



Appendix 3

Vancouver Park Board Sport Infrastructure

The Vancouver Park Board has a wide range of sports infrastructure that enables the visitors and residents of Vancouver to maintain healthy active lifestyles. A sports continuum of active infrastructure provides the opportunity for citizens to be “active for life”. They can develop skills in their chosen sports and attain high level of proficiency. This report outlines the quantity and relative quality of the Vancouver Park Board active infrastructure from the perspective of several key sports.

To assess the quantity and quality of various sports infrastructures, facilities were graded by assessing their ability to contribute to the various levels of the Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) model.



This report identifies key sports and the current quantity and quality of the Park Board’s active infrastructure that supports participation in those sports. The facilities selected include those that support sports identified by PacificSport as a high priority for Vancouver.

This preliminary review is a baseline starting point for the Park Board to assess the quantity and quality of existing sports infrastructure in Vancouver. It also identifies what sports activity the Park Board can support at top levels of competition (i.e. provincial, national and international levels).

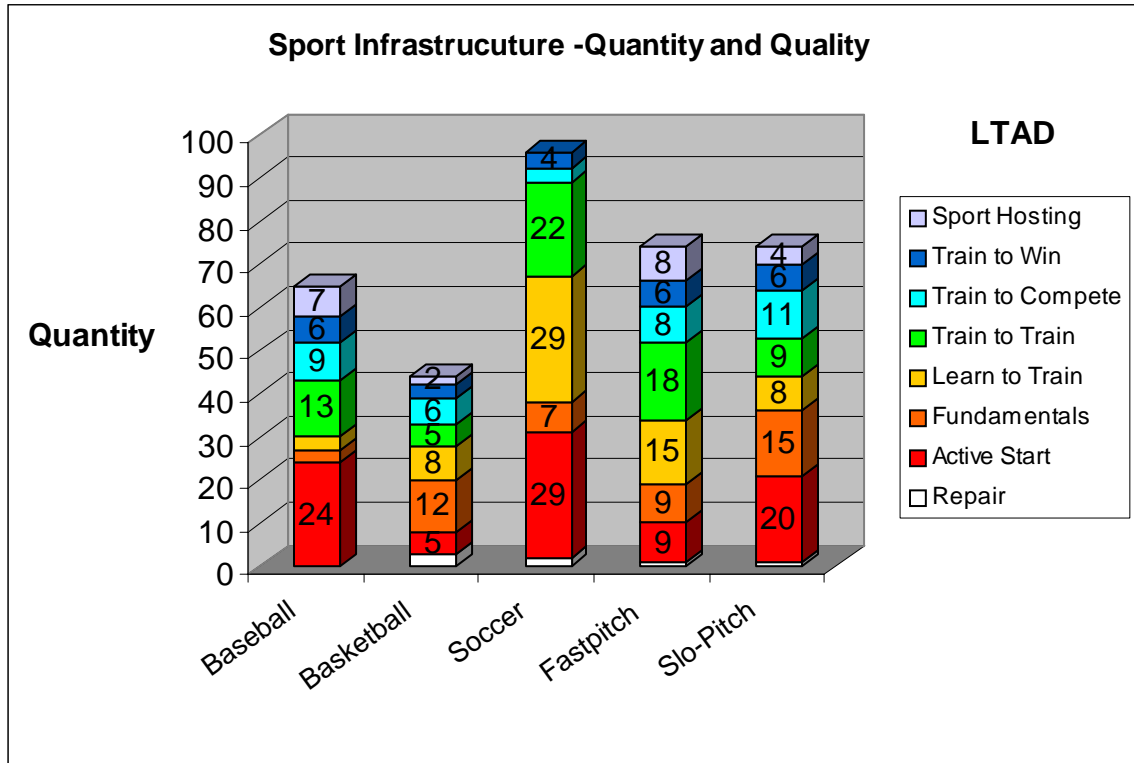
The following sports and the related Park Board active infrastructure were reviewed:

Ball Hockey – outdoor courts	16
Baseball Diamonds	65
Adult diamonds = 7	
Youth diamonds = 6	
Little League (8-12) = 28	
T-ball diamonds = 24	
Basketball –outdoor courts	44
Cricket Pitches	7
Field Hockey Pitch	4
Football Fields	5
Hockey Rinks	8
Rugby Fields	11
Soccer Fields	96
Regulation size = 70	
Mini soccer fields = 26	
Softball Diamonds	74
Swimming Pools	15
Indoor = nine	
Outdoor = six	
Tennis Courts	180
Tracks	6
Ultimate Fields	18

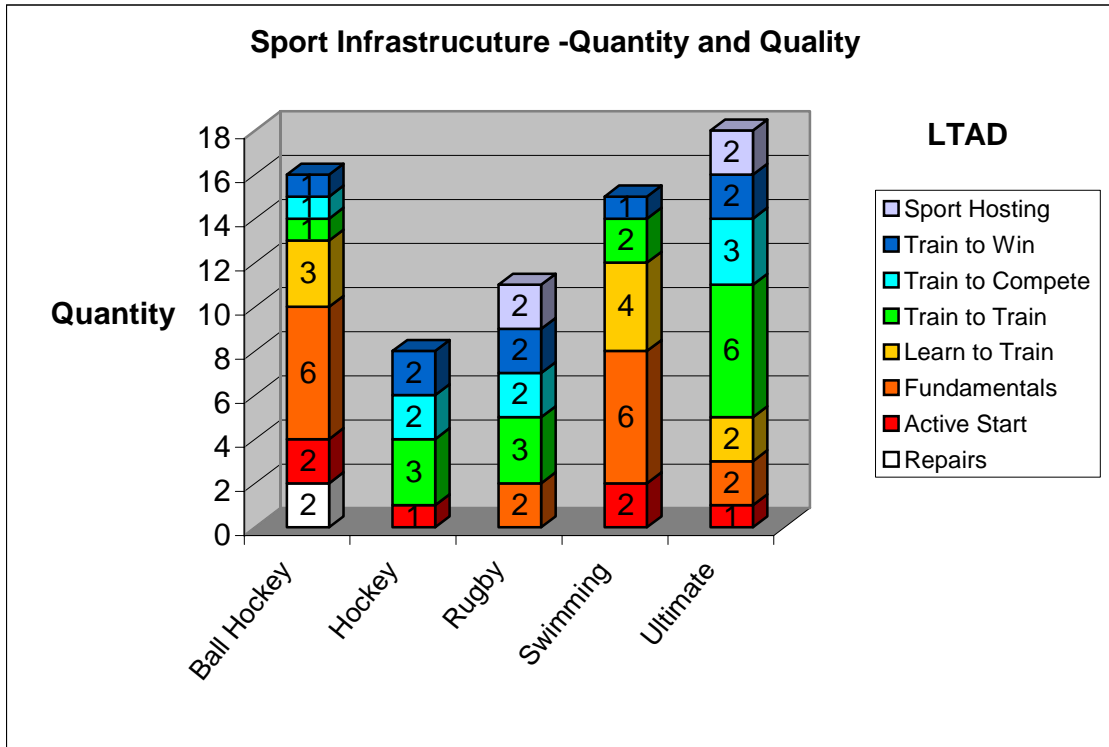
Active Infrastructure – Vancouver Park Board Facilities

The following three graphs summarize the Park Board’s infrastructure in several key sports. The top level of the graphs identifies the number of excellent facilities and indicates the ability of the Park Board to host high level sport competitions.

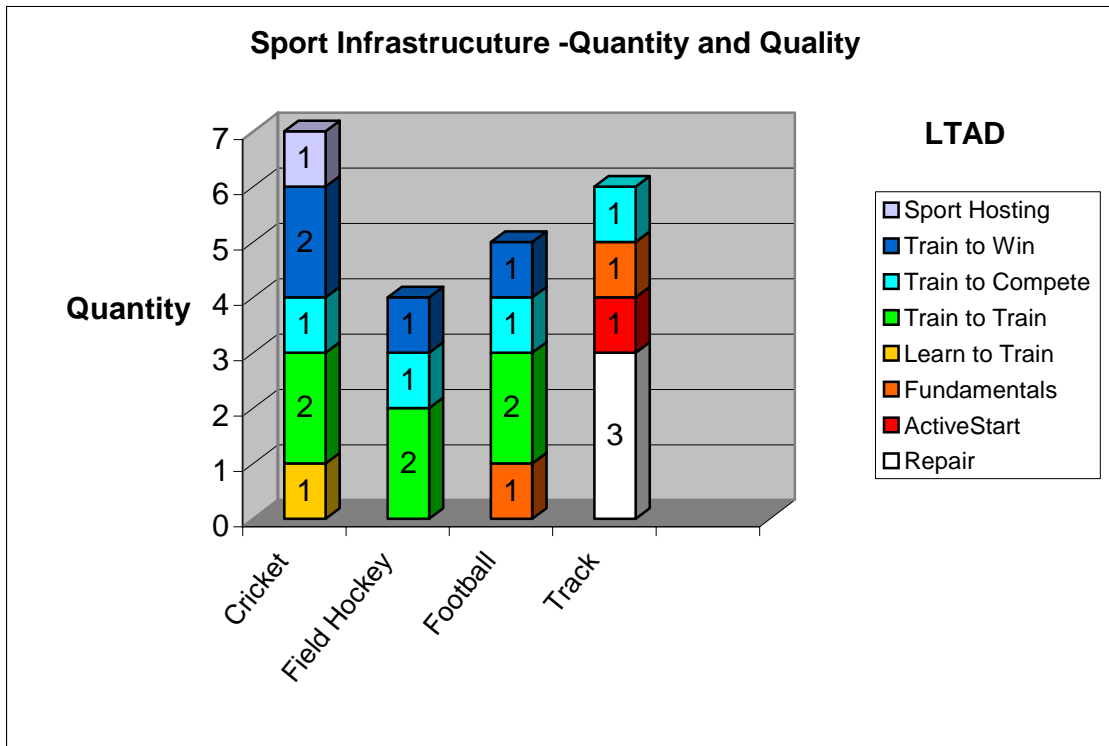
The following graph highlights: baseball, outdoor basketball, soccer, softball – fastpitch, softball – slo-pitch.



