

Appendix 7a

Netball at La Mare de Carteret (LMDC)

Thank you for the opportunity to come along and have a chat with you last week about the new sports facilities to be built as part of the LMDC School refurbishment. We were very excited when we left your office. Netball is in great need of additional *Indoor* court space. Space that would not only give us more access to indoor facilities for our Local Senior players (Island and Club), as well as Coaching and Umpiring courses. But would be of the standard required to host our Regional League matches, Inter Insular and Upton matches.

For this we need, as per previous discussions and shown in your drawings as presented:

Court Area as outlined by AENA

Run Off space as outlined by AENA

Height as outlined by AENA

Spectator Seating Minimum 250

Sprung Flooring

Court side bench space for Teams, Coaches, Officials and Scorers.

We would also require:

Changing rooms with showers (6+ if possible)

Kit room/cupboard

Hospitality room access (other than a paid cafeteria) where we could provide Food/ Soft drinks/Tea & Coffee to our visiting teams and officials.

(AENA also make mention of an additional Indoor Warm Up area. However it is usual to use the playing court for 1/2 an hour before match time for warm up, so this is not a must have facility, until you reach National standard of play).

Why does Guernsey Netball need this space? As an Association we currently have:

Senior Members 250+ Taking part in a full Winter League Programme. 3 Leagues with 8 clubs in each League

Junior Members 150+ Taking part in a Winter Junior League Programme. Currently run on a Court availability basis alongside the Senior League.

Island Teams - Senior A&B, U19, U16, U14 U12 & U11 and Veterans - Taking part in Island training. Senior Island is a Year round programme with all others being Sept-March.

There is a vibrant Summer League programme run during May-July by Nerine Netball Club for both Association and Non Association members, men and women. Utilising all 3 Outdoor courts at BSJ Mon-Thu evenings, **attracting 250/300** players every year.

We also have our Indoor Nets League which is made up of 2 forms of netball, Traditional Sevens and a faster paced 6 Aside game (Speedball), that is played at the ICG inside a Netted court. We have both ladies and mixed teams taking part in this format, **approximately 100+ players**.

When do we play/train?

Senior Winter League - Tue & Wed evenings 6.45pm-9.45pm - Outdoors at BSJ - 3 courts x 2 games on each court.

Junior Winter League - Tue & Wed evenings, as court time allows and Mon evenings at Nerine Club training - Outdoors at BSJ 6.00pm-8.00pm

Island Training - Seniors - Thu nights Indoors at BSJ 6.30pm-9.30pm & Juniors - Sat BSJ/Grammar

Club Training - Nerine Netball Club Mon BSJ 6.30-9.30pm - Other Clubs Ad-hok, as and when court space can be booked

Traditionally Netball is an Outdoor Winter sport. But as the standard of play, the speed and agility of our players moves forward, this is changing. For their health and wellbeing we need a playing arena that allows for this continued progression. All Regional, Inter Insular and Upton matches must now be played Indoors. So it is necessary to train for these matches Indoors. The indoor courts at both Beau Sejour and Grammar school are not the correct size and whilst I believe the court at Les Beaucamps is, there is the issue of lack of room for spectators. So this means we have no real home advantage as we do not train on our Match court! We currently have to book the whole of the Sir John Loveridge Hall at Beau Sejour for these matches, so we can use the Centre Court. We have already had a problem with dates for the 2015 Inter Insulars as only 1 weekend in Mar/Apr was available to us. We will also have to schedule some Guernsey Panthers Regional Home games at Les Beaucamps as BSJ Centre Court is unavailable, this means we will be unable to have our supporters/spectators at these matches as there is no provision for them at that venue. Clubs have difficulty finding training times for regular sessions.

