



PITCHPOWER
Powered by
Football Foundation

FOOTBALL ASSESSMENT REPORT

LIPHOOK RECREATION GROUND

Hampshire FA

SITE ID:
6002076

INSPECTION ID:
7155



This report has been compiled for Liphook United F.C. and Hampshire FA to provide information on the standard of the football pitches and outlines recommendations on how to improve the quality and maintenance of these pitches

Inspection Window

1 Jul 2022 / 31 Oct 2022

Inspection Reason

Interest in a Football Foundation Grant

Report Completion Date

31 Aug 2022

Disclaimer: This report has been compiled for Liphook united f.c. and Hampshire FA to provide information on the standard of the football pitches and outlines recommendations on how to improve the quality and maintenance of these pitches

Site Report:

LIPHOOK RECREATION GROUND





LIPHOOK RECREATION GROUND

Ground ID: 6002076

The below RAG Rating indicates how many of your pitches have achieved a PQS grade of Good or better

RAG RATING:	0% 
Liphook Rec	 Basic

GROUND OVERVIEW

Ash Hendrickx-Nutley GMA/RPA Football
Southwest

Email ahendrickx-nutley@thegma.org.uk

Report completion date 20/10/2022

The pitch grass cover is quite sparse across the whole pitch. Over seeding some of the worst areas may be worth trying to get some seed going now. Be aware that if any frosts are forecast AVOID SEEDING. If fund will allow getting some germination sheets to cover the seeded areas can protect the



Date submitted

31/08/22

Inspection window

1 Jul 2022 / 31 Oct 2022

Next assessment needs to be completed:

1 Nov 2022 / 31 Mar 2023

Reviewed by:

ahendrickx-nutley@thegma.org.uk



seed and advance its germination if used when the pitch is not in use.

I have made recommendations based on the information in the submission to help improve the pitch.

if funds are tight decompaction, over seeding and a fertiliser application would be the three priority activities that would improve the pitch.

I have also added some machinery recommendations should the club wish to take on the maintenance themselves.

75% funding is available through the Football Foundation towards new equipment and storage containers if required.

Maintenance

Attention required in these areas:

[Decompaction >](#)

[Overseeding \(Out of season renovation\) >](#)

[Slitting >](#)

[Goal mouth repairs \(In season\) >](#)

[Application of fertiliser >](#)

Equipment

Attention required in these areas:

[Compact tractor \(with cutting deck\) >](#)

[Combination turf grooming tool >](#)

Question section

Q. Who looks after the grounds maintenance?

A. Local authority

Q. Renovations

A. Local authority

Q. Volunteers

A. 4



Liphook rec

Football - adult football

Pitch ID:

13912

Current PQS grade: ● Basic

Previous PQS grade: No previous grade.

PITCH

Usage & Maintenance

Q. How many games were cancelled due to waterlogging?

A. 30

Q. How many total training hours are played on this pitch per week?

A. 0hrs

Q. How many total match play hours are played on this pitch per week?

A. 3hrs

Q. How many games have been cancelled on this pitch since the previous inspection window?

A. 20

Damaged areas

Q. Select from the list below the type of damaged areas your pitch has.

A. Pests, Surface damage, Waterlogging/ponding

Additional information

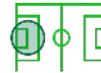
Q. Is there anything else you feel we should know about this pitch?

A. Is of poor quality and solid drainage system does not work due to top compact



Surface profile

Q. What is the average grass height?



20mm



35mm



20mm

Q. Using the same picture, give the percentage of weeds in the picture. The total figure of 'Grass coverage' and 'Weed coverage' should not exceed 100%, so if you can see both grass and weed in the same square count the one that has the most in it.



0%



10%



0%

Q. How many squares contain grass?



67%



75%



52%

Soil profile

Q. Measure the thatch depth.



0mm



0mm



0mm

Q. Measure the root depth.



10mm



50mm



10mm

Q. Measure the topsoil depth.



50mm



100mm



60mm



MAINTENANCE

These recommendations are in priority order.

Decompaction

Frequency:
2 x per year

Recommended for:
Whole Ground

Decompaction and aeration aids better penetration of water, air and fertiliser straight to rootzone and improves soil structure and rooting capacity

Vertical tine aeration (Deep spiking)

Use a vertical action machine equipped with 18-24mm solid tines, at correct spacings to the maximum achievable depth. By using a vertical tine machine on the surface twice a year any compaction would lessen, and deeper rooting of the grass plant would be possible. The machine can also apply heave to the tine which if performed at the correct time of year will fissure the ground underneath the surface and allow more air spaces for roots to develop and for rainfall to pass through quicker.

Contractor must assess the site prior to deep spiking. If you have the resource/budget – a decompaction or aeration operation is likely to offer the greatest Improvement, along with adopting good





Decompaction Continued

practice

Contractor Cost approx £470 for an 11 v 11 pitch. £336 per 9 v 9 pitch £282 per 7 v 7 pitch

Decompaction – Linear

An additional method of decompaction to be considered should be in the form of linear blades which will reduce the risk of smear within the soil profile.

The blades on this tractor mounted unit will slice into and through the surface while fracturing the subsoil with minimal surface disturbance.

This operation improves root growth, nutrient uptake and the soils ability to drain.

It is recommended to undertake this operation in the autumn months before the arrival of the harsh winter weather. DO NOT perform this task close to the summer months as the risk of cracks is too great

[LEARN MORE >](#)



Overseeding (Out of season renovation)

Frequency:

1 x per year

Recommended for:

Whole Ground

I have recommended an out of season over seed as it maybe a little late to over seed now, but this depends on whether any frosts are possible in soon. it may be possible to over seed some of the worst areas to try and establish some grass now. If funds will allow it, over-seeding at the end of the season and or September would be preferably when rain is more likely, also the soil temps will be higher, so this will aid seed to germinate.