The following graph highlights: ball hockey, ice hockey, rugby, swimming, and ultimate.



The final graph highlights: cricket, field hockey, football and track (athletics).



Conclusions

This sports infrastructure review is only a starting point for assessing the relative quantity and quality of Vancouver sports infrastructure. To fully assess the infrastructure capacity of Vancouver will require a more extensive review of all sports facilities within the City.

Through the Vancouver Park Board, the City of Vancouver can facilitate a wide range of sports that support citizens as they progress along the stages of the Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) continuum. In most sports, there are a large number of support facilities to enable citizens to progress through the early stages of the LTAD continuum, active start, fundamentals, and learn to train.

At the top end of the Park Board sports infrastructure, the ability to support high level competition varies depending on the sport. The Park Board has in the past, and can in the future, support top-level national/international sports events in baseball, cricket, rugby, and tennis. The Vancouver Park Board does not currently have the sports infrastructure to support top-level national sports events in track, soccer, speed swimming, and ultimate.

Vancouver is a world-class metropolis. The greater Vancouver region should have the infrastructure capability to support a wide range of sports at the top national and international levels. To fully assess the city's sports capacity and ability to support the top levels of the LTAD continuum will require a comprehensive "Sports Strategy" that assesses the regional sports infrastructure from several sources:

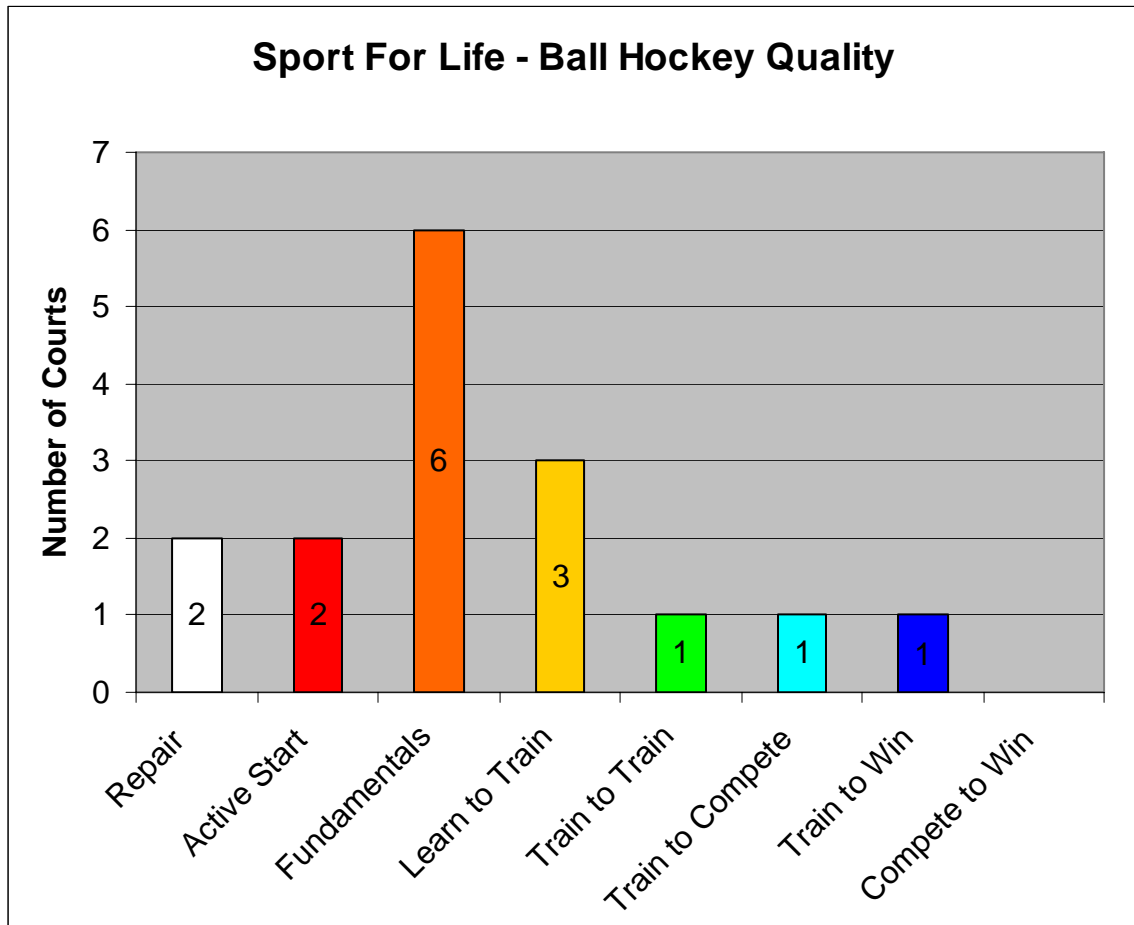
- Other government sports facilities in the city
- Other civic organization such as the Vancouver School Board,
- Other not-for-profit Vancouver organizations;
 - o YMCA, YWCA, Boys and Girls clubs, etc
- Private sector sports infrastructure in Vancouver
- "Train to Win" sports facilities at UBC
- "Sport Hosting" facilities in neighbouring municipalities

The City and regional partners should give priority to creating "train to compete" and "sport hosting" facilities in popular sports and those sports targeted by PacificSport as primary goals for Vancouver. Sports infrastructure that should be given a high priority includes: athletics (track and field), soccer, speed swimming, and Ultimate.

Ball Hockey -Outdoors

There are 14 outdoor ball hockey courts and two lacrosse rinks in the Park Board system. The top quality outdoor ball hockey facility is at Memorial South Park.¹

www.vancouver.ca/parkfinder_wa/index.cfm?ftype=52&keyword=&fuseaction=FAC.FacilityList&from_form=1



¹ The relative quality of ball hockey courts was assessed in terms of total area and surface quality.

Active Start = junior size courts < 20x10 m.

Fundamentals = basic court < 30x20 m. and > 20x10 m.

Learn to Train = combination basketball/hockey courts or undersized court < 40x20 m.

Train to Train = recreational court >30x20 m. and <56x36 m.

Train to Compete = good quality full-sized rink – 61x30 m. to 56x 26 m.

Train to Win = excellent quality full-size rink – 61x30 m. to 56x 26 m.

Sport Hosting = excellent quality full-size rink – 61x30 m. to 56x 26 m. with stands and other amenities*

* Support amenities = benches, washrooms, change rooms, stands and concession.

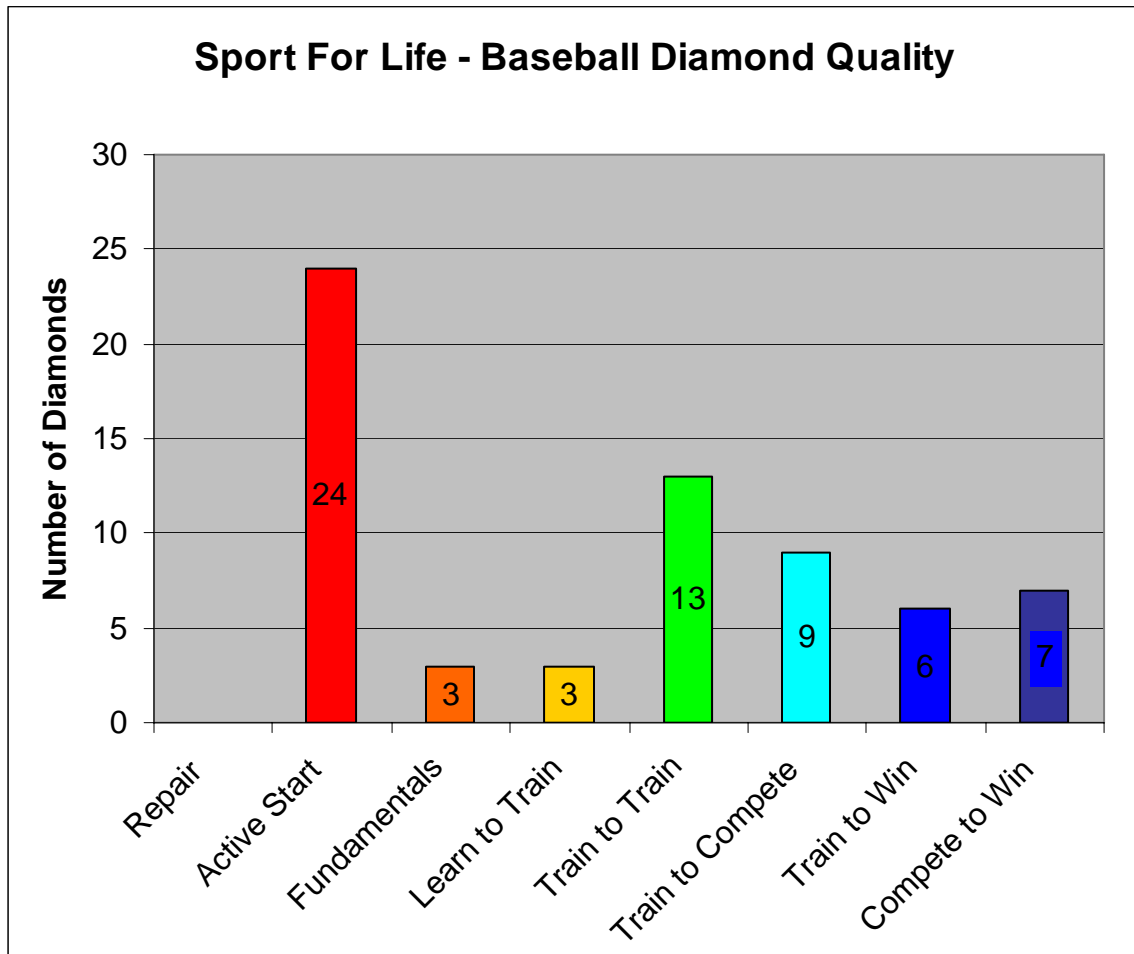
Baseball

There are 65 baseball diamonds in the Vancouver Park Board system². The top quality Little League diamonds are at Carnarvon, Hastings Community, Hillcrest, John Hendry, Memorial South, Nanaimo and Oak Parks. The top quality intermediate and adult diamonds are at Hillcrest Park and Nat Bailey Stadium.