We are very confident that there are many more people in Guernsey who would love to come along and take up some format of our sport. However, we would currently struggle to accommodate more players. **Why? Court availability.**

We need 3 courts to run our Winter League programme which is, as I am sure you can understand, dictated to us each season by the prevailing weather. It is a real headache for our Fixtures Secretary when we lose a whole nights play (6 matches). This year due to the torrential rain we lost 4 weeks match play. To cover the backlog of matches we had to move some to the Grammar School, whilst continuing our programme at BSJ. This was not ideal as we then had teams and officials split at 2 different venues, some having to rapidly commute between the two. We also had to shorten our match play from 4 x 15 min quarters to 4 x 12 mins. to complete our matches in the time we were able to utilise the indoor court space available, again not ideal.

This brings us to our Wish list:

A building with 3 AENA standard Indoor Courts and associated facilities? - Okay maybe a step too far!

However a bespoke Indoor facility, as being offered at LMDC **In addition, with 2 Outdoor courts with Lighting on the same site would be massive for us.**

What would we do with this facility?

We would move our Full Senior Winter League programme to LMDC. So when the weather takes control we would at least be able to continue with the indoor schedule and not have as many matches to re-arrange. We would all be on one site, which makes organisation and officiating of matches much easier.

This would then free up the courts at BSJ to run a more comprehensive Winter Junior League programme. Weather delays would have less of an impact as Junior League games can be played for shorter periods allowing more time for any re-arranged matches.

Our Island Panthers players would use the indoor court for training and match play, therefore taking full advantage of a "Home" fixture in familiar surroundings.

This would then release more indoor space at other venues to our Clubs Teams for training.

We would anticipate access during our Winter League would be required from:

6.45pm-9.45pm Tuesday & Wednesday

5.30pm-10.00pm each Thursday

Saturday mornings Junior Island training

Saturday and or Sunday for Regional matches, dates to be confirmed.

We would also like to set up a Netball Summer Skills School for our Island Youth to come and learn basic skills from an early age.

Other wish list items would be:

Additional seating (Bleacher seats) to take capacity up to 500. I assume Basketball & Volleyball would also require this for Inter Insular Matches and as a possible Island Games venue.

Designated Meeting room.

Electronic Scoreboard on wall opposite spectators.

Wall space/Notice board to put up information about Netball.

Thank You - Guernsey Netball Association



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25th September 2014

Dear Deputy Sillars,

I am writing to you to express the Culture and Leisure Department's support for the proposed indoor sporting facilities at the new La Mare de Carteret High School. The proposals complement the Department's aspirations and would provide significant benefits to sports development in the Island. They are also in line with the Environment Department's Land Use objectives to target existing facilities and school sites in meeting the Island's needs for sporting facilities.

The Culture and Leisure Department is very pleased that the Education Department is thinking beyond its own mandate in regard to this development, and we share that commitment to ensuring that the broader objectives of the States also form an important consideration.

One of the published strategic aims of the States is to "*protect and improve the quality of life of Islanders*". While the Culture and Leisure Department has various roles that contribute to this aim, listed below are the specific objectives that are relevant in this particular context:

DEVELOP RECREATIONAL AND SPORTING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

- Increase participation in sport and leisure activities across the island.
- Encourage and support the pursuit of excellence in leisure and sport activities.

PROMOTE GUERNSEY AS A UNIQUE CULTURAL, ARTS AND SPORTING VENUE

- Meet the objectives for Guernsey's participation in the Island Games and Commonwealth Games.
- Support local individuals and teams to continue to successfully compete in regional, national and international competition.
- Encourage successful sports teams and individuals to act as role models within the Island and ambassadors externally.

CREATE ISLAND PRIDE

- Support and recognise local individual and teams competing in regional, national and international competition.
- Celebrate the sporting and cultural achievements of local people.
- Provide effective and high quality spectator opportunities to local sporting events.

There is no doubt that sports with access to bespoke quality facilities, at the times they require them, are able to attract greater levels of participation and achieve higher levels of performance. To this end, the Department has supported private sector initiatives for the development of sporting facilities, as well as entering into public-private partnership arrangements. However, the provision of indoor facilities of an appropriate standard has been a constant challenge, primarily because of the significant investment required in terms of finance and suitably accessible sites.

