

2023 Club Facilities Development Report

(Nov 27th, 2023 – author Brian Maguire)

The club development team have had another busy year with the new pitch platform being completed and some other necessary works completed on the current facility. The summary below includes the completed activities this year and also a list of focus areas planned for 2024.

New Playing Pitch



Figure 1 Pitch Development Team: Declan Kelly, John Neenan, David Behan, Francis Farrell, Fergal Duffy, Brian Maguire

- ❑ **April** – Pitch Platform Sprayed in advance of work restarting work paused in 2022 due to the weather conditions worsening as Winter approached.
- ❑ **June** – A busy month and the platform lateral drainage and seedbed prep was completed
- ❑ **July** – Seeding of the new platform was completed
- ❑ **August/September** – The new carpark and adjacent areas were finished.
- ❑ **September** – Tenders were completed for pitch side and boundary fencing and 2024 Sports Capital Grants application forms were submitted.
- ❑ **October** – The pitch handover was completed and the the boundary fencing and ball stops were completed to North-West of site. A list of snags and closing actions were agreed for DAR to complete in Spring 2024.





Figure 2 Car Parking Completed



Figure 4 New Pitch Platform



Figure 3 Boundary Fence



Figure 4 Seed bed preparation by @DARGolf_

Other Development and Maintenance Works

- ❑ In **April**, new goal guards were installed to protect the pitch outside of booked sessions and matches. The main dugouts were also re-commissioned.
- ❑ The grass pitch goal mouth resodding was completed in **May** ahead of the busy season
- ❑ Sanding of the main pitch occurred in **August** to help keep the drainage working and keep the pitch looking it's best
- ❑ In **November** the hedgerow between Lodge Park and the GAA clubhouse was removed and replaced with 868 Green Boundary Fencing.



As a reminder, our new pitch will be 140m x 84m. (Croke Park pitch is 145M x 88m). This will be slightly longer and wider than our current senior grass pitch.

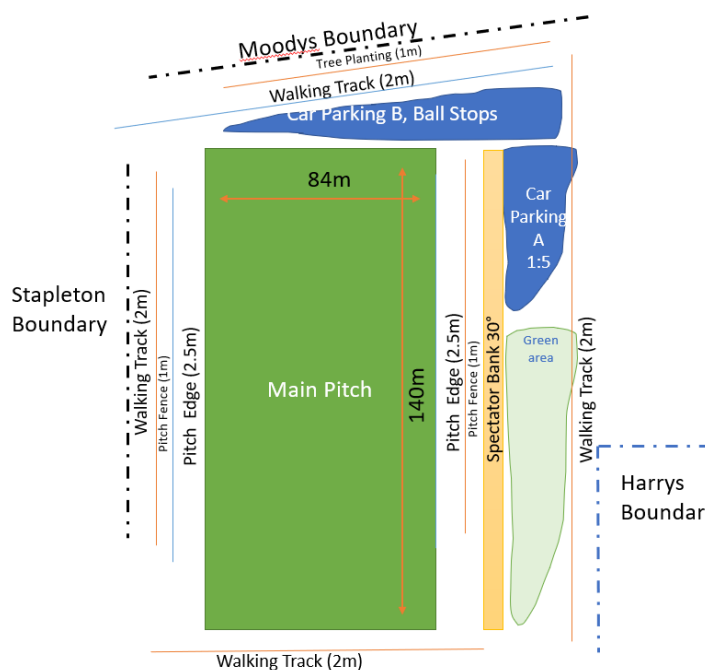


Figure 5 New pitch and walking track



Figure 6 New pitch site location

Focus areas for 2024 for your pitch development team include:

- 1) Upgrade Main Astro to LED Lighting – grant application submitted.
- 2) New Grass Pitch Completion for late Spring 2024
 - Install Ball Stops (DAR Golf)
 - Install goalposts & pitch markings
 - Complete Boundary fencing on Southwest side of Site
 - Fund and install new goalposts.





Figure 7 Planned fencing for site

Sports Capital Grants 2024 Application was completed in September. Funding is expected to be available in late Spring/Early Summer 2024. The following items were submitted:

- 1) New Pitch Area
 - a. Pitch side fencing on four sides with Dugouts
 - b. Walking pathway extension with lighting
- 2) Other Facility projects submitted:
 - a. Upgrade clubhouse toilets and make suitable for male and female
 - b. Wheelchair access to clubhouse
 - c. Additional equipment for gym

It's not too late to get involved and support the acceleration of these developments – there are plenty of opportunities for both individuals and businesses – please contact any of our development teams for more details.

