



SECTION 1

INTRODUCTION

About the Guidelines

Cricket Australia's Community Cricket Facility Guidelines ('the Guidelines') aim to provide a consolidated technical resource to aid the planning, design and development of community cricket infrastructure. Information included within the Guidelines will assist the Australian cricket community and our network of partners and stakeholders to continue to deliver quality, inclusive and fit-for-purpose facilities.

This 2023 edition of the Guidelines builds on the content provided within the original 2015 edition, and provides updated, refreshed and new information relevant to cricket facility provision. This edition of the Guidelines also provides an enhanced focus on the importance of inclusion, maintaining infrastructure and the incorporation of environmentally sustainable design principles into all projects.

Information provided within the Guidelines represents a national view of community cricket facilities. While research and care has been taken in their preparation, there are likely to be State, Territory or local considerations that are unique to specific areas. In all instances where unique considerations are relevant, these and other associated local conditions, rules or regulations should be referenced prior to embarking on any facility related project.

The Guidelines are provided in three distinct sections.

Section 1: Introduction, background and context

Section 1 provides an introduction to the Guidelines, relevant background and guidance on how best to use them to maximise their value. It also provides an overview of Australian Cricket's 2022-2027 key strategic focus areas and outlines the community cricket facility hierarchy.

Section 2: Project planning

Section 2 provides an overview of the recommended stages of project planning and delivery. It provides a high-level summary at each stage, the critical tasks and considerations for each and identifies the typical stakeholders and partners to engage and involve. Project planning is essential to the delivery of quality, efficient and well managed projects and budgets and is a must read for anyone embarking on a cricket infrastructure project.

Section 3: Technical information and guidance notes

Section 3 provides a series of Guidance Notes that provide detailed technical information on various elements of facility provision. Each guidance note provides information on recommended processes, technical requirements and planning considerations. Topics covered in Section 3 include:

- Guidance Note 01 – Playing Field
- Guidance Note 02 – Pitches
- Guidance Note 03 – Outdoor Training Facilities
- Guidance Note 04 – Indoor Training Facilities
- Guidance Note 05 – Indoor Cricket
- Guidance Note 06 – Floodlighting
- Guidance Note 07 – Pavilions and Change Facilities

How to use the Guidelines

The Guidelines provide cricket specific planning and design advice to State and Territory Cricket Associations, Clubs and Associations, Local Councils, State Government departments, planners, consultants, industry suppliers, developers, schools and other peak sporting bodies.

Cricket Australia recommends that all stakeholders involved in the planning, design, construction, management, maintenance and use of community cricket facilities refer to these Guidelines when initiating new or revisiting existing projects. It is important that the Guidelines are read and referenced from the outset of each cricket facility project to ensure cricket's priorities are considered and relevant principles embedded through all project phases.

The content provided within these Guidelines makes reference to a number of mandated building and construction standards and regulations, which refer to 'essential industry requirements' for relevant projects.

Cricket specific standards, preferred designs and known best practice examples (at the time of writing) are provided as a guide only. Cricket specific references (unless mandated via industry standards) should not be viewed by stakeholders as 'essential requirements or necessary improvements' to be delivered across all existing venues used for community cricket.

The intent of the Guidelines is not to bring every existing community cricket facility up to the same level and standard, but to provide the necessary information to enable cricket infrastructure projects to be planned and delivered in a consistent way across the country.

It is important for the Guidelines to be read and implemented in conjunction with other existing sporting code guidelines and associated industry standards and requirements to ensure facilities are maximised for shared community and/or multi-use. In addition to content outlined within the Guidelines, consideration of local playing conditions or regulations administered by local cricket associations (or providers) should be adhered to and accommodated into venue planning and development where appropriate.


Note: Content within the Guidelines will be reviewed periodically and may be subject to change. If utilising a hard copy, it is recommended it be cross referenced with the online version located at:




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Hints and tips

Throughout the Guidelines references are made to highlight key tips, examples, principles and key considerations for projects. Look out for the following icons throughout the Guidelines, they are there to help identify the critical elements of project planning, design, delivery and maintenance.

**TIPS**

Important information for consideration in all projects. Tips provide a quick reference guide and help to highlight critical aspects of facility and venue planning and design.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

References or links to additional information that may support your project or provide additional detail or context to support the Guidelines.

The Guidelines contain comments and information of a general nature only and are not provided as a substitute for professional advice. Site specific research, technical assessment and local interpretation and implementation of the Guidelines is required.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in these Guidelines. However, Cricket Australia and the State and Territory Cricket Associations (collectively, Australian Cricket) make no warranty that the material contained within will be free from error.

Australian Cricket makes these Guidelines available on the understanding that you will exercise your own skill, care and judgment with respect to their use and you will carefully evaluate the accuracy, currency, completeness and relevance of the material for your purposes.

Any party who makes use of any part of these Guidelines in the planning and/or development of cricket facilities (User) does so at its own risk and Australian Cricket disclaims, and User releases Australian Cricket from, all liability, howsoever arising, for any loss, damage or injury directly or indirectly sustained by any person as a result of any reliance upon (including reading or using) these Guidelines.

Adherence with information detailed in these Guidelines by a User does not of itself mean that the User will be complying with all legal obligations.

Reading or use of these Guidelines by a User constitutes acceptance of the terms of this disclaimer by that User.

The User acknowledges that the information outlined in this document is effective from 31 October 2023 and that Cricket Australia reserve the right to amend, update or delete sections of these Guidelines at any time as it deems necessary.

Definitions

The following definitions are provided to help explain generic terms referenced throughout the Guidelines.

Term	Term Definition
ASSOCIATION	Organisation usually comprised of member clubs, responsible for organising and administering local cricket competitions.
BASE	The part of a cricket pitch or practice pitch area on which the synthetic surface is applied.
BUSINESS PLAN	A formal statement of club or venue goals and an action plan for reaching those wgoals.
CAPITAL REPLACEMENT PROGRAM	A statement of all the required tasks, responsibilities and costs that should be taken into consideration regarding infrastructure development and renewal.
CONTINGENCY BUDGET	Contingency budget is an amount of money that is included in a project budget to cover potential events that are not specifically accounted for in a cost estimate (e.g. material cost increases, unforeseen project works, scope variations).
ESD	Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) principles aim to improve the health and comfort of buildings and surrounding environments for users whilst at the same time reducing negative impacts on the environment.

Term	Term Definition
GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEER	A Geotechnical Engineer is a specialist qualified to prepare a geotechnical report that typically reports on factors such as soil type, composition and quality, compaction and moisture levels.
GREENFIELD SITE	An undeveloped site earmarked and suitable for future development.
HERITAGE ADVISOR	A person appropriately qualified in a discipline relevant to the management of Aboriginal cultural heritage (such as anthropology, archaeology or history) or who has extensive experience or knowledge in relation to the management of Aboriginal cultural heritage.
ILLUMINANCE	The total amount of visible light illuminating a point on a surface from all directions above the surface. The standard unit for illumination is Lux.
INDOOR CRICKET	Refers to the sport and activity of competitive cricket played indoors. It has its own set of facility criteria, rules and regulations.
INDOOR TRAINING	Refers to non-competition training and skill development activities participated in an indoor venue suitable for cricket practice.
LIFECYCLE COST	A comparison of not only the initial capital cost for specific facility elements, but an analysis of ongoing usage, maintenance and replacement costs.
LUMINAIRE	The housing that contains a floodlight lamp and includes the lamp, reflector and the lens.
PLAY HQ	PlayHQ is Cricket Australia's national membership registration system and competition management software platform.
PROJECT MANAGER	A suitably qualified expert who is engaged by a client (likely to be Club, Council or Association) to oversee the design and construction phases of a project.
PAVEMENT	A term used to describe an asphalt or concrete pitch base.
PILE	The fibre material that forms the playing surface in synthetic turf pitches and playing areas.
PITCH	The central flat strip of a cricket field that accommodates the main batting and bowling activities. Typically pitch surfaces are either natural turf or synthetic turf.
STATE/TERRITORY ASSOCIATION	The peak governing body for cricket provision, development and administration within each individual State and Territory in Australia – State/Territory Associations are all affiliated with Cricket Australia.
SYNTHETIC GRASS/TURF (PITCH)	Collective term applied to outdoor artificial cricket pitch surfaces.
SYNTHETIC GRASS/TURF (FIELD)	Collective term applied to outdoor synthetic grass products jointly approved for use by Cricket Australia and the Australian Football League (AFL) for use on cricket ground infields and outfields.
TURF (PITCH)	Natural grass cricket pitch surface that is specifically prepared and manicured by specialist curators.
UNIFORMITY	This is a measure of light of a cricket ground. It is important as it measures the difference (and consistency) between bright and dark areas.

Strategic context

Where the Game Grows 2022-2027

Where the Game Grows is a five-year strategic plan for Australian cricket. It is underpinned by the ultimate belief that cricket is truly a game for all; one that has incredible power to bring people together and benefit society, both on and off the field.

It celebrates and respects our proud history while looking bravely toward the future as we seek to drive bold, transformative change in digital experiences, junior participation, culturally diverse inclusion, gender equality, sustainability, reimagining the W/BBL, player connection through story-telling and playing our part in developing the game globally.

Cricket Australia’s purpose and vision have been redefined through the strategic plan:

- Purpose: To unite and inspire everyone to love and play cricket.
- Vision: A sport for all that makes Australians proud.

Four strategic pillars and ten strategic priorities have been identified to guide organisational planning and focus and to ensure available resources are provided across the areas where they are needed most and will provide a long-lasting legacy and impact.

Community cricket facility hierarchy

Australian cricket’s community cricket facility hierarchy defines each level of community cricket facilities, their purpose and the core cricket programs and activities they typically cater for. The community cricket facility hierarchy does not include facilities provided at the domestic, first class or international level.

The community cricket facility hierarchy is referenced throughout the Guidelines and can be used to better understand and connect levels of use and play with the recommended levels of facility and amenity provision. While the hierarchy provides an overarching structure for facility provision and use, it is important to note that each individual venue and its related infrastructure and usability is likely to be influenced by a number of factors, including local competition or Association requirements and rules.

Local Government and State-Territory planning schemes, policies, capital improvement budgets, recreation priorities, risk management, occupancy agreements and associated site influences (e.g. ground sizes, neighbouring properties) will all play a role in each venue being able to achieve the recommended facility and amenity levels identified within the hierarchy.

The following table provides an overview of the community cricket facility hierarchy, including venue level, their purpose, core cricket and other compatible uses.

HIERARCHY LEVEL	Facility purpose	Core cricket use	Other compatible uses
PREMIER	Facilities primarily service Premier Clubs and facilitate the linkage between local level community cricket and underage representative competitions with the talent pathway.	Premier Club's home ground or grounds to conduct home and away fixtures and club training activities.	Regional training venue for pathway squads and programs. Event/carnival venue for representative state and regional level programs and competitions. Likely to be shared with a winter tenant.
CLUB (HOME)	Provide a mix of recreational and competitive cricket opportunities within a community club environment for local communities – clubs and venues connect with their associated turf or synthetic competition and pathway structure (for all age groups).	A club's home ground that facilitates home and away fixtures for local community (metropolitan and country) cricket in each State and Territory. Venues support local club training, promote school to club connectivity and provide opportunities for Junior Cricket Stages (1,2 and 3) and modified programs such as Cricket Blast.	Training facilities and social amenities are provided to promote social activity and community use. Shared venue with a winter and other alternative tenants. Open and Under-age Association competition venue or finals venue at key locations within an Association or across a geographical area.
CLUB (SATELLITE)	Provides opportunities for club and school competition and social/recreational cricket. Venues often used as secondary or overflow grounds for junior and lower-level senior grades.	Satellite or overflow venues away from a club's main home ground that support school, junior and senior community club cricket competition (primarily match day use) and formal and informal social cricket use.	Venues typically include parks, recreation reserves and schools and are often shared venues for broader community use. School sites also provide access to cricket opportunities through school curriculum, after school programs, school teams and for recreational use by school students and the local community.

AUSTRALIAN CRICKET'S STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-2027

PURPOSE

To unite and inspire
everyone to love
and play cricket

VISION

A sport for all
that makes
Australians proud

STRATEGIC PILLARS



BRILLIANT EXPERIENCES

Globally leading fan, player and volunteer experiences
that create excitement and inspire passion

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- 01. Develop outstanding digital and live experiences that WOW our customers
- 02. Grow the WBBL and BBL as the ultimate summer sport and entertainment proposition



PARTICIPATION GROWTH

Inspire more play by supporting volunteers and ensuring
cricket is fun, accessible and welcoming for everyone

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- 03. Attract kids (ages 5-12) and families from all backgrounds to inspire a lifelong love of cricket
- 04. Accelerate momentum to be the leading sport for women and girls



INSPIRATIONAL PLAYERS & TEAMS

Our players and teams are successful, inspiring and
reflect the values and aspirations of the community
they represent

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- 05. Enhance our leading international and domestic competitions, systems and programs that develop great players, coaches and match officials
- 06. Strengthen connection with cricket's past and present role models whose performances and stories inspire our nation



SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Ensure the financial prosperity of Australian cricket
while creating positive social impact and being a
leader in the global game

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- 07. Embed a business model that is sustainable, cost efficient, diversified and always innovative in its thinking
- 08. Drive investment in venues and facilities that enhance experiences and enrich communities
- 09. Champion inclusion, positive social impact and sustainability
- 10. Support growth of cricket globally and inclusion at Brisbane 2032

ENABLERS

UNITED AND ALIGNED
AUSTRALIAN CRICKET SYSTEM

PEOPLE, CULTURE
& CAPABILITY

PURPOSE-LED
PARTNERSHIPS

DATA &
ANALYTICS