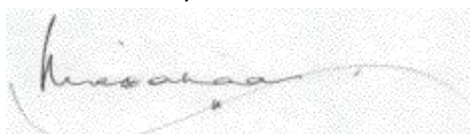
The proposals provide a significant focus on provision for club and match level play for netball, basketball and volleyball. The three sports currently play at venues which do not meet the full requirements of their governing bodies for competition and face difficulties with securing suitable court time; the proposed La Mare de Carteret facilities would alleviate these limits on sports development and relieve the pressure on other venues in the Island such as Beau Sejour, to the benefit of other sports and activities. **The Culture and Leisure Department cannot currently envisage an alternative, better value, option that would secure the minimum required standard of facilities for these three sports.**

The Education Department's commitment to sizeable spectator accommodation, which will allow the full cultural and social benefits of sport to be realised, is welcomed. We share the view that sporting competition within school facilities serves to inspire young people and generate greater interest in sport.

The provision of competition level sporting facilities with spectator and match play amenities will also serve the Island well in light of Guernsey being asked to host the Island Games; the proposed facilities at La Mare de Carteret would meet the needs for volleyball or basketball competition, securing their inclusion in future Games.

Overall, the proposed facilities represent a key step in opening up school venues to the wider community. As detailed, they support sports development in the Island and help underpin the aims of the Culture and Leisure Department and the wider objectives of the States.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Mike O'Hara', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Deputy Mike O'Hara
Minister, Culture and Leisure Department

Appendix 7b

Guernsey Basketball Association working document:

La Mare de Carteret School – New Sports Facility

Following the recent meeting and discussions with the project team, sports commission and relevant other sporting associations the following set out the requirements, together with arguments for the new build to be able to cater for National events.

Basketball on the Island is growing rapidly and we currently have a membership of approximately 700 people. This covers all age groups but in particular we are hoping to ensure the long term future of our Junior Future Stars Programme which hosts approximately 160 children every Saturday (Age 5 to 15) and also provide a facility to allow our elite teams to play home matches should the opportunity be presented for us to return to the UK National Leagues.

Basketball History

- Both Men and Women have played in the UK National League – 2 years for the Men, 3 years for the Women. Both teams were successful to a point but it is the development that is crucial which comes from playing regular competitive games at a higher level.
- Both the Men and Women are regular performers at the Island Games. The Women have participated in 5 Games and won medals at four and are one of Guernsey's top elite Teams.
- The leagues have been running out of Beau Sejour for over 30 years. The Inter Insular is held every other year, also at Beau Sejour but this is no longer fit for purpose – the court is simply too small and does not have the specification to hold National or Island Games, neither do the Baubigny or Les Beaucamps facilities.

Our requirements

Having use of both the Baubigny School and Les Beaucamps means that basketball is fairly well catered for as far as club and island training is concerned. League games can continue to be played at Beau Sejour or the other schools as necessary but using these facilities for Island Games or National League games is impossible due to the reasons set out above and also, in the case of Baubigny and LBS there is insufficient spectator viewing to host these events.

Having seen the plans for basketball we would make the following comments:

- The stadium plan allows the requirements for a “club” level basketball facility to be built which could accommodate both Island Games and National Level 3 & 4

for men and Level 2 for Women – it is our opinion that this would be sufficient for the future of Guernsey Basketball as we would not expect our teams to play at a level above this. However, if the Women were to play in the top tier of English Basketball, their Association has assured me that this facility would be sufficient.

- The Inter Insular usually attracts 400-500 people which would be too many according to the current plans, however following the discussions with the project team, the Basketball court will have space underneath the proposed balcony seating and in the “Spectator safety (grey) zones” which could also be used for possible spectator seating. Flat chaired seating at either end could be 2 rows deep and accommodate a further 150 people by our calculations.
- The GBA believe that working together with Netball and Volleyball is the way forward and it would appear that the current plans would accommodate all of our needs. Logistics of catering etc can always be managed - the plans make a provision for a kitchen area which we confirm would be more than acceptable for our requirements.
- We are not fully aware of the plans or additional facilities; however separate changing rooms for teams and officials would be necessary. In the case of tournaments, it is usual that 4 changing rooms are provided for teams and 2 for officials (male and female).
- A conference room or pre game room would be a welcome addition – this could double as a classroom.
- Presumably there would also be a first aid / physio room as standard.
- A refreshment area or bar would enhance the site for major events. Although not an absolute requirement, this is a potential revenue stream for clubs and the school / states along with merchandising stalls and ticketing for higher profile games.

Our Commitment

With the number of players currently playing the sport, together with our Island teams and junior leagues and programmes we would provide approximately 20 hours of usage during the week and 12 hours over the weekend. Of course that would virtually use all of the available time and as stated, our training can be split between the other suitable venues. Our usage combined with Netball and Volleyball would be more than sufficient to see usage of a new facility from 6-10 every weekday, 10am-5pm on a Saturday and perhaps 12-6 on a Sunday – that does not include national games, Island Games or Inter Insular games so it is clear that there is demand for this. We would commit to using it as often as it is available and bookings would be season by season and of course we would be more than happy to work with the other sports to ensure all our needs are fairly met.

Conclusion

The GBA believe that the development of the new sports facility is a fantastic opportunity for a number of sports to have a “home” on the Island, built to a specification that meets the requirements which allow us to play at our highest level. We therefore confirm that the current plans and suggestions meet those requirements and we are committed to utilising the facility to its maximum whilst working with the other associations in order to provide the most usage and a solid business case to those that make the final decision. This is the type of project which will enhance sport on the Island, allow us to showcase our entire range of opportunities, encourage participation of boys, girls and adults and allow high performers the chance to aspire to play for their Island on a potentially National stage.

Pat Ogier
GBA President

Appendix 7c

Volleyball

Volleyball is a sport played by two teams on a playing court divided by a net. There are different versions available for specific circumstances in order to offer versatility of the game to everyone.

Volleyball in Guernsey

Volleyball in Guernsey is played from Community level up to Premier Level. The association had 15 teams registered across 3 leagues during the 2013-2014 season. The Guernsey Volleyball Association rules of the leagues, including the dimensions of court and run off follow that of the Federation Internationale De Volleyball (FIVB).

Recently sitting volleyball has been introduced to the island. It is a unique Paralympic sport as abled and disabled bodied people can play with and against each in an all-inclusive environment. Sessions currently run once a week on Saturday mornings 10-11am and have disabled members who attend regularly who would otherwise not be able to partake in sport. The association is trying to develop this all-inclusive sport by starting a league for the forthcoming session. Currently sitting volleyball is played at Beau Sejour however it is played on a court made of the mismatched court marking of badminton and volleyball courts. Although this is adequate for training sessions it would not be ideal for playing league matches.

League matches for standing volleyball occur on Monday evening 7-10pm (mixed leagues) and Friday evening 7-10pm (Mens and Ladies Leagues) and the association holds junior training prior to the mens and ladies leagues on Friday 6-7pm. In addition to these nights most of the 15 teams will train at least once a week, both mens and ladies island training for inter insulars and Island Games will occur normally twice a week and currently sitting volleyball sessions run every Saturday morning 10-11am. Therefore volleyball training facilities are difficult to come by especially during the season which runs from September to April.

As well as league matches the association hold competitions which require facilities for visiting teams and spectators. In October each year the association hosts the Guernsey Volleyball Open Tournament which sees visiting teams from Jersey and the UK play local teams during a three day tournament. Ideally, the association would like to offer visiting teams courts with a shock absorbent floor, home and away changing facilities, seated spectators gallery, café area and water fountain nearby to deliver a similar standard as those found at other tournaments on the mainland. Other competitions which would benefit from these facilities include the Inter Insular and Upton matches against Jersey. These see 200-300 spectators from Guernsey and Jersey coming to support matches during the day. Currently all these competitions are held at Beau Sejour however they cannot provide all the facilities required. For example, seating for spectators is something that Beau Sejour cannot normally provide due to other sports using the other courts where the seating would normally be erected. The flooring at

Beau Sejour it not shock absorbent and does not meet the standards of Volleyball England and FIVB as stated below. This increases the likelihood of injuries due to the high impact when jumping, diving and sliding and the lack of spring in the floor.

Currently mixed, mens and ladies league matches, junior training and some island and club training all take place at Beau Sejour, with some club and island training taking place at Rue Mainguy and St Sampson's High School. Currently the association is restricted to holding league matches and tournaments at Beau Sejour as it is the only facility with multiple courts. However, as Beau Sejour also holds other events such as lifestyle shows, corporate events, other sports events and entertainment which use the sports hall, a number of times during the volleyball season the courts are not available. The only other facility fit for competitive volleyball is St. Sampson's High School which also only has one court, however if another court that met competitive requirements were to be available, some leagues could be split over two venues to utilise the available facilities.

Storage facilities would also be required for nets, posts, referee stands, scoreboards etc.

Sample table of events

Competition	Level of play	Frequency	No. of courts needed	Other facilities needed
Mixed Leagues	Club	Weekly (Monday evening, 3hrs)	Min. 2	Storage
Mens and Ladies	Club	Weekly (Friday evening, 3hrs)	Min. 2	Storage
Sitting Volleyball	Community	Weekly (Saturday, 1hr)	1 or 2	Storage Disabled access
Guernsey Open	Premier	Annual (October, 2/3 days)	2 or 3	Seating Changing/shower facilities Canteen
Inter Insular	Premier	Annual (March, 1 day)	1	Seating (200-300) Changing/showers facilities
Training	Club/Premier	Daily	1	Storage

Below are the competitive requirements for volleyball and court dimensions according to Volleyball England and FIVB.

The nature of volleyball is such that the game is not bounded by the dimensions of the court and sufficient space must be allowed around the court to retrieve the ball whilst still in play.

Court Dimensions

Playing area is a rectangle measuring 18 x 9 m, surrounded by a free zone which is a minimum of 3 m wide on all sides. For Premier level of play a 5m free zone at the end

of the court is recommended. Indoors, the other major factor is that of uninterrupted clear space above the court i.e. the height of the lowest part of the hall. The parameter of height can vary according to the standard of play but for general competition and training it should be a minimum of 7.6m for national and international level it should be 12.5m.

Sitting Volleyball

The playing court is a rectangle measuring 10 m x 6 m, surrounded by a free zone which is a minimum of 3 m wide on all sides. The court is divided into two halves 5m x 6m. The free playing space is the space above the playing area which is free from any obstructions. The free playing space shall measure a minimum of 7 m in height from the playing surface. Due to the dimensions of a sitting volleyball court, one standing volleyball court will be able to accommodate at least two sitting volleyball courts.

Premier level Standing Volleyball court dimensions

28.00 x 17.00 x 7.50										
Overall Space (m)	Principal Playing Area (m)			Run Offs (m) R/O			Additional area (m)		Specification	
L x W x H	Length	Width	Height	Ends	Sides	Between courts	space for Teams and Officials T/O	Spectator Seating	Flooring	Lighting
28.00 17.00 7.50	18.00	9.00	7.50	5.00	3.00	6.00 or 8.00	2.00	-	Area Elastic	500 lux 0.7 Emin / eav

Source: Volleyball England - Facilities Strategy Technical Guidelines

[http://volleymedia.dyndns.org/docs/Facilities%20Strategy%20\(indoor%20&%20sitting\).pdf](http://volleymedia.dyndns.org/docs/Facilities%20Strategy%20(indoor%20&%20sitting).pdf)

Lines on the Court

All lines are 5 cm wide. They must be of a light colour which is different from the colour of the floor and from any other lines. For FIVB, World and Official Competitions, the attack line is extended by the addition of broken lines from the side lines, with five 15 cm short lines 5 cm wide, drawn 20 cm from each other to a total length of 1.75 m. The “coach’s restriction line” (a broken line which extends from the attack line to the end line of the court, parallel to the side line and 1.75 metres from it) is composed of 15 cm short lines drawn 20 cm apart to mark the limit of the coach’s area of operation.

Lighting

These recommendations apply equally to Indoor and Sitting volleyball. Volleyball as with all indoor sports requires consistent, glare free lighting. Volleyball is particularly sensitive to direct overhead lighting, especially over the net area. Players frequently have to look up to judge the flight of the ball. Both the positioning and type of lamps are critical. Players need to look up to watch the descent of the ball and lighting in the net area can be blinding if badly placed or inappropriate light sources are used. It is essential to consider lighting early in the design stage so that layout and lamp type can be co-ordinated with the courts and background colours. If used, fluorescent lighting should be set up out of phase to reduce stroboscopic effects of the ball passing before lights. The current recommended lighting levels are 1,000-1,500 lux for play at international level, 500 lux at club and county level and 300 lux for recreational play. In each case the uniformity (minimum to average) ratio should be a minimum of 0.7. Technical guidance notes produced by the English Sports Council recommend that the levels for multi-purpose halls should also be increased to 500 lux, and the fittings switched to provide for 2 or 3 lower levels of illumination.

Heating and Ventilation

The temperature should not be below 10°C for any level of play with the minimum for International competitions being no lower than 16°C and the maximum no higher than 25 °C.

Flooring

Volleyball is a contact sport in so far as players will fall or dive onto the floor to play balls as part of the normal game. They also will jump and land frequently during the attacking phase of the game. Selection of a suitable flooring material for volleyball is important at the design phase. The composition and surface of the floor is a key element in the sport and its importance must not be underestimated. The floor may be made of wood or synthetic material. Shock absorption in the floor construction is critical in the prevention of injuries, as is a high degree of elasticity and energy restitution. Point elasticity as well as area elasticity is important. The very minimum requirement would be the New European Sports Flooring Standard - EN 14904 which supersedes BS 7044. The main aims in volleyball are to hit the ball down into the opponents' court and defensively to prevent the ball from touching the floor. In so doing the players will come into contact with the floor with more than one part of the body when retrieving the ball. It must, therefore, provide not only a shock absorbent platform but also a safe surface which is designed to take into account contact with skin and playing uniform. The floor should not be slippery or abrasive, and if wooden it must be splinter proof. The frictional qualities of the floor need to be such that it will allow for firm footing, but also for diving, sliding without abrasive skin contact. The floor will require flush-fitting sockets to receive and secure the posts and no other intrusions into the playing surface should be allowed.

Roll down polymeric sheets are used when setting up temporary courts in large arenas for National and International matches. Special care and training is required in the laying of temporary courts for major events to ensure a secure even surface, and account must be taken of the weight of the flooring, to minimise risk to the floor layers. Taraflex

Sport M and Taraflex Sports Performance flooring are approved by the FIVB and are recognised by Volleyball England as providing a suitable surface.

Summary

Due to the number of courts needed for leagues matches and tournaments LMDC sports hall would not be able to accommodate such competitions for volleyball. However as a venue for larger games where only one court would be needed and spectators were likely to attend, such as Inter Insulars and Upton's matches this could be very beneficial especially if a shock absorbent sprung floor and spectator seating were to be included in the plan. Although we understand this would only be used annually the facility could also be widely used for training, from club to island level all year round. In addition to this, if sitting volleyball courts lines were to be included in the plan with good disabled access to the facility this could expedite the development and advancement of the sport. With the opportunity of up to two sitting volleyball courts in the hall there would be potential to hold sitting volleyball weekly leagues and training as well as tournaments at LMDC.

References

- **FIVB Official Rules 2013-2016**
http://www.fivb.org/EN/Refereeing-Rules/documents/FIVB-Volleyball_Rules2013-EN_V08_20130516.pdf
- **Volleyball England – Facilities Strategy Technical Guidelines**
[http://volleymedia.dyndns.org/docs/Facilities%20Strategy%20\(indoor%20&%20sitting\).pdf](http://volleymedia.dyndns.org/docs/Facilities%20Strategy%20(indoor%20&%20sitting).pdf)
- **Volleyball Guernsey**
<http://www.volleyballguernsey.com/>