



**FA Pitch Improvement Programme**

Expression of Interest Form

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**Introduction**

Northumberland 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 Northumberland we will be working with the IOG Regional Pitch Advisor, Ian Powell, 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. Northumberland FA will coordinate the time and date of the first visit in conjunction with the selected club.
3. Northumberland FA 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 Northumberland FA
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 Northumberland FA.
9. Northumberland FA 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 the cost will be £100 with Northumberland FA subsidising the rest of the cost. Clubs will be required to pay Northumberland 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: Mark Woodhall

Job Title: County Development Manager

Tel: 0191 2700700 / 07458 043674

Email:[mark.woodhall@northumberlandfa.com](mailto:mark.woodhall@northumberlandfa.com)

## Section one

### Club details

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Club/Organisation:** |  | | | | | | |
| **Address:** |  | | | | | **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** |  | | | |
| **Site Owner:** |  | | **Site Size (Ha):** |  | | | |
| **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:**   * An overall appraisal of the site and maintenance * To improve the playability of the football pitches * To increase the amount of use   Other: |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***NLS Step*** | ***Charter Standard*** | ***Number of Teams*** | |
|  | Yes - Community Club | Mini Soccer | Choose an item. |
| Youth Male | Choose an item. |
| Insert Categories | Insert Number |
| Insert Categories | Insert Number |
| Insert Categories | Insert Number |

## Section three

### Pitch Configuration

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Pitch Size*** | ***Number*** | ***Initial comments*** |
| 5 v 5 | 2 | Bare - Loss of grass cover due to use for training |
| 7 v 7 | 2 | Bare - Loss of grass cover due to use for training |
| 9 v 9 | 2 | Bare - Loss of grass cover due to use for training |
| 11 v 11 | 3 | Bare - Loss of grass cover due to use for training |
|  |  |  |

## Section four

Please provide any further information you feel will be relevant:

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

Mark Woodhall

County Development Manager

Northumberland FA

Via [mark.woodhall@northumberlandfa.com](mailto:mark.woodhall@northumberlandfa.com)

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