

Baileys Court Cricket Square: Maintenance Spec

1. Location

Baileys Court Activity Centre, Baileys Court Road, Bradley Stoke, Bristol, BS32 8BH

2. Purpose and Standards

This specification defines the acceptable standard for preparation, maintenance, and renovation of the cricket square at Baileys Court.

All Saturday first team adult match wickets must meet **B&D Senior Division or WEPL (West of England Premier League) preparation standards (depending on the level the team is playing at)**, ensuring safe, consistent, high-quality playing surfaces suitable for competitive cricket. The Saturday second team and Sunday team wickets should meet the standards expected in the **Bristol & District and North Somerset Cricket Leagues**.

All materials, methods, and workmanship must reflect good practice in cricket turf management.

3. Diagram of the square at Baileys Court

Below is diagram of the square complete with wicket reference, the loam required (please note there are two different kinds) and what the wicket is used for.

GREAT MEADOW ROAD END

Name: S1 – Surrey loam – U11s (17 yards)
Name: S2 – Surrey loam – Senior (22 yards)
Artificial – currently out of use
Name: K1 – Kaloam loam – Senior (22 yards)
Name: K2 – Kaloam loam – Senior (22 yards)
Name: K3 – Kaloam loam – Senior (22 yards)
Name: K4 – Kaloam loam – Senior (22 yards)
Name: K5 – Kaloam loam – Senior (22 yards)
Name: K6 – Kaloam loam – Senior (22 yards)
Name: S3 – Surrey loam – Senior (22 yards)
Name: S4 – Surrey loam – U13s (19 yards)

BAILEYS COURT ROAD END

4. Match Wicket Preparation

4.1 Weekend Fixtures (24-week season)

- Prepare **adult match wickets (22 yards)** for a Saturday and Sunday fixture each weekend.
- A **new wicket must be used for all first-team fixtures.**

4.2 Midweek Fixtures (20-week season)

Prepare match wickets for **up to four midweek games.**

Wicket lengths by age group:

- Under 11s: **17 yards**
- Under 13s: **19 yards**
- Adults: **22 yards**

4.3 Preparation Standards

Contractors must:

- Produce firm, even, well-bound surfaces with consistent pace and bounce.
- Avoid last-minute “bodge” repairs; all preparation must be completed to WEPL/B&D standards (appropriate for the match taking place).
- Ensure all lines, creases, and markings are clean, straight, and regulation-compliant.

5. Square Maintenance (In-Season)

5.1 Mowing

- Cut the square **twice weekly** throughout the 24-week playing season.
- Maintain appropriate height of cut for match and non-match areas.

5.2 Rolling

- Conduct **pre-season rolling** as required to achieve proper consolidation.
- Rolling must follow ECB guidelines for moisture windows and weight progression.

5.3 Fertiliser & Turf Treatments

- Apply fertiliser and turf treatments **as needed to maintain optimal grass health year-round.**
- **Premium-grade materials only:**
 - Grass seed must be **MM50 or equivalent high-performance ryegrass blend.**
 - Fertilisers must be professional-grade, slow-release or controlled-release formulations.

- **Loam must match the existing square's specification** — no cheaper substitutes.

5.4 Irrigation

- Irrigate **as required** to maintain grass health during drought periods.

5.5 Post-Match Repairs

- Complete all repairs **before the next fixture**, with particular attention to:
 - Foot holes
 - Crease areas
 - Surface level and safety
- Repairs must be thorough, not superficial, and must use matching loam and premium seed.

6. End-of-Season Renovations

Renovations must be completed in the **2nd or 3rd week of September**, depending on fixtures and weather.

6.1 Minimum Renovation Requirements

A full renovation must include:

- **Scarification** in multiple passes to remove thatch and organic matter.
- **Core aeration** or solid-tine aeration (conditions permitting).
- **Topdressing** with loam that matches the existing square.
- **Overseeding** using **MM50 or equivalent** premium ryegrass seed.
- **Fertilisation** with an autumn-appropriate professional-grade product.
- **Irrigation** to ensure germination and establishment.

6.2 Aeration Window

- Aeration must continue **September–December**, weather and ground conditions permitting.

6.3 Quality Expectations

- Renovation must be a **full-day professional operation**.
- All work must follow ECB and industry best practice for cricket square renovation.

7. Materials Specification

To prevent the use of substandard products, the following requirements are mandatory:

7.1 Seed

- **MM50 or equivalent premium ryegrass blend**.

- No budget or non-sports turf seed mixes.

7.2 Loam

- Must **match the existing loam** in composition, clay content, and colour.
- No cheaper alternatives permitted.

7.3 Fertilisers & Chemicals

- Only **premium-grade** turf fertilisers and treatments.
- All products must be suitable for cricket squares.

8. Summary

- The season requires **24 weeks of weekend match preparation** and **20 weeks of midweek fixtures**, with new wickets used for all first-team games.
- In-season maintenance includes twice-weekly mowing, ECB-compliant rolling, premium-grade fertiliser and seed use (MM50), irrigation, and thorough post-match repairs.
- End-of-season renovations (September) must include scarification, aeration, topdressing with matching loam, overseeding, fertilisation, and irrigation, following ECB best practice.
- Contractors must use only premium materials, match existing loam specifications, maintain professional standards, and keep full maintenance records.