



Synthetic Turf Cricket Practice Facility Project

For

Club Name: South West Manchester Cricket Club

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Scheme designed and prepared by Peter Berry BA



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Verde Sports: Who are we? What do we do? How do we do it?

Verde Sports Ltd and prior to that Verde Sports Cricket, have been around since 1996 within the cricket market. However, both companies can trace their history back a lot longer than that. Verde Sports Cricket was the brainchild of Peter Dury Jnr and John Hessey. Both men had worked extensively for the prior 20 years within the cricket and sports market and began collaborating on cricket installations in 1996. Peter was the expert in terms of aggregate bases and construction specifications whilst John brought his extensive knowledge of surfacing and carpets to allow them to design and build some of the premier ECB systems.

Peter had been involved in the earliest iterations of cricket developments alongside his father Peter Dury Snr and so the levels of knowledge and guidance that we have been able to offer over the past 20 years has been unmatched in the industry. Many of the early installation teams have continued to work with us over this time as they have continued to uphold the values that we desire from all our installations.

Some of our core beliefs and ideas that we have set out over the years continue to be at the centre of all our work:

- Attention to detail, care and precision are of the up most importance. We understand that these developments are a huge decision for clubs and making sure that they are done right is our main goal.
- Strong working relationships with UK manufacturers allows us to regulate the quality of the materials and resources used. Only the highest quality materials from aggregates through to steels is supplied.
- We hold the core principles laid down by the ECB to all suppliers as important. That is why we continue to offer spike tolerant surfaces whilst much of the market has moved away from them.

We currently offer 2 ECB approved systems alongside some budget options that allow us to cater for all needs, be they large clubs, schools or counties or smaller domestic settings. Our current team is lead by Peter Berry, who alongside the installation team has worked with Peter Dury for over 10 years. With Peter Dury's retirement in Spring 2024, Peter Berry has taken on the role and is now looking to keep advancing the cricket section forward.

As of summer 2024, Verde Sports currently offer the following options with regards to ECB approved systems:

- Match Pitches – Premier and Test Match system pitches at either 24.00m or 30.00m lengths.
- Practice Facilities - Premier and Test Match system bases designs with a myriad of options within in that, to allow the customer to design the best option for themselves.



Quotation

Specification:

The supply and installation of a triple bay fully enclosed practice facility in line with ECB requirements. The facility is to be orientated outside of ECB guidelines due to the profile and of the ground and the available space. Due to the scope and scale any desire to orientate on a North/South line would infringe upon the boundaries or bring them into conflict with neighbours potentially.

The facility is to be built using batting and bowling ends in line with ECB directive regarding sustainability over the next 10 years. This design will allow the club to build in a level of recyclability and redevelopment over the course of the facilities life span. By using a Super Verde Wilton as the playing surface and avoiding latex backed tufted products this will allow the club to recycle the surface in future once it has been replaced.

Additionally, we will look to install a gated fully enclosed frame using key clamp technology to allow for easy replacement and adaption over the years to come. Paired with 2.3mm Knotless Netting complete with anti-vermin skirts, batting screens and bowling screens this will provide a facility that is resistant to the effects of nature and wildlife whilst still performing at the level that is set out in the TS6 documentation by the ECB.

Cost Ex VAT: £50,000.00

VAT: £10,000.00

Total Cost: £60,000.00

Conditions:

