



**SUSSEX CRICKET BOARD**

# **FACILITIES STRATEGY**

## **2009 - 2011**

Executive Summary

A Strategic Plan for the Development of  
Recreational Cricketing Facilities in Sussex

## **SCB Facilities Strategy 2009-2011**

This is an executive summary of the SCB Facilities Strategy 2009-2011. A copy of the full version is available from [cricketboard@sussexcricket.co.uk](mailto:cricketboard@sussexcricket.co.uk)

### **Introduction, Context and Method**

The strategy is written in the context of the “Strategy for Cricket Sussex 2009 – 2011”, which outlines the vision for Sussex to be “the leading county in England and Wales in the provision of cricket participation opportunities and the development of high standards of performance at all levels, both on and off the field of play”. One of the key “Strategic Goals” in this document is to “maximise resources so as to improve the quality of facilities to the appropriate standard of cricket played”.

The costs of ensuring high quality cricketing facilities across 500 schools, 250 affiliated clubs, 4 Area Cricket Associations and 1 County Cricket Club are vast and whilst funding available for facilities is increasing, there is a huge gap between available funds and facility needs. This highlights the need to take a clear strategic view to facility investment across recreational cricket in Sussex.

The key partners in the development of cricket in Sussex are the 250 affiliated clubs, and in particular the 110 of which have junior sections. The Focus Club scheme provides a rationale for further prioritisation, as they are the key drivers in increasing participation in qualitative and quantitative terms. Focus Club status is available to all 250 affiliated clubs against clear criteria, which purposefully include no reference to club facilities.

Though this strategy only analyses current provision against Focus Clubs it is important to recognise the need for improvement of facilities at Non Focus clubs as well. In particular, much cricket is played on Local Authority grounds and there is a need to ensure a base line standard which provides a safe playing surface for all cricket to be played on. All 13 Local Authorities in Sussex are therefore key partners in this strategy.

An extensive Audit and Gap Analysis has been undertaken to allow this strategy to be written. The process which this has followed was to first establish Minimum Facility Assessment Standards (MFAS) appropriate to Focus Clubs and Junior Representative Cricket. These standards set out the facilities that would be seen as an appropriate target for a Focus Club / for Junior Representative Cricket. Following this an audit at each Focus Club was undertaken and then a gap analysis for each club against MFAS.

The gap analysis thus revealed all projects that need to be undertaken for all clubs to reach MFAS. These have been put into 5 categories (Facility Investment, Development Team Work Programme, Pitch Advisor Deployment, Groundsman Training and Indoor Projects). These have then been prioritised based on:

- Distance from MFAS (i.e. how far away from MFAS is the current facility)
- Impact of project in terms of increased quality and quantity of participation
- The Clubs ability to deliver the project
- Costs and other available funding streams
- Key trends in gaps against MFAS (i.e. prioritisation is given to Fine Turf pitch projects).

Within each category, key funding streams / action points have been highlighted (ECB Grants, ECB Machinery Fund, Spen Cama Grant and Lords Taverners). This is meant as a guide to help to prioritise appropriate funding streams for appropriate projects. Of course there are many other potential funding streams that can be accessed, depending on the nature of the project.

## **Outcomes**

The main outcome of the strategy is a fully prioritised list of facility projects. The top level summary of this is at the end of this document.

In addition the strategy has highlighted the following points:

- The Strategy for “Cricket Sussex 2009 – 2011” sets out a target of 30 clubs who fully meet MFAS to Green Standard. Currently there are only 4 clubs who do this.
- Across the county the most urgent need for investment is in the quality of Fine Turf pitches and outfields and in machinery to support this.
- Partnership working with Local Authorities is vital in order to improve the quality of facilities across the county.
- The quality of changing facilities should also be considered a priority.
- There is a need for access to additional indoor facilities in West Sussex as a priority and East Sussex as a second priority.
- There is a need to move more Area matches onto Focus Club grounds.
- There is a particular need for more high quality match facilities available for Area cricket in South Sussex.
- There is a need to provide some kind of longer term arrangement for the county junior girl’s matches at Lancing College.
- County age group matches are generally played on a good standard of facility.

## **Implementation and Review**

We now have a clear framework to identify which investment projects are high and low priority across Focus Clubs in Sussex. We now must ensure the prioritisation process is utilised in our discussions with clubs and that we are proactive in targeting clubs for facility improvements, rather than reactive to clubs requests.

The strategy will be updated on a bi-annual basis and in doing this the following needs to be addressed:

- More of the data relating to “Fine Turf Quality” needs to come from Full Pitch Reports.
- Clubs second grounds need to be considered.
- Growth trends need to be considered.

In addition, it is intended to undertake a simple audit across the remaining 210 Non Focus Clubs in Sussex in the winter of 2008/09.

**Sussex Cricket Board, November 2008**

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### Facility Strategy Summary

Below is a top level summary of the overall status of each Focus Club against each of the MFAS categories, coded as with Green (meets MFAS), Amber (nearly meets MFAS) or Red (doesn't meet MFAS). Under Security of Tenure, there are a number of clubs who have "special long term arrangements". This is identified by a blue coding and requires further investigation to establish the security of these arrangements.

	Fine Turf Provision	Practice Facilities	Changing Facilities	Indoor Provision	Ancillary Facilities	Security of Tenure
Ansty	Amber	Red	Red	Green	Amber	Blue
Bells Yew Green	Amber	Red	Red	Green	Red	Green
Bexhill	Red	Green	Amber	Green	Green	Red
Brighton and Hove	Red	Green	Green	Green	Amber	Green
Burgess Hill	Red	Green	Green	Green	Amber	Blue
Buxted Park	Amber	Amber	Red	Amber	Red	Green
Chichester Priory	Amber	Amber	Green	Green	Amber	Blue
Chiddingly	Green	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green
Crawley	No data provided by the club					
Cuckfield	Amber	Green	Red	Amber	Green	Green
Eastbourne	Amber	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green
Eastergate	Red	Green	Green	Green	Red	Blue
East Grinstead	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Findon	Red	Green	Amber	Green	Green	Green
Glynde and Beddingham	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Goring by Sea	Red	Green	Green	Green	Red	Green
Hastings Priory	Green	Red	Green	Amber	Green	Blue
Haywards Heath	Amber	Amber	Green	Green	Amber	Blue
Horsham	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Horsham Trinity	Red	Red	Red	Green	Red	Green
Ifield	Amber	Amber	Green	Green	Amber	Red
Lewes Priory	Amber	Green	Amber	Amber	Green	Blue
Lindfield	Amber	Red	Red	Amber	Amber	Green
Littlehampton	Amber	Green	Red	Red	Green	Green
Middleton	Amber	Green	Green	Amber	Green	Green
Midhurst	Amber	Amber	Green	Red	Red	Green
Newhaven	Amber	Red	Green	Amber	Red	Amber
Preston Nomads	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Pulborough	Red	Green	Green	Green	Amber	Amber
Ringmer	Amber	Red	Green	Green	Red	Blue
Roffey	Amber	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Seaford	Green	Green	Green	Amber	Amber	Green
Sidley	Red	Amber	Green	Green	Green	Green
Steyping	Red	Green	Green	Green	Amber	Green
St James Montefiore	Green	Green	Red	Green	Green	Red
St Peters	Green	Green	Red	Green	Red	Red
Three Bridges	Red	Amber	Amber	Green	Green	Blue
Worthing	Amber	Amber	Green	Green	Amber	Amber