www.vancouver.ca/parkfinder_wa/index.cfm?ftype=1&keyword=&fuseaction=FAC.FacilityList&from_form=1

There is a range of baseball diamonds due to the different requirements at each age level. The Park Board currently maintains:

- 24 - T-ball diamonds for young children
- 28 – Little League diamonds: 60 ft. base paths and 200 ft. outfields for youth 8-12
- 6 - intermediate diamonds: 80 ft. base paths and 250 ft. outfields for youth 13-15
- 7 - adult diamonds: 90 ft. base paths and 300+ outfields for youth 16+ and adults



² Active Start = T-ball diamonds with 45 ft. base paths and 150 ft. outfields

Fundamentals = undersized outfield and/or poor quality infield

Learn to Train = undersized outfield and recreation quality infield

Train to Train = fully size outfield for that age group and recreation quality infield

Train to Compete = good quality diamond and some support amenities*

Train to Win = excellent quality diamonds and support amenities* for that age level

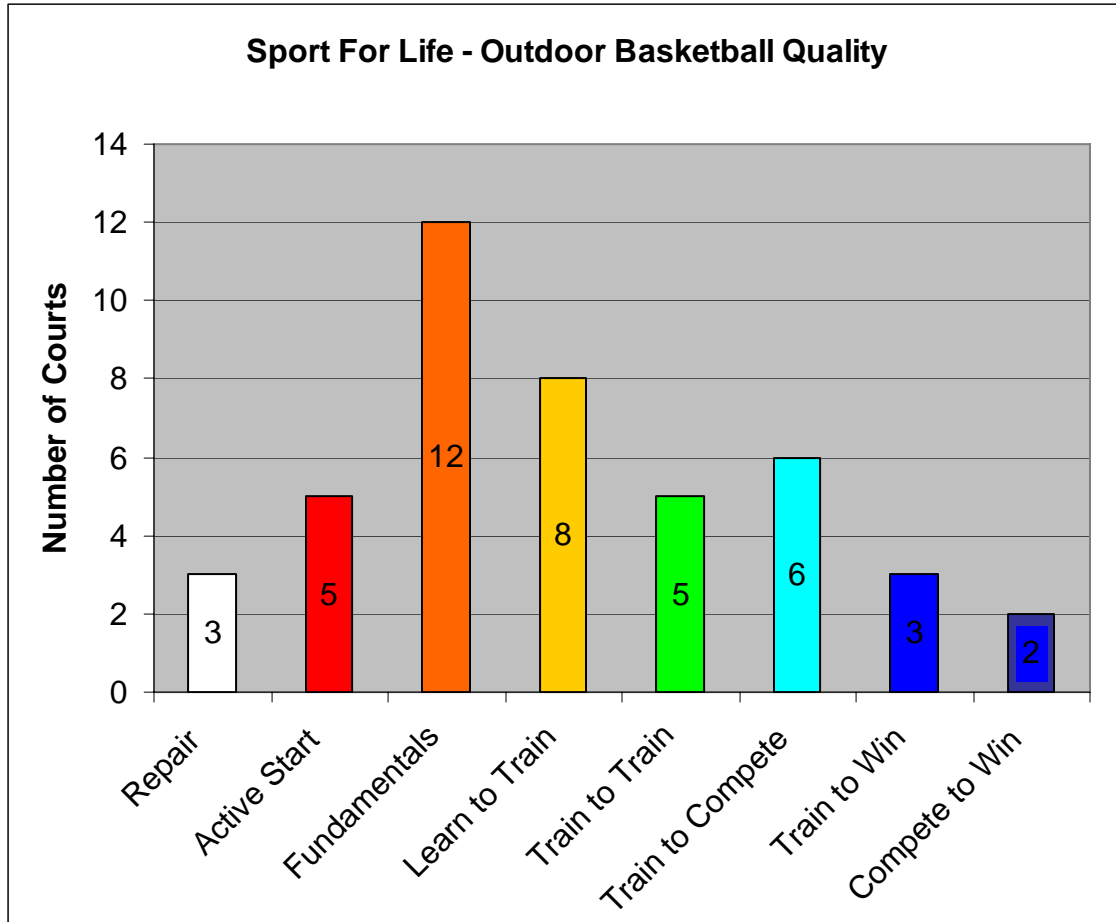
Sport Hosting = excellent quality full-size diamond with support amenities* and multiple diamonds

* Support amenities = quality dugouts, washrooms, change rooms, stands and concession.

Basketball – Outdoor Courts

There are 44 outdoor basketball courts in the Park Board system. The top quality adult facilities are the two courts at Kitsilano Beach. There are two good quality junior courts at Queen Elizabeth and John Hendry parks.³

www.vancouver.ca/parkfinder_wa/index.cfm?ftype=31&keyword=&fuseaction=FAC.FacilityList&from_form=1



³ The relative quality of basketball courts was assessed in terms of total area and surface quality.

Active Start = undersized courts with 8 ft. hoops for children

Fundamentals = ½ court with 10 ft. hoops

Learn to Train = combination basketball/hockey courts or undersized court < 84x50

Train to Train = casual recreational full-size court: 84x50 ft. to 94x50 ft.

Train to Compete = good quality full-size court: 84x50 ft. to 94x50 ft.

Train to Win = excellent quality full-size court: 84x50 ft. to 94x50 ft.

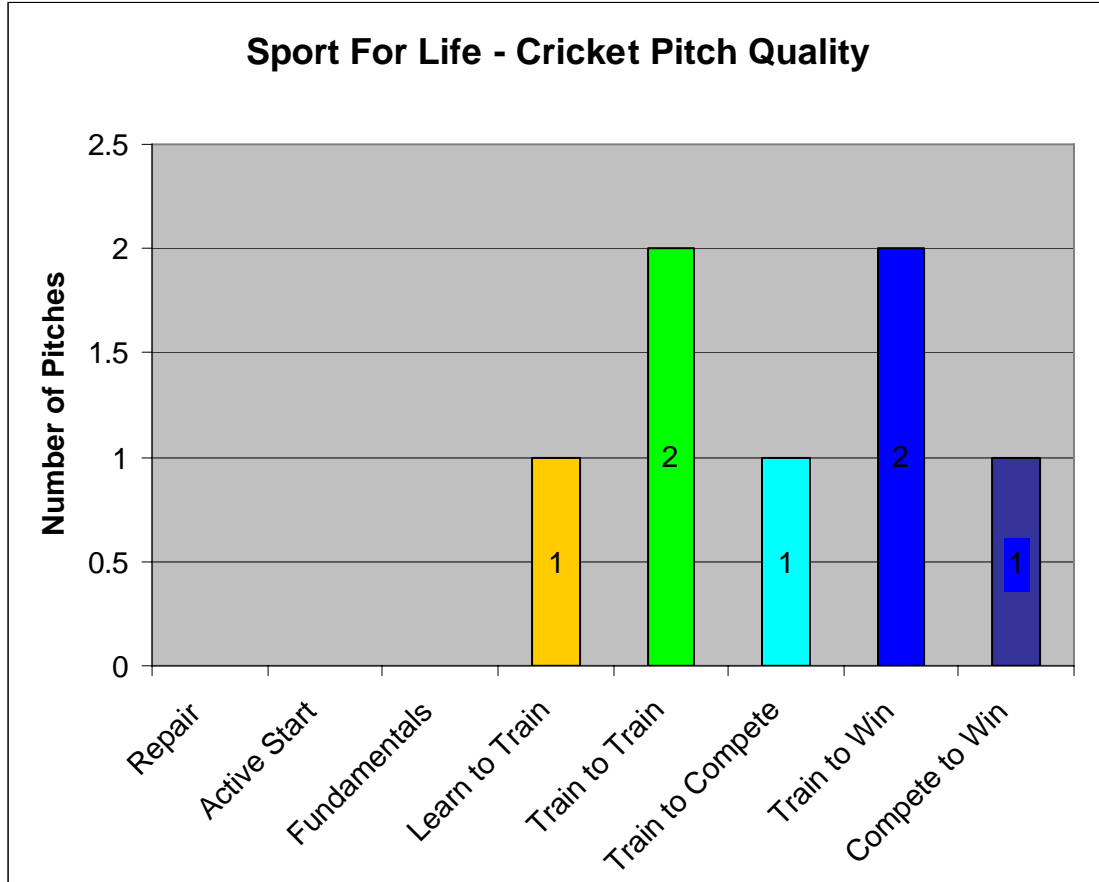
Sport Hosting = multiple excellent quality full-size courts: 84x50 ft. to 94x50 ft with support amenities

* Support amenities = quality dugouts, washrooms, change rooms, stands and concession.

