

Revaluation 2026

Miscellaneous Properties Committee

Practice Note 16 Valuation of Tennis Courts

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This Practice Note applies to the valuation of tennis courts. The cost information included in this report may also be used when valuing the tennis court element of any multi-use outdoor sports club.
- 1.2 New or resurfaced courts are generally formed with synthetic surfaces. From the tennis point of view there is apparently little difference between any of the synthetic surfaces. Such courts require considerably less upkeep than either blaes or grass, although from a playing point of view both of these surfaces are held in high regard.
- 1.3 Tarmac courts, while not requiring the same upkeep as blaes or grass, are nevertheless inferior to all weather courts and cost less to construct.
- 1.4 The standard dimensions of the playing area of a doubles court is 23.77m x 10.97m. A standard single court as referenced in the Rating Cost Guide Scotland covers an area of 36.58m x 18.29m including back and side runs, and will have 2.75m high weld mesh fencing all round.

2.0 Basis of Valuation

- 2.1 The clubhouse together with any ancillary buildings, the site and car parking elements should be valued on the comparative principle of valuation.
- 2.2 The tennis courts element should be valued using the contractor's basis of valuation. Reference should be made to the SAA Contractor's Basis Valuations Practice Note.

3.0 Valuation Considerations

3.1 Site Value

Site values should be determined by reference to local rental evidence for sports grounds or recreational land. The valuer should consider local rental

evidence and circumstances when choosing an appropriate rate per hectare.

In the absence of local evidence, a rate of £900 to Net Annual Value (NAV) per hectare should be applied to the total area of the sports ground. An adjustment may be considered appropriate for excess land that is undeveloped or in the nature of amenity ground only.

The foregoing rate, having been derived from rental evidence, reflect the physical characteristics of the ground and the extent of the use of the subjects. No further allowance would therefore be appropriate for these elements.

3.2 Courts

3.2.1 Where actual costs are available, courts should be valued by application of the Contractor's Basis of valuation in accordance with the SAA Contractor's Basis Valuations Practice Note.

3.2.2 If actual costs are unavailable reference to the Rating Cost Guide Scotland should be made in arriving at the estimated replacement cost of courts. See "standard courts" below at 3.2.4. The recommended unit cost rates reflect the Scottish "mean" level for a notional contract size of £4,000,000.

3.2.3 These rates require to be adjusted to reflect contract size and any addition for professional fees when arriving at Estimated Replacement Cost (ERC). In applying such adjustments, reference should be made to guidance in SAA Contractor's Basis Valuations Practice Note.

3.2.4 Standard Courts

The following replacement costs should be adopted for standard recreational courts, formed as one block, with appropriate run areas to the sides and back, and 2.75m high surrounding weld mesh fencing. Each court is 36.58m x 18.29m.

Surface Type	1 Court	2 Courts	3 Courts	4 Courts	Additional Courts (each)
Blaes	£29,885	£59,771	£89,657	£119,542	£29,885
Grass	£36,780	£59,926	£94,854	£106,225	£26,556
Hard Surface	£49,310	£72,510	£102,238	£133,213	£33,303
Hard Surface Coloured	£60,481	£98,850	£139,010	£178,528	£44,632

Artificial	£81,773	£107,170	£139,401	£179,265	£44,816
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For any variation to these standard court types, reference should be made to the Rating Cost Guide Scotland. For any courts which deviate from the standard court size, the cost shown should be adjusted on a pro rata basis

3.3 **Floodlighting**

Lighting columns and lamps should be individually costed by reference to the Rating Cost Guide Scotland.

3.4 **Adjustments to the Estimated Replacement Costs**

3.4.1 **Age and Obsolescence Allowances**

In applying age related obsolescence allowances to buildings and ancillaries covered by this practice note, this should be done in accordance with the SAA Contractor's Basis Valuations Practice Note.

3.4.2 **Decapitalisation**

The appropriate statutory decapitalisation rate should be applied to the Adjusted Replacement Cost of the items valued on the Contractor's Basis.

3.4.3 **End Allowance to Elements Valued on the Contractor's Basis**

It is recognised that the application of the contractor's basis to the cost of providing the tennis court element may result in a value which is too high in relation to the elements valued on the comparative principle, and having regard to the particular nature of the subjects which are incapable of any alternative beneficial use.

It is recommended, therefore, that an allowance of up to 50% should normally be applied to these elements valued on the contractor's basis at the "stand back and look" stage of the valuation.

3.5 **Adjustments to the Value of Courts and Floodlighting**

3.5.1 **Lack of Playing Area**

The basic standard club court should have a minimum back run of 5.0m and a side run of 3.0m.

Deductions should be made pro rata to a maximum of 10% for back run and 5% for side run where the runs fall to half the minimum requirements.

Anything less is not really a “tennis court” and would require special consideration.

3.5.2 Lack of Netting Surround

The standard adopted is for a court with a wire mesh fence surround to about 2.75m height.

Deductions should be made pro rata with a maximum of 25% for lack of netting.

Where there are multiple courts with no netting between courts a deduction of 5% should be made.

3.5.3 Condition of Surface

The actual playing surface may suffer from particular deficiencies, which require to be reflected in the valuation. Consideration may require to be given to such factors as:

Poor drainage: resulting in pools of rainwater persisting for some time

Subsidence: In excess of normal wear and tear and beyond what might be reasonably considered tenants repair.

Deductions for such factors should not normally exceed 15% in total.

4.0 Clubhouse

- 4.1 Where there is a clubhouse or pavilion present, this should be valued in accordance with the recommendations of SAA Sports Clubs and Pavilion's Practice Note.

5.0 Car Park or Parking Areas

- 5.1 The above rates are exclusive of car parking. If appropriate, an addition should be made for parking in accordance with local rental evidence, normally to a maximum of 10% of the value of the subject.

6.0 End Adjustments

- 6.1 It is accepted for this category of subject that, by virtue of poor location, historic over provision or otherwise, there may be circumstances in which extent of the use of the club is such that it would affect the rental offer made by the club.
 - 6.1.1 Where such circumstances are identified, at the valuer's discretion, this may be reflected by way of an appropriate end allowance of up to 50%. The maximum allowance of 50% should, however, only be considered in the most extreme cases.

- 6.1.2 The allowance should be applied to the total value of the subjects, including the clubhouse, provided that the clubhouse is in keeping with, and appropriate to the sporting facilities. It should be borne in mind, however, that, as the chosen site value might already reflect location and the typical occupier, further adjustment to that element of the valuation may not be appropriate
- 6.1.3 The allowance should not apply to the clubhouse in circumstances where the principal use of the clubhouse is other than as an adjunct to the tennis courts – e.g. where a clubhouse is shared with say, a cricket club, or if the clubhouse has a substantial alternative use not connected with the tennis club.