

New System From Notts Is Proving Good News

Local authorities and clubs that installed Nottinghamshire County Council's grass reinforcement system last spring on worn-out goalmouth areas of football pitches are reporting excellent results with growth and stabilisation.

Notts Sport managing director Bert Patrick forecasts large scale take-up of the new product, which grows grass through a synthetic carpet, next spring.

The Caravan Club of Great Britain tried out grass reinforcement on two sites in England and have stated that, so successful was the growth and root retention, it will be embarking on a programme of installation on many of its sites.

Notts Sport reached agreement with Mommersteeg International and Roffey Bros to produce approved seed and dressing for the grass reinforcement product through their distributor network.

The company is now heavily involved in upgrading hard porous pitches, using the Nottinghamshire Envelope System, with sand-filled NottSward Grass.

Yarmouth Borough Council has opened its new Notts pitch and a full-size area has just been upgraded at Redhill Joint Use Sports Centre, Arnold, Notts. Two other pitches have been officially opened at Dronfield and on the new Wilford complex at West Bridgford. Work has commenced on upgrading a hard porous area of 10,600 sq metres at Southampton.

Tennis court upgrading, from

tarmac and shale, figures high on the Notts list of priorities and councils are responding to the idea of converting courts to multi-purpose sports areas with particular emphasis on five-a-side kickabout.

Cricket wicket sales have received a boost with the announcement that the National Cricket Association has agreed to recommend and endorse Nottinghamshire Envelope and Direct Lay System pitches. Notts Sports is forecasting sales of at least 350 wickets next year.

From Humble Beginnings

The CDC group of companies, based near Woodbridge, Suffolk, recently held an open day for golf club secretaries and greenkeepers at Heath Farm Golf Club, outside Ipswich. CDC is involved in a variety of operations, from landscaping to demolition, as well as contract maintenance, golf course construction and the supply of reconditioned professional turfcare equipment.

Four years ago, group chairman Arthur Clarke turned a small site at Heath Farm into a short nine-hole course and the club has blossomed to such extent that there are now over 300 members and a waiting list. A further nine holes have been constructed and are expected to be ready for play next summer, with a pitch and putt course and practice area to follow.

The course is no championship layout, but is a good test for beginners with green fees as low as £3.50 daily during the week.

ChildsPlay areas are benefitting by the Notts Envelope and VHAF systems for creating installations that meet requirements for critical height measurements. The synthetic grass concept in NottSward sand-filled or rubber-crumb filled has produced a good alternative to the traditional bark and gravel surfaces that are prone to contamination.

Full details from Notts Sport, Launde House, Harborough Road, Oadby, Leicestershire LE2 4LE. Tel: 0533 718892/716344/716027.

As a major contractor, especially to airfields throughout East Anglia and Germany, CDC has a vast fleet of grass cutting equipment. This has given the group extensive experience in the care and renovation of all kinds of machinery and a thriving business has been built up in reconditioned equipment which, having bought-in, they rebuild right down to the last nut and bolt.

This is then sold, with a warranty, often at less than half the new price - well worth looking at for any club whose budget is tight.

CDC will locate and recondition specific equipment at a club's request. Alternatively, they will make an on-sight inspection and give a written quotation for repairs or a complete rebuild, at no obligation, of a club's existing machinery.

For further details, contact Alan Clarke or Bob Buckingham on 0473 36733.

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