Cricket

There are seven cricket pitches maintained by the Vancouver Park Board. The top quality pitches are at Connaught, Memorial South and Stanley parks.⁴

www.vancouver.ca/parkfinder_wa/index.cfm?ftype=7&keyword=&fuseaction=FAC.FacilityList&from_form=1



⁴ The quality of cricket pitches was assessed in terms of total area, surface quality and support amenities.

Active Start = n/a

Fundamentals = n/a

Learn to Train = casual recreation quality pitch

Train to Train = recreation quality pitch of limited dimensions with support amenities

Train to Compete = good quality pitch of limited dimensions and good support amenities*

Train to Win = excellent quality pitch with good support amenities*.

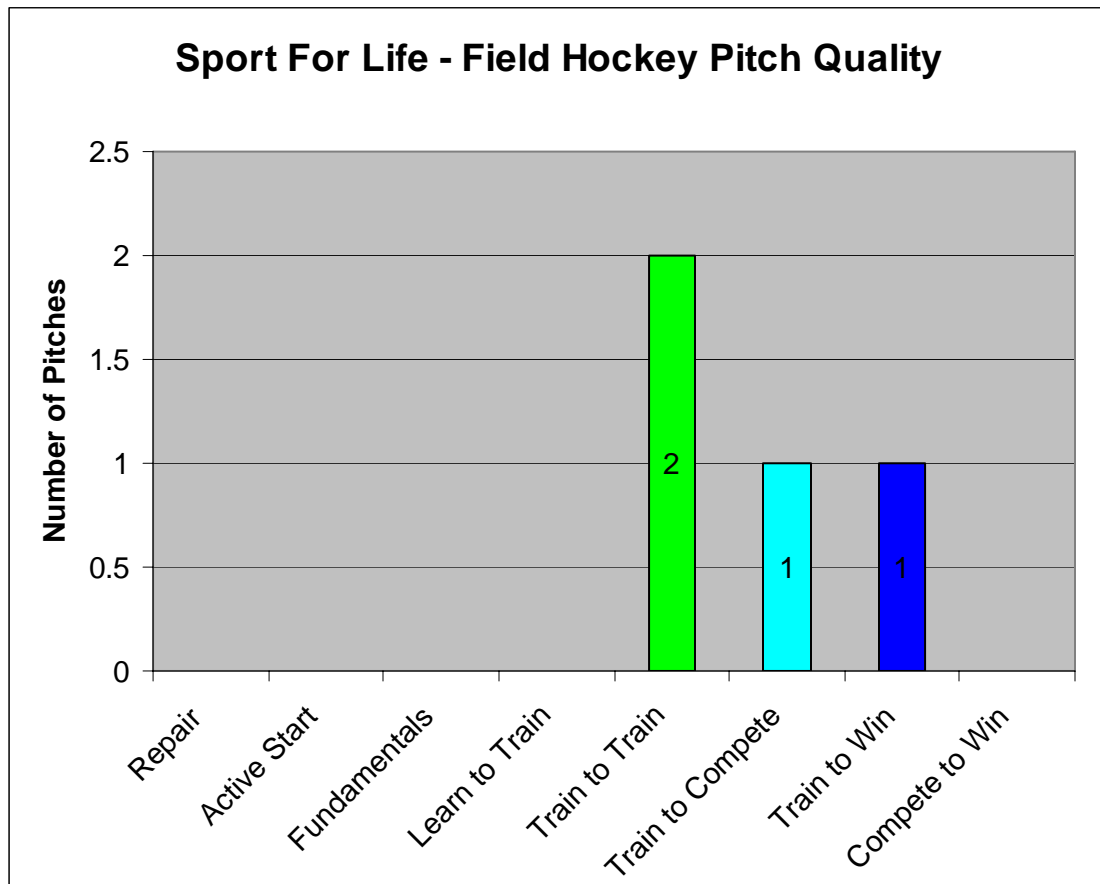
Sport Hosting = excellent quality full-pitch; large park with multiple pitches and amenities*

*Support amenities include: washrooms, change rooms, and concession

Field Hockey

There are four artificial field hockey pitches in Vancouver Park Board system. Field hockey required extremely level pitches and can be best accommodated on artificial turf. The artificial turf fields in Vancouver are at Andy Livingstone, Eric Hamber and Kerrisdale parks. The best quality field hockey pitch is at Eric Hamber.⁵

www.vancouver.ca/parkfinder_wa/index.cfm?ftype=12&keyword=&fuseaction=FAC.FacilityList&from_form=1



⁵ The quality of field hockey pitches was assessed in terms of area, surface quality and support amenities.

Active Start = n/a

Fundamentals = n/a

Learn to Train = n/a

Train to Train = recreation quality pitch

Train to Compete = good quality pitch and support amenities*

Train to Win = excellent quality pitch with good support amenities*.

Sport Hosting = excellent quality full-size pitch. Large park with multiple pitches and amenities.

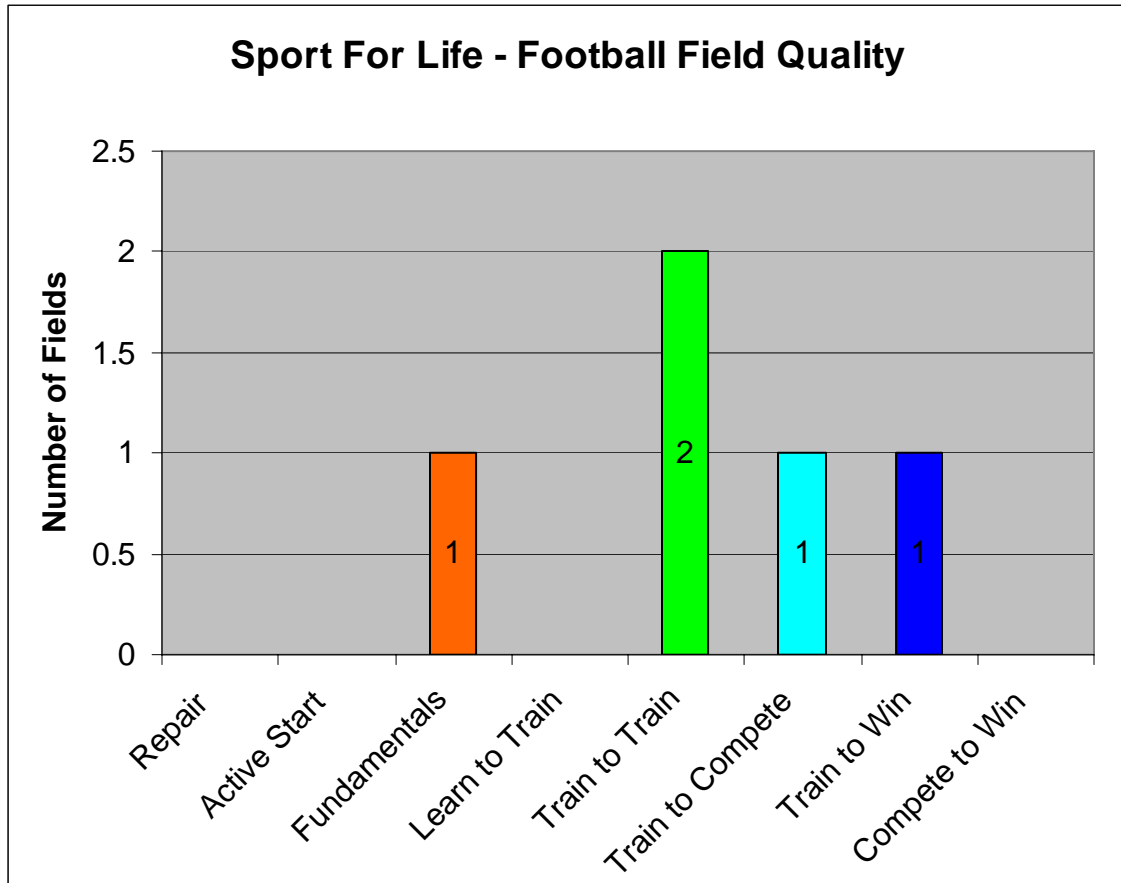
*Support amenities include: washrooms, change rooms, and concession

** All field hockey pitches are on lit artificial turf fields

Football

There are five tackle football fields in the Vancouver Park Board system. Four are full sized fields at Andy Livingstone, Carnarvon, Gordon and Rupert parks and a mini practise field at Renfrew. The top quality football field is at Rupert Park⁶.

www.vancouver.ca/parkfinder_wa/index.cfm?ftype=10&keyword=&fuseaction=FAC.FacilityList&from_form=1



⁶ The quality of football fields was assessed in terms of area, surface quality and support amenities.

Active Start = n/a

Fundamentals = undersized practise field

Learn to Train = n/a

Train to Train = recreation quality field

Train to Compete = good quality field with some support amenities*

Train to Win = excellent quality field with good support amenities*.

