

16th April 2010

## New Ulladulla Sports facility turf choice decision

Stage three of the Ulladulla Sports Complex is about to commence with the recent announcement of the variety of turf to be used. Council confirmed this week that the surface of the field will be laid with Couch grass after suggestions from user groups in the area were received.

Although Couch is more costly than standard Kikuyu, it has a surface more conducive to sports played at elite levels.

Shoalhaven Mayor CrI Paul Green says 'we want our sporting facilities to be world class therefore we are happy with the decision to plant the Couch instead of Kikuyu variety of grass. Our sporting community has told us that a couch surface is the preferred choice and we have welcomed their input and want them to get the best possible result from their grounds'.

Many of Shoalhaven's sporting facilities have a couch surface as it is hardwearing, soft textured, fine leafed and deep green in colour.

Cylinder or barrel mowers must be used to maintain the couch surface and council has committed to accessing this upgraded equipment to support the ongoing maintenance of the turf.

Couch grass can be cut lower than Kikuyu meaning that it enables for better rolling surface for balls which appeals to players of sports like cricket or hockey.

One of Council's Sportsground Strategic Plan objectives is to cater for anticipated future demand. The new complex with a high quality turf will attract and accommodate players of all levels both locally and from outside of the area.

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