1. Quote and costing above are subject to site survey. They are subject to change should anything be found that requires additional materials, works or time.
2. Quote will be re-evaluated should ground works uncover additional costs unforeseen. Works to stop until agreement is reached amongst customer and Verde Sports Ltd.
3. Spoil, existing materials and waste to be left at site unless customer specifies otherwise.
4. Access to be provided to amenities by customer to installation team, including but not limited to toilets and hot water. Secure storage to be provided for plant and equipment that is lockable. If this cannot be done, secure storage to be provided at cost to customer.
5. Goods remain property of Verde Sports until full and final payment has been made. In event that non-payment, then customer will not obstruct attempts to reclaim goods.
6. Interest on outstanding payments to be charged at 2.5% per 30 as per payment terms.
7. Payment structure to be agreed with customer prior to works commencing, standard structure is as follows:
 - 40% Deposit alongside written confirmation to confirm works and lock in pricing.
 - 30 Days upon completion for NET invoice. Any issues or defects to be corrected in this time will not alter payment dates.
 - 12-month warranty on all works, with surfacing holding a 10-year UV Warranty. Any further warranties to be discussed separately.
8. Construction of playing surfaces to be in accordance with English and Wales Cricket Board tolerances as set out in TS6 documentation.

Should the above be agreeable and you wish to proceed please sign below as acceptance and acknowledgment of the terms and conditions. Upon payment of the deposit, works will be scheduled in line with conversations already had.

Below you will find the proposed works and construction specifications for this installation. All works to be carried out in line with this. Any issues on site that require deviation from outlined scheme, to be discussed with the customer prior to be actioned. Signatures on this document will be the only people who are authorised to advise on any issues that arise.

Name:

Role:

Signature:

Name:

Role:

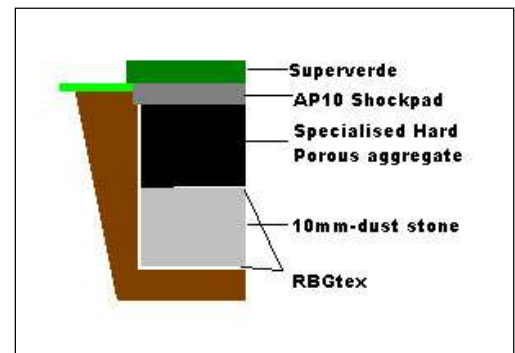
Signature:

Scheme and Proposal for works:

The proposal is to construct a triple bay practice facility in line with ECB recommendations, the facility will consist of batting and bowling ends with surround surfacing covering a total area of 33.00m x 12.00m enclosed with a gated frame and netting. To provide a facility suitable for all levels of ability within the club a combination of one of each base system is incorporated for the batting ends.

The “Test Match” system will provide a pitch where the performance changes during the season as it becomes drier and more compact whereas the “Premier” system will provide an even level of bounce throughout the season. The pace and nature of the bounce from the Premier system makes it ideal for junior coaching as extracting bounce is not solely dependent on the physique of the player. It also provides more movement for both seam and spin giving encouragement to bowlers and practice to the batsmen. By avoiding tarmac/macadam-based systems you avoid the unforeseen stresses and strain on young players bodies that these systems cause.

Test Match



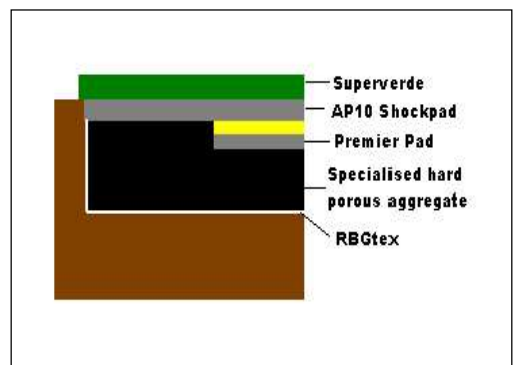
Construction

1. Strip turf from remainder of area totalling 34.00 x 8.00m and excavate to a depth of 50mm below proposed finished levels.
2. Supply and fit treated timber edging to outer perimeter.
3. Supply and lay 10mm-dust stone to lift low areas to within 50mm of proposed levels.
4. Bank sides with excavated material in low areas and create banks on high areas.

