



Wiltshire (Cricket) Groundsmans Association - Pitch inspection report

Cricket club/ground:	<u>WROUGHTON CC</u>
Date of visit:	<u>29TH JUNE 2023</u>
Conducted by:	<u>Richard Mosdell</u>
Others present:	<u>1st team captain and groundsman</u>
Weather/ground conditions at time of visit:	<u>Hot and sunny-very dry</u>

Background to visit (What standard of cricket played: why visit undertaken: previous visits/reports)

Poor pitch marks from Heytesbury & Sutton Veney CC (0-0-0-0).
 Wilts Cricket League Div 5
 Cited cracks on the pitch, with dry loam infill causing ball to stay very low or lift randomly. Also, minor injury caused by bumpy outfield.

General presentation of ground (outfield, square, grass length)

Outfield and square very dry(middle of heatwave) .
 Ridge and furrow evident on complete outfield, resulting in very uneven response to ball roll test.
 Grass left long on square at time of visit to try to offset heat degradation.
 Outfield too long for cricket purposes.

Square inspection (result of pulled cores: Sward density and quality: Weeds/worms/disease)

Sward density average.
 No cores taken
 Very few weeds visible on the square.

Observations and recommendations:

With regard to the specific track in question, cracks of a size likely to impact the ball trajectory were visible. None were in the danger zone of good to full length bowling and no evidence of dry loam infill. One crack would come into play for a left arm over bowler to a left-hand bat at the pavilion end.

Square in general has many cracks of a size to impact ball trajectory, thus presenting a danger to batsmen.

The minor injury reported happened off the square and on the outfield.

My recommendations are simple , regular watering needs to be used to provide playable cricket surfaces. If no water is available to effectively soften the pitch enough to allow for the 'PITCH' to be prepared to suitable standard , then cracks will develop, widen ,and become a safety issue, as I currently happening.