacts of the Games if we can use the power of the Olympics to inspire tangible and lasting change. We are not seeing this from government to date but I am becoming more confident that the new administration will take some of these issues on board.

About Shaun McCarthy

An engineer, McCarthy worked in technical sales for large manufacturing companies before joining Shell in procurement. He then moved to BAA where he developed its carbon strategy in 2002 to achieve 15 per cent reduction in absolute emissions by 2010.

He's currently a director of Action Sustainability, advisor to the Board of Transport for London, advisor to the Institute for Sustainability and a commissioner on the London Sustainable Development Commission – an advisory group to the Mayor.

We need to understand how knowledge will be disseminated to ensure that future construction projects apply these standards

Richard Gartside, legacy officer at English Lacrosse development office, explains how he plans to implement a sporting legacy for lacrosse off the back of the 2010 World Lacrosse Championships recently held in Manchester



LACROSSE

Legacy is the buzz word that's now being attached to every major sporting event and in particular the multi-billion pound 2012 London Olympic Games. According to Sebastian Coe, chair of the London Olympic Games Organising Committee, when planning a major event: "the host should be looking to encourage, inspire and motivate young people to take up sport and enjoy healthier, more focused lifestyles off the back of it."

Sporting legacy

Tasked with the job of writing and implementing a legacy plan for lacrosse from the recent 2010 World Lacrosse Championships, held in Manchester last month, I'm interested to learn how Olympic legacy in sports, culture or tourism will take shape so I can adapt ideas into my sport.

Can the work undertaken by various agencies across the UK engage people to feel part of the event? And can it entice people to continue to participate in sport or physical activity thereafter?

Today I find myself with the role of a development officer working in the sport I have played all my life and looking at how the governing body can develop that legacy off the back of the World Lacrosse Championships to benefit the sport and those who play it.

This event heralded the third time that the City of Manchester has played host to the World Championships. The difference this time round is that the game has grown from six nations taking part in the first event in 1994 to 30 nations involved in this year's event.

Based on the number of participants involved, the Championship was the

largest competitive sporting event held in the UK since the Commonwealth Games, held in Manchester in 2002. You'd assume that such a big event would be certain to attract financial support both nationally and regionally. However, English Lacrosse is fronting the event at its own risk, so no big new facilities, no national centre for the lacrosse academy and no individual funding for the national team members taking part – even though the British team is reigning European Champion and ranked fifth in the world.

As regards the sporting legacy attached to the event, we have no facility legacy to pin our increased participation hopes on and found it difficult to encourage individuals to attend a minority sport when we had little or no budget to promote it. The organisation has to





Clubs give access to competition and routes to performance pathways in the sport

cover the cost of the Championships primarily through the sale of tickets.

However, a group of officers and volunteers at English Lacrosse have started to formulate some objectives. National legacy was unrealistic; little to no national publicity will mean that the profile of the event will not reach a national audience. So we needed to think locally and regionally and think about what the game could realistically achieve.

We looked long and hard, as a governing body, at how we could use the World Championships to attract more people to the game, keep people in the game and improve the standard of those playing. We looked at the agencies willing to buy into these objectives and how to implement it with little or no funding from the event itself.

Growing the grassroots and sustaining participation

Clubs were our starting point as they provide the outlet for all new players, the access to competition and the routes to performance pathways.

Manchester was chosen as the host of the championships as it is the hub of the sport in the UK.

The North of England Men's Lacrosse League is the strongest in Europe and there are 17 clubs providing access to competitive lacrosse from under 12s to open age. The aim was to increase the number of people accessing these clubs and once there, to look to increase retention rates. We want to provide the



The LDO programme brings over American college graduates to deliver lacrosse in primary schools

opportunity for individuals to be part of the event, play on the same fields as elite athletes, meet those athletes and feel that they are part of the 2010 Lacrosse World Championships, not just as spectators but as participants.

Schools and Youth Groups

Lacrosse is successful in achieving curriculum delivery through its long established Local Development Officer (LDO) programme which has, for more than 30 years, seen clubs bringing over American college graduates to deliver lacrosse in primary schools. Our plan is to provide access to coaching and competition to both primary and secondary

school pupils who have been part of an existing programme and to engage with new schools that have not.

The key elements in achieving this aim has been to work closely with School Sport Partnerships (SSPs), competition managers and youth workers to promote the event over a 12 month period.

English Lacrosse will provide a competition-based programme which will accommodate all young people of primary and secondary school age, no matter what their standard or experience of the sport. We will continue to establish and develop links between clubs, schools and other youth organisations with support via coaching, equipment

► and the provision of exit routes to community teams and competitions.

Our key aim is to expose more individuals to the sport and to excite and enthuse them by encouraging them to be a tournament participant on a field alongside professional athletes.

Older players

As well as increasing the number of individuals taking up the sport, we asked the question, of how can we use the World Championships to retain players in the sport and can we keep them playing?

The physical nature of the sport means that 20-somethings and 40-somethings don't always mix on the field. As someone who has slipped into the older age group I know that I'm just as competitive, just as skillful and play with more thought than I ever did, it's just that I'm not as fast and my body hurts more when a 24-year-old hits me when I stand in their way.

The development of competitions for older age groups will not only provide better opportunities for those in the game but re-engage those who have stopped playing. The Masters, Grand Masters and Super Grand Masters (nobody likes to be called a veteran) tournaments which ran in parallel to the main Championships were the first series of tournaments that made up an annual programme of regional, national and international competition for the over 35s, 45s and 55s age groups.

The Manchester 2010 Community Lacrosse Games

Held at the University of Manchester Armitage Sports Grounds in July this year, the Under 12s, Under 14s, Under 16s and Under 19s Club Competitions were played at the main World Championship venue and offered players the opportunity to meet with participating nations.

The Primary Schools Festival and the Secondary School Festival were mixed Pop Lacrosse competitions (starter sessions with softer balls) that took place for schools that currently have experience in playing competitive lacrosse.

A Boys' and Girls' Field Lacrosse Competition also took place for schools which currently have experience of competitive field lacrosse. An additional event also combined coaching and a fun-based competition for newcomers to the sport.

During the event, training was also provided to teachers to enable them to deliver basic lacrosse lessons in schools.



Master, Grand Master and Super Grand Master

Catering for all age groups, the Championships for the over 35s, 45s and 55s age groups also took place at the event, offering five days of competitive, full field lacrosse with teams invited from around the world.



Community links

This event placed the community at the centre of its focus for both participation and event spectators. It enabled the governing body to increase the number of stakeholders, monitor development and target individual groups. Off the back of

English Lacrosse wants to attract more people to the sport by encouraging them to play in tournaments alongside elite athletes

this, monitoring success will be implemented relatively easily and progression routes identified and recorded and we're confident that we can achieve a long term legacy through the use of local clubs and agencies targeting local people.

If the government wants to ensure the delivery of a long-term sporting legacy off the back of the 2012 Olympics and other major international sporting events both before and after the Games, wouldn't it be wise to also fund smaller events to help raise local and regional participation rather than plough a huge share of the funding pot into the high-profile, high-cost events?

I sincerely hope that Coe's legacy vision comes to fruition and that he's able to get the various stakeholders to work together to achieve his legacy dream. On a smaller scale though, English Lacrosse will continue to deliver a major legacy from a major event to our minor sport. ●





AMB Sports

The best choice in sports facilities & surfaces

AMB Sports continues to meet the demands of the Sports Facility and Surface Market, achieving major success with a comprehensive range of surfaces that satisfies the stringent requirements of today's players and coaches.

For further information call **0844 448 4370**
info@ambsports.com www.ambsports.com

www.ambsports.com



Some would say we love what we do a bit too much!




There's service and then there's Replay service.

To our maintenance teams, each project is special. We are passionate about providing a level of service that is second-to-none. It's a philosophy that is reflected throughout Replay. Every synthetic sports surface that we maintain is treated with care and respect, and we are committed to only using the best machines, processes and techniques.

The final result for you is a sports facility that always looks great.

Please contact us for a FREE site visit or for further information. We'd love to help!

Call **01636 640506** Email info@replaymaintenance.co.uk

REPLAY REJUVENATION* | **AQUATRAX***
 Repairs | Service Agreements
www.replaymaintenance.co.uk



Maintaining Synthetic Sports Surfaces

Ground modelling, design and construction of all natural turf & synthetic sports surfaces






O'BRIEN
 Contractors Limited

CIPA  **HAS**

Manor Cottage
 Church Lane, Cublington
 Leamington Spa, CV32 7JT
 Tel: (01926) 423918
 Fax: (01926) 883767
 E-mail: info@obriencontractors.co.uk
www.obriencontractors.co.uk

**The Total Solution ...
 From Concept to Construction**

Technical Guidance for Synthetic Turf

SAPCA's Dr Colin Young outlines the latest developments in synthetic turf and introduces the new document by Sport England, the Football Foundation and four leading NGBs to aid in the selection of appropriate sports surface

Synthetic turf, artificial turf, fake grass, plastic pitches, AstroTurf™ or artificial grass are some of the many names commonly used to describe the use of sports surfaces fabricated from synthetic fibres. Synthetic turf has been around since the mid-1960s and during the intervening 40-plus years the pace of development and improvement has been astonishing.

Its popularity and success has been mixed with some sports, such as field hockey, fully embracing its use and other sports, such as football, being more sceptical. However, with recent developments and innovations there are bespoke systems that are suitable for almost all sports played in the UK.

However, the number of options and proprietary systems available can be daunting and can often lead to confusion for the end user when making sure they have the best available system for their specific needs.

What is synthetic turf?

There are many types of synthetic turf systems available in the UK; common to each system is the attachment of synthetic fibres onto a backing material. The playing performance characteristics of each synthetic turf system is dictated by the attachment method, the material composition, the fibre length, the infill type and many other variables. Moreover, innovations by synthetic turf manufacturers in recent years have improved the quality, longevity and performance of their products.

Many different materials are used for the synthetic turf, which are complex

and specially engineered to meet the rigours, durability and playing performance criteria. In addition, the turf fibres are chemically treated to withstand harsh environmental influences to provide high quality surfaces over long time periods in often harsh environmental conditions.

Many types of synthetic turf make use of infill materials, often sand and/or rubber, to give specific playing characteristics. As with the turf fibres, these infill materials are specifically engineered to provide the requisite playing characteristics.

Why use synthetic turf?

The potential advantage of synthetic turf is that it provides a good quality, consistent playing surface that can be used more frequently than natural grass and in all but the worst weather conditions. Natural grass is a living organism, requiring intensive maintenance and recovery time to grow. If used in the wrong conditions, or too frequently, it can be rendered useless and hence need significant repair – resulting in a surface unusable for large parts of the sporting season.

However, synthetic turf is not intended to replace all natural grass. For the immediate future natural grass has a major place in the sports sector. When maintained and prepared to a high standard it provides an excellent surface. However, with demands on the land, budget, weather conditions and intensity of use, natural grass pitches can't always cope. Synthetic turf can help alleviate many of these issues by providing a good quality surface all year round.



The types of synthetic turf

In order to simplify the different types of synthetic turf available, 'types' or categories are commonly used. These include 3G, sand-filled, sand-dressed, water-based and needle-punched.

TYPE	DESCRIPTION
3G or Long-pile	The pile height is longer than other types of synthetic turf: commonly in the range of 40 to 70mm. The pile is normally filled with sand and rubber. This surface is often used for football and rugby (both codes). If the surface is less than 40mm in length and meets the requirements of the FIH it can also be used for hockey
Sand-filled	The synthetic turf fibres are filled with sand, which is normally taken to within 3mm of the fibre top. The sand and fibre combine to form the playing characteristics. This surface is commonly used for multi-sport applications
Sand-dressed	A derivative of the sand-filled system. This turf normally has a shorter, denser pile and uses less sand. It is commonly used for multi-sport applications but preferred for hockey
Water-based	Rather than having sand or rubber infill, this system has no fill material but relies on water irrigation to provide the playing characteristics. It tends to have a dense fibre pile and is the preferred surface for hockey and is not suitable for other sports
Needle-punched	The synthetic turf fibres are bonded to the backing rather than tufted. The surface is often filled with sand but can be unfilled. It is commonly used for multi-sport applications

The guidance provides a simple, consistent and agreed methodology for selecting the right type of surface

Performance standards

Sports governing bodies (NGBs) have identified key performance criteria for their sports, which are designed to ensure that the surface does not inadvertently affect the way the game is played.

