



Devon Facilities Strategy Clubs Survey Summary of Findings

Clubs consultation



- PURPOSE is to obtain a complete cross section of viewpoints from the recreational game, ALL cricket clubs who play in Devon have been consulted by means of a simple on-line survey.
- Clubs were asked to select the main improvement that would improve their club facilities in terms of;
 - Playing needs
 - Training needs
 - Recreational needs
- All club chairmen and secretaries were notified of the survey and its purpose. A link to the survey and also a pdf version of the survey was included in the same email.
- Clubs were encouraged to consult with the wider club committee and their membership to ensure a consolidated viewpoint was submitted.
- A total of 100 clubs were invited to participate in the survey and in fact 59 responses were received. This is considered to be a very good response rate.
- This summary of survey findings will be used for review by the Core Team at forthcoming progress meeting and its expected that actions will be assigned for follow up.
- Good spread of responses across the four regions in the county

Executive summary



- Playing needs focus significantly on both pitch and outfield issues
 - Availability, Capacity, Quality
- Training needs are heavily focussed on static nets and to a lesser extend portable net facilities
- More clubs are looking to invest in NTP's to ease capacity and/or for training purposes.
- Recreational needs are heavily focussed on either building or improving pavilion facilities
- Many clubs are not aware of local funding opportunities which potentially could make their dreams become reality !
- Many clubs are interested in a crowd-funding scheme which may suit their individual needs
- Nearly 70% of clubs find it either difficult or very difficult to book indoor nets
- Quality of indoor nets at state schools and local leisure centres are considered to be generally poor, often causing clubs to stop using them and to stop indoor training.
 - Clubs in and around Exeter locality were generally satisfied with quality of indoor facilities, although availability was sometimes a challenge. All other areas struggled with both availability and quality

Playing Needs



What is the most important area to improve the PLAYING environment at your club

Copy

59 responses



- No major “stand out” improvement area
- Playing pitch surface/ condition and outfield condition are the two biggest hitters
- Next is a need for grounds machinery improvements
- Top three items above are not covered under current County Grants eligibility criteria
 - How do clubs get funding support ?
- Environment for spectators would fall into CWE criteria
- Several cases for second pitches to cope with capacity

Playing Needs – Sample extract comments



- Outfield could do with a bit of levelling and enlarge outfield but not currently possible
- Square is getting tired
- Possible second pitch
- We have a small square which only has six usable pitches and we suffer from damages in the winter due to use by local football side.
- We would like to make our main pitch longer at both ends
- We are running 4 senior league teams and many junior male teams plus ladies and girls league teams. We need more pitch availability for matches and practice.
- improve outfield conditions re unevenness and undulations
- Outfield is a problem due to rabbits keep digging holes in it. We do refill the holes but they just get re dug. This makes for the outfield to be slightly dangerous especially if fielding near to where the holes are.
- We don't have the resources to produce a high quality pitch
- We would like help with expertise knowledge on how to improve playing surface
- We have a lovely 'village' pitch but changing orientation away from the setting sun would be great and so need a larger ground to achieve this.
- improve outfield conditions re unevenness and undulations

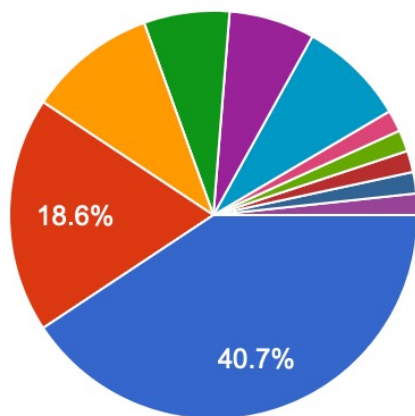
Training Needs



What is the most important area to improve the TRAINING environment at your club



59 responses



- Static Nets
- Portable net
- Other equipment / facilities (bowling m...
- Environment for training (practice spa...
- Access to training equipment (suitable...
- Nothing (we are satisfied)
- bowling machine & electricity feed to n...
- Provision of covered indoor nets

▲ 1/2 ▼

- Overwhelming need for either inclusion of, or improvement to static nets
- Portable nets also on the priority list for over 10 clubs
- Several clubs would like to either install, improve or replace NTP to assist training

Training Needs – Sample extract comments



- At the moment we haven't gone for static nets and this is a project that we hope start soon, which will help with all cricket at the club.
- We've decided on the location of the static nets - in a field next to our pitch. Once some legal issues are resolved we can proceed in 12-18 months
- Looking at upgrade of present set up
- In our static net facility, the surface needs replacing within the next year as it is uneven and dangerous when wet. There is lots of mud and dirt ingrained which makes it slippery and a tripping/slipping hazard.
- Our current nets are open on all sides. Would like to cover these or provide purpose-built indoor nets.
- We have a batting cage but the provision of hard surface static nets available for club and community use would greatly enhance our training abilities.
- The provision of static nets and an all weather pitch is in the pipeline and will make a huge difference. It
- Static net in need of repair
- Need to relocate existing nets which open out on to the outfield so at present nets cannot be used at the same time as a match is being played
- SEVERE DAMAGE DUE TO A BADGER INFESTATION UNDER THE NETS HAS RENDERED THEM POOR TO USE. SADLY WHILST DESIGNED TO BE 'BADGER PROOF' THEY AREN'T

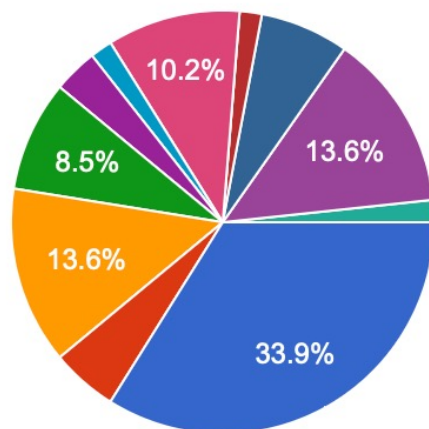
Recreational Needs



What is the most important area to improve the RECREATIONAL environment at your club