Premier

Test Match – Construction

5. Excavate an area of 10.70 x 2.40m to a depth of 100mm below proposed finished level.
6. Line excavation with RBGtex, overlapping adjacent runs by 100mm, bringing up sides and tuck in corners.
7. Supply and lay 10mm-dust angular stone to a consolidated depth of 50mm.
8. Supply and lay RBGtex, size 10.00 x 2.00m, in front of popping crease.
9. Supply and lay specified hard porous material to a consolidated depth of 50mm.
10. Supply and fit AP10 Shockpad, size 11.00 x 2.50m.
11. Supply and fit Superverde surface.
12. Fix all surfaces with 150mm galvanised round wire nails at no more than 150mm centres.



Premier – Construction

13. Excavate an area of 10.70 x 2.60m to a depth of 50mm below proposed finished level
14. Line excavation with RBGtex, overlapping adjacent runs by 100mm, bringing up sides of and tuck into corners.
15. Supply and lay 50mm consolidated depth of hard porous material.
16. Supply and fit Premier Pad, size 11.00 x 2.00m.
17. Supply and fit AP10 Shockpad, size 11.00 x 2.50m.
18. Supply and fit Superverde surface.
19. Fix all surfaces with 150mm galvanised round wire nails at no more than 150mm centres.

Bowling End – Construction

20. Excavate two areas of 7.80 x 2.40m for bowling ends to a depth of 100mm.
21. Supply and lay RBGtex to line excavation.
22. Supply and lay 50mm consolidated depth of 10mm-dust stone.
23. Supply and lay 50mm consolidated depth of hard porous.
24. Fit AP10 Shockpad, size 8.00 x 2.50m, and Superverde surface, size 8.00 x 2.74m.
25. Fix with 150mm galvanised round wire nails at no more than 150mm centres.

The surface for the playing areas, Superverde, is a Wilton woven surface with a dense 8mm pile providing the optimum balance between wear and playing performance. Around the playing areas and extending over the run ups the surfacing is Verdegrass 14, a 14mm tufted surface which is dense enough to be fitted without the need for sand or crumb fillings.

With the playing and surround surfaces being fitted as individual panels maintenance of the facility and the long-term replacement of worn surfaces is made easy as the playing areas can be maintained and replaced without disturbing the frame and netting. With batting and bowling ends the future replacement of playing surfaces can be phased as the old batting ends can be re-used as bowling ends to extend their useful life.

The playing area will be complimented by a 3.60m high heavy-duty frame with lanes 3.66m wide and the playing strips located centrally to the lanes. Frames will be installed in sockets set in concrete and fixed with Allen key elbows to enable the frame to be taken down, if necessary, for the winter. Netting is a 2.3mm knotless polypropylene in green or black and will be supplied to provide a tight fit over the frame with little excess in the roof and drop.



The roof, which will cover the whole frame, and outer perimeter will be joined together to prevent gaps at the top of the frame.

The central division net, 21.96m long, will be wound alternately through the frame, so that there is resistance to billowing regardless of the wind direction, and the bottom of all nets will be pulled tight with an 8mm polypropylene rope and fixed flush to the ground with 200mm steel “U” shaped pins. To the end of the run ups a white 20mm mesh net will be erected to a frame to act as a sight screen. Access will be via a 1.30m wide single gated access point on one side of the facility.

Technical Comments – Surfacing

Woven carpets are made as a single entity in that the backing cloth is manufactured at the same time as the pile such that both are interwoven. This means they only need a light backing which maintains the permeability of the surface. A tufted carpet is a two-part process whereby a backing cloth is woven, and tufts are then fired in loops through the backing. If the backing was as strong as a woven carpet the tufts would not be able to be fired through. Because the tufts are in loops thick latex has to be applied to the back of the surface in order to hold the tufts in place. This seals the structure such that holes need to be punched periodically to provide permeability. This is a particular disadvantage on systems that rely on moisture to maintain their consolidation and provide performance similar to that of natural turf pitches. Woven carpets have a proven track record over more than 40 years and are the only choice for serious cricket.

