

**SportSURF 4th Workshop, Tuesday 3rd April 2007 at the Sheffield United
Football Club Stadium, Bramall Lane.**

The 4th SportSURF workshop will be held on Tuesday 3rd April 2007 at Bramall Lane Stadium, Sheffield, UK, home of premiership football club, Sheffield United. The focus of the workshop will be on 'How to measure the appropriate characteristics of sport surfaces'. Presentations and discussion will be related to:

- What is good/bad about the existing test methods?
- Evidence and questions regarding sensitivity, simulation, accuracy, and relevance.
- Recent developments/new methods.
- What does recent research tell us we should be measuring?
- Where are the current gaps in knowledge/test methods?

The following people have been confirmed to present at the workshop:

Harald Körger from the **Adidas Innovation Team** will give a presentation on 'Adidas Football Research Innovations'.

Hans-Joerg Kolitzus from **IST Consulting** in Switzerland will present the development of a 'Linear Friction Tester' part of the new FIFA quality concept.

Eric O'Donnell from **Sports Labs** has agreed to present on test methods from a consultants perspective.

Dr Matt Carre & Bob Kirk from the **University of Sheffield** will present some novel research on 'gaining understanding of traction test data'.

Alastair Cox from **Labosport** will discuss and open a debate on the current state of testing and future research needs.

Dr Paul Fleming from **Loughborough University** will present on the sensitivity and relevance of current test methods.

David Rosa & Mercedes Sanchis Almenara from the **Institute of Biomechanics Valencia** will present a new method to evaluate traction.

We are waiting for confirmation from other guest speakers which will be made available on our website www.sportsurf.org. If you would like to present some of your own research please feel free to contact us on c.young@sportsurf.org.

Current delegates include test houses, academics, sports governing bodies, manufactures, consultants and contractors.

The key outcomes of the workshop will be collated to identify 'gaps in knowledge' and rationalise coherent 'research needs'. The workshop will contain several open forums to stimulate debate from the attendees. Furthermore, there will be an opportunity for delegates to make short presentations of their current work/research/knowledge to stimulate further discussion (if you are interested in doing this please contact c.young@sportsurf.org).

SportSURF Background:

The network aims to stimulate an integrated multidisciplinary response to address the problems associated with the interactions of sport players (and equipment) and the sport surface, for community and elite level across the full range of sports. The network will bring together a broad range of stakeholders, comprising academics, practitioners, and sport governing bodies to share ideas and consolidate current knowledge, discuss and formulate research needs, seek funding, advance the science and understanding of player-surface interactions and innovate the better engineering of surfaces to benefit play and users' health.

Who should attend?

Academics, researchers, technologists, consultants, contractors, manufactures, suppliers, sports governing bodies, policy makers, trade organisations and funders. Also any individual who would like to have an input into the activities of this new network initiative.

SportSURF membership?

Membership to the SportSURF network is free, and as a member you can enjoy a discounted workshop registration fee. If you would like to become a member please visit our website and complete the online membership form (www.sportsurf.org/signup.php).

Travel Directions and Accommodation

**Room: The Marston Suite
Sheffield United FC
Bramall Lane
Sheffield
S2 4SU**

Please use reception entrance on John Street (see map below).
Plenty of free parking is available at the main stadium car park, on the opposite side of the stadium with access from Cherry Street (see map below).

How to get to Bramall Lane

(see: <http://www.sufc.premiumtv.co.uk/page/Directions/0,,10418,00.html>)

By Car:

From North: Exit M1 at Junction 33 following signs to Sheffield (A57), continue along the Sheffield Parkway until the Park Square roundabout. Take third exit and follow A61 (Sheffield). Midland Station is on the left, take the middle lane, over the pedestrian crossing, through traffic lights veering right onto Shoreham Street (A61). Continue over dual carriageway and the ground is on the right.

From South: Exit Junction 29 and take the A617 (Chesterfield) to the roundabout, take the third exit onto A61 (Sheffield). Continue on A61 until Earl of Arundel and Surrey Public House. Turn left and continue onto Bramall Lane and the ground is on the right.

From East: Exit M1 at Junction 31 or 33 and take A57 to the roundabout, take the third exit into Sheaf Street (then as north).

From West: Take A57 into Sheffield and take fourth exit at roundabout into Upper Hanover Street and at second roundabout take third exit Bramall Lane.

By Bus:

From the Sheffield Interchange, services 47 and 48 will take you to Shoreham Street.
From Arundel Gate (outside Apollo Travel) services number 13 will take you to Bramall Lane.
For further details, call the Travel Line Service on: 01709 515151.

By Rail:

The ground is a few minutes drive from Sheffield Midland Station (one mile).
For details of the services to and from Sheffield, call National Rail Enquires on 0345 484950.

Accommodation

There are many hotels available in Sheffield, below are two in the city centre:

Grosvenor House Hotel: +44 (0)870 609 6165
<http://www.corushotels.co.uk/hotel.asp?hotelID=75>
Rate Approximately: £55

Novotel Sheffield: +44 (0)114 2781781
http://www.novotel.com/novotel/fichehotel/gb/nov/1348/fiche_hotel.shtml
Rate Approximately: £75 - £110