These requirements are based on the behaviour of good quality natural turf and relate to the way the ball and player interact with the surface. In particular, the height the ball bounces, the distance it rolls and the hardness of the surfaces are closely monitored to ensure the playing experience is as close to good quality natural grass as possible. The standards for each sport are below:

Football: FIFA 1 star or International Artificial Turf Standard.

Rugby Union: International Rugby Board (IRB) Regulation 22.

Rugby League: to be confirmed by the Rugby Football League (RFL), but also linked to FIFA 1 star and IRB Regulation 22

Hockey: International Hockey Federation (FIH) Handbook of Performance Requirements.

In addition, BS EN 15330 (2007) is also commonly used, particularly for multi-sport facilities.

There are specialist independent companies that conduct performance tests. It's important however, that only accredited competent test houses are used and if required, approved by the relevant governing body.

New guidance

Sport England has teamed up with the Football Association, Rugby Football Union, Rugby Football League, England Hockey and the Football Foundation to provide guidance. This joint document can be found on the Sport England website (www.sportengland.org/facilities_planning/design_guidance_notes.aspx).

The aim of the document is to ensure that "the playing surfaces of artificial grass pitches should be selected on the basis of a clearly articulated need and a strong evidence base". The guidance is intended to provide a simple, consistent, agreed methodology and approach to selecting the right type of artificial grass surface for playing hockey, football, rugby union and rugby league.

The group acknowledges that it's not possible to provide a surface that can meet the needs of all sports. Therefore it's essential that the right artificial turf surface is selected to maximise the benefit from the investment and minimise the impact of any loss of playing field which would result from the pitch construction.

Construction and aftercare

While selecting the right surface is important, the base upon which the surface is installed is fundamental to the success of the facility. Therefore, it's essential to ensure the correct base design and specification is adopted and the system is built by competent contractors and overseen by experienced project managers.

SAPCA has produced a Code of Practice for the Construction and Maintenance of Synthetic Turf Pitches which is free to download from the website www.sapca.org.uk.

Furthermore, the ongoing maintenance and use of the facility will have a huge impact on the longevity and quality of the surface. There should be appropriate provision for the maintenance requirements of the surface which, if not done correctly, can significantly reduce the life expectancy of the facility. ●



Harrod
UK LIMITED

setting the standard - leading the field

Wembley The Home of Great Goals

We are Official Suppliers of
Football Goals and Nets,
Rugby Posts and American
Football Goals to the new
Wembley Stadium



BS EN ISO 9001:2000
Certificate No. PFC2819



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



subdivisions of
goth and play associations
www.sportandplay.com



MEMBER OF /
SAFEA
J HIGHER HALL & FITNESS
EQUIPMENT ASSOCIATION



Manufacturers
& Suppliers



THE
TIA
ASSOCIATION



IOG
groundsmanship

Telephone 01502 583515 www.harrod.uk.com

Maintenance machinery for both worlds

Natural and Synthetic Playing Surfaces

We have the best range of equipment on the
market to keep your Natural or Synthetic surface
in tip top condition.



• Whether you're aerating,
seeding or top dressing a Natural playing surface, or
surface/deep cleaning a Synthetic pitch, our sales team
can advise on the most suitable machines for your needs.

Redexim
Charterhouse

Breaking barriers to better turf

Call 01428 661222 for information and a demonstration

www.charterhouseturfmachinery.co.uk

PITCH DESIGN FROM THE INSIDE OUT

Dr Richard Earl provides an overview of some of the key elements that influence the ultimate sustainability of natural turf facilities

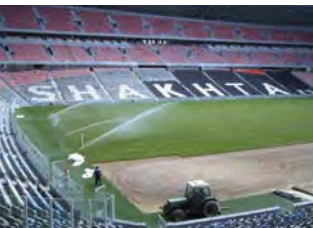
Even if the primary function of a stadium is to host a major event, it's important that the facility forms part of an enduring legacy which will benefit many people for many years. This is particularly pertinent to facilities that incorporate a natural turf playing surface because the provision of spectator ergonomics dominate design criteria, often to the detriment of the green bit in the middle.

Creating an environment within which turf will thrive is crucial to long-term sustainability. The application of science and engineering to the design and construction of natural turf facilities has a lot to offer the industry. However, long-established, basic principles are often ignored.

The natural system

The challenge for designers and managers of natural turf playing surfaces is to compromise between achieving the

Pitch construction (above) and irrigation (below) at The Donbass Arena



playability characteristics demanded by the sport, while creating an environment that promotes grass growth all year round. This is achievable but involves the management of a complex interaction between factors such as:

- Soil type and associated physical and chemical characteristics
- Water movement through the soil
- Irrigation water requirements
- The decline in aeration status in the first three years following construction
- Soil and air temperature
- Light levels within the stadium
- Ventilation in the vicinity of the turf

This situation is further complicated by issues such as the degree of wear imposed on the turf and variations in weather conditions.

Soil type

The relative proportions of soil particles has a profound effect on many essential processes. The coarsest soil particles are termed sand; the intermediate – silt, and the finest – clay. However, this still leaves a huge particle size range within each of these categories. For example, the volume of a coarse grain of sand is approximately 37,000 times greater than that of a fine grain of sand.

These proportions have far-reaching implications for the way in which soil mixtures of different proportions of particle size behave, which is due to the huge range in the surface area and the associated pore sizes between adjacent soil particles.

Water movement through the soil

Soil particle size affects the rate at which water moves through soil. For coarse sand, if dyed water is dripped onto the surface, it can be seen to move rapidly downwards. In practice, however, natural turf facilities are invariably constructed using a layer of finer-grained material over coarse.

The effect of this on water movement is counter-intuitive in that water moves readily into the fine-grained material but will not move from the fine pores into the coarser pores due to surface tension effects. This phenomenon can be used to advantage where water conservation is a priority, by creating a suspended water table below a playing surface to provide a reservoir of stored water.

However, the implication for natural turf constructions is that if a suspended water table is too near the surface, water will rise up through the profile towards the surface and compromise playability and turf quality.

This also has implications for natural turf drainage systems, which are based on the incorporation of coarse gravel into the soil profile. In practice, surface water will avoid moving into the coarse pores space in the drain. Typical drain installations comprise a perforated pipe in the base of a gravel-filled trench, which is topped off with a shallow sand or sand/soil mix layer. This causes water to be held tightly in the fine pores of the upper layer, preventing the downward movement of excess surface water through the coarse gravel and into the pipe.

Below: Assessment of the uniformity of irrigation application at Ipswich Town FC. Right: The use of artificial light to sustain turf growth at Hampden Park



➔ Irrigation water requirements

The ability to accurately meter and control the quantity of water applied through irrigation is as important as removing excess water from the pitch profile through drainage. However, it is not uncommon to observe variations of up to 800 per cent in the quantity of water applied during blanket irrigation events. Following construction, the performance of irrigation systems is rarely assessed, but this process will assist in minimising water wastage and optimise turf condition.

The decline in turf condition following construction

High standards of turf condition at new facilities can invariably be maintained throughout the first year. However these can decline in subsequent years and are often attributed to a lack of competence in facility maintenance by ground staff. Natural consolidation however, and the detrimental effect this has on the turf environment, is frequently overlooked.

Following construction, a reduction in the size of soil pores occurs through compaction and the migration of finer particles into the interstices between coarser particles. This reduces the rate at which water can move through the pitch and increases the height of the water table and the capillary rise above it.

This gradual deterioration in hydraulic properties manifests itself in a number of ways, such as: a wet, weak surface that is prone to damage; increased susceptibility to disease and fungal attack; insufficient oxygen in the rootzone which weakens the grass and limits rooting depth and turf anchorage; and a reduction in water and nutrient storage/availability, due to shallow roots.

It's possible to establish and sustain natural turf in a stadium as long as the requirements are taken into account at an early stage in the project

This can be avoided if, during the design phase, the selection of materials involves testing the physical properties of samples in a compactive state that is representative of post-construction conditions following natural consolidation.

Soil and air temperature

While cool-season grasses used for sports facilities in Northern Europe are tolerant of the low temperature, the incorporation of a soil and/or air heating system into the design of stadia can prevent the abandonment of events due to frost. The traditional way of achieving this is to incorporate a network of hot water pipes into the soil profile. For mild frosts, adequate protection can be achieved by deploying frost covers. However, pitch domes, inflated with warm air can enable some maintenance to continue. Hot water systems can also be used in conjunction with a dome so that the risk of root burn can be reduced.

Light levels

Achieving adequate light levels within a stadium environment is crucial if grass growth and condition is to be sustained. It's not light levels that are important but the right kind of light, which is termed Photosynthetically Active Radiation (PAR). PAR has a wave-length of 400 to 700nm and constitutes half of the total solar radiation. The minimum requirement for normal growth is quoted as 30 per cent of full sunlight. Sophisticated models can now combine meteorological data with proposed stadia designs in

order to predict whether sufficient levels of PAR will be achieved.

Where the sustainability of stadia turf is compromised by insufficient PAR, routine re-turfing may need to be incorporated into the facility business plan. As an alternative, artificial lighting rigs can sustain turf growth.

Ventilation

Achieving adequate ventilation in relation to the requirements of a stadium full of spectators is a key design criterion, however, ventilation requirements in the vicinity of the turf are often overlooked. Efficient ventilation immediately above the leaf canopy is an important component of sustainable turf management as it facilitates the exchange of heat, carbon dioxide and water vapour.

Weather

The effects of adverse weather on turf conditions can be mitigated by managing and manipulating the turf environment. A key component of this process is accurate weather data from a range of positions across the turf surface.

Recent advances in our understanding of soil physics and biological science means that it's now possible to create the optimum environment to establish and sustain natural turf in a stadium – as long as the requirements are taken into account at an early stage in the project. ●

Dr Richard Earl is managing director of TGMS sports turf consultants at Cranfield University's Innovation Centre




Sports turf consultants

TGMS Ltd. is one of the leading consultancy practices in the country specialising in the design of synthetic and natural turf sports facilities.

We offer a comprehensive range of services including feasibility studies, design (including earthworks and drainage) and contract supervision to support the construction of new sports pitches as well as the remediation of existing pitches.

In addition to our work in the sports sector, TGMS also provides specialist advice for the development of new cemeteries and cemetery extensions.

**TGMS Limited, Cranfield Innovation Centre,
University Way, Cranfield, Bedfordshire MK43 0BT**
Tel: +44 (0)1234 756040

Visit our website: www.tgms.co.uk



MIND YOUR BACK!

NEW IMPROVED

EASY LIFT

GOAL WHEELS



ONLY
£420
SET OF 8*

- Suitable for aluminium & steel goals
- No need to lift the goal as the cantilever arm lifts the goal for you
- Micro Cellular Polyethylene NON PUNCTURE WHEELS
- Sufficient quantity for 2 goals

Goals make games. We make goals.

Talk to Mark on **01502 710039** or visit markharrod.com

*Price excludes carriage & VAT



Fertiliser.



**Slow release
fertiliser from BSH.**

You won't notice the difference now,
but you will halfway through the season.

Slow release fertilisers from British Seed Houses
Suitable for all applications and venues
Order online at: www.bshamenity.com
Or speak to an expert on: 01522 868 714



Equality in Sport

Will the new Equality Act bring about a much needed sea change in equity in sport? Kath Hudson reports on the uphill struggle

The Sports Council (now Sport England) first went after Sports For All – a campaign to enable the widest possible range of the population to practice sport – in 1978 and has been trying to achieve equality ever since. Unfortunately this ambition has yet to be realised.

Just considering the gender divide, the Women in Sport and Fitness Foundation's (WSFF) 2009 leadership audit shows that women hold just one in five of the top jobs in sport and 25 per cent of the national governing bodies of sport (NGBs) have no women in board positions, even though 50 per cent of their staff are female. Only 22 per cent of performance directors and 20 per cent of senior management are women.