Surrounds – Construction

26. Supply, lay and consolidate hard porous material over stone to level with pitches and outer perimeter.
27. Supply and fit Verdegrass 14 around strips.
28. All surfaces to be trimmed in and butted together, where neither surface has a salvage edge insert minimum 200mm wide strip of RBGtex extending under each side of joint.
29. Fix surfaces with 150mm galvanised round wire nails at no more than 150mm centres.

Cage and Netting – Construction

- 1) Excavate 300 x 300mm holes to a depth of 450mm for sockets.
- 2) Haunch sockets on stone and set in concrete.
- 3) Erect poles and fit with elbow joints.
- 4) Fit netting with to all sides and roof.
- 5) Fit netting with to central division alternating side to side between poles, fixing with a minimum of 11 hanging points per 3.66m bay.
- 6) Supply and fit 8mm polypropylene rope through base of netting passing the opposite side of posts to netting.
- 7) Fix net and rope to ground with 200mm long, 6mm diameter, “U” shaped steel pegs.
- 8) Supply and fit 20mm mesh white netting to frame at end of bowlers run ups.
- 9) Form 2.40 x 1.30m gate from 37mm galvanised tubular steel and fit to frame.

Information and Technical Specifications

<u>Premier System</u> The “Premier Pitch” consists of a combination of factory formed underlays laid over a consolidated natural mineral base. With performance being controlled by fabricated components the influence of compaction and the effects of climate are limited. This enables the Premier pitch to provide a very high level of consistency, making it excellent for match and practice by all age groups and abilities. Pace & Bounce – Pitches are easy paced to medium quick with bounce of half stump to stump high. Rebound Bounce Parameters -20 - 26%. Maintenance - The Premier pitch requires a comparatively low, in relation to other unbound base systems, level of maintenance in order to keep the facility in top condition. With performance not being wholly dependent on base consolidation pre-season rolling may be all that is required to consolidate any firmness that may have been lost during the winter due to water or frost.	<u>Test Match</u> The "Test Match" system is the fourth generation of the tried and tested combination of hard porous aggregate over a consolidated stone base. The system has a combination of unique features designed to reduce maintenance and improve the longevity of the base setting it apart from other designs constructed on similar principles and provide the ultimate and longest lasting aggregate base cricket pitch. Two layers of geo-textile are included to isolate the base aggregates and to prevent them from mixing in the crucial playing area. On top of the specialist playing aggregate AP10 Shockpad protects the surface from being damaged during use. This minimises maintenance and reduces the Pace & Bounce The range is from medium to very fast pace with bounce from half stump to above stump high. Rebound Bounce Parameters 12 - 20% Maintenance – More than a premier as this has one less shockpad and so should be treated much like a cricket square. 150minutes before each use should provide suitable returns.	
<u>Super Verde Wilton</u> Pile Height - 8mm Width – 2.74m Length – 8.00/11.00/24.00/30.00 Construction - Wilton logical weave Pile Weight: 780 g/sqm Total Weight: 1450 g/sqm Composition: 100% UVS Fibrillated Polypropylene Rows: 35.4 /100mm	<u>Super Verdeturf</u> Pile Height: 15mm Width: 2.00/4.00m Length: Up to 40.00m Construction: Tufted Pile Weight: 950 g/sqm Total Weight: 2100 g/sqm Composition: 6330 Dtex fibrillated Knit de knit UV resistant polypropylene Rows: 35/100mm	<u>AP10 Shockpad</u> Height: 4mm Width: 2.50m Length: 8.00/11.00/24.00/30.00m Construction: Flat, fully cross-linked, resin bonded needle punch. Total Weight: 1040 g/sqm Pile Composition: 100% Polyester
<u>Cages and Netting</u> High Quality heavy-duty frames are supplied consisting of 42mm diameter, 3mm thick, tubular steel. Uprights are fixed into position with 457mm deep sockets set in concrete and the top of the frame is held together with elbows and grub screws. Each bay of the frame measures 3.60m x 3.66m and lengths are to customer’s requirements. Netting is available in 2.3mm and 3.00mm knotless netting with outer perimeter and roof sewn together. Many colours available but green and black remain our most popular.		

