

THE IMPORTANCE OF VOLUNTEERS

75% of clubs who use a contractor to complete pitch maintenance works still rely on volunteers to support this work

H  **ME**
IS WHERE IT STARTED



ENGLAND FOOTBALL



WE ASKED: HOW IMPORTANT ARE THE VOLUNTEERS WHO LOOK AFTER YOUR PITCHES?



YOU SAID:

“OUR VOLUNTEERS ARE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT, OUR CLUB WOULDN'T FUNCTION WITHOUT THEM.”

“ANY HELP PEOPLE GIVE WITH GENERAL MAINTENANCE TO SUPPORT THE WORK OF THE APPOINTED CONTRACTORS IS APPRECIATED (FORKING, LEVELLING GOAL MOUTHS ETC.)”

“OUR VOLUNTEERS DO VERY IMPORTANT WORK, MARKING AND MOVING PITCHES TO HELP PITCHES RECOVER AND REDUCE WEAR ALONGSIDE CUTTING, MANUAL AERATION AND OVERSEEDING. THEY HAVE ALSO SPENT COUNTLESS HOURS REPAIRING VANDALISED PITCHES DUE TO E-BIKES/E-SCOOTERS AND MOTORBIKES.”

“VOLUNTEERS ARE VERY IMPORTANT, MYSELF AND ONE OTHER PERSON CUT THE GRASS AND DO BASIC MAINTENANCE WHICH ALLOWS THE CONTRACTOR TO CONCENTRATE ON THE MAIN JOBS.”

“INVALUABLE.”

“ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS WORK WELL TOGETHER. WE HAVE A FLEXIBLE APPROACH TO THE WORK THAT IS REQUIRED TO ENSURE ALL PITCHES ARE IN THE BEST CONDITION POSSIBLE.”

“OUR VOLUNTEERS ARE VITAL, THEY FILL IN THE GAPS SO THAT THE GROUNDSMAN CAN CONCENTRATE ON THE MAIN TASKS USING THE MACHINERY. THEY WILL COMPLETE SMALL PITCH REPAIRS FROM SLIDING TACKLES, HAND FORK CERTAIN AREAS ETC.”

“EXTREMELY IMPORTANT.”

#GROUNDS WEEK

(Data taken from those who completed West Riding FA Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund survey, March 2025)