Martyn Allison, national culture and sport advisor at the Improvement and Development Agency, remembers working with the Sports Council in the early

days of Sport for All in the 1980s and thinks progress has been far too slow. "The disappointing level of progress which I have been a party to will be one of the biggest frustrations of my career," he says. "The level of change in terms of addressing unequal levels of participation should've been far greater. The levels of change have been marginal compared to what could have been achieved. If you really believe in equity, it should be at the top of the priority list."

Is legislation the answer?

So, will the Equality Act, released in April this year, be the key to change? In theory it should, as legislation sets the values and principles. It's very much a tidy up of existing pieces of legislation spanning several decades, including the Equal Pay Act 1970, the Sex Discrimination Act 1975, the Race Relations Act 1976 and the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.

The Act states that there should be equal treatment in access to employment and private and public services, regardless of gender, race, disability, sexual orientation, belief and age. The biggest challenge for the industry is to set about reducing the gap in gender pay. Public bodies will also be encouraged to contract out to companies with a positive record on equality matters.

CEO of Sporting Equals, Arun Kang, believes the Equality Act goes further than other legislation. Organisations are now able to take positive action regarding recruitment and retention and cases can now be brought forward for dual discrimination, for example being black and female. Publishing equality data, showing who has been on training courses and who has been promoted might also have a positive impact on equity.

However, Kang does think that legislation can only go so far: "It's not the



complete agenda we need for real change. With legislation, organisations tend to do what they need to do in order to comply, and until they can see the business case for diversity there will only be partial change.

"I still don't think many organisations really understand the benefits of diversity: that it can bring in more creativity, different styles of problem solving, more competition and encourages people to think outside the box. Organisations don't flourish as well as they could if the dominant profile makes all the decisions."

Dame Tanni Grey-Thompson, chair of the Commission on the Future of Women's Sport and Britain's most successful paralympic athlete ever, hopes that the Equality Act will encourage those in sports governance to push equality issues up the priority list.

"If everyone around the table is male, with the same education and the same background, they will come up with the same response," she says. "Sport is a microcosm of society, there's not enough women on boards of governing bodies and there aren't enough women on the boards of the FTSE 100 companies."

Allison echoes this view: "If the leadership team is not representative, it is easy for narrow views and therefore narrow decision-making to prevail. At Leicester City Council, when two women joined my management team, the nature of the debate and discussion changed for the better – bringing a new range of perceptions and ideas."

Allison believes that where the leadership team is representative, equity will be higher up the agenda. "I can guarantee that if there were more black people

sitting around the boardroom tables, equity would suddenly be considered more important," he says. However, he also points out that we should not rely on minority voices to champion equity: the responsibility lies with all of us.

Benchmarking's limited success

In November 2004, Sport England launched the Equality Standard as a tool to guide organisations towards achieving equality and to help address some of the under representation in the boardroom. At the end of March 2010, 147 organisations had achieved Foundation Level, proving they had made a formal and evidenced commitment to equality. Fifty-nine had reached the Preliminary Level, showing they know what they need to do to achieve equality. Just four had progressed to the Intermediate Level, which proved that they are increasing the range of opportunities for a diverse range of people. However, because of the length of time it takes to reach each standard, there hasn't been time for any organisation to achieve the Advanced Level as yet, which would be an acknowledgement of offering fair and equal opportunities to its staff and the community it serves.

Roger Clifton, lead associate at Vaga Associates, which manages the standard for Sport England, points out that as they are not tickbox exercises, organisations cannot progress rapidly. It takes six months for the first level, a further 12 months for the second stage, two years to move to the next stage and three years between the final two stages. Clifton describes the overall progress as satisfactory, with a variety of well-staffed and voluntary-based organisations using the standard. However, Chris Cutforth, senior lecturer of the Sport, Enterprise and Communities Professional Group at Sheffield Hallam University's Sport Department is surprised at what he considers to be the limited progress achieved in relation to the standard.

"A large number of publicly-funded sports organisations have embarked on the scheme, including Sport England, UK Sport, sports governing bodies (NGBs)



There should be a clear route towards the top jobs in sport for all population groups

and County Sport Partnerships. However, to date only a very small number have moved beyond the preliminary stage. I was particularly surprised and disappointed by the lack of progress achieved by Sport England and the sports equality agencies in relation to the Standard. Surely they should be acting as role models and champions for the Standard and what it can help organisations to achieve?

"This prompts a few important questions. What does Sport England expect of the organisations they fund in relation to the standard? What are the



Organisations don't flourish as well as they could if the dominant profile makes all the decisions

Arun Kang, CEO of Sporting Equals



► consequences, if any, if publicly-funded organisations do not demonstrate a commitment to the standard? What advice and support is available to organisations wishing to progress through the various levels of the standard?"

Clifton argues that the Equality Standard has put equality higher up the agenda at a variety of levels, but that sport needs to grasp every opportunity to address the inequalities which still exist. "What happens in the next few years will be a critical determining factor regarding the impact of the standard," he says. "The big challenge will be how many of the sports organisations have the commitment, motivation and support to progress to the next level at a time of public sector spending cuts, which will only increase post 2012. The Sports Councils will have an important influential role in ensuring these are in place and the longevity of the standard is protected."

Commitment to change

One organisation which has embraced the standard is the National Association of Karate. Its director of operations, Sandra Beale, says the organisation has found the standard to be a useful tool.

"The main influence has been to make us work harder to get more women

represented on the board, and we have already appointed one more," she says. "We don't want to just tick boxes though, we are looking for women who have backgrounds which are useful for governance."

At grassroots level, Beale says campaigns are underway to encourage both genders and all ethnicities to get involved in the sport, and she's particularly interested in reaching out to children with autism. "Two officers on our management board have autism, and martial arts is particularly helpful for all levels on the autism spectrum," she says.

Finding pathways

The Commission on the Future of Women's Sport is currently working on research into the value of women's sport, including sponsorship, media coverage and finding out who watches it. The findings will be used to help NGBs to effect change.

Some pathways are being put in place to help find elite women, for example, UK Sport's Girls4Gold, which looked for gaps in the Olympic programme where British women could win medals. The Tall and Talented programme helped identify Victoria Thornley, who recently won gold in the rowing World U23 Championships. Head of Policy at UK Sport, Amanda Bennett, says that UK Sport is now working closely with the Youth

The Commission on the Future of Women's Sport is looking into the amount of sponsorship and media coverage of women's sport

Sport Trust and Sport England to make sure pathways for talent are available.

Sporting Equals is currently working with Sport and Recreation Alliance

(formerly CCPR), Sport England and some NGBs to put together a leadership training programme, specifically developed for sport and aimed at black and ethnic minorities, and especially women in these groups. Funding is in place and the programme should be ready to launch at the end of the year.

"It's aimed at potential leaders who have a passion for sport," says Sporting Equals CEO, Arun Kang. "We will train them up, giving them all the knowledge they need about the sports sector and in particular the sport they are most interested in. We will also teach them a number of skills, including leadership, decision-making and diplomacy skills. When opportunities come up to sit on NGB boards we will put them forward. They will still have to go through the recruitment process, but we will have empowered them."

UK Sport launched a programme in 2006 which aims to make inroads into the under-representation of women on

Sport agencies should be acting as role models and champions for the Equality Standard and what it can help organisations achieve



the boards of governing bodies of sport. The Women and Leadership Development Programme is now on the second intake. This positive action programme grew out of evidence showing that balanced leadership creates a better organisation and the evidence that there is a lack of women in leadership positions in British sport, plus targets from the International Olympic Committee to improve the current situation.

Each intake has 15 women nominated from within their organisation, all of whom show promise to hold leadership positions. The aim of the programme is to give them the skills and experience to progress. Already 70 per cent of the group selected in 2006 have been promoted and 80 per cent said their confidence had improved.

UK Sports' Amanda Bennett, who put together the WDL programme, with

partners the British Olympic Foundation, says this is a great result. "Since it's confined to 15 women who work at national level in Olympic and Paralympic Sports, we don't expect it to have a dramatic impact on statistics. For us, the outcome for our candidates is more important than numbers," she says. "However, one of the wider impacts we hope this will have on sport is that there will be an appreciation of the quality of women's work and an acknowledgement that they approach tasks differently, but no less efficiently. As a result of the programme, we are hoping they will be given more responsibility to take on projects, including strategic plans and performance plans for the whole sport."

Eventually the drip feed of all of these programmes and others like them, along with legislation and benchmarking schemes, might start to turn the boat.

As Chris Cutforth says, perhaps we need to change the focus of the debate: "A renewed commitment to fairness and equality in sport and the effective application of the Equality Standard needs to be viewed as part of the solution to the many complex challenges and opportunities faced by many sports organisations in a rapidly changing society, rather than as a bureaucratic hoop for organisations to jump through to keep their paymasters happy," he says. "This may require some fundamental changes to the structure and organisation of the Standard, including the support available to organisations wishing to use it in a progressive and developmental way."

"Wouldn't it be great if sports organisations led the way towards a fairer and more equal society?" ●

Kath Hudson is a freelance writer



Nigel Richardson talks about the adventure playground concept and how the Outdoor Education Team at Mile End Park in East London delivers adventure-based, informal education in a Tower Hamlets urban park

ADVENTURE PLAY



The concept of 'adventure playgrounds' was introduced in the 1950s – largely driven by ideas piloted in Denmark. In what were called Skrammellegepladsen, or junk playgrounds, children were encouraged to use tools and scrap materials to create their own amusement.

In the UK, this idea was championed by Lady Allen of Hurtwood, who used the term adventure playgrounds and stated that: "there was great benefit in the creativity and experimentation involved in this type of play." Within these playgrounds, children were given access to timber and rope, hand saws and hammers and, with some adult supervision, encouraged to create shelters, castles and go-karts.

Pilot schemes initially ran in London and with the support of the National Playing Fields Association adventure playgrounds sprang up around the country as a possible solution to anti social behaviour and youth crime.

These would have been a rather different sight to the playgrounds of today however, with their impact-absorbing surfaces and pre-constructed play equipment. Interestingly, the early

playgrounds would have encouraged valuable learning outcomes such as resourcefulness, creativity, teamwork, technical skills and independence, which are arguably lacking from the safety focussed play areas we see today.

In 1984 the then director for the Centre for Outdoor Education at Charlotte Mason College in Ambleside, Colin Mortlock, wrote a book called *The Adventure Alternative*. The concepts within this

Youngsters learn confidence and self awareness through risky activities



book are now regarded by adventure education workers as one of the cornerstones of adventure-based learning.

Mortlock argued that young people should be offered new challenges that were at the absolute limit of their skills and abilities, and that those challenges would inevitably entail some degree of risk. He called this Frontier Adventure (others have also called it the stretch zone) and said that if one succeeds at this level of challenge then numerous benefits result in the form of increased confidence, the pushing back of boundaries and greater self awareness. He also felt that risk was an integral component of the experience and his approach was to create a sensation of risk in the minds of the participants while keeping the actual risk at an acceptable level through the discreet use of control measures.

Engaging young people

The first challenge for the Mile End Park Outdoor Education Team – which consists of four managers and 25 adventure education tutors and youth workers, part of the Tower Hamlets Youth Service and located at the park's Adventure Base – was to inject adventure into the



As the youngsters become more competent, they can take on greater challenges and responsibilities



URBAN BASE CASE STUDY

The 2007 canoe project involved a group of 17-year-old girls from the Central Foundation Girls' School. They built a canoe from raw materials, learned to paddle it and then took part in an adventurous water-based expedition.

Since the completion of this initial project, eight girls now do casual work as youth workers at the Urban Adventure Base and are about to qualify as canoe coaches. Two are practising Muslims and provide a fantastic example to other young Muslim women by paddling on the canal in appropriate dress.

One girl was recently asked to do a motivational talk to parents at the local mosque in favour of sport and physical activity and has been a valuable link between the centre and that particular faith community.

play area in a range of exciting and engaging activities to generate those same outcomes for young people aged between 13 and 19 years old.

Engaging with young people can be difficult; however, success is a powerful motivating force and is one of the key ingredients in any of the programmes.