Code of Practice

The objective of this code is to set out a series of principles in order to ensure that client's needs are assessed in a professional and ethical manner and that he is made fully aware of the products available and design being offered. Also that the installation works are completed to specification in respect of content and quality and in accordance with all statutory requirements and general good practice.

Enquiries, Design and Proposal

- 1) Always deal with customer enquiries in a prompt and courteous manner, using the most appropriate method in line with client's requests.
- 2) Investigate site conditions as thoroughly as possible, by taking measurements, levels and gradients, advising on the dimensions and orientation of a facility and its effect on surrounding gradients.
- 3) Give due regard to influences that may affect the facility, constitution of proposed site, falls, drainage, adjacent vegetation and advise client accordingly of potential dangers and possible precautions available.
- 4) Inform clients of the minimum dimensions recommended by the England and Wales Cricket Board in relevant and active publications and advise why these should be adhered to.
- 5) Advise clients on the playing characteristics and maintenance requirements of available and/or proposed pitch designs.
- 6) If designs or dimension other than those approved or advised by the England and Wales Cricket Board are offered clearly state that the facility will not meet ECB requirements or approval.
- 7) All written quotations provided to customers to provide full details of content, dimensions and the constitution of components to be used within a scheme.
- 8) Any restrictions, qualifications or conditions of contract within quotation to be clearly stated in writing.
- 9) Advise clients should projects come under the auspice of CDM regulations.

Installation

- 1) All components used during construction to match those specified in quotation. Should any changes need to be made these to be notified to the client before changes are implemented and confirmed in writing.
- 2) Component suppliers to have quality control procedures in accordance with current standards and relevant government legislation.
- 3) Aggregates to be purchased in accordance with appropriate industry standards and where applicable to match those specified.
- 4) Materials to be checked on site by site foreman prior to use.
- 5) If required samples will be kept for inspection by client.
- 6) Levels and tolerances to be checked, using appropriate and accepted methods, at each level of construction and appropriate records kept.
- 7) Records of works carried out and environmental conditions to be kept during the construction of new facilities.
- 8) All records compiled during construction to be made available to the client on request.
- 9) Take due regard of environmental issues in relation to the disposal of spoil and arising and any items disposed of offsite to be done in accordance with appropriate legislation.

After Sales

- 1) Provide maintenance documentation and advice, both verbal and written to clients. Content to be appropriate to the content of the project, including but not limited to information provided by suppliers.
- 2) Deal with after sales queries in a prompt and courteous manner and investigate any dissatisfaction to the full.

Company Policy regarding the use of Spiked Footwear

Facilities, be they for matches or practice, should be used in a manner as near a natural turf pitch as possible and this includes the wearing of the appropriate footwear.

The value of practice to both batsman and bowler are devalued if the bowler is unable to bowl in a normal manner due to not wearing the most appropriate footwear. Having paid thousands of pounds for a facility one questions the investment if the use obtained is devalued by restricting footwear.

It is better to take steps to protect the surface and periodically repair any damage than not to obtain full value from the facility. Many match pitches have not been used due to footwear restrictions.

The widespread introduction of toe guards to bats has increased the wear in the area the batsman stands, and it is not considered to ban bats with toe guards so why ban spiked footwear.

In the case of younger players there is little case for restricting footwear as they lack the physical attributes to cause damage to woven surfaces.

Costs of £ 50-£350 every three years to patch and repair a surface are better incurred in order to get full value from the use of the facility rather than to devalue or not use the facility at all. Far more is spent on the repair of natural turf ends each and every season and is a very small investment against the risk of injury due to not wearing footwear appropriate to the conditions.

