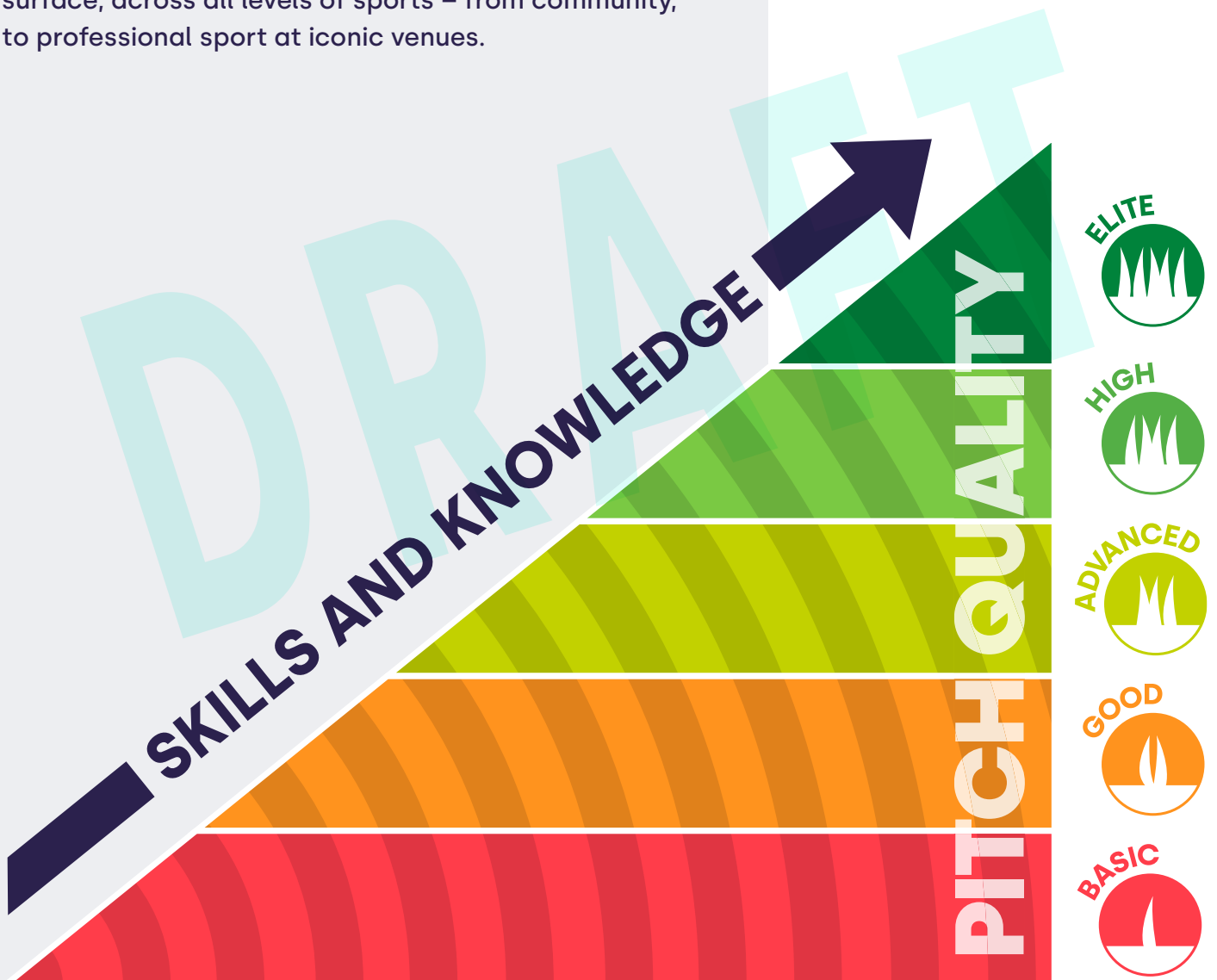


PITCH GRADING FRAMEWORK

for the professional and volunteer

This framework uses a highly tested and developed set of parameters to benchmark the quality of each surface, across all levels of sports – from community, to professional sport at iconic venues.



BASIC



What does this mean?

A pitch/surface that is safe for recreational sport and meets the minimum playing needs and expectations of community players nationwide.

The Playing Surface

The pitch, court or green is of a quality that provides a safe environment for players. The player experience will be limited as the quality of the surface may restrict the range of skills possible. It is likely to perform reasonably well during good weather however the pitch would deteriorate during extended periods of high intensity usage or inclement weather.

GOOD



What does this mean?

A pitch/surface that is good quality and safe for recreational sport. It meets the playing needs and expectations of community players nationwide.

The Playing Surface

The pitch, court or green is of a quality that provides a good experience for recreational players providing a surface that is reliable and consistent. The pitch should be able to sustain a reasonably high level of activity without significant deterioration of the surface. It would have some resilience during periods of adverse weather however this capacity will still be limited so usage during these periods will need to be managed carefully.

ADVANCED



What does this mean?

A pitch/surface that is high quality and meets the needs of top-level recreational sport. It meets the playing needs and expectations of both community and semi-professional players nationwide.

The Playing Surface

The pitch, court or green provides a high quality experience for all users and can host significant levels of activity. The playing quality of the pitch would be very good and provide a consistent and reliable surface for users to demonstrate their skills.

It is likely that the pitch would have a good functioning drainage and irrigation system which would make it resilient during periods of adverse weather. It should also be able to sustain periods of high intensity usage without significant deterioration of the surface.

HIGH



What does this mean?

A pitch/surface that is of a very high quality that meets the needs of professional and semi-professional sport in the UK. It meets the playing needs and expectations of professional and semi-professional athletes nationwide.

The Playing Surface

The pitch, court or green provides an excellent experience for users and is resilient to adverse weather conditions. It will be able to host significant levels of activity and be able to meet the needs and demands of professional athletes.

It also needs to be able to provide a high quality surface throughout the playing season with the aim of improving player performance and spectator enjoyment.

ELITE



What does this mean?

A pitch/surface that is of an outstanding quality and meets the standards of play for elite sport in the UK. It meets the playing needs and expectations of professional athletes, both nationwide and globally.

The Playing Surface

The pitch, court or green meets all the needs of professional sport and provides a top-class playing surface for players to demonstrate their skills. It is virtually fully resilient to all adverse weather conditions and can host very large levels of activity throughout the year.

At the heart of these pitches are maximising player performance and increasing spectator enjoyment.