

Ricky Aitken Resume

www.cricketgroundsinternational.com

Linkedin: [rickyaitkeninternational](#)

rickyaitken4@gmail.com

(+61) 0428408788



Residential Address:

43 Woodward Avenue Burnie, Tasmania, Australia, 7320

Personal Website: www.cricketgroundsinternational.com

PROFILE

Self Employed Sports Turf Professional

Operational

- Long and successful history in producing high quality sports surfaces
- Employed full time in turf industry for over 20 years
- Experience in both hands on and management of all turf surfaces, turf types in all climatic conditions

Personal

- Strong interpersonal skills
- Effective communicator
- Strong desire to succeed

Career Summary

**Turf Consultant, 2002 - Current
Hong Kong Cricket Club**

- Preparation & maintenance of cricket wickets for International, domestic and club level cricket
- Preparation and maintenance of the outfield and all playing surfaces within the facility. Including a Lawn Bowling Green
- Design and Project Managed the reconstruction of the main playing surface to a sand based construction, including the complete reconstruction of the Club's center cricket square along with the design and installation of new irrigation and drainage systems. (HK\$4 million project) May 2005
- Advising on the development & construction of the Club's Lawn Bowling Green, including preparing all specifications for the project, change turf species, growing medium, drainage, irrigation and general concept. Including the Project Management.
- Preparation of International Cricket Council, World Cricket League Tournaments & ACC 'fast track' tournaments
- Management , supervision and training of Eight indigenous staff and Contractors along with assisting in the recruitment of all staff
- Implementing training programs for new trainees
- Development & implementation of Integrated Pest Management Programs (IPM) and Implementation of OH & S Policies
- Development and management of facilities maintenance & capital budgets
- Engage and monitor contractors including the development of contracts and tenders
- Form part of event sub-committees to advise on best practices to protect turf leading up to & during events

**Turf Consultant (Home of Hong Kong International Cricket Sixes) 2005 - Current
Kowloon Cricket Club**

- Advising on preparation & maintenance of cricket pitches for International , domestic and club level cricket
- Advising on preparation and maintenance of the outfield and all playing surfaces within the facility. Including the Hong Kong International Cricket Sixes
- Advised & managed the re-construction of the center cricket square (June 2008)
- Preparation of turf for training for Professional Football teams such as Aston Villa & Tottenham Hotspurs
- Managing , supervision and training of eight indigenous staff and Contractors
- Implementing training programs for new trainees
- Development and management of facilities maintenance & capital budgets
- Assist in the recruitment of staff and the selection of employees including the development of role descriptions
- Engage and monitor contractors including the development of contracts and tenders
- Preparation of Monthly reports
- Form part of event sub-committees to advise on best practices to protect turf leading up to & during events
- Development & implementation of Integrated Pest Management Programs (IPM) and Implementation of OH & S Policies

**Turf Consultant, 2005 - Current
Hong Kong Cricket Association**

- Advising on the development & construction of new cricket grounds
- Advising on the construction of cricket turf wickets & turf practice wickets
- Advising on & assisting on the selection of suitable turf machinery
- Advising & educating of the local indigenous staff on the maintenance & preparation of cricket practice wickets
- Design and constructed new ground at Kai Tak Airport

**Turf Consultant, Project, July - October 2011
Hong Kong Football Club, Hong Kong**