To improve desirable grass coverage over-seeding is required using a Perennial Ryegrass mix of at least three cultivars. This should be applied using a disc seeder in at least 3 directions which discs the seed directly into the soil at a rate of 30-50gms per m2. No less than 10-14 20kg bags. Timing of application is key, as seed will struggle to germinate in dry hot weather without irrigation or cold temperatures when there is not adequate warmth for the seed to establish. Over-seeding using a disc seeder whilst the pitch is in play is an option if weather conditions are more favourable but high wear areas such as goal mouths, penalty spots and centre circles should be repaired and reseeded as early in the close season as possible and combined with a suitable sports sand raked to a tilth covered with germination sheeting and kept watered. Work with a sports

Overseeding (Out of season renovation) Continued

seed supplier to identify the best seed mix for your requirements.

Contractor cost approx: £1375 per 11v11 pitch, £1100 per 9v9 pitch, £825per mini soccer pitch

[LEARN MORE >](#)



Slitting

Frequency:
Monthly

Recommended for:
Whole Ground

To improve the drainage and rainfall percolation rates through the soil profile the aeration and decompaction programme should be increased.

Slitting, although useful on its own, works in perfect partnership with any decompaction works that are undertaken. Decompaction and aeration needs to be done at different depths to stop hard soil pans forming in the profile. Overtime, the playing surface can become capped through use of machinery and play so the slitter is the perfect tool to keep the top of that soil profile open and give access to those deeper tine holes.

This will improve plant health and root growth through gaseous exchange and nutrient uptake.

Recommend to action this roughly every 4-6 weeks during the playing season, after decompaction.

Slitting should always be carried out in the same direction generally from goal to goal to avoid slits crossing that could cause star shaped cracks appearing in the dryer months. I would also suggest not to slit after mid-February to avoid cracking as the ground dries

[LEARN MORE >](#)

Goal mouth repairs (In season)

Frequency:
1 x per year

Recommended for:
Whole Ground

In areas devoid of vegetation, cultivate to create a tilth and relieve compaction before incorporating a sand/soil 50/50 rootzone. Firm and restore levels prior to a further light raking and seeding. If possible, cover with germination/protection netting (scaffold debris netting will do) and irrigate to keep soil moist.

Contractor cost approx: £720 per pitch

[LEARN MORE >](#)





Application of fertiliser

Frequency:
2 x per year

Recommended for:
Whole Ground

To increase root depth and density and harden the grass plant for the winter a further application of controlled release fertiliser is recommended following a soil analysis that can be carried out by a suitable materials provider. A minimum of 2 applications per year would be recommended given the soil profile and level of use and in conjunction with an effective aeration programme this will help to improve root depth and density. Controlled release fertiliser is recommended to provide a continuous nutrient level over a greater period than compared with a conventional fertiliser. Some controlled release fertilisers offer 5-6months longevity, and these would be ideal for bi-annual application. Typically, whatever the preferred supplier a suitable fertiliser can be selected for spring/summer (Higher nitrogen content some phosphorus and medium potassium content) and autumn/winter (Low nitrogen content, no phosphorus and high potassium content 2-4% Iron content) Approx. 12 x 20kg bags per full size pitch. It should be that this is an essential part of improving the quality of the pitches, however this will lead to an increase in grass growth and noted a mowing regime of cutting a minimum of once per week will be necessary in the growing season. Contractor cost approx: £650 per 11v11 pitch, £520 per 9v9 pitch, £390 per mini soccer pitch

[LEARN MORE >](#)

Annual budget to carry out recommendations. Please note costs provided are indicative and may vary dependent on quantities and frequency.

£4335





EQUIPMENT

To carry out the maintenance specified above, we recommend the following equipment to carry out the activities.

These recommendations are in priority order.

Compact tractor (with cutting deck)

Compact Tractor with Mid-mounted cutting Deck
A 25hp-30hp compact tractor with a mid-mounted cutting deck would mean that rear tractor mounted implements could be used in combination with the mowing deck allowing potentially five operations in one if a combination turf grooming attachment was used. It would take approximately one hour to mow a full-size pitch.

[LEARN MORE >](#)

Combination turf grooming tool

Compact Tractor with Mid-mounted cutting Deck
A 25hp-30hp compact tractor with a mid-mounted cutting deck would mean that rear tractor mounted implements could be used in combination with the mowing deck allowing potentially five operations in one if a combination turf grooming attachment was used. It would take approximately one hour to mow a full-size pitch.

[LEARN MORE >](#)



TRAINING

Click here for information on training courses.

[Visit Training Courses >](#)

Recommended Training

No recommended Training at this time.



Want to apply for funding?

FOOTBALL FOUNDATION FUNDING APPLICATION PORTAL

You could be eligible for a grant to help you carry out the recommendations in this report. Click 'Apply here' and you could be on your way to securing a grant and being a part of our mission to transform this country's grassroots game.

Inspection ID: 7155

To apply for funding visit

<https://apply.footballfoundation.org.uk> >

Training Courses

Further information on any training courses you're recommended to complete can be found on the Grounds Management Association website.

[Visit the GMA >](#)

The Groundskeeping Community

Join the Football Foundation Groundskeeping Community to with groundskeepers across different levels of the game. You'll be able to ask questions and share best practice.

[Join the Groundskeeping Community >](#)

Find out more about the Football Foundation's plan to transform the country's grass pitches

Visit our website, which has lots of information about other resources and funding opportunities we're offering organisations involved in the grassroots game.

[Visit the Football Foundation website >](#)

