

**FA Pitch Improvement Programme**

Expression of Interest Form

**Supported by**

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**Introduction**

Durham County FA is working in partnership with The FA and Institute of Groundmanship to help grassroots football to improve the quality of grass pitches.

The need for this service is more relevant now than ever, given the current economic times and the pressures facing grass roots football. The key principles behind the programme are to provide football clubs and facility providers with:

* **Visits** – site assessment and access to expert pitch maintenance advice and support tailored to the needs, budget, expertise and equipment available
* **Education** – access to support workshops and qualifications to develop skills and knowledge
* **Discounts** – via our official suppliers for machinery and consumables.
* **Funding** - potential to access FA funding for pitch improvement.

In Durham we will be working with the IOG Regional Pitch Advisor, to provide visits to local clubs in the county. **To qualify for a visit a club will need to own their own site OR be responsible for maintenance of the grass pitches.**

**Programme Process**

1. Clubs complete and submit an Expression of Interest Form if they wish to join and commit to the 12 month programme.
2. Durham CFA will coordinate the time and date of the first visit in conjunction with the selected club.
3. Durham CFA will notify the Pitch Advisor of visits and all relevant details.
4. The Regional Pitch Advisor completes the first site visit.
5. A report is produced by the Pitch Advisor with a copy for the club and Durham CFA
6. Club follows recommendations and actions.
7. Feedback sought from club following agreed milestones and timescales, based on the recommendations provided by the Pitch Advisor
8. Should the maintenance recommendations not result in an improved pitch or surface, there may be some further improvement work required on site and the club can discuss funding options with the County FA,

The CFA manager will contact the club to organise a follow-up visit for 12 months after the original assessment date to gauge whether interventions have been successful.

**Costs & Payment**

The cost for the programme is £150 per facility which includes two visits and a report for a 12-month period. If a club holds FA Charter Standard Club Status, then may be subsidised through the CFA (please call to discuss). Clubs will be required to pay the County FA, 14 days in advance of the visit following receipt of an invoice.

For more information or further support surrounding the Pitch Improvement Programme, please contact:

Contact Name: Chris Hutchinson

Job Title: Facilities & Investment Officer

Tel: 0191 3872928 press option 2 & then option 6

Email: **Chris.Hutchinson@DurhamFA.com**

## Section one

### Club details

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Club/Organisation:** |  |
| **Address of ground:** |  | **Postcode:** |  |
| **Main contact job title / responsibility:** |  |
| **Tel:** |  | **Mob**: |  |
| **Email:** |  |
| **Groundsman** |  |
| **Mobile:**  |  | **Email**: |  |
| **Number of groundstaff:** |  | **Volunteer /Professional** | Choose an item. |
| **Maintenance budget per season (£):** |  | **Renovation Budget**  |  |
| **In House:** | Choose an item. | **Contractor:**  | Choose an item. | **Local Authority:** | Choose an item. |
| **Site Owner:** |  | **Site Size (Ha):** |  |
| **RPA** | Ian Powell |  |  |
| **Details of any external contracts - Mowing/Renovations/Line marking** |
| **Maintenance Type** | **Details** | **Company** |
| Mowing |  |  |
| Line Marking |  |  |
| Renovations |  |  |

## Section two

### Background and Core Objective

Please tell us what you hope to gain from the programme:

|  |
| --- |
| **Please select options by clicking on the text below:*** Choose core objective.
* Choose core objective.
* Choose core objective.

Other:  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***NLS Step (click on box below)*** | ***Charter Standard? (click on box below*** | ***Number of Teams (click on boxes below)***  |
| Select NSL Step | Select Charter Standard | Insert Categories | Insert Number |
| Insert Categories | Insert Number |
| Insert Categories | Insert Number |
| Insert Categories | Insert Number |
| Insert Categories | Insert Number |

## Section three

### Pitch Configuration

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Pitch Size***  | ***Number (click on boxes below)*** | ***Initial comments (click on boxes below)*** |
| 5 v 5 | Choose an item. | Bare - Loss of grass cover due to use for training |
| 7 v 7 | Choose an item. | Bare - Loss of grass cover due to use for training |
| 9 v 9 | Choose an item. | Bare - Loss of grass cover due to use for training |
| 11 v 11 |  Choose an item. | Bare - Loss of grass cover due to use for training |
|  |  |  |

## Section four

Please provide as much information regarding your current maintenance programme along with any external involvement from contractors and/or local authority’s:

**Please return this form with any photos you have of the current site to**

Chris Hutchinson

Facilities & Investment Officer

Email: Chris.Hutchinson@DurhamFA.com