



**ENGLAND
FOOTBALL**

CAMBRIDGESHIRE FA

GRASS PITCH SUPPORT PACK



INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Natural Grass Pitch Programme, supporting the FA's 10 year plan to transform the quality of grass pitches across the country. The purpose of this document is to provide support at a local level and will cover the following information;



County FA Facility Lead Contact



Regional Pitch Advisor



Support Pitch Advisor



Pitch Power



Football Foundation Grants



Key Partners



Hive Learning



COUNTY FA



Facilities have been prioritised by The FA and we at Cambridgeshire FA are making every effort to improve the facilities around the county. We believe everyone should have access to good quality pitches to provide an enhanced playing experience at all levels of the game

By 2024 we want to have increased the number of improved grass pitches by 50%



Support members in securing capital investment to provide better community football facilities



Unite key partners to provide facilities for all formats of the game



Engage members to embrace a developmental culture around improving facility provision by using digital tools



Katie Critchley

Football Development Manager



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Please contact the County FA to discuss your project in the first instance



REGIONAL PITCH ADVISOR



Formerly Head Groundsman at Coventry City FC, Julien joined the GMA in March 2018 following a decade working in professional football. With a strong background in volunteering and administration of sports clubs at a recreational level he has developed fruitful and successful relationships with stakeholders throughout the East Midlands region over the last 3 years in his role as a Regional Pitch Advisor across both Football and Cricket.

Now covering the Central East region following the launch of the Pitch Advisory Service, Julien moves into the role of Senior Regional Pitch Advisor for Football. As well as supporting clubs, organisations, and local authorities with technical advice in his new region he will work in partnership with his new County FA's and colleagues at the Football Foundation nationally to deliver existing and future funding programmes with a wider focus on management of the Hive Groundskeeping Community, GMA Toolkit and coordination of national research projects.

Julien holds a Diploma level 3 in Sports Turf Management as well as other industry relevant training and accreditations. He is also trained in the safe use of pesticides having gained NPTC spraying qualifications PA1, PA2, PA6.



JULIEN MORRIS



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The RPA role is a strategic one that focuses on PitchPower assessments and supporting the County FA KPI delivery.

SUPPORT PITCH ADVISORS

With the introduction of PitchPower, the volume of pitch inspections has naturally increased and the process changed significantly. The Support Pitch Advisor (SPA) are available to provide an extra resource by being on the ground to support local clubs, and organisations.

SPA SERVICES

Support clubs/organisations with PitchPower inspections

This is an optional paid service that can be accessed if required

£100*

Support clubs/organisations with further advice following PitchPower report

This provides the option of discussing any findings and/or recommendations in more detail. SPA will document any findings to the RPA and update PitchPower report accordingly.

£100**

- *Cost is based on up to 4 pitches. £20 per additional pitch. Expenses are chargeable*

** *Cost is per site visit/inspection*



PITCH POWER

PitchPower is a web app that puts the power in your hands, making it easy to sign up and carry out pitch inspections. You'll then get a detailed assessment report from the grounds management experts at the GMA with recommendations on improving the quality of your grass pitches.



Allows you to self-assess your pitches, record, store and update information yourself



Significantly reduces the time it takes to receive the report compared with site visits



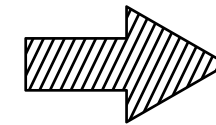
Provides seasonal, ongoing advice about how to improve your pitch



Free to download and use



Please ensure you use PitchPower on all your pitches if you are to applying for Football Foundation funding.



POWER UP YOUR GRASS PITCH



If applying for Football Foundation grants, you will need to submit 2 yearly inspections within the following windows;

JUL - OCT NOV - MAR APR - JUN

(Mandatory)

GRASS PITCH MAINTENANCE FUND



The Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund is a six year tapered grant, providing up to £2500 inc. VAT for every one of your 11 a side pitches in the first two years and scaled down over six years (£2,000 for 9 a side and £1,500 for Mini Soccer)

Your PitchPower pitch inspection will provide you with a Performance Quality Standard (PQS) per pitch. This will decide how much funding you'll be eligible for, as well as providing a list of maintenance recommendations which you'll need to carry out as part of your grant award. Grants are paid annually for six years but tapered down during that time. The amounts shown are the grant values for the first year at 100% funding.

What can the grant be spent on?