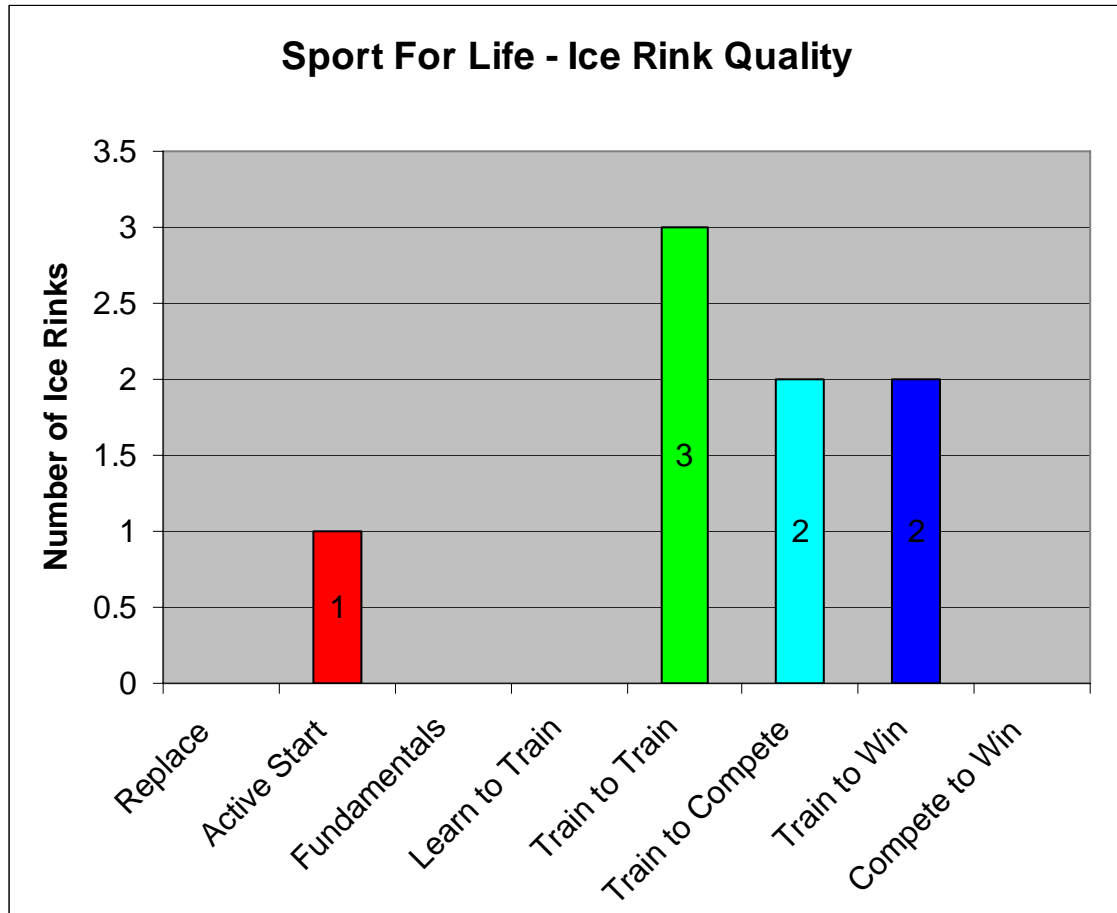
Sport Hosting = excellent quality field with excellent support amenities

*Support amenities include: washrooms, change rooms, and concession

Hockey

There are eight hockey rinks in the Vancouver Park Board system. The top Olympic size ice rinks are at Killarney and Trout Lake.⁷

www.vancouver.ca/parks/rec/rinks/index.htm?CFID=545821&CFTOKEN=20516535



⁷ The quality of ice rinks was assessed in terms of surface area, facility quality and support amenities.

Active Start = undersized ice rink < 170x70 ft. with poor amenities

Fundamentals = ice rink, 180x80 ft. and > 170x70 ft., with support amenities

Learn to Train = ice rink <200x85 ft. and > 180x80 ft., with poor support amenities*

Train to Train = ice rink <200x85 ft. and > 180x80 ft., with support amenities*

Train to Compete = good quality ice rink 200x85 ft., with support amenities*

Train to Win = excellent quality ice rink 200x100 ft. with support amenities*

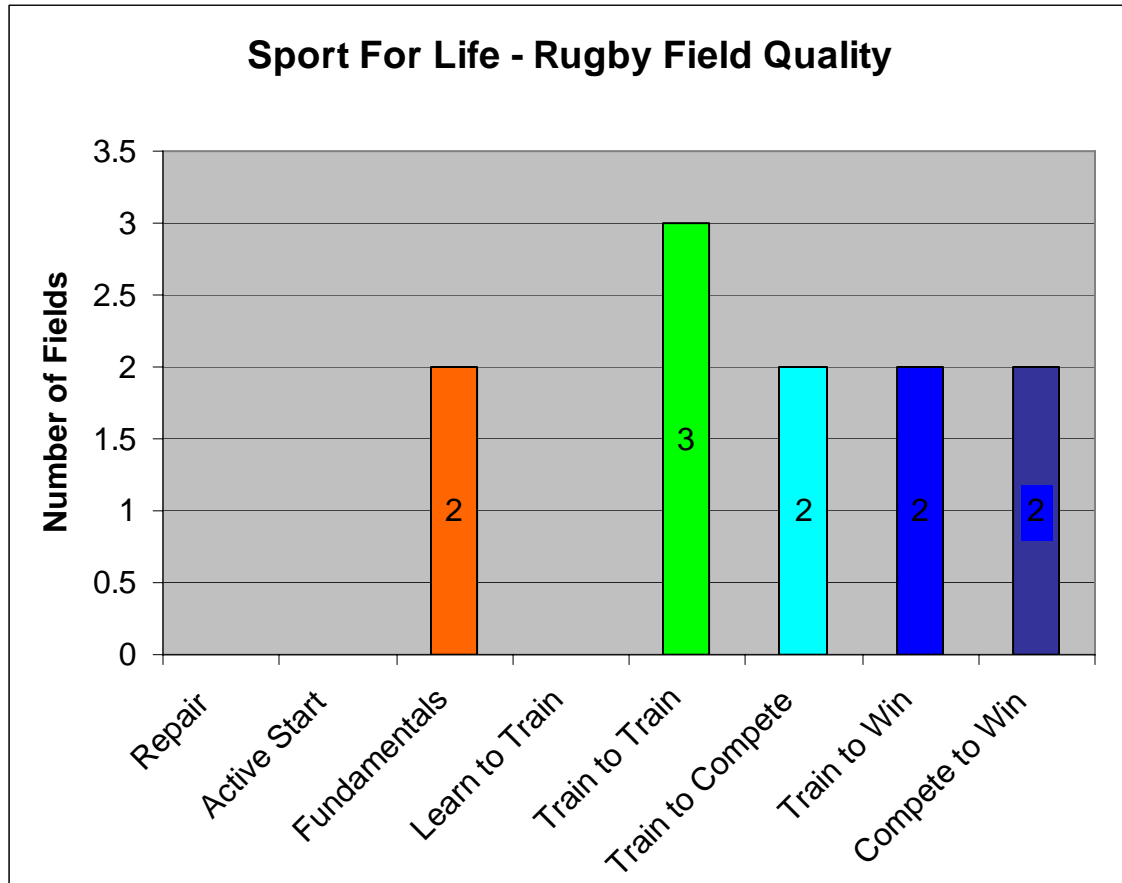
Sport Hosting = excellent quality full-size rink – 200x100 with excellent support amenities*.

*Support amenities include: benches, timer, change rooms, and stands

Rugby

There are 11 rugby facilities in the Vancouver Park Board system. The top quality facilities are at Balaclava, Connaught, Jericho Beach and Stanley parks.⁸

www.vancouver.ca/parkfinder_wa/index.cfm?ftype=25&keyword=&fuseaction=FAC.FacilityList&from_form=1



⁸ The quality of rugby fields was assessed in terms of area, surface quality and support amenities.

Active Start = n/a

Fundamentals = undersized practise field

Learn to Train = n/a

Train to Train = recreation quality field

Train to Compete = good quality field with some support amenities*

Train to Win = excellent quality field with good support amenities*.

