

‘Science, Technology And Research into Sport Surfaces’

(STARSS - 2)

Welcome and Introduction

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“STARSS 2”

- **The second SportSURF International Conference**
- **Grow the community, engage with other communities**
- **Disseminate high quality research**
- **Provide a networking forum**
- **Help identify ‘gaps’ in knowledge**

SportSURF Network Objectives

These include:

- to maintain the 'surfaces' **community** developed
- to host **stimulating meetings** open to all plus the biennial 'surfaces' conference (**STARSS 2007, 2010**)
- to transfer ideas, techniques, and technology between **researchers and practitioners**
- to produce multidisciplinary research **proposals**
- to **disseminate** the network outcomes widely.....
- **Future** topics...?

Membership Update

- Approx 360 members worldwide
- Approximately 40/60 Split (Academic/Non-Academic)
- Worldwide membership includes USA, Barbados, Canada, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Argentina, China and many European countries (Spain, Belgium, Norway, Holland, France, Italy, Switzerland, Germany)

Key Research Themes

User Performance: player expectation/requirements, sport type, skill level, **play type/motion**, shoes, equipment, ball-surface behaviour, user **biomechanical response** and **injury risk**.

Surface Performance: natural and artificial **system/material science**, construction process & quality control, **performance tests/standards**, **usage/degradation & maintenance effects**, **sustainability**, refurbishment/replacement, climatic factors and irrigation, and longevity/monitoring.

Seminars/Workshops - Topics

- Network **Launch** – many general issues & focus
- What are the '**Performance Requirements**' of Sports Surfaces? How has guidance been derived?
- Research into 'Player – Surface Interactions' – **Injuries & Biomechanics**
- 'How to **measure** the appropriate characteristics of sport surfaces' - equipment & sport surface science.
- **STARSS Conference**, 2 days, open papers, keynotes.
- IBV Seminar, New techniques and technologies - **motion**
- Surfaces and **Injuries** (BASEM/BOA)
- Sport Surfaces – **Technology** & Interactions
- **Maintaining Performance**
- **STARSS 2 Conference**, 2 days, open papers and keynotes

STARSS 2

The Day:

- Housekeeping, fire drill, toilets..reception
- Info packs, programme (updated), phones
- Speakers – meet the session chair with short biography (talks loaded in advance please)
- Skype presentations
- Feedback forms
- Conference Dinner
- Friday research workshop

**Keynote 1 – Iain James,
Cranfield University
“Advancing Natural Turf to meet
Tomorrow’s Challenges”**

(Chair: Dara Twomey)



Natural Turf Systems

(Chair: Colin Young)



Synthetic Turf Systems

(Chair: Matt Carré)



Free papers

(Chair: Iain James)



NGB/Industry Session

(Chair: Paul Fleming)



Keynote 2 – Evert Verhagen
EMGO Institute
**“A Framework for Sport Injury
Surveillance and prevention”**

(Chair: Dara Twomey)



Injury and Risk

(Chair: Sharon Dixon)



**Keynote 3 – Dara Twomey,
University of Ballarat
“Is there a link between injury
and ground conditions?”**

(Chair: Paul Fleming)



Player Surface Interaction

(Chair: Sharon Dixon)



Presentations

(Chair: Dara Twomey)



Panel Discussion

(Convenor: Paul Fleming)



Closing Remarks

- Surface Technology
 - Natural Turf & Artificial Turf & Hybrid systems
 - Performance and Safety (health)
 - Assessment – Mechanical Tests & Injury
 - Sport Specific (footwear)
 - Issues surrounding test methods - relevance
 - Human Studies (Perception)
 - Climate & change/sustainability...resources..
 - Future - system science and modelling..?