

HG Turf Group have long been pioneers in the Australian and International turf industry. This pioneering mindset doesn't look like changing any time soon as the company strive to further innovate and bring new technology and hybrid turf systems to market.

Working closely with Lawn Solutions Australia grower Musturf based at Freemans Reach in NSW, the collaboration, is growing and supplying the XtraGrass Hybrid System with TifTuf Hybrid Bermuda for community sports fields.

Having completed a number of projects over the last 6 months, we look back on the

work completed at South Park in Chipping Norton for Liverpool City Council.

Liverpool City Council is one of the largest LGA's in NSW. With a rapidly growing population and ever-increasing participation rate in community sport, sports field provision is a constant challenge. This combined with shortages of available





open spaces for sports fields and high usage demands on current sports field infrastructure, means that councils have their work cut out to ensure safe and playable pitches.

South Park in Chipping Norton, forms park of the Liverpool City Councils community sporting fields and is used extensively by multiple teams within the Southern Districts Soccer Football Association. Being an open parkland, it is also available for local community passive usage of the playing fields.

Due to the high usage of the fields the natural turf in the goal boxes would be replaced up to three times per year to ensure that they remained safe and playable. The replacing of turf would often mean that the fields would have temporary closures, while the new turf took time to establish. A long-term solution was needed to address these requirements.

## **The Solution**

XtraGrass was installed in the goal boxes on both fields and was supplied as a pre-grown 'ready to play' maxi turf roll.

The XtraGrass carpet had been laid at the Musturf Turf Farm 12 months prior and had been established with the hard wearing and drought tolerant TifTuf.

XtraGrass is a natural grass turf reinforced with artificial fibres to give a winning formula of great natural grass playability and a surface that is much more resistant to wear. Developed and refined over the last 15 years, XtraGrass is a unique and patented turf reinforcement system which provides the flexibility to adapt to the unique differences that exist at every location. Hybrid turf is the perfect solution for clubs that find it difficult to maintain a natural grass pitch but do not want, or are not permitted, to play on a 100% artificial turf pitch.

The existing goal box areas were removed to a depth of 40mm and prepared to allow for the new turf to be installed. Musturf harvested and transported the turf to South Park and installation was completed by their specialist crew and with specialist equipment.

The 40mm thick maxi-rolls are 1m wide and 10m long and due to the weight and installation process, can be played on immediately after installation. By combining natural grass with synthetic fibres, playing hours will increase by 3x on average.

Although the synthetic fibres are only 5% of the playing surface, XtraGrass offers the best of both worlds. A durable, hardwearing surface that provides consistency and playability which reduces risk and eliminates the need for turf replacements.

XtraGrass is a proven hybrid turf system that has been tested to meet FIFA quality standards. Liverpool City Council required a solution that could meet their usage requirements, while ensuring the fields remained open and safe for play, XtraGrass with TifTuf was the perfect solution.

"The investment in our asset at South Park, Chipping Norton with XtraGrass Hybrid has now provided Council with a real solution for the high wear playing area in the goal boxes. With XtraGrass now being installed in the community field, Council can ensure the field remains open year-round and provide a safe, stable natural playing surface. The use of XtraGrass Hybrid in our goal mouths and the quality now provided for our community has exceeded our expectations. We look forward to adding XtraGrass Hybrid in our other community fields in high wear areas."

If you would like more information on Xtragrass Hybrid Turf with TifTuf contact HG Turf Group on **info@hgturfgroup.com.au** 