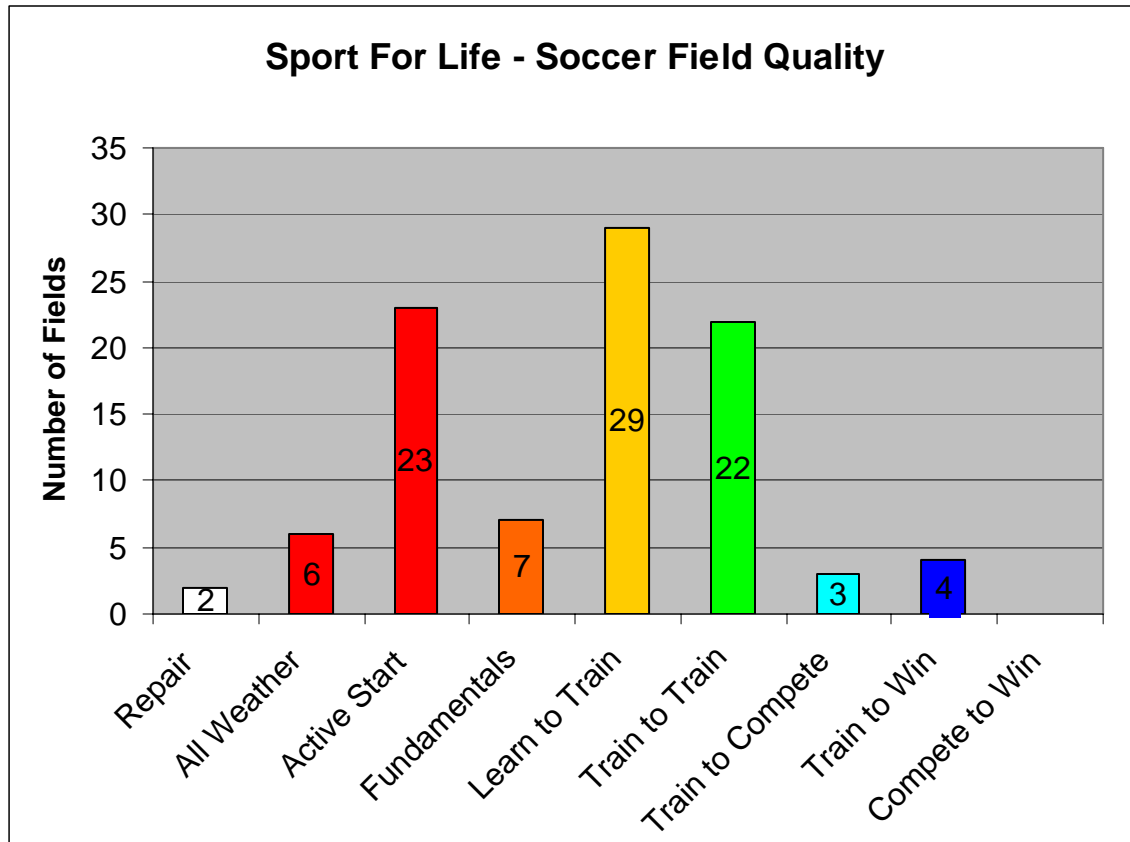
Sport Hosting = excellent quality full-size field with excellent support amenities*.

*Support amenities include: washrooms, change rooms, and concession

Soccer Fields

In 2007, there are 96 soccer fields in the Vancouver Park Board system. This includes 26 mini soccer fields for children and 70 soccer fields for youth and adults. The seven top soccer fields in the city are located at Adanac, Hastings, Kerrisdale and Memorial south parks⁹.

www.vancouver.ca/parkfinder_wa/index.cfm?ftype=26&keyword=&fuseaction=FAC.FacilityList&from_form=1



⁹ The quality of soccer fields was assessed in terms of area, surface quality and support amenities.

All Weather = crushed gravel fields for practises and backup fields during inclement weather

Active Start = youth mini-soccer fields > 55x35 m. and < 90x45 m.

Fundamentals = small full-sized fields ≥ 90x45 m. and < 100x64 m.

Learn to Train = recreation quality full-size field >90x45 m. and ≤ 100x64 m.

Train to Train = recreation quality full-field field ≥ 100x64 m.

Train to Compete = good quality field ≥ 100x64 m. with some support amenities*

Train to Win = excellent quality field ≥ 100x64 m. with good support amenities*

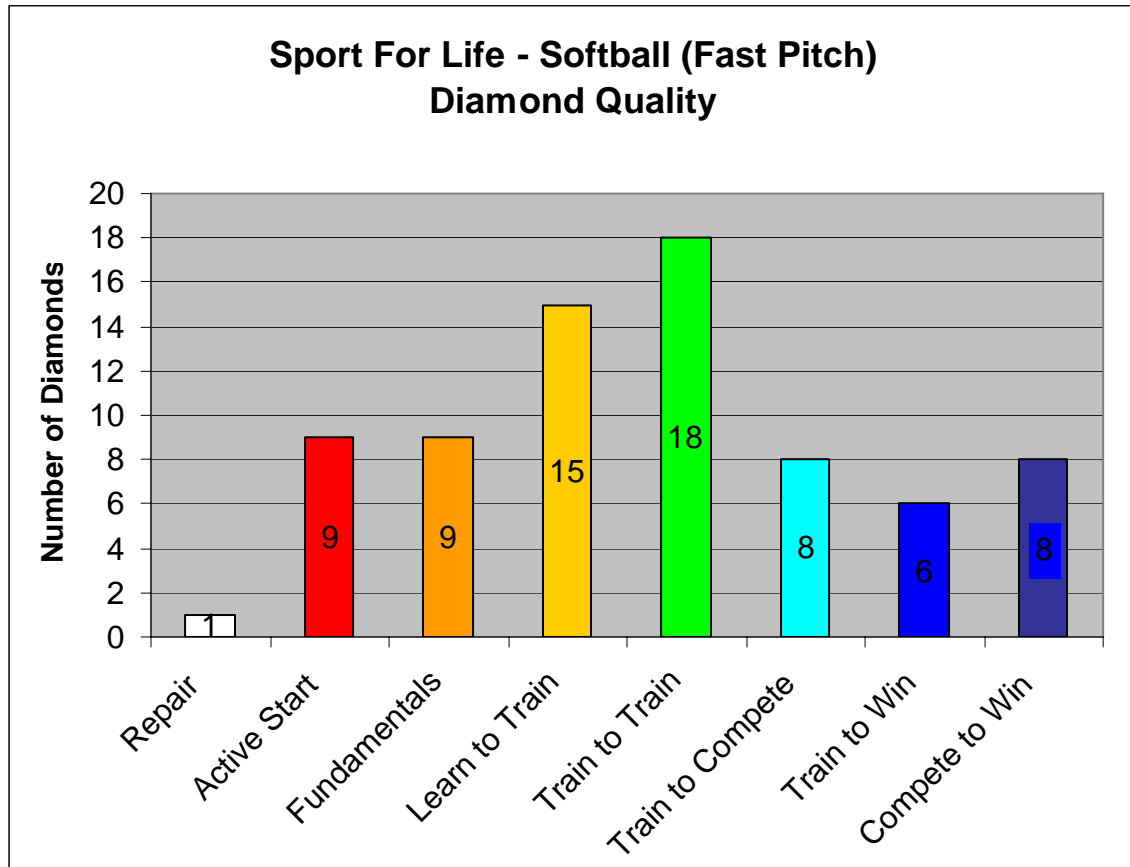
Sport Hosting = excellent quality full-size fields; large park with multiple fields and excellent amenities*

*Support amenities include: washrooms, change rooms, stands and concession

Softball –Fast Pitch

There are 74 diamonds in the Park Board system¹⁰. The top quality fast pitch diamonds are located at Columbia, Connaught, Gordon, Hastings Bowl, Memorial South and Trafalgar.

www.vancouver.ca/parkfinder_wa/index.cfm?ftype=27&keyword=&fuseaction=FAC.FacilityList&from_form=1



¹⁰ Active Start = under-sided field outfield and/or poor quality field

Fundamentals = grass infield and casual play outfield

Learn to Train = grass infield and/or recreation quality outfield

Train to Train = skinned infield, recreational quality outfield

Train to Compete = skinned infield, good outfield and some support amenities*

Train to Win = skinned infield, good quality outfield; good support amenities*

Sport Hosting = quality diamonds; large park with multiple diamonds and excellent support amenities*

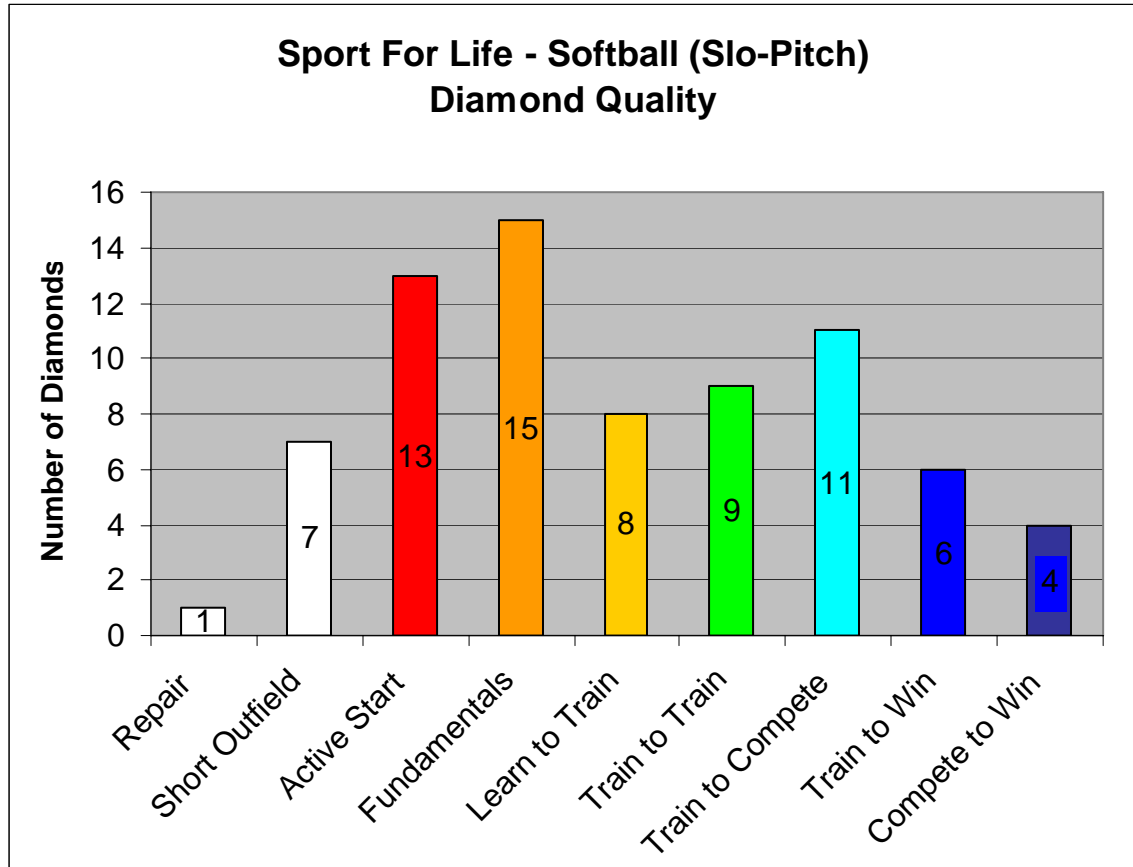
* Support amenities = quality dugouts, washrooms, change rooms, stands and concession.