The funding provided must be used to carry out the recommendations from your PitchPower Assessment Report. These can include:



Contractor works e.g. slitting, scarification or decompaction

Purchasing materials e.g. seed or fertiliser

Purchasing equipment e.g. Soil Sampler

ENHANCE

FOR PITCHES WITH A PQS OF 'BASIC' OR BELOW

11V11 £2500

9V9 £2000

MINI SOCCER £1500

SUSTAIN

FOR PITCHES WITH A PQS OF 'GOOD' OR HIGHER

11V11 £750

9V9 £500

MINI SOCCER £300



To find out more information about the GPMF and to check your eligibility



Routine maintenance work such as grass cutting and line marking aren't eligible

SMALL GRANTS

Grants of up to £25,000 to help clubs and organisations purchase machinery and equipment recommended in their PitchPower assessment report. Machinery and equipment may be new or used and all applicants will be required to supply two like-for-like quotations for each item from different suppliers and evidence of partnership funding (grants will be provided for a maximum of 75% of the project cost).



UP TO £25,000



Grass Pitch Drainage

Changing Pavilion / Clubhouse refurb

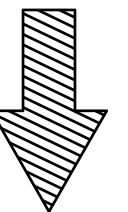
Fencing

Goalposts

Portable Floodlights

Storage Containers

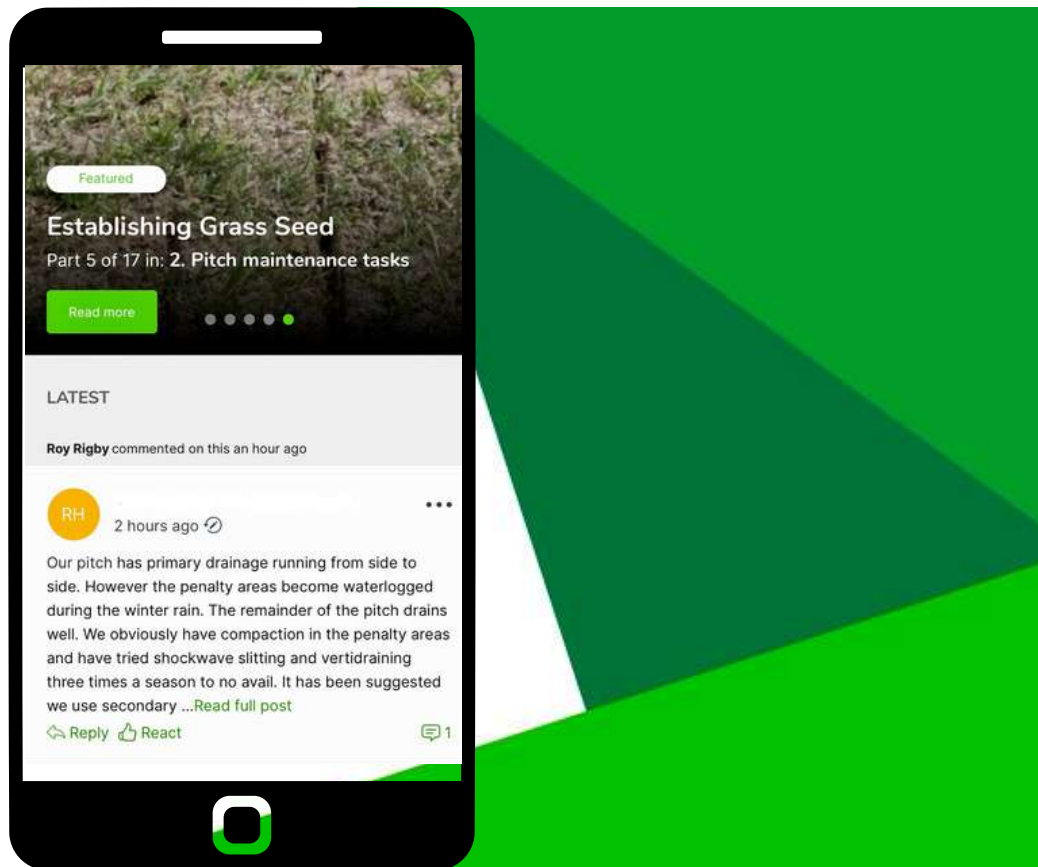
3G Pitch Machinery & equipment



Hive learning

An online community for advice and best practice tips from GMA Pitch Advisors and grounds keepers.

HIVE is a great platform for the grounds maintenance workforce to share ideas, challenges and best practice amongst one another.



2700+ users



RPA interaction



Maintenance Essentials



Learning and tips cards



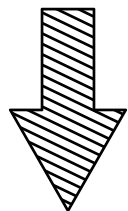
Funding/News signposting



Materials and equipment information



Interactive forum



GET SOCIAL WITH US....



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