The activity programmes' structure offers a succession of achievable challenges – starting at a basic level and leading to a trip away where challenges can be harder and successes greater. Cycling, for example, is one of the most popular activities on offer as many young people don't have a bike of their own and so can barely ride. Over a period of months their skills will be developed around the park until eventually they get the chance to tackle some serious mountain bike challenges in Epping Forest.

Challenging boundaries

Variety is another key ingredient; despite the focus on adventure, the Urban Adventure Base also offers less adventurous activities such as cookery, art and drama.

Access is an important consideration as well, with clubs being open at suitable times, pick up and drop off

Adventure can be found in the complexity and the challenges of the journey taken

arrangements for the disadvantaged and provision of suitable facilities. The activity equipment is appropriate to the size and ability of the young people and the staff team reflects local ethnic, religious and gender diversity.

Young people like to feel involved, so every programme, activity and trip comes at the end of a consultation process where young people can take on ownership of the outcomes and these are key to successful engagement.

Mile End Park, just a stones throw north west of Canary Wharf, is situated with the Regents Canal alongside and with good access to a range of walking and cycling routes through adjacent parks. The canal is a good venue for canoeing and the park is used for cycling, BMXing, skateboarding, climbing (at Mile End Wall and a mobile wall), archery, orienteering and other sports.

Adventure can be found in a number of ways; the complexity or length of journeys undertaken; discreet challenges such as jumps and slides; and the conditions under which journeys are undertaken.

The objective is to build competence through skills training, impart knowledge and tackle the range of experiences offered. As the young people become more competent they can take on greater challenges and accept greater responsibilities so the leader can step back.

The ultimate goal of many of the programmes is an unaccompanied journey, which encapsulates the whole concept of adventure-based learning. Young people at this stage have sufficient knowledge to plan and undertake a challenging journey without an adult leader. When things go well they can relish the success and when things go wrong they have to deal with it. However, there is always some element of control with the leader approving the route, shadowing or spot checking the group on their journey.

This journey will be at the very limit of the young people's ability and competence and will have them punching the air when they finally complete it. The adventure will improve confidence and embed positive learning around teamwork and good planning. ●

Nigel Richardson is outdoor education manager at the Urban Adventure Base

New Fun, Fill & Splash

- Interactive water play
- Replace old water features
- Customised theming
- Design-in future expansion plans
- Create revenue through play



Hippo
Leisure Products
FLUID SOLUTIONS



Tel: +44 (0) 1752 313075

E: sales@hippoleisure.com W: www.hippoleisure.com



Fencing and Gates: We'll handle it all.

One stop shop for sports and leisure fencing systems, acoustic barriers, gates, demarcation, automation and access control to protect your customers, staff and premises.



For a copy of our brochures, technical advice or security audit call

01233 750 393
jacksons-security.co.uk



Jacksons Fencing
992 Stowling Common
Ashford Kent TN25 6BN

Jacksons
Quality that lasts
Fencing & Access Solutions

Bringing the outdoors to your youth activity zone

Safe, challenging, basic real climbing experience that kids love! Make it COOL to exercise.

Freedom Climber gives kids a great fun activity whilst providing fundamental fitness benefits, such as total body & core muscle development, co-ordination, flexibility and balance.

Fits on most walls, no ropes, no helmets, low level real climbing is safe and simple for kids.

No gimmicks... just good clean fun!

Call 01483 559785 for a demonstration or email info@freedomclimber.co.uk for more details

View the video at www.freedomclimber.co.uk

See us at LIW Stand H249

As featured on the GADGET SHOW



Revolutionary Products

European Distributor for Freedom Climber



Sport Industry
Research Centre

SPORT AND LEISURE STATISTICS

FORECASTS FOR THE SPORT AND LEISURE INDUSTRIES

The Sport Industry Research Centre publishes two annual reports, Leisure Forecasts and Sport Market Forecasts. These reports provide valuable insight into future market trends.

Both publications are essential references for industry practitioners, consultants and researchers.

The Sport Market Forecasts are produced in conjunction with Sport England.

To find out more please visit
www.shu.ac.uk/ad/sportandleisure

Or contact
Susie Shaw
Phone 0114 225 5919
Fax 0114 225 4341
Email s.shaw@shu.ac.uk

Sheffield
Hallam University



Developing Sport Floodlighting Solutions

Abacus Lighting's principal lighting engineer, Kelvin Austin, gives an introduction to the principles involved when developing a successful floodlighting scheme for outdoor sports



Concerns for the environment, planning regulations and world-wide broadcasting have all influenced recent changes in lighting technologies. So with world-class venues competing for business, it's vital to keep a stadium at the forefront of the latest developments.

There are many lighting guides and specifications available that give appropriate illuminance levels for individual sports. A European Standard also exists, which details the minimum sports lighting recommendations and specific lighting requirements are also available

Above and below: Abacus's telescopic masts, which lower out of sight when not in use, helped Lord's and the Brit Oval overcome strict planning regulations

from many sports governing bodies, such as the Football Association and the England and Wales Cricket Board.

So what are the optimum floodlighting solutions for a stadium and its sport in order to raise its profile and revenue potential?

Lighting requirements

The determination of how much light is required to play any given sport depends on several factors, such as the size of object, the speed of object, the viewing distance, the reflectance of illuminated surfaces and atmospheric and environmental factors.

In general, a fast action, small playing object, such as a cricket ball, and a long viewing distance will require high lighting levels. A slower speed, larger

playing object, such as a football, and closer viewing distance will require lower lighting levels.

The lighting levels required for sports played outdoors are actually significantly lower than daylight levels and, usually, lower than for the same sport played indoors. This is because there is generally greater subject contrast outdoors, with a dark sky backdrop giving good adaptation levels. Most recommendations of individual sports lighting levels are divided into classes of play:

Class I – Top level competition

Class II – Intermediate competition

Class III – Lower level competition and supervised training

Requirements do vary depending on the sport being played. For example:

Football – Training and two levels of competition matches are governed in Europe by both national football associations and the European Standard EN12193:2007, which stipulates a minimum lighting level for each of the above classes of 500, 200 and 75 lux respectively. National football associations, such as the English FA, stipulate a separate minimum level of 120 lux for club entry level competition lighting as well as a regional competition level of 350 lux.

At a higher competition level, UEFA in Europe and FIFA worldwide, state



Abacus's floodlighting solution incorporates iconic circular head frames at Trent Bridge home of Nottinghamshire CCC

Light control is important as sports floodlights are more intense than domestic luminaires

➔ minimum levels for colour television lighting (CTV), which range from 1200 to 1400 vertical lux levels. Higher levels for HDTV are also beginning to be seen.

The FA minimum required levels are set to increase from 2014.

Rugby – Training and two levels of competition matches are governed in Europe by both national rugby associations and the above mentioned European standard. As with football, the Standard recommends minimum levels of 500, 200 and 75 lux for Classes I, II and III. A middle level of 350 lux for club competition has also been adopted in some countries, including Ireland. At a higher competition level, colour television also demands specific lighting levels.

Cricket – Standards for lighting cricket are governed by the demands of colour television and the level at which matches will be played at the stadium. For HDTV, now demanded for matches at the highest level, lighting levels of 2500 lux for the wicket and 1500 lux for the outfield are being specified. Lamp colour rendition should also be close to daylight to ensure an optimum natural feel. It is necessary to install 2kW lamps with colour rendition of minimum Ra=90 to achieve this outcome.

Environmental considerations

Protecting the environment should be a major priority when designing any floodlighting solution. A stadium may be situated in a residential neighbourhood or an area of natural beauty and therefore subject to strict planning regulations.

Overspill, sky glow and glare (the main elements of light pollution) are receiving increasing attention wherever lighting

applications are being considered. Light control is particularly important in sports lighting as the floodlights used in these projects are considerably more intense than domestic or amenity luminaires.

There are floodlights available that are specifically designed to control obtrusive light. The latest generation of precision reflector systems reduce overspill and direct light only where it is needed. Telescopic masts, which can be lowered when not in use, can help overcome tough planning restrictions and get local residents' buy-in.

Broadcast media

The world of broadcast media has changed dramatically over recent years. New digital and satellite channels and the world of online broadcasting means that traditional timescales have become less relevant and floodlighting has made sport more accessible to viewers across the world's time zones.

If a stadium is to compete in this global spectacular, a successful floodlighting solution needs to be designed to satisfy the demand of both broadcasting companies and international sporting bodies. High colour rendition is vital to reveal the true colours and detail of players' kit etc. to ensure that both sponsors and advertisers are kept happy.

The Rugby Sevens Stadium in Dubai was one of the first stadia to be designed specifically to enable games to be broadcast in HDTV to fans around the world – ensuring that live action could be enjoyed in high definition at any time of the day or night. The requirement meant that lighting levels at



Floodlighting solutions deliver excellent visual conditions for TV, players and spectators at the Dubai Rugby Sevens Stadium

the stadium were set at 1400 lux vertical to the camera – utilising the highest colour rendition available. This offered a better experience for fans and also helped meet the demands of sponsors and advertisers worldwide.

Maintenance

Maintaining the correct lighting levels is important to ensure the stadium continues to meet requirements for the sport and for broadcast. These levels can change over time so a service plan is vital. Also, from a structural point of view, it's important to ensure that a maintenance plan is in place to check that the electrics and structures are safe. Take account of the number of people under the masts every time the stadium opens!

Mast considerations

When planning a floodlighting upgrade, it's important to ensure masts are located away from existing underground services. Safe crowd movement is also a vital consideration and the hazard of pinch points must be avoided. The location of the masts must also be considered carefully in order to prevent shadows encroaching onto the playing surface.

For more information visit:
abacuslighting.co.uk

The complete
sports lighting
solution



• Design • Manufacture • Installation • Maintenance

Abacus
Leaders in lighting

Tel: +44 (0)1623 511 111
Fax: +44 (0)1623 552 133
Email: sales@abacuslighting.com
Web: abacuslighting.com



leisure media
STUDIO

LET US QUOTE YOU

Contact Tim Nash
Tel +44 (0)1462 471917
timnash@leisuremedia.com

Industry-leading marketing and design services

With more than 30 years' experience, **leisure media studio** will work with you to create bespoke print and web solutions to power your marketing

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| ■ Web design | ■ Image retouching |
| ■ Email marketing | ■ Illustration |
| ■ Contract publishing | ■ Advertising design |
| ■ Graphic design | ■ Direct mail |
| ■ Digital turning pages | ■ Print |



PEDAL POWER

Karen Maxwell asks top cycling coach Gareth Cole about the best training methods, both on and off the bike, to help riders get the most out of their sport

Cycling, for sport, recreation and a convenient form of transport, has certainly grown in popularity in the UK in the past decade. TeamGB's medal success at the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games and British Cycling's domination of the UCI World Track Championships and the Tour de France cycling events has raised the sport's national profile. The government's Bike 2 Work tax incentive and its recently-launched 'Ride it Away' zero per cent interest finance scheme on bike sales is also promoting extended use.

Go getters get cycling

Gareth Cole, head of education at The Third Space health and fitness club in London's Piccadilly, has also noticed a huge surge in interest in the sport, with members who are looking to go that extra mile in specific fitness programmes that are targeted towards cycling goals.

"Ten years ago, a few of our competitive corporate clients would talk about which mountain they'd climbed. Nowadays many more of them are talking about beating their times in triathlon events – in which cycling plays a very important part," he says.

According to Cole, from the club's large customer base, the 200-plus members working specifically towards peak performance include triathletes, endurance athletes and Olympians and he says strength and conditioning exercises are an important part of their training programmes.

Getting ready

Where needs demand, gym members are encouraged to train in the club's hypoxic

chamber, which offers the equivalent training conditions to those experienced at a height of 8,000ft. "Within this chamber the body is forced to work when starved of oxygen, which creates massive fitness rewards to the CV system back at sea level," Cole says. He also uses the club's Turbo Trainers to measure speed, distance and time in order to start hitting members' personal fitness targets towards endurance events.

Cole says that the personal trainer (PT) needs to treat each client as an individual when working towards a fixed date event, by working out a needs analysis of the event and what has to be achieved, in order to plan ahead. "In other words," he says, "you end up working up to the event by working backwards so you can tick all the boxes required along the way."