Softball –Slo-Pitch

There are 74 softball diamonds in the Vancouver Park Board system¹¹. The top quality Slo-pitch diamonds are at Columbia, Connaught, Gordon, Memorial South and Montgomery parks.

Slo-pitch softball required 250 to 300 ft. outfields. This size requirement reduces the number of Park Board diamonds that are suitable for top quality slo-pitch games.

www.vancouver.ca/parkfinder_wa/index.cfm?ftype=27&keyword=&fuseaction=FAC.FacilityList&from_form=1



¹¹Active Start = under-sided field outfield and/or poor quality field

Fundamentals = grass infield and casual play outfield

Learn to Train = grass infield and/or recreation quality outfield

Train to Train = skinned infield, recreational quality outfield

Train to Compete = skinned infield, good outfield and some support amenities*

Train to Win = skinned infield, good quality outfield; good support amenities*

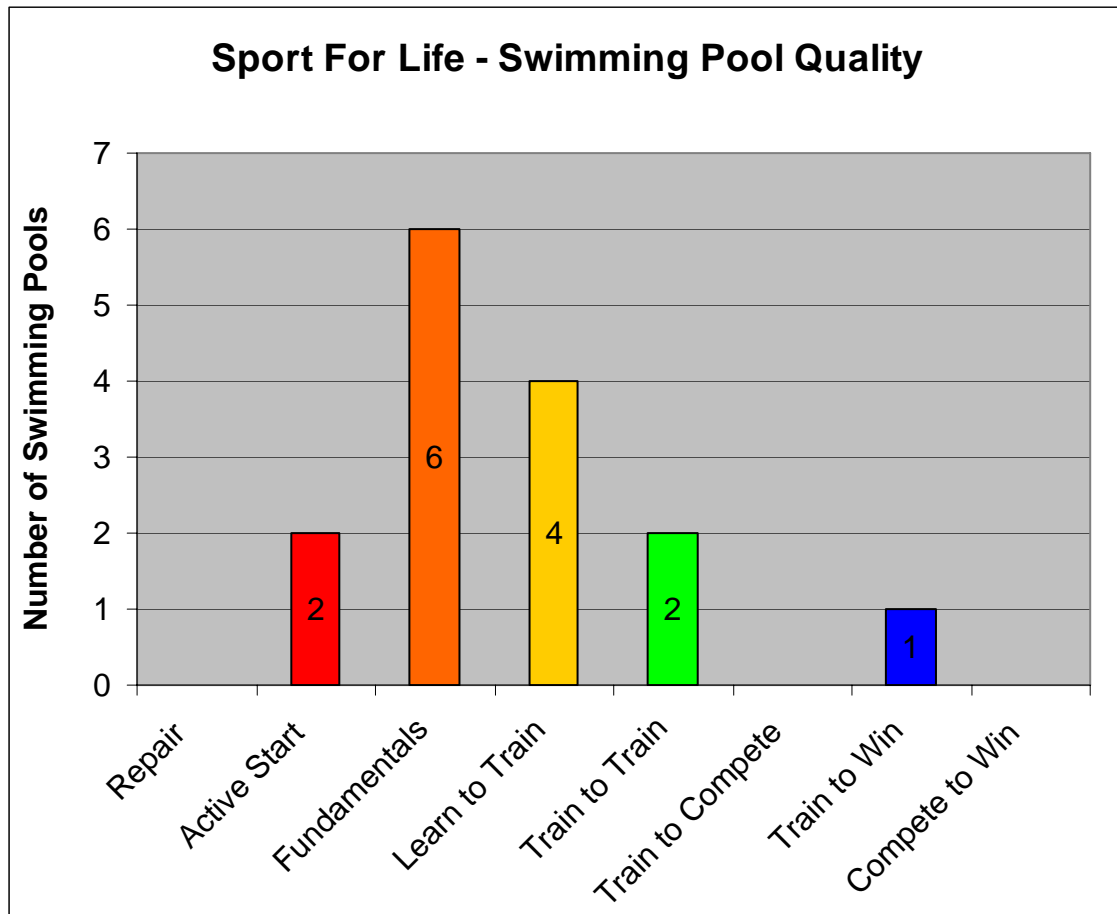
Sport Hosting = quality diamonds; large park with multiple diamonds and excellent support amenities*

* Support amenities = quality dugouts, washrooms, change rooms, stands and concession

Swimming

There are nine indoor and 6 outdoor swimming pools maintained by the Vancouver Park Board. The Vancouver Aquatic Centre is the only 50 m. pool currently open. The new Percy Norman Pool will be 50 metres long¹².

www.vancouver.ca/parks/rec/pools/index.htm?CFID=545821&CFTOKEN=20516535



¹² The quality of swimming pools was assessed in terms of surface area, depth, and support amenities*

Active Start = undersized/odd sized pool with poor support amenities.

Fundamentals = swimming pool $\leq 25 \times 15$ m. and $\geq 75 \times 42$ ft. with poor support amenities

Learn to Train = swimming pool $\leq 25 \times 15$ m. and $\geq 75 \times 42$ ft. with support amenities

Train to Train = swimming pool 25×16 m., > 1.1 m. deep, with support amenities

Train to Compete = good swimming pool, 50×20 m., < 2 m. and > 1.1 m. with support amenities

Train to Win = excellent swimming pool 50×25 m., < 2 m. and > 1.1 m. with support good amenities.

Sport Hosting = excellent swimming pool 50×25 m., 2 m. deep, with excellent good amenities.

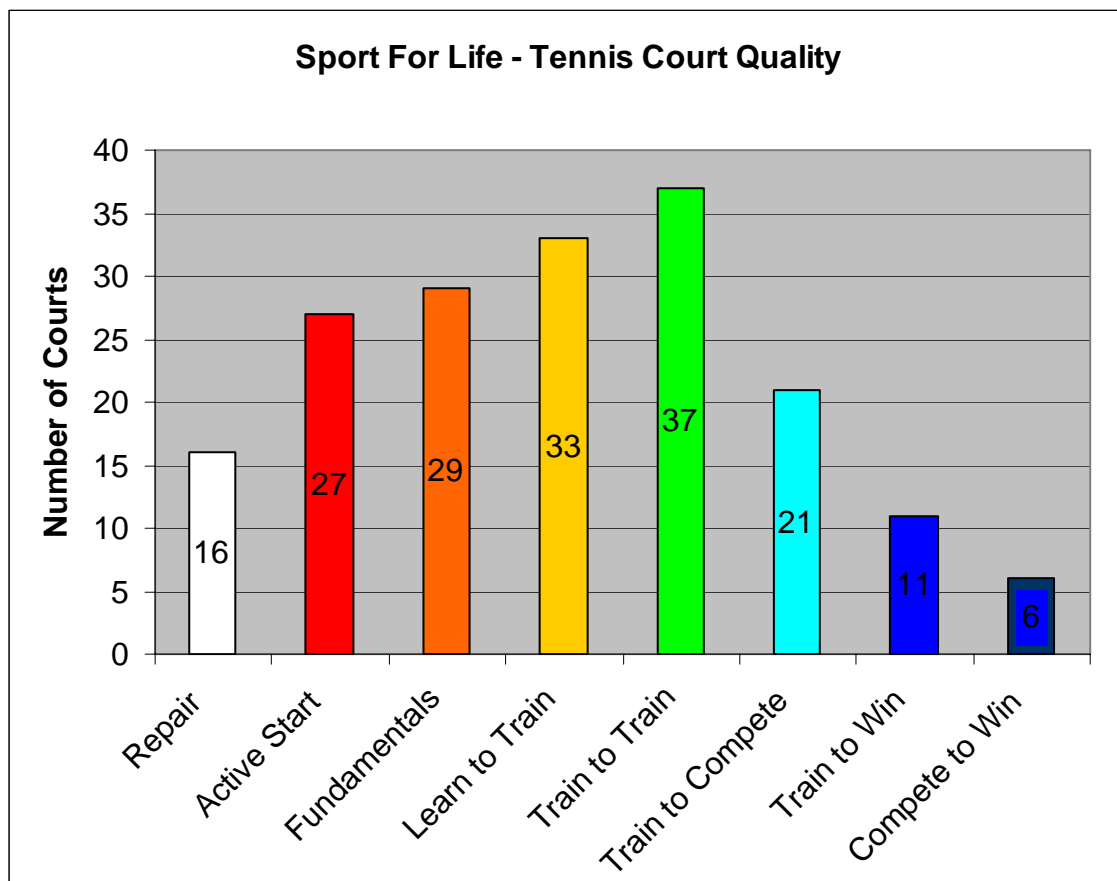
*Support amenities include: starting blocks, washrooms, change rooms, stands, and time clock.

