

# Welcome and Introduction

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Network Manager**

**SportSURF Launch Seminar  
17<sup>th</sup> November, 2005**



*Sport Surfaces Research Forum* Supported by:

**EP SRC**

# Network Introduction

EPSRC Funded, awarded May 2005, for 3 years

Emerged from an EPSRC initiative 'Thinking About Sport' in December 2003

Self sufficient after 3 years....

Core members developed the proposal, many letters of support, especially from governing bodies & industry



*Sport Surfaces Research Forum*

[www.sportsurf.org](http://www.sportsurf.org)

# Membership

## Core Members

....are the custodians of the network activities, operation principles and measures of success.....

The core membership is expected to grow as the network itself grows....a suitable critical mass is required, and with complementary skills for balanced judgements in the interests of the members....

# Membership

## General Membership

Open to any individual or organisation that has an interest in sports surfaces

An international membership will be developed.....

Sports governing bodies considered vital...balance between academia and industry.....

Interaction with other networks/associations, such as SAPCA, ISSS, Sportspulse (Sheffield), and SET (Sheffield), DCMS, EPSRC... others?



# EXISTING MEMBERSHIP

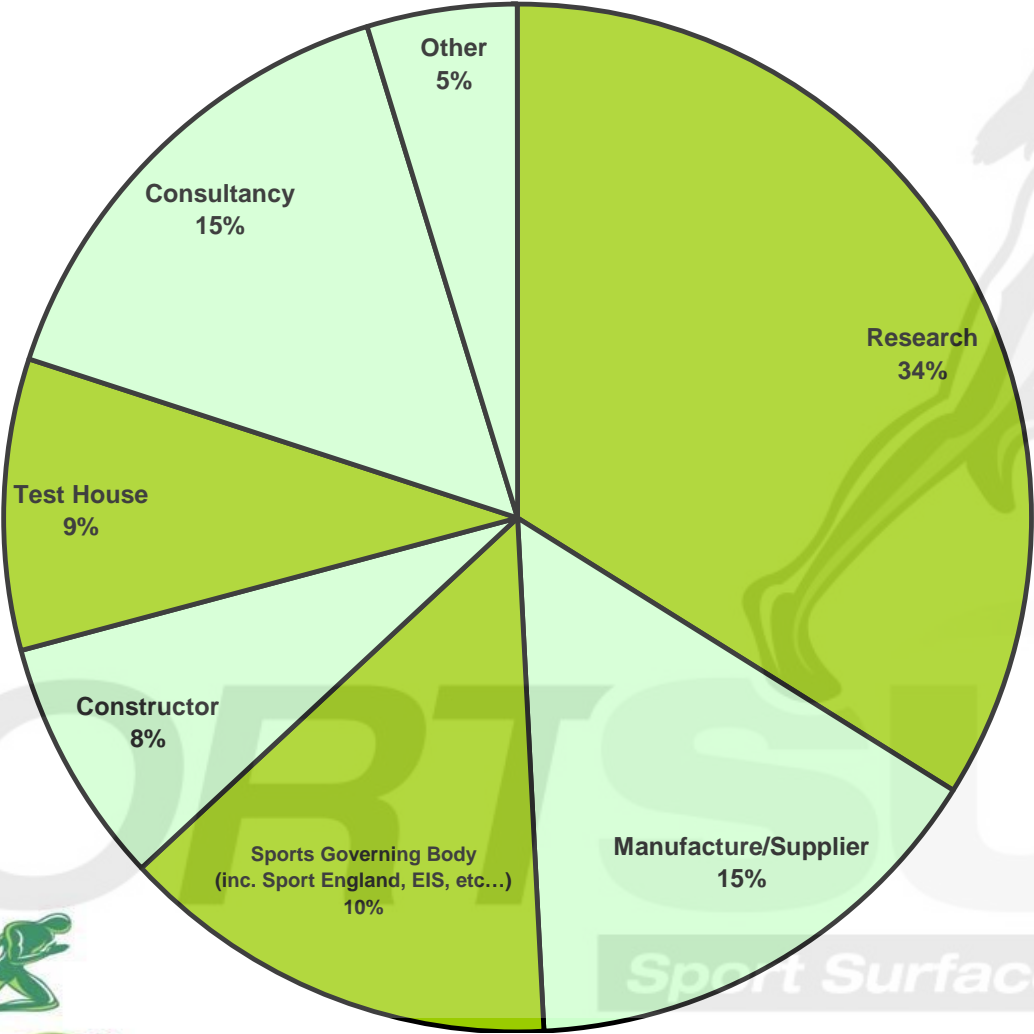
40/60 Split, Academic/Non-Academic

FA, FF, RFU, E HOCKEY, FIH, IOG,  
SPORT ENGLAND, NPFA, BOA, EIS,  
SAPCA,

IBV, ISA- SPORT, STRI, CST,  
LABOSPORT

Worldwide membership includes USA,  
Canada, Australia, New Zealand and  
several European countries (Spain,  
Belgium, France, Italy, Switzerland)

# EXISTING MEMBERSHIP



# Network Aims

... to stimulate an integrated multidisciplinary response to address problems associated with the interactions of sport players and the sport surfaces.....across the full range of sports.....

...for stakeholders to share ideas and consolidate current knowledge, discuss and formulate research needs, seek funding

....advance the science and understanding of player-surface interactions....to benefit play and users' health.



# Network Objectives

The specific objectives are:

- to create a new interdisciplinary 'surfaces' community
- to host stimulating meetings/workshops open to all plus a new specific conference (2007)
- to transfer ideas, techniques, and technology between researchers and practitioners
- to produce multidisciplinary research proposals
- to disseminate the network outcomes widely via the web, publications, press releases.....



# Key Themes?

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

**Surface Performance:** natural and artificial, materials (and their interaction), construction process & quality control, performance tests/standards, life/usage, degradation & maintenance effects, sustainability, refurbishment/replacement, climatic factors and irrigation, and longevity/monitoring.

# The Day

**Aim:** To establish this forum as a credible voice for both researchers and practitioners, and stimulate ideas for the future network activities

A few rules/requests.....

Welcome pack, delegate list (group number),  
questionnaire re future activities (please respond!)

Format for the day.....programme



# Programme

9.45am	Introduction and Welcome
10.15am	Key Topic Presentations General Discussion/questions
1.00-2.15	Buffet Lunch (poster exhibition)
2.15pm-2.40	Key Topic Presentation
2.40	Breakout Session Introduction
2.45 – 3.45pm	Breakout Forum (smaller groups) 'Research Requirements'
3.45	Coffee Break
3.55	Feedback Session
4.25pm	Closing Remarks

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# Presentations



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**Lunch  
&  
Posters**



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# Break Out Session

(The delegate list includes your group number)

Questions: Groups discuss them in specific order..

1. Effect of surfaces on the players/users 'Performance' (IJ/MB)
2. Effect of surfaces on the players/users 'Injury/health' (SD/CW)
3. Evaluation/measurement of surface properties (MC/CT/CY)
4. Innovation for design/manufacture/performance including 'whole-life' (MA/PF)

***What are the (research) challenges for this topic?***

***(stipulate any priorities, and any sport/surface specific issues)***

***How should we address these (resources/methods/who etc)?***

***What are the specific benefits/impact of this work....?***



# Closing Remarks

- What happens after today?
- Future workshops (we want your input to the order and content)
- Conference summer 2007
- Web info/usefulness, newsletter ?
- Constructive feedback on today and for future sessions please.....email..







**SAFE JOURNEY HOME!**

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