Cole says the focus then turns toward the athlete. "I put my clients through some VO2Max testing and analyse their posture for muscular imbalances – both on and off the bike. I also check cycling style from an economical point of view so I can build a picture of what needs to be achieved by racing day.

"The London to Paris bike race for example, requires the body to cycle over a long period of time and then wake up and do the same thing again the next day, so the cyclist needs to build a big aerobic base to enable their heart and lungs to produce energy efficiently. This is achieved by gradually increasing mileage on the bike while perfecting technique," Cole says. He adds that the other key areas of preparation are to work out a nutrition plan, both on and off the bike, as well as good sleep patterns so the client can get the most out of training.

As the race date approaches, Cole mimics what the client would expect



their body to do during the race itself. "If they are expecting to cycle 160km a day we made sure that they can manage a 160km cycle on any given day and then double up the days," he explains.

Strength and conditioning

Within the gym environment, Cole says the client is put through slow touch fibre strength and endurance-based exercises as well as pelvic spine strengthening and stabilisation exercises.

Emphasis is also put on developing the gluteus maximus, quadriceps and hamstrings – as these large muscle groups take the strain on the bike. However, he says that by far the best way to increase riding ability is to get on the bike. "There's no secret really, you've just got to get the hours in and be on the seat for long periods of time," he says.

Cole's clients train between nine and 12 hours a week, which equates to about three to four sessions in the gym and a long ride on the weekend. He's also able to keep in touch with their speed, distance, time and heart rate via downloads from a Garmin tracker device and Suunto watch-based heart-rate monitor, which allows Cole to track progress while the client is on the road.

The cyclist can also attach their bike to the spinning flywheel on the Turbo Trainer, which allows Cole to coach while they're in the saddle – taking into account outside elements such as wind in the face, traffic and stopping and starting. The club is acquiring some Wattbikes which can measure the amount of pressure applied on the pedals as well as any muscular imbalances during the ride. ●



You end up working up to the event by working backwards so you can tick all the boxes required – Gareth Cole

BIKE LAUNCHES AT LIW 2010

ZIGZAG EXPRESSO S3Y UPRIGHT YOUTH BIKE

This bike allows children to pedal through a range of virtual worlds and is power-assisted to make the range of virtual courses easier to negotiate. The bike has been ergonomically designed for children from 9-15 years of age and has internet connectivity to enable riders to tap into an online community and compete in real time with their friends.

ZigZag (part of the PTE group) stand HF6



PRECOR® 815S UPRIGHT AND RECUMBENT BIKES

The recumbent bike will feature a new seat specifically contoured to offer maximum comfort and a unique ventilation design. The upright bike focuses on flexibility and performance with three position handlebars to allow a clear view of the console. Both bikes ensure the correct cycling posture by positioning the knee over the pedal spindle. **Precor® stand HF8**

TRIXTER XBI AND TRIXTER XDREAM MARK 3

Exclusively partnering with Sony, Trixter will showcase the new XBi bike, which is compatible with any PlayStation game. The new Xdream mark 3 includes a Ghost Racing mode, which allows users to race against themselves.

Trixter stand HF5



THE NEW MONARK 928 E

This model offers users a direct computer connection via a USB port to store and measure heart rate and physiological response information, which helps sports coaches control the exact workload of the user.

Idass stand H165

PULSE® NEW CARDIO RANGE

The new range will include two new bikes, the upright cycle and recumbent cycle. Features include the latest audio visual technology, 'Smart Centre' software and IFI Stage 2 accreditation. Pulse® also claims it is one of the most advanced and environmentally responsible CV ranges on the market.

Pulse stand EZ10

MATRIX S-SERIES LS INDOOR CYCLE

This new model includes a variety of high performance features such as road-inspired adjustable LX7 handlebars and an on-board computer providing heart rate, cadence, distance, time and calories as well as a premium aluminium adjustment system which allows riders to replicate their road bike posture.

Matrix Fitness Systems stand FF7



SETTING THE
STANDARD FOR
OVER 75 YEARS



t. 01327 701 852
w. yorkstrength.com

YORK
STRENGTH - POWER - PERFORMANCE

durable, resilient, multi-functional indoor sports floors



- Leisure Centres •
- Colleges & Schools •
- Multifunctional Sports Venues •
- Sprung floor systems •
- Indoor Cricket academies/schools •

SPORTS SURFACES
(UK) Limited

SPORTS SURFACES(UK) LIMITED PO Box 1010 Chester, CH1 3WN
Tel: 01244 321200 Fax: 01244 347735
Email: info@sportssurfacesuk.com
Website: www.sportssurfacesuk.com

uni-turf BSW Robbins *the* SPORTS SURFACES PULASTIC

MONDO

In partnership with



The premier sports floor solution

www.4runnerltd.co.uk
www.mondosport.co.uk
www.altro.com

T: 01788 555 012

Boost your business

Harness the power of our total marketing package

Sports Management leads the industry in offering you a comprehensive range of marketing services which enable you to generate sales leads, develop awareness of your company's brand and create innovative and effective campaigns using all the latest techniques - online and in print

Book your marketing campaign with Sports Management and your advertisement will appear in



Magazine

In the market-leading Sports Management magazine



Digital magazine

In the online, digital version of Sports Management magazine



Online search engine

On your company's home page on sport-kit.net the search engine for sports buyers

ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES

Call us now to find out more about the great advertising opportunities we offer you online. Advertorials, banner and directory advertising, home page and email dominator packages, animated adverts and a wide range of search marketing packages.

With over 14,000 monthly visitors to our website - can you afford not to be on there?

Call now on +44 (0)1462 431385 or email: displaysales@leisuremedia.com

SPORTS
MANAGEMENT

www.sportsmanagement.co.uk

NEARLY NEW

Karen Maxwell talks to industry experts about sports floor refurbishment

Choosing to refurbish, rather than replace indoor sports flooring products is an interesting option during the government's current budget-cutting spree in the leisure and education sectors.

Points to consider

When refurbishing any sports facility, there are a few key points to consider. The first is the type of sub-floor and whether the existing floor can be overlaid or needs uplifting.

According to Chris Drinkwater, indoor sports development manager at Tarkett, some floors can be overlaid with an under-carriage system, but the majority will need to be taken up, particularly if laying direct to concrete floors.

"If the area is to be used for a variety of sports, then the level of each sport

and the age group of players involved will need to be considered to determine the most appropriate type of system to install," he explains.

"Indoor sports floors can be grouped into three types: those that deform at the point of impact (point elastic), those that spread the deformation over a

greater area (area elastic) and those that provide a combination of the two (combined elastic)." Drinkwater advises that children generally require more shock



THE RIVERMEET CENTRE GETS A TARAFLEX UPGRADE

In 2008, Dorset District Council agreed to release the balance of £4m to the Three Rivers Partnership, which was set aside to complete the first phase of the refurbishment and re-modelling programme at the Rivermeet Leisure Centre, which is due to open in September this year.

The project is being managed by Hammonds, a local building contractor, although the driving force behind the project is Three Rivers Partnership trustee John Havill and his team of volunteers.

The new centre will have a 25m, six-lane swimming pool, a fitness suite,

much improved changing facilities and an enlarged Taraflex four-court sports hall.

Darren Wood, Gerflor sport manager GB, says: "When we inspected the site, the original sports hall floor had been partly removed and the remaining floor was an old hard composite wood block. We repaired the existing floor and made the removed parts level with the existing wooden tile. The next job was to prepare the surface and adhere the new Dry-Tex system directly to the old floor, which should hopefully save time, money and environmental impact through no need to landfill."



Taraflex flooring is a ready to go, easy to install portable playing surface

Tarkett's Lumaflex Linsport does not require additional protection

- absorption than adults as they are not heavy enough to deflect area systems. Different sports will also have different performance requirements.

"If the refurbished facility is intended for multi-use – such as exhibitions in leisure centres or assemblies and examinations in schools, in addition to general sports – this will also have an impact on the type of top surface that should be specified," he says.

Drinkwater adds that the other factors to consider include compliance with the EN14904 Standard for sports floors, cost effective installation and low maintenance. He says that effective use of line markings can also prioritise those sports that will be played most often.

Although Tarkett offers a range of sports floors in wood, linoleum and PVC, all of which comply with all sports surfacing standards, Drinkwater specifies Tarkett's Lumaflex Linsport. It offers an ideal surface for all levels of sport, but requires no additional protection when used for non-sporting activities.

Comparing costs

To make the most of the restricted funds available for purchasing and then maintaining indoor sports surfaces, Craig Jack, UK sales manager at Mondo (the



If the area is used for a variety of sports, the level of each and the age group of players should be considered

official supplier of sports flooring and equipment to the London 2012 Olympic Games), suggests choosing a product that requires little or no maintenance.

According to Jack, traditional wooden sports hall flooring products can often require a high level of maintenance care, which can be expensive over its 20-year life cycle. "The difference between types of surfaces can be as much as £35,000 extra over 20 years, which is often attributed to carrying out extra maintenance procedures every five to seven years as well as having to reapply sports line markings after the refurbishment procedure has been carried out," he says.

Jack suggests Mondo's wood-effect rubber sports flooring – Mondoflex II, which gives the appearance of wood but the performance and durability of natural rubber. "We offer wood, vinyl and rubber flooring solutions, but rubber certainly offers the best legacy solution when looking at refurbishing," he says.

"This type of flooring allows users to keep maintenance to a minimum and takes advantage of the associated cost savings as the product doesn't need sanding, re-sealing or line markings reapplied. Rubber also has a high resistance to indentation and impact damage, which again results in less maintenance." ●

MONDO ADVISES ISLE OF MAN

Mondo has just completed a refurbishment pricing exercise with the Isle of Man government for future refurbishment and new indoor sports projects. Together they looked at the various types of products

suitable for sports hall refurbishment and the cost differences between each.

The government factored in the cost of sports flooring over a 20-year life cycle and this highlighted the need to consider how many times it would

need to sand, seal and reline, each time maintenance is carried out. It also looked at the cost savings available for overlaying an existing surface, rather than uplifting and disposing of the old surface at the end of its useful life.

According to Mondo UK sales manager Craig Jack, the Mondo Sprung Rubber surface came out as the popular option because of its very low life cycle costs and ease of maintenance throughout its lifespan.



The Mondo Premier Plus Mondoflex system can be loose laid over existing sports halls

WHICH Indoor Sports Hall Floor?

Sport England guidance clearly states "the most important piece of equipment in a sports hall is the floor". Yet, it is very often given the least consideration. It is normally installed near to project completion and therefore can become the focus of cost savings.

There are many indoor sports surfaces on the market, a whole host of natural and synthetic products to choose from. Firstly you need to ensure that for a multi purpose sport hall, the manufacturers you shortlist can provide certification for EN14904 compliance.

This European Standard superseded the old British Standard in 2008 and was introduced predominantly to improve user safety. It sets a minimum criteria for sports performance, safety and other technical aspects. One aspect of the standard is 'percentage force reduction'. This should be at a minimum of 25% to comply with EN14904.

What's the importance of Force reduction?

In summary it helps to reduce the risk of repetitive impact injuries. There are 4 types of sports floor classification, as defined by the European Standard:

Point Elastic - A synthetic floor that deforms at point of impact, under a users foot. A comfortable option that is appropriate when children are primary users

Area Elastic - Made up of a hard surface such as timber, vinyl or linoleum, because there are no force reducing properties to the surface, it sits on an undercarriage system that provides force reduction.

A Combined Elastic - A sports floor combines the comfort of a point elastic floor with the force reducing qualities of an undercarriage system, hence 'combined system' or 'combo system'.

Finally, rarely seen outside Germany is **Mixed Elastic** - This is point elastic which sits on a synthetic stiffening component

There is an 'intelligent process' to specifying a sports floor, when we consider a new or replacement indoor sports surface, this includes the need to ask some basic questions prior to project start up, including:

- What sports will be played on the actual sports floor?
- What is the anticipated level and frequency of play?
- Are any National Governing Bodies for Sport contributing financially?
- Are there any secondary uses?
- Is there an approved project budget, for the installation?
- What type of surfaces would be ideal for the required sports applications? Traditional or new innovations in flooring?