Tennis

There are 180 tennis courts in the Vancouver Park Board system. The top quality facilities are the 6 national calibre courts at Stanley Park. There are 32 other courts that have the necessary dimensions and surface quality to support a high level of play.¹³

The tennis court system requires extensive ongoing maintenance to repair and rebuild courts as they deteriorate due to weathering and encroachment from tree roots. The tennis infrastructure would benefit by converting a few of the undersized tennis courts to “child size dimensions” to encourage an active start for young children.

http://www.vancouver.ca/parkfinder_wa/index.cfm?ftype=28&keyword=&fuseaction=FAC.FacilityList&from_form=1



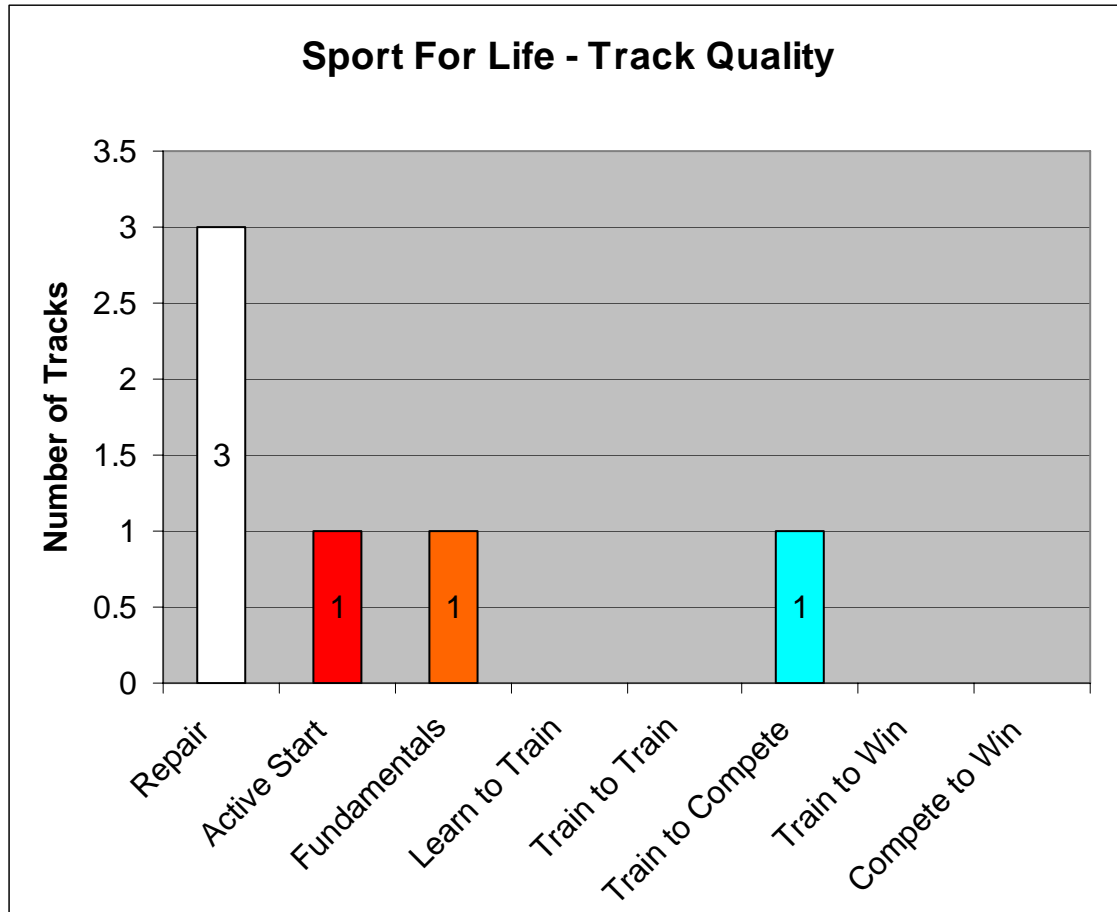
¹³ The relative quality of tennis courts was assessed in terms of total area and surface quality.
Active Start = undersized courts with < 16 ft. behind the baseline and < 9 ft. on the sideline.
Fundamentals = fair court - 16 ft. behind the baseline and 9+ ft. on the sideline
Learn to Train = recreational court - 16ft. behind the baseline and 9+ ft. on the sideline
Train to Train = recreational full-size court - 21+ ft. behind the baseline and 12+ ft. on the sideline
Train to Compete = good quality full-size court - 21+ ft. behind the baseline and 12+ ft. on the sideline
Train to Win = excellent quality full-size court - 21+ ft. behind the baseline and 12+ ft. on the side
Sport Hosting = multiple excellent courts - 21+ ft. behind baseline and 12+ ft. on the side with amenities

* Support amenities = washrooms, change rooms, stands and concession

Track

There are 6 tracks in the Vancouver Park Board system. The best quality track is at Kerrisdale Park. Asphalt tracks are at Killarney and Templeton parks. There are three old deteriorating cinder tracks at Balaclava, Memorial South and Stanley parks.¹⁴

www.vancouver.ca/parkfinder_wa/index.cfm?ftype=43&keyword=&fuseaction=FAC.FacilityList&from_form=1



¹⁴ The relative quality of tennis courts was assessed in terms of total area and surface quality.

Active Start = undersized poor quality track

Fundamentals = poor quality track with support amenities

Learn to Train = recreational quality 400 m. or yd. track with poor amenities

Train to Train = recreational quality 400 m. or yd. track with support amenities

Train to Compete = good quality track ≥ 400 m. ≥ 400 yds. with support amenities

Train to Win = excellent quality 400 m. track with good support amenities

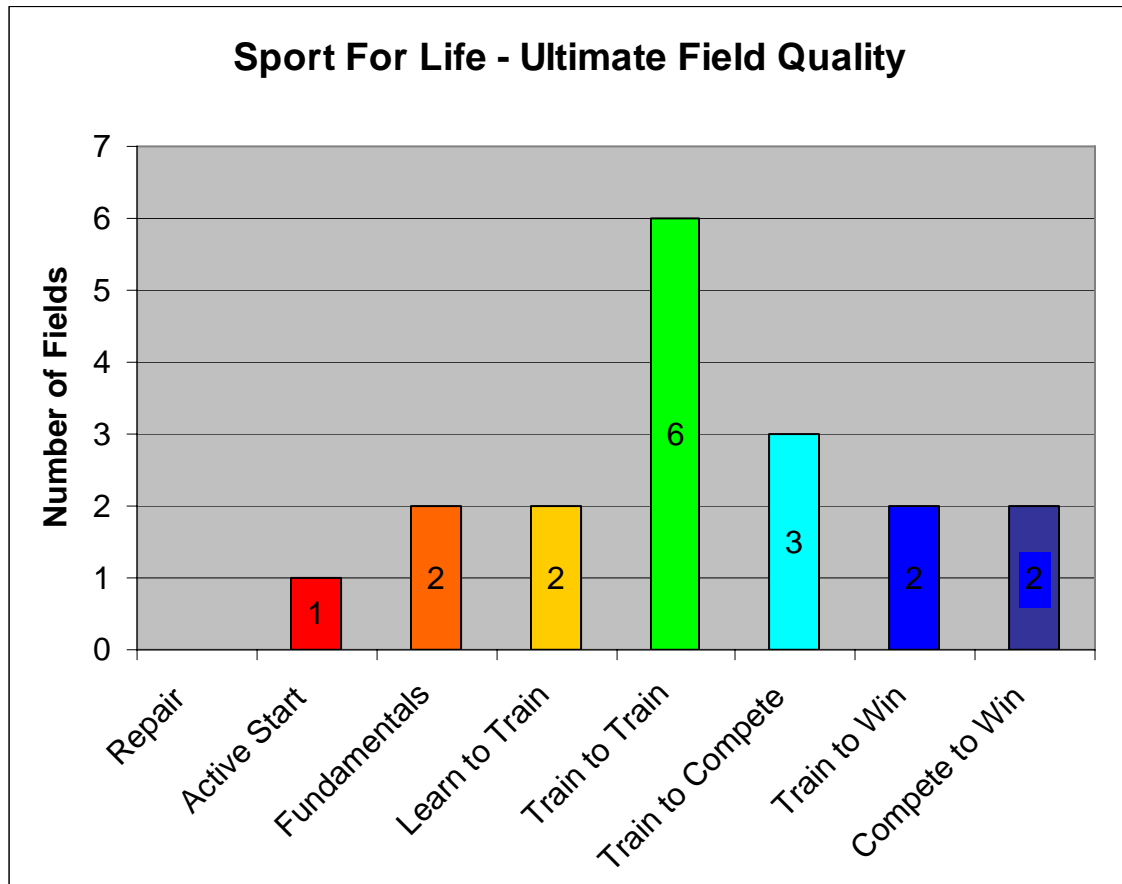
Sport Hosting = excellent quality 400 m. track with excellent support amenities*

* Support amenities = washrooms, change rooms, stands and concession

Ultimate

There are 18 Ultimate fields maintained by the Vancouver Park Board. The top quality ultimate fields are the three fields at Winona Park. Currently, the Park Board is developing new Ultimate fields at the Park site at Oak St. and 37th Avenue.¹⁵

www.vancouver.ca/parkfinder_wa/index.cfm?ftype=51&keyword=&fuseaction=FAC.FacilityList&from_form=1



¹⁵ The quality of Ultimate fields was assessed in terms of area, surface quality and support amenities*.

Active Start = undersized, casual play field

Fundamentals = casual play field

Learn to Train = recreational play; basic field $\geq 90 \times 35$ m.

Train to Train = recreation play; fair quality field $> 90 \times 35$ m.

Train to Compete = good quality field with some support amenities

Train to Win = excellent quality field with support amenities

Sport Hosting = multiple excellent field on a large park with good support amenities

*Support amenities include: washrooms, change rooms, and stands