59 responses



- Pavilion or clubhouse overall
- Changing space
- Changing room facilities
- Social space (including bar)
- Outdoor space (including shelter areas)
- Welfare and hygiene
- General equipment storage
- Catering space or catering equipment

▲ 1/2 ▼

- Overwhelming need for either new or improvement to overall pavilion facilities
- Some clubs more specific on their needs ie. Changing or spcial space improvements
- Several clubs would like to either install, improve or replace NTP to assist training
- Some clubs struggle with secure equipment storage space

Recreational Needs – Sample extract comments



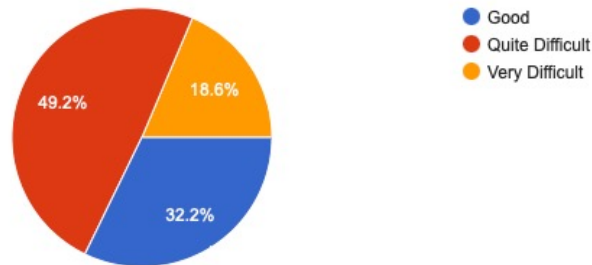
- We have a long-term objective of improving the bar and hospitality area of the Clubhouse. This involves building a new separate garage and equipment storage, and incorporating the current garage/storage space into the bar and hospitality area.
- As previous, our pavilion is much loved and visited, but needs extensive and expensive works to update and weather proof it.
- Club house and changing rooms are in need of substantial improvement/redesign to accommodate players of all ages and genders, officials and a pleasant environment for broader social events.
- We'd like to extend the Clubhouse to to have larger changing rooms for teams and to have a larger entertainment area indoors for fundraising activities.
- We have planning just now looking at how we can fund this
- At this moment in time we are improving the club house. We do struggle with space within the changing and more importantly changing facilities for ladies that play in the mens team at the weekend.
- We are considering refurbishment or even replacement of our pavilion & changing rooms
- We intend on starting a ladies team so would be helpful to have separate facilities for them.
- The club house currently needs some general repairs but more importantly does not have an electricity or water supply.
- CHANGING ROOMS NOT FIT FOR PURPOSE AND HAVE POOR VENTILATION
- Looking to provide a new opening to clubhouse and better seating inside and out
- We have reached capacity in terms of .changing facilities, especially with the growing need to cater for ladies cricketers
- Our pavilion is outdated. It needs improvements to cater for women's cricket (toilets, showers & decor), better kitchen and social space.
- Having showers installed would be good.

Indoor Facilities



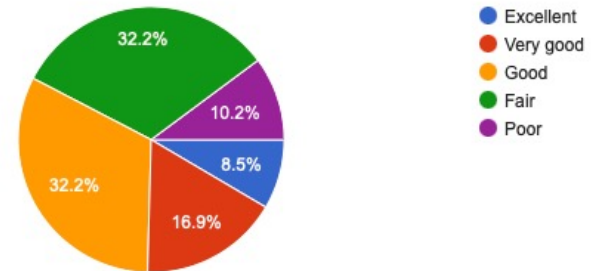
Availability and ease of booking of Indoor Practice Facilities

59 responses



Quality of Indoor Practice Facilities

59 responses



- Some extracted comments

- limited facilities & expensive
- Easy to book local and not especially good facilities. Harder to book good facilities (eg at the University)
- Indoor nets at xxxxx University have to be booked well in advance (weeks/months) and involve a ~35 mile round trip.
- We have to use xxxxx College and sometimes dates can be changed at short notice which impacts player motivation.
- Sports centres reluctant to offer much indoor nets time
- The xxxxx centre seem to make it very difficult for us for example we booked our slot very early for this season and at the last minute they changed our day and time
- We can only book our slot for one week this season due to it already being fully booked
- We are aware of local sports hall facilities but do not use them.
- Availability of local cricket specific facilities has proven difficult
- Due to limited local facilities, booking any winter training is difficult as well as the ever increasing costs.
- The quality is irrelevant as we can't book slots to use them.
- Matting is poor. One quality mat at the centre belongs to the club. Two owned by the centre are at least 20 years old.
- Nothing available particularly close to us
- Due to local schools not teaching cricket we have lost most of our local facilities
- Great facilities at both venues

What one FACILITY IMPROVEMENT in your locality would have the biggest and best impact to the cricket playing experience for your club.



- I'm not sure it's as simple as a facility improvement, people are what is required to make the club more sustainable, how do you attract them? Better pitches, better club house, better practice facilities and availability or a combination of the lot ?
- More indoor net options
- more indoor nets of good quality and a suitable venue for winter indoor league
- Indoor nets at our local schools sports hall. But our local academy school does little to no cricket
- new outdoor practice nets
- Permanent open to the public netting facilities
- Non turf training facility
- A bespoke and high quality Cricket Centre in Barnstaple area available for all North Devon Clubs to book at reasonable hourly rates.
- Future proofing our pavilion and making it a venue that is used and available to the community all year around would be the biggest improvement.
- Dedicated separate cricket ground. Cricket currently shares with Football which limits activities outside the core May-August part of the season and damages the outfield for cricket purposes.
- Better practices nets would facilitate a wider variety of practicing capabilities for all age groups.
- More good quality indoor nets and a good venue for winter indoor league
- Indoor nets that aren't just a cheap mat as a bowling surface
- Better lighting (of indoor facility)
- Better cricket opportunities in the local community college, pitches etc