Each club will make its own decisions regarding the wear and protection they wish to afford their surfaces, but each must ask: Has the facility been purchased to look good or to be used fully and safely?

Maintenance:

All synthetic pitches will benefit from regular rolling during the first few months following installation. This will bed the materials onto the base formation and increase the compaction in the sub structure.

Rolling should be carried out with a 5-6 cwt roller to avoid creasing the carpet or breaking up the base. During rolling the carpet may rise slightly in front of the roller but will settle back down once rolling is complete. In the event that a slight rise still exists, this will normally be at the end of the carpet. The nails at the edge adjacent to the rise should be lifted and the carpet allowed to settle down.

If spiked footwear is to be permitted, to prolong the life of a woven carpet fill the pile of the carpet, if not carried out during installation, with fine sand or soil in the bowler's delivery area, extending no more than 0.50m in front of the popping crease on match pitches.

During the Season

- 1) Mark out the crease areas with emulsion paint.

The frequency of this procedure will depend on the amount of use, which wears out the markings.

- 2) Rolling can be carried out throughout the season particularly if more bounce or pace is required.

If a hard porous based pitch is rolled immediately before use there will be a small initial increase in bounce, which then falls in much the same way as it does on natural grass pitches. This change will not be significant on the Premier system.

- 3) If conventional stumps are to be used, check the stump areas and ensure the soil is moist.

When hit the stumps are removed much cleaner from a moist hole than from a dry one. This also prevents the impact on the stump shattering the soil such that the stump is no longer held firm. During dry conditions this also helps the anchorage of stumps on normal grass pitches.

Should the holes become so large that they no longer grip the stump the soil should be soaked so that it becomes pliable. With the heel of the foot firm all the way round the stump holes and this will close up the holes enabling the stump to be gripped firmly again.

- 4) Clear any debris off the surface and sweep off any grass clippings.
- 5) Check the surface for damage and repair with adhesive as necessary.

This is particularly important with woven surfaces where if the fibres are broken the edge can fray or the tear run, resulting in much more extensive damage. Careful repairing of surfaces immediately after damage occurs will delay the need to patch.

- 6) Check for damage to netting and repair.

End of Season

- 1) Clean off the surface by sweeping to remove any residual dirt or remove soil and seed blown onto the surface during post-season maintenance of the square.
- 2) Check for any damage to the surface and repair as necessary.

If damage is excessive now is the time to install any patches. If damage is more than a metre in front of the popping crease at the batting end the surface should be replaced rather than patched.

- 3) Check for depressions in the bowlers' delivery area and where the batsmen stand. The pressure exerted by the bowler's front foot and by the batsmen hitting the surface with his bat can cause small depressions in these areas. In such circumstances the surface and underlay's should be rolled back to allow the affected areas to be levelled.

It is advisable to store a few bags of the aggregate used during construction for this purpose.

- 4) Remove netting and store in a cool dry location, preferably off ground.

Putting into storage when dry will reduce the possibility of the netting rotting and storage off the ground will reduce the risk of rodent damage.

Pre-Season

- 1) Occasionally roll the batting ends during the spring, increasing the frequency as the season approaches, minimum 3 x 30-minute sessions per lane during February and March for Premier systems and 5 x 30 minute sessions per lane for Test Match systems.

Winter tends to release the compaction in particulate structures, particularly if there are a number of ground frosts, so rolling in the spring will reduce the effect winter has had on the pitch structure.

- 2) If necessary, weed and moss kill the surface and sweep off any dead material.

Grass can grow in the surface over the winter if clippings or seed has been allowed to settle during autumn or winter maintenance of the ground. Moss and algae can grow if the surface has a tendency to be damp. This problem has increased in recent years with the damp mild winters encouraging growth.

- 3) Check and tighten all fixings to frame of cage.
- 4) Refit netting to frame.