Other considerations include ongoing maintenance both in terms of costs and time. Will your new surface have to be periodically maintained, as well as cleaned daily? How much will this cost over the lifetime of the floor. Is a Warranty available? What is the end of life consequence? Recycled or land filled? Finally, are there any construction constraints?

Recently, Sandwell Leisure Trust completed a refurbishment of their four court sports hall, at the Harry Mitchell Leisure Centre in West Midlands. The floor was made up of an old hard rubber compound. The Sports Trust decided to go with a 'fast track solution' from Gerflor. A Taraflex Sport M+ surface was installed on an isolating membrane on top of the old floor. This reduced programme installation times, project financial costs and reduced environmental impact, as the old floor was left in situ and not land filled.

John Robinson, Assistant Operations Manager for Sandwell said "The installation went very smoothly, we love the new look and the sports hall floor" He added "Our users are delighted with the investment, we have had some very positive feedback".

My advice is when reviewing what manufacturer to select:-

1. Do your research
2. Shop around
3. If in doubt, revert to the EN standard.

For a free EN14904 advice sheet or further sports floor specification advice, please contact Darren Wood Sport Manager by telephone on 07836 366579, by email on dwood@gerflor.com or please visit www.gerflor.co.uk for further information about our newest sports flooring solutions.

*Gerflor, leading the way
forward in flooring, as an
Innovator not an Imitator.*

Gerflor
the flooring group

SAPCA DIRECTORY



The Sports and Play Construction Association, SAPCA, is the recognised trade organisation for the sports and play facility construction industry in the UK. SAPCA fosters excellence, professionalism and continuous improvement throughout the industry, in order to provide the high quality facilities necessary for the success of British sport.

SAPCA represents a wide range of specialist constructors of natural and synthetic sports surfaces, including both outdoor and indoor facilities, from tennis courts and sports pitches to playgrounds and sports halls. SAPCA also represents manufacturers and suppliers of related products, and independent consultants that offer professional advice on the development of projects.

Principal contractors

- A** Tennis Courts
- B** Synthetic Pitches
- C** Athletics Tracks
- D** Multi Sports
- E** Natural Sportsturf
- F** Play Surfaces

Ancillary Contractors, Manufacturers & suppliers

- G** Adhesives
- H** Aggregate Producers
- I** Equipment Suppliers
- J** Fencing Systems
- K** Floodlighting
- L** Indoor Structures
- M** Paint Manufacturers
- N** Screening/Windbreaks
- O** Sports Surface Suppliers
- P** Surface painting/Line Marking
- Q** Civil Engineers & Groundworks
- R** Irrigation & Pumping
- S** Maintenance

PRINCIPAL CONTRACTORS

ACADEMY SPORTS
All-weather sports surface design,
construction & maintenance.
Tel: (01483) 797677
Fax: (01483) 797684
email: info@academysports.co.uk
web: www.academysports.co.uk

AD

AMB Sports
Construction, Design &
Surfacing of all Sports Facilities.
Telephone: 08700 624370
Fax: 08700 624371
email: info@ambsports.com
Web: www.ambsports.com

ABCDIJKNOP

BEACON Braithwaites Yard,
Hallow,
Worcester, WR2 6PW
T: 01905 640671 F: 01905 640621
E: info@beaconforworcester.co.uk

ADJKP

blakedown
Over 40 years experience in the design
and construction of sports facilities
T: 01245 733238
E: marketing@blakedownplay.co.uk
W: www.blakedown.co.uk

BCDEF

BRAMBLEDOWN
sports grounds • soft landscaping & recreation • hard landscaping
• environmental improvements • grounds maintenance
T: 0191 3782288 F: 0191 3789962
E: info@brambledown.com

ABDE

Charles Lawrence Surfaces Ltd
A Malcolm Group Company
National Highway, Newark
Norths NCC2 2BR
Tel: 01636 615866
Fax: 01636 615867
email: sales@charleslawrencesurfaces.co.uk
www.charleslawrencesurfaces.co.uk

ABCDQ

Charles Lawrence Tennis Courts
8 Allen Avenue, Quorn,
Leicestershire, LE12 8TR
Tel: 01509 563212
Fax: 01509 561325
email: alcourts@btinternet.com

ADIJKP

CHILTERN SPORTS CENTRE LIMITED
Honours Yard,
Lodge Lane,
Chalfont St Giles,
Bucks HP84AJ
T: 01494 766673 F: 01494 766674
E: sports@thechilterngroup.co.uk
www.thechilterngroup.co.uk

ADIJKQs

Courtstall SERVICES LTD
Unit 1, Northaven Business Centre,
Dean Road, Yate, Bristol, BS37 5AH
Tel: 01454 869944 Fax: 01454 869946

ADJKP

DIW Clark DRAINAGE LTD
Tel: 01608 685800 Fax: 01608 685801
Web: www.dwclarkdrainagetd.co.uk

ERS

CLEVELAND LAND SERVICES
Rapid, Leisure & Landscape Contractors
Tel: (01642) 488328 Fax: (01642) 471036
www.cleveland-land-services.co.uk

ABDE

the erdc group
The ERDC Group Limited, Southern office:
4 Crossford Court, Dane Road, Sale M33 7BZ
Tel: 0161 905 1060 Fax: 0161 905 1070
www.erdcc.co.uk

BCDFOQ

ETC SPORTS
Design, Build & Maintain the Finest
Tennis Courts & Sports Surfaces
01621 85 86 86
www.etcports.net

ABD

Fosse Contracts Ltd
28 Cannock Street
Leicester LE4 9HR
Tel: (0116) 246 0500 Fax: (0116) 246 1561
Email: info@fossecontracts.co.uk
www.fossecontracts.co.uk

ADJKP

Thornton Sports
Tel: (01282) 777345
Fax: (01282) 777654
Email: info@thorntonsports.co.uk
www.thorntonsports.co.uk
METCALF DRIVE - ALTHAM INDUSTRIAL ESTATE - LANCASHIRE BB5 5TU

ABCD

grimshaw group
St. Peter's Works, Teakelby Road, Cheltenham GL51 9AL
Tel: 01242 513251 Fax: 01242 226396
www.grimshawgroup.co.uk

ADEFIJKQ

HELLENS
SPORTS FACILITY CONSTRUCTION
Tel: 0191 418 0020 Fax: 0191 418 0021
www.hellens.co.uk info@hellens.co.uk

BDEQ

The Sports and Play Construction Association can be contacted on: **024 7641 6316**
Email: info@sapca.org.uk www.sapca.org.uk

PRINCIPAL CONTRACTORS

HUNTER
Hunter Construction (Aberdeen) Ltd.
Central House,
Thainstone
Business Park,
Inverurie
AB51 5ET
Tel: 01467 627290 Fax: 01467 625791
E-mail: info@hunter-construction.co.uk

BD

LANDUNIT
CONSTRUCTION LTD
Handlope, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, MK19 7BX,
Tel: 01908 510414 / 511155 Fax: 01908 511056
Email: sales@landunitconstruction.co.uk
www.landunitconstruction.co.uk

E

McArdle Tel: 01491 827810
SPORT Fax: 01491 827830
-TFC-
www.mcardle-astroturf.co.uk

BCDO

PLATT
CONSTRUCTION
Unit 22, Cleveland Close,
Newcastle, Tyne and Wear, NE4 3PZ,
Tel: 01244 533184
E: sales@plattconstruction.co.uk
www.plattconstruction.co.uk

ADJKPQ

polytan
POLYTAN SPORTS SURFACES LIMITED
Phone: +44 1509 282899 Fax: +44 1509 283099
Email: info@polytanportsurfaces.co.uk
www.polytanportsurfaces.co.uk

BCDO

SAC SLATTER LTD
Newbury Berkshire
t: 01635 34521
www.sandocslatter.com
info@sandocslatter.com
SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF SURFACES AND
EQUIPMENT FOR: Multi-Sport Facilities
- Cricket Facilities - Play and Educational Facilities

DF

SIS Support in Sport
European leaders in the manufacture, design &
construction of sports fields & training complexes
Tel: 01900 817837 Fax: 01900 817605
email: sales@supportinsport.com
www.supportinsport.com

BDEJKOPQRS

Sports Courts
280 Watford Road,
St Albans, Herts, AL2 3DN
Specialists in Tennis Courts and
Multi Use Games Areas (MUGA's)
Tel: 01727 730707
Tel: 01422 200 143
www.sportscourts.co.uk

AJNPS

ANCILLARY CONTRACTORS, MANUFACTURERS & SUPPLIERS

Abacus Lighting Limited
Station in Airedale
Nostalgia, NG17 5PT
www.abacuslighting.com
Tel: 01623 511111
Fax: 01623 552133
Email: sales@abacuslighting.com

KS

BRIDOME
Bridome Ltd, The Courtyard, Witley, Surrey GU24 6QL
Tel +44 (0)1932 350365 Fax +44 (0)1932 350375
e-mail: info@bridome.com www.bridome.co.uk

L

BRITANNIA
ADVANCED COATING
SYSTEMS FOR SPORTS AND
RECREATION SURFACES
Britannia Paints Limited Unit 7 and 8
King Street Trading Estate
Middlewich, Cheshire CW10 9LF
Tel: 01606 830470 Fax: 01606 837008
E-mail: sales@britanniapaints.co.uk
www.britanniapaints.co.uk

MP

BSW Sports flooring - Sports surfaces
Tracks for champions
www.beriebeur.com
Tel: 01422 200 143
Email: mgure@bswuk@aol.com

O

CONICA
BASF Construction Chemicals (UK) Ltd
Tel: 0161 727 2864 Fax: 01527 503576
Email: martin.coates@basf.com
www.conica.basf.com

GOP

Collinson
Complete Building Solutions
Tel: 0800 9886370 www.collinson.co.uk

L

GET UNDERCOVER
With a CopriSystem sports dome
you get year round protection
from the weather
Tel: 01794 301 000 Fax: 01794 301 342
www.coprisystems.com

L

CU Phosco
Tel: 01920 860600
Fax: 01920 485915
Email: sports@cuphosco.co.uk
www.cuphosco.com

K

EnviroStik Ltd
Adhesives for Industry
SUPPLIERS OF ADHESIVES FOR ALL APPLICATIONS
IN THE SPORTS SURFACE INDUSTRY
Tel: 01889 271751 Fax: 01889 271161
www.envirostik.com Email: enquiries@envirostik.com

G

Artificial Grass Professionals
dessosports.co.uk
info@dessosports.com

O

Planet
THE WORLD'S NO.1
FOR SPORTS SURFACES
Planet Earth Materials Ltd
Unit 10, The Grange, Walsby, Lincoln
Tel: 01509 244444
www.planetearthmaterials.co.uk

P

FieldTurf
A Tartan Sports Company
EXTERNAL SPORTS SURFACES
2, rue de l'Espérance, 92748 Nanterre Cedex, France
Tel: +33 (0)1 47 24 26 26 Fax: +33 (0)1 47 24 26 66
Email: pierre.deleme@tartan.com
www.tartan-sports.com/english

O

FOX SPORTS SURFACING
INSTALLERS OF THE WORLD'S FINEST
SPORTS SURFACES
Unit 6, Frome Industrial Estate, Frome, Somerset TA4 6UP
Tel: 01562 364622 Fax: 01562 364615
E-mail: foxsports@btconnect.com

O

francis coatings
Tel: 01477 544 149
Email: franciscoatings@btinternet.com
www.franciscoatings.co.uk

MPs

Gerflor
Leading Manufacturer
of innovative premium-
quality vinyl flooring
Call +44 (0)1926 622600
email: contractuk@gerflor.com
www.gerflor.co.uk

O

GEZOLAN AG
T: +41 748 3040
www.gezolan.ch email: j-roger@gezolan.ch

O

Greenfields
T +44 1204 384483 F +44 1204 384487
www.greenfields.eu

O

GTC Sports
Tel: (01282) 777678
Fax: (01282) 778014
Email: gtc@thomsonports.co.uk
www.thomsonports.co.uk
METCALF DRIVE - ALTHAM INDUSTRIAL ESTATE - LANCASHIRE BB5 5TU

