

The Wicket Sport of Cricket

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Synthetic Cricket Turf Lets You Play All Year Long

Not long ago, it would've been a surprise to find people playing cricket in the San Francisco Bay Area. Not anymore. Leagues are popping up across the region. Players just love our warm climate. With them, they bring more and more demand for reliable playing surfaces. Of course, grass fields cost a lot of money to take care of. A drought doesn't help, either. That's why synthetic cricket turf is such a great option. Synthetic cricket turf doesn't need to be watered as often as real grass, and it lets players enjoy the sport all year long. Real grass fields can get messy and unsafe during bad weather. Synthetic cricket turf, the kind you can get at [Watersavers Turf](#), holds up to any type of weather.

Why Artificial Turf for Cricket is a Popular Choice

As more and more fans make their way to the SF Bay Area, artificial turf for cricket is growing more and more popular. They've found they can't rely on real grass. Landscaping costs too much money. Trying to play on it after a rainstorm; it isn't safe. Even when it's dry, it can be too bumpy for safe play. Artificial turf for cricket helps players avoid injuries, and it lets them play any time they choose. On top of that, real grass can limit the speed and bounce of the ball. Players like artificial turf for cricket because it keeps the game fun and safe each time.

A Popular Sport for Centuries

Cricket has been around for hundreds of years. Not all agree on when anyone first played it—the first clear mention of it comes from a 1598 court case. Some think it might have been played even earlier! It became much more popular in the 18th century, though. This might've had something to do with the fact that the rich would bet on the matches. People who didn't place bets still headed to London to cheer on their favorite teams. Because it was a popular sport right around the same time the British Empire stretched across the world, it spread easily to other countries. Now, it's the second most popular spectator sport in the world. Soccer is the only game with more fans.

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Gameplay Rules

Most people in the SF Bay Area probably know that this game has a lot in common with baseball. Both sports have two teams. One is at bat, one is on the field, and both try to score the most runs. That said, cricket has a complex set of rules that makes chess look like checkers.

In a circle or oval field, there is a rectangle pitch, where a “bowler” from the fielding team throws the ball at the batsman from the batting team. The bowler tries to knock down “wickets” behind the batsman. Across from the batsman on the pitch is another member of his team. Behind him is a keeper from the fielding team; playing a role like that of a catcher in baseball. Nine other members of the fielding team stand out in the field.

The batsman tries to keep the bowler from knocking down his team’s wickets. If he hits the ball and no one from the fielding team catches it, he and the other batsman from his team run across the pitch and ground their bats at opposite sides. This is how a run is scored.

Like baseball, the game is divided into innings. Whichever team has the most runs after all innings wins.

Of course, there are many more rules, but this basic overview should show how this sport isn’t just British baseball.

Cricket in America

Cricket was once a big sport in America. In 1855, it still got more newspaper attention than baseball. Why did baseball take its place? It all came down to the playing surface.

During the Civil War, soldiers would play baseball in between battle because it didn’t need to be played on a perfect rectangle pitch. After the war, they went home and kept playing baseball. Americans slowly lost interest in cricket.

However, thanks to faux grass playing surfaces, the game is making a comeback. In 2000, Major League Cricket was formed in New York. In the SF Bay Area, leagues and groups like the Bay Area Cricket Alliance, created in 1999, have drawn more players to the sport.

With a pitch made from artificial grass, athletes can enjoy the game in any weather, and they can stay safe while playing it. If you want to join in, and need to find the right surface to play on, head to [Watersavers Turf](#). We’ll provide exactly what you need to design and install the perfect pitch. Find a [location](#) in the SF Bay Area near you, or call 844-974-8873 for more info. If you enjoyed our newsletter, don’t forget to “Like” our [Facebook page](#), or download a copy at www.watersaversturf.biz.