

 **Grounds Association**

**Pitch Advisors November Blog**

 **Nondescript November**

Often taken as a month of recharging the batteries and low activities, nothing could be further from the truth. Consider the following: -

* **Drag brushing** on a regular basis, when conditions allow, should be the norm. This will keep grass diseases to a minimum on the new growth.
* **Solid tine aeration** on a monthly basis, again when conditions allow. This will help the new growth with a supply of oxygen, nutrients and water to the lower root level.
* **Leaf debris** lying on square and outfields if not removed can become wet, which then restricts light and air from being available to the grass plant. Rake, sweep or blow the leaves away on a regular basis.
* **Diesel engines** should be ‘turned’ over on a weekly basis, particular heavy rollers and triple grass cutters.
* **Service and maintenance** on equipment can often be negotiated cheaper in the winter with your regular contractors.

**Machinery information**

* A number of Lloyds Paladin pitch mowers, fully refurbished to a high standard, should be coming available soon (more information in my December blog).
* Possible Ransomes Mastiff 36” outfield mower complete with seat and box for sale.
* Local League club, with healthy budget, looking for second-hand outfield mower (Toro, John Deere, Saxon).

For more information please contact Paul Tatton.

**View Point**

Whilst not a Ground issue, I have been involved all my life in this great sport of ours from playing County cricket, Coaching, Umpiring and Groundsmanship and yet I am amazed that the ECB is throwing 60 million pounds into the much publicised ‘The Hundred’. Despite the success of our National side, at most levels, the game at our level is going through a difficult phase and I sincerely think our priorities lie elsewhere. I rest my case.