IOP

The leading manufacturer of netting, posts
& sports ground equipment
Harrod
www.harrod.co.uk • Tel: 01502 583515

I

MARK HARROD
GOALS MAKE GAMES
WE MAKE GOALS
01502 710039

I

HEXA SPORTS
High quality sports posts,
nets and tennis court equipment
T: 0121 727 0274
F: 0121 771 2599
E: sales@hexasports.co.uk
www.hexasports.co.uk

I

JB Corrie & Co Ltd.
The Fencing Specialists
www.jbcorrie.co.uk
Tel: 01730 237100 Fax: 01730 264915
Frenchmans Road, Palmerfield,
Hants, GU32 3AP

J

FLOODLIGHTING BY
The Sports Lighting Specialists
LTL CONTRACTS
01252 331456

K

MONDO
Sports Surfaces & Equipment
Email: cjack@mondosport.co.uk
Tel: +44 7980 876652
www.mondoworldwide.com

O



ANCILLARY CONTRACTORS, MANUFACTURERS & SUPPLIERS

- G** Adhesives
H Aggregate Producers
I Equipment Suppliers
J Fencing Systems
K Floodlighting
L Indoor Structures
M Paint Manufacturers
N Screening/Windbreaks
O Sports Surface Suppliers
P Surface painting/Line Marking
Q Civil Engineers & Groundworks
R Irrigation & Pumping
S Maintenance

Suppliers of sports surfacing materials
 Polytech International Ltd and Millennium Rubber Ltd
 New Works, Port Slippy, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK10 5SD
T: +44 (0) 1625 575737
E: sales@mri-polytech.com
www.mri-polytech.com

Musco Lighting Europe
 Tel: 0800 234 6832
 www.musco.com
 E: eurosales@musco.com
GREEN GENERATION FLOODLIGHTING

Nordon
 Tel: (01282) 779666
 Fax: (01282) 779699
 Email: info@nordonsports.co.uk
www.nordonsports.co.uk
 NORDON LTD - METCAL DRIVE - ALTHAM INDUSTRIAL ESTATE - LANCASHIRE BB5 5TU

nottssport
 Synthetic Surfacing
www.nottssport.com
 T: +44 (0) 1455 883 730

Ground Modelling and Engineering for Sports Facilities
O'Brien Construction Limited
 O'Brien & Son, 100, North Street, Warrington, Cheshire, WA1 1JF
 Tel: 01925 423918 Fax: 01925 863767
 Email: info@obrienconstruction.co.uk

playrite
 PO Box 7, Wellington Mills, Liversedge, W Yorks WF15 7TH UK
Tel: +44 (0) 1924 412488
e-mail: info@playrite.co.uk
www.playrite.co.uk

Maintaining Sports Surfaces
REPLAY Maintenance Ltd
 Building 15-16, Josselyn Way, Newark, Nottinghamshire, NG24 2ER
 Tel: 01224 321 200 Fax: 01224 347735
 E-Mail: info@replaymaintenance.co.uk
www.replaymaintenance.co.uk

RUBB BUILDING SYSTEMS
 we will never stop...innovating
www.rubb.com

Spaciotempo
 Bringing the Outdoors Indoors
 SPECIALIST SPORTS STRUCTURES
 @ david.dury@spaciotempo.co.uk
01889 569 569
www.spaciotempo.co.uk

Sportspac
 Surfaces and equipment for sport, play and leisure.
 Tel: 01858 545789
 Fax: 01858 545890
 e-mail: sales@sportspac.co.uk

SPORTS SURFACES
SPORTS SURFACES (UK) LTD
 P O Box 1010, CHESTER, CH1 3WN
 Tel: 01244 321 200 Fax: 01244 347735
 E-Mail: info@sportssurfacesuk.com
 Web Site: www.sportssurfacesuk.com

SPORTS AND ATHLETICS EQUIPMENT SUPPLIER
STADIA SPORTS
 International at broxap
 Tel: 01353 668686 fax: 01353 669444
www.stadia-sports.co.uk

Innovative buildings for sports
 tennis, gym, swimming, 5-a-side, football, rugby
 whatever your business we have the perfect solution!
Summit Structures
 Tel: +44 (0) 1283 354020
 Email: info@summitstructures.com
 Web: www.summitstructures.com

TarkettSPORTS
 INDOOR SPORTS SURFACES
 Tarkett Limited, Dickley Lane, Lenham, Maidstone ME17 20L, Tel: 01622 292206
 Email: chris.drinkwater@tarkett.com
www.tarkett-sports.com/english

TECHNICAL SURFACES
 Maintaining Standards
 Tel: +44 (0)8702 400 700
www.technicalsurfaces.co.uk

THORN
 Thorn Lighting
 Blarney Way, Bordenwood, Herefordshire WD6 1FE
 Tel: 0208 732 9800 Fax: 0208 732 9801
 Email: brochures.uk@thornlighting.com
www.thornlighting.co.uk

Fencing, Gates and Vehicle Control
Werra
 Phone: +44 (0)845 607 6308
 Fax: +44 (0)845 607 6307
 Email: info@werra.co.uk
 Web: www.werra.co.uk

WHITE LINE SERVICES
 Cleaning, marking and lining of sports surfaces
 Tel: 01342 311155 Fax: 01342 311156
www.white-line-services.com

Wright & MacLennan Ltd
 Camps Industrial Estate, Kilmarnock, Midlothian, EH27 8DF
 T: 01506 881486 F: 01506 883669
 E: gary@wrightandmaclellan.co.uk
www.wrightandmaclellan.co.uk

SPORTS, SECURITY, LEISURE, PERIMETER: FENCING TAILORED TO MEET ALL YOUR NEEDS
ZAUN SYSTEM
 Tel: 01902 796696 Fax: 01902 796699
 sales@zaun.co.uk www.zaun.co.uk

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

PAUL HAWKINS DEVELOPMENT
 PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND INDEPENDENT TESTING OF SYNTHETIC PITCHES AND ATHLETICS TRACKS
 TEL: (0146) 374 000 www.phdev.co.uk

LABOSPORT
 Sports surface testing and analysis
 Tel +44 (0) 1773 765007
 Fax +44 (0) 1773 765009
www.labosport.co.uk

MUGA UK
 SPORTS PITCH CONSULTANTS
www.muga-uk.co.uk
 t:01509 503408

Sports Construction Consultancy
 Tel: 01403 259400 Fax: 01403 261250
 email: sportscety@aol.com
Tracks - Pitches - Courts & MUGA'S

SSL Surfacing Standards Limited
 Tel: 01536 400012 Fax: 01536 401953
 Email: info@surfacingstandards.co.uk
www.surfacingstandards.co.uk

To book your advertisement in the APCA directory call the sales team on
+44 (0)1462 431385

To subscribe to Sports Management, log on to www.leisuremedia.com email subs@leisuremedia.com tel: +44 1462 471913 fax: +44 1462 433909 Annual subscription rates are UK £27, Europe £37 rest of world £38, students UK £13
 Sports Management is published each quarter by The Leisure Media Company Limited, Pentmill House, Pentmill Lane, Hinchin, Herts SG13 1DF, UK and is distributed in the USA by SPP, 75 Aberdeen Road, Englewood, PA 17133-0437
 Periodicals postage paid at Lancaster, PA. POSTMASTER: Send US address changes to Sports Management, c/o PO Box 437, Englewood, PA 17133-0437
 The views expressed in print are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the publisher The Leisure Media Company Limited. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by means electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recorded or otherwise without the prior permission of the copyright holder. Printed by Manson Group Printers. © Cybertek Ltd 2010 ISSN 14799146



Harrod supplies world class goals for hockey

As official equipment supplier to England Hockey, Harrod UK provided the equipment for the recent Samsung FIH Champions Trophy, which came to England for the first time in its 18 tournament history. Five integral weight hockey goals, two premier curved team shelters and a hockey officials' shelter were supplied for the event, which took place in Nottingham and also incorporated the Men's Four Nations Series and Wembley Legends Match.

sport-kit.net keyword
harrod



For Goodness Shakes rises to EIS challenge

In 2008, the English Institute of Sport set For Goodness Shakes (FGS) a challenge to create a powder that combined nutrition with taste. Following two years of development, the FGS powder has been unveiled. Intended to energise, feed, rebuild and hydrate the body after sport, the formula includes a vitamin and mineral recovery blend called NutriMix® and comes in four flavours: banana, vanilla, superberry and chocmalt.

sport-kit.net keywords
for goodness shakes

PRODUCT FOCUS

For more information, or to contact any of these companies, log on to www.sport-kit.net and type the company name under 'keyword search'

Weatherproof TV for outdoor viewing

For those that want to watch their favourite sporting events doors, Weatherproof offers a 42 inch HD LCD TV solution with built in free view and an all-weather protective case. Ideal for golf, football, cricket and tennis clubs, as well as hotels, pubs and holiday parks, the TVs are encased in robust powder-coated steel, to withstand knocks while the twin locks and special wall brackets offer added security.



A 5mm shatterproof polycarbonate front window resists impact and an optional anti-reflective coating reduces glare.

It is also easily connectable to an existing Skybox or terrestrial aerial.

sport-kit.net keyword
weatherproof

Collinson provides hall for Stanground College

Stanground College in Peterborough has gained a new sports facility. Opened in June 2010, the multi-use sports hall took five months to create from concept to completion and was designed and built by Collinson. Featuring specialist Italian flooring marked out for badminton, netball and basketball, the hall has a translucent PVC membrane cover, allowing natural

light to permeate into the building. This is said to greatly decrease the need for additional lighting.



sport-kit.net keyword
collinson



sport-kit.net keyword
bsw

New training track for Usain Bolt and his team

Sports floor manufacturer BSW was chosen to replace the previous grass track on the training grounds used by Usain Bolt in Jamaica. The new track at the campus of the University of the West Indies gives Bolt and his team colleagues an IAAF-certified class II competition track that can also hold athletics meetings. The track's colour references the blue Reguopol tartan track in Berlin's Olympic Stadium, where Bolt enjoyed great success during the World Championships.

sports management directory

Be seen by over 5,500 active buyers in the most exciting full colour buyer's guide in the sports industry.
Call the Sports Management team now on +44 (0)1462 431385 Email: displaysales@leisuremedia.com

construction & surfacing of sports facilities



**The best in sports
facilities & surfaces**
Call 08700 624370
www.ambsports.com

computer membership software



**for all your
leisure management
IT needs**
www.xnleisure.com
+44 (0)870 80 30 700

computer software

SOFTWARE SPECIALISTS FOR THE HEALTH AND FITNESS INDUSTRY

Website design • E-commerce solutions • CRM systems
Desktop software • Business solutions • Bespoke solutions

www.optimumfitness.biz
info@optimumfitness.biz
01634 885 444



**Book your advert
on our website
and be seen by
over 14,000 buyers
every month.**



Call the Sales Team Today
to Discuss Your Booking

01462 431385

www.sportsmanagement.co.uk

consultants

www.strategicleisure.co.uk
Making your vision ... Reality



Services include:

- Strategic Planning
- Feasibility Studies
- Greenspace/PPG17
- Facility Strategies
- Procurement
- Funding Bids
- Interim Management

**Contact us to discuss your
needs and requirements:**
t: 01925 855 550
f: 01925 858 769
e: info@strategicleisure.co.uk

consultants

**Interior
Solutions**



INTERIOR DESIGN & PROJECT MANAGEMENT
RECEPTIONS LOUNGES CAFÉS BARS

CADNEY GROVE PDVE OAK LANE STANLEYHURST KENT TN22 9HT
TEL: 02030 89023 FAX: 02030 89406
www.interior-solutions.co.uk
design@interior-solutions.co.uk CONTACT: ROY ROBERTS

TrioPlus
Strategy | Advice | Action


Specialist consultants in sport,
physical activity and leisure

www.trioplusonline.co.uk

**to book your
advert in the
sports management
directory**

**Call Now on
+44 (0)1462 431385**

exercise equipment



For a complete Member Experience
Equipment • Entertainment • Technology • Services

PRECOR

Tel: 01275 404900, Email: info@precor.co.uk
www.precor.com

fencing manufacturers and supplier

No matter what the size or shape!



**Made to measure sports and security
fences by JB Corrie & Co Ltd.**
T: 01730 237100 F: 01730 264915
www.jbcorrie.co.uk



**For expert advice or a free
brochure: Tel: 01902 796 699
sales@zaun.co.uk**

indoor flooring



• Installation & Refurbishment
• Sanding & Sealing
• Repair • Cleaning
• Maintenance Programs
• Line Marking
• General Cleaning & Maintenance Products

Tel: 01477 544 149
Email: franciscoatings@btinternet.com
www.franciscoatings.co.uk

Indoor/Outdoor Surface Line Marking & Maintenance



**Cleaning, lining
and resurfacing
of sports surfaces**

Tel: 44 (0)1342 311155
Fax: 44 (0)1342 311156
Email: info@white-line-services.com
www.white-line-services.com

indoor sports flooring



**The premier sports
floor solution**

T: 01454 773 666
www.4runneritd.co.uk
www.mondosport.co.uk
www.altro.com

service & maintenance

Q Are you looking to buy fitness equipment?
A: Talk to one of our sales advisers who knows the marketplace inside out.



Servicesport take away the hassle by providing a complete solution for your equipment needs.
 Why buy when you can Rent?
 Renting equipment is a lot cheaper.

We will work to your budget and not ours
www.servicesport.co.uk

servicesport

Q Need your fitness equipment serviced?
A: Talk to one of the UK's top service providers.



Servicesport take away the hassle by providing a complete solution to suit your servicing needs.
 Technical Support Provided.
 0845 4022 456
 email: sales@servicesport.co.uk

Q Equipment stored with ageing reliable items?
A: Talk to one of the UK's top parts suppliers, who have over 5,000 parts in stock.



Servicesport take away the hassle by providing a complete solution for parts.
 Technical Support Provided.
 0845 4022 456
 email: parts@servicesport.co.uk

UK Home call centre, fully PPSA compliant to within 100%

Indoor sports halls/temporary or non - traditional structures

CopriSystems
 www.coprisystems.com

GET UNDERCOVER
 With a CopriSystems sports dome - for year round protection from the weather

Tel: 01794 301 000 Fax: 01794 301 342



Spaciotempo **NEW**

SPECIALIST SPORTS STRUCTURES

Bringing the Outdoors Indoors

01889 569 569
www.spaciotempo.co.uk



lockers/changing rooms

FITLOCKERS
 Quality Affordable Timber Lockers

T: 01923 770435
sales@fitlockers.co.uk
www.fitlockers.co.uk



scoreboards & timing systems

DAKTRONICS

Daktronics UK, specialists in scoreboards, timing systems and LED Displays

Daktronics UK Ltd.
 +44 (0) 1454 413606
www.daktronics.co.uk



summit
STRUCTURES

Practice Made Perfect
 Tel: 0800 3891490

www.summitstructures.com



SWISS TIMING

LED Monochrome and Video Displays
Sports Scoreboards
Timing Systems
Photofinish
Consultancy

Tel: 0845 337 2474
 Fax: 02380 274521
 email: sales@swisstiming.co.uk
www.swisstiming.co.uk



sports buildings

Collinson **SPORTS HALLS**

the brighter choice!

Tel 01995 606451
www.collinson.co.uk



sports equipment suppliers & manufacturers

The leading manufacturer of netting, posts & sports ground equipment

Harrod
 UK LIMITED

Tel 01502 583515
www.harrod.uk.com



STADIA SPORTS

International at **broxap**

SPORTS AND ATHLETICS EQUIPMENT SUPPLIER

tel: 01353 668686
 fax: 01353 669444
www.stadia-sports.co.uk



MARK HARROD

GOALS MAKE GAMES.
 WE MAKE GOALS

TALK TO MARK HARROD
01502 710039
www.markharrod.com



sports flooring

High performance flooring solutions for ALL indoor sport

Call +44 (0)1926 622600
 email: contractuk@gerflor.com
www.gerflor.co.uk

Fully compliant with EN14883

Gerflor



Recreational COATINGS
 LTD LTD

All Aspects of Indoor Sports Surface Installation
 (the most of specifications and budgetary needs met)

Tel: 0161 484 0111 Fax: 0161 484 0222
 Email: info@rec-coatings.co.uk
www.rec-coatings.co.uk



SPORTS SURFACES
 (UK) Limited

Artificial, realturf, multi-functional indoor sports floors

SPORTS SURFACES (UK) LIMITED: P.O. Box 1978 Chester, CH1 9BN
 Tel: 01244 21220 Fax: 01244 341789 Email: info@sportsurfaces.co.uk
 Website: www.sportsurfaces.co.uk



sports ground construction

Kestrel **Natural & Synthetic**
 Sports Pitch Design - Construction
 Irrigation - Drainage - Maintenance

Tel: 01256 880488
 Email: info@kestrelcontractors.co.uk
www.kestrelcontractors.co.uk



sports surface maintenance

Artificial Surface Maintenance

For REPAIRS, MAINTENANCE and ADVICE, contact the UK's leading Maintenance Specialists

08702 400 700

www.technicalsurfaces.co.uk



Maintaining Synthetic Sports Surfaces

We specialise in the maintenance of all types of synthetic surfaces. We deploy a wide range of specialised machines, processes and techniques in order to keep sports facilities in the best possible condition at every stage of their life.

Please contact us for a FREE site visit or for further information.

REPLAY Maintenance Ltd

Building 15-16, Jessop Way, Newark, Nottinghamshire, NG24 2ER
Tel: +44 (0) 1636 640506 Email: info@replaymaintenance.co.uk
Fax: +44 (0) 1636 612860 www.replaymaintenance.co.uk



sports lighting



the night sky in safe hands



Tel: 01623 511111
Fax: 01623 552133
Email: sales@abacuslighting.com



www.abacuslighting.com



Tel: 01920 860600
Fax: 01920 485915
Email: sales@cupsports.co.uk
www.cupsports.co.uk

Sports Surfaces



SPECIALISTS IN ALL ASPECTS OF
SPORTSTURF CONSTRUCTION
NATURAL AND SYNTHETIC
SURFACES
DRAINAGE AND MAINTENANCE
TEL: 01494 866776
FAX: 01494 866779
www.agripower.co.uk
sales@agripower.co.uk

A good grounding in sport



- High quality sports turf systems
- Standard products to unique engineered systems
- Extensive research and development program
- Technology protected by patents and trademarks
- Real Innovations

T +44 1204 384483 F +44 1204 384487

www.greenfields.eu

surface coatings



www.britanniapaints.co.uk

synthetic sports surfaces



Tel: 01491 827810
Fax: 01491 827830
www.mcardle-astroturf.co.uk

tennis Court Construction & Maintenance



01727 730707
www.sportscourts.co.uk

wet leisure play products



Hippo Leisure Products Ltd, Unit 18, Estover Road, Estover, Plymouth PL6 7PY
Tel: +44 (0) 1752 313075
E: sales@hippoleisure.com
W: www.hippoleisure.com

health & fitness

leisure

sport

spa

hospitality

attractions

theme parks

museums

leisure-kit.net

The website, email and search engine for leisure buyers

Now over
5,000
leisure suppliers
listed on our
NEW improved
search

Visit leisure-kit.net for the latest news about products and services for the leisure industry and subscribe to the FREE fortnightly product report



To advertise your product and reach over 20,000 leisure buyers call now on +44 (0)1462 431385 or email leisure-kit@leisuremedia.com

subscribe online at www.leisuresubs.com or call +44 (0)1462 431385

DIARY DATES

7-9 SEPTEMBER 2010

IOG SALTIX

Windsor Racecourse, UK

Live working demonstrations, product launches, exhibits from 460 suppliers and an invaluable education programme will feature at this outdoor event.

Tel +44 (0)1962 736989

www.iog.org

21-23 SEPTEMBER 2010

Sport @ LIW

NEC Birmingham

Formerly known as Sport Development Week, visitors can witness live sport programme demonstrations, evaluate products and services and discover emerging technologies. A free seminar programme will also be featured.

Tel +44 (0)20 7955 3972

www.liw.co.uk

19 OCTOBER 2010

Sports Facility Construction Exhibition & Seminar

Kings Hall, Belfast

Organised by SAPCA and supported by Sport Northern Ireland, this event features a series of educational seminars and an exhibition featuring the leading constructors of sports facilities, suppliers of related products and services and professional consultants – offering expert advice on sports facility projects.

Tel +44 (0)24 7641 6316

www.sapca.org.uk

20 OCTOBER 2010

Substance 2010 Conference

The Barbican Centre, London

Bringing together public service commissioners, local authority officers, policy makers and practitioners, this conference will put the Big Society in focus for those concerned with youth sports programmes, positive activities and community regeneration.

www.substance.coop

1 NOVEMBER 2010

Global Sports Industry Congress

London

This conference will bring together key decision makers in the world of sport. Focusing on the "emerging sport nations", confirmed speakers include Dmitry Chernyshenko, CEO, Sochi 2014 and Faruk Nafiz Özak, state minister for Youth and Sport of Turkey.

www.eventica.co.uk

3-4 NOVEMBER 2010

IOG Scotsturf

Royal Highland Centre, Edinburgh

This two-day, indoor exhibition, organised by IOG Scotland and Ireland, offers people involved in grounds care, sports amenities, landscaping and estate management sectors the chance to meet and review materials and equipment.

www.iogscotsturf.co.uk

3-4 NOVEMBER 2010

Int'l Sports Event Management

Twickenham Stadium, London

Now in its fifth year, ISEM 2010 aims to help organisers of major sporting events to plan and execute events that will offer success for all the stakeholders involved.

The event also includes an awards dinner.

www.iirme.com/isem/home

4 NOVEMBER 2010

SAPCA Annual Technical Meeting

Loughborough University

This new SAPCA event will offer an update on the latest technical developments in sports facility construction.

Tel +44 (0)24 7641 6316

www.sapca.org.uk

4-6 NOVEMBER 2010

Lausanne International Sports Management Conference

Lausanne, Switzerland

This event offers an international and integrated learning and networking platform to present the latest findings in sports management.

www.worldeventsforum.com

10 NOVEMBER 2010

BISL Annual Conference

Lord's Cricket Ground, London

This event will feature key political and industry speakers including Rt Hon Dr Vince Cable MP, Secretary of State for Business and Keith Bradshaw, CEO Marylebone Cricket Club.

www.bisl.org

23 NOVEMBER 2010

Sports Facility Construction Exhibition & Seminar

Twickenham Stadium, London

Organised by SAPCA and supported by Sport England, this event features educational seminars and an exhibition featuring sports constructors, suppliers and professional consultants.

www.sapca.org.uk

SPORTS MANAGEMENT

ADVERTISERS INDEX

Abacus Lighting	69
AMB Sports	53
Britannia Paints	31
British Seed Houses	58
Charterhouse Machinery	56
Collinson	33
Gerflor	75
Harrod UK	56
Hippo Leisure	66
HS Sports	41
Jacksons Fencing	66
JB Corrie	28/41
LIW	19
Mark Harrod	58
Mondo Sport UK	72
Neptunus Structures	2 (IFC)
O'Brien Contractors	53
Replay Maintenance	53
Revolutionary Products	66
Rubb Buildings	37
Sheffield Hallam University	66
Sports Coatings	31
Sports Courts	31
Sports Surfaces UK	72
Stadia Sports International	31
Summit Structures	35
Swiss Timing	84 (BC)
TGMS	58
Thornton Sports	35
Weatherproof Screens	33
York Barbell UK	71
Zaun Fencing	33

sport-kit.net

For more information on our advertisers' products log on to www.sport-kit.net



NOVA44 V24/12 installed at Stade de Suisse, Bern

Integrated Timing and Display Systems

Integrated Timing Systems for:

- Athletics
- Aquatics
- Track Cycling & Road Racing

Multi-Sports Scoreboards

LED Displays utilising:

- Full Colour Video
- Tri-Colour
- Monochrome

Photofinish Equipment

SWISS TIMING

tel: 02380 274520

sales@swisstiming.co.uk

www.swisstiming.co.uk