

IMPROVING PITCHES PETITION – SPFL Premiership

Following consultation via a research survey, the PitchRater App results from season 2017-18 and recent club visits, our members in the Premiership call for the following:

- Regulation be introduced prohibiting clubs from having artificial surfaces while playing in the Premiership
- Increased and random testing of all pitches be introduced, including grass pitches
- Grass pitches must be kept to a high standard and there should be sharing of best practice between all club groundsmen at Premiership level
- The SPFL should work with PFA Scotland to use the results from the PitchRater App to introduce its own marking system and to continue to improve pitches
- Players' marks to be used by the Scottish FA for Club Licencing purposes rather than those of referees
- Pitches falling below a certain standard will have an improvement and support plan put in place, which will be monitored
- In conjunction with Hampden Sports Medicine Clinic, a centralised reporting system should be introduced, with mandatory participation by all 42 clubs reporting instances of injuries and where/how they occur.
- This would create a database used for research and comparison into injuries to be used for the sharing of recovery rates and techniques.
- In addition to the above, proper research must be introduced immediately into the affect artificial surfaces have longer term on players, especially wear and tear on the body/joints
- Attendance from each club's head groundsman at the annual Pitch Conference, run earlier this season, must be made mandatory

IMPROVING PITCHES PETITION – SPFL Championship, League 1 and League 2

Following consultation via a research survey, the PitchRater App results from season 2017-18 and recent club visits, our members in the above Divisions call for the following:

- Proper consultation and discussion between players and clubs on improving pitches at this level
- Use of FIFA Quality Pro standards for artificial surfaces where recommended usage is 20 hours per week.
- Stricter regulation to be put in place to ensure artificial surfaces are renewed quicker to keep the standard high
- Increased and random testing of all pitches be introduced, including grass pitches
- Grass pitches must be kept to a high standard and there should be sharing of best practice between all club groundsmen at SPFL level
- The SPFL should work with PFA Scotland to use the results from the PitchRater App to introduce its own marking system and to continue to improve pitches
- Players' marks to be used by the Scottish FA for Club Licencing purposes rather than those of referees.
- Pitches falling below a certain standard, both grass and artificial, will have an improvement and support plan put in place, which will be monitored
- In conjunction with Hampden Sports Medicine Clinic, a centralised reporting system should be introduced, with mandatory participation by all 42 clubs reporting all instances of injuries and where/how they occur.
- This would create a database used for research and comparison into injuries to be used for the sharing of recovery rates and techniques.
- In addition to the above, proper research must be introduced immediately into the affect artificial surfaces have longer term on players, especially wear and tear on the body/joints
- Attendance from each club's head groundsman at the annual Pitch Conference, run earlier this season, must be made mandatory