

## Essex Victorious in Toro Challenge Match



A crowd of over 70 - including the players - were present at Upton Park (capacity 35,300) the home of West Ham United for the challenge football match organised by Lely UK and sponsored by Toro between Greenkeepers from the Essex Section and the Sussex Section.

There was a rumour that the Essex team had been in strict training and had organised several practice matches in the weeks leading up to the game.

This certainly was evident, but only after a slow start and an early chance for Simon Wells, the Sussex forward, who hit the upright with a powerful shot after a good run from the right side.

After this Essex started to take control of the match and after 20

minutes were two up with man of the match, Liam Close, scoring both. Five minutes later Essex had added another well taken goal by Jamie Blagdon and went three up. Against the run of play Sussex were awarded a dubious penalty, duly dispatched by Rob Hudson.

The second half started with Sussex pressure rewarded by a second goal after 20 minutes.

Despite having more possession for long periods of the game Sussex were unable to break down the Essex team, marshalled by Antony Kirwan in the midfield, and the introduction of Martin Forrester who came on as substitute, with his pace and experience to steady his side.

In the final minutes Dave Ansell, the Sussex goalkeeper, made a

great save from a well hit powerful shot.

Final Score Essex 3 Sussex 2

After the match players and supporters enjoyed the hospitality in the Lyle and Greenwood Room at the top of the Bobby Moore stand where Sales Manager of Lely, Jeff Anguige, presented the trophy to the winning Essex Team.

Special thanks to Larry Pearman for making all the arrangements and organising the day and to David Cole, from JSM, for his ball boy duties throughout the match.

All commented on the immaculate condition of the pitch, without a blemish after a long season.

Hopefully this event will take place next year with more Sections involved.

## STRI's New Website Makes Sense For Sport



STRI has launched a new website, restructured by individual sport to reflect the needs of clients in the sports turf industry.

The new website focuses on providing information on STRI's services, specific to each sport or client. "With such a vast range of clients, it was important to design a website where clients could easily find information on STRI's services related to their sport or company," said Carolyn Beadsmoore, Head of Sales & Marketing.

More than 2,500 clients contact STRI every year to get advice on the development or management of their sports surfaces. "Each

of our clients is looking for a particular solution; this could be the design and construction of a new pitch for a major stadium, help with managing diseases on a golf green, support in setting up environmental planning and projects or setting up research trials for product manufacturers and distributors. The new user-friendly website enables this," added Carolyn.

The new design was created by Tebays design agency, based in Leeds, and the STRI website has already been entered in the DADI (Drum Award for the Digital Industries) Awards 2011.

## SPRAYER TESTING ACHIEVES TARGET

The National Sprayer Testing Scheme has again achieved its government agreed target of testing sprayers covering 85% of the sprayed area of the UK.

To achieve the actual figure of 85.7% over 14200 sprayers were tested.

"This is a magnificent achievement, over 14,000 sprayer tests per year is the highest number achieved since NSTS started in 2003. It's very much down to the scheme becoming a recognised part of UK agriculture, a requirement of crop assurance schemes and of course our band of testers," said NSTS Manager, Duncan Russell.

Results from tests show that repairs and rectifications were required on 62.3% of machines with leaks and drips, hoses, worn nozzles and faulty pressure gauges being the main reasons, these have remained stable over recent years.

"The NSTS test is like a car MOT in that failure items are repaired and rectified before the machine goes back to work, that way we can be confident that machines are working efficiently and safely for the environment and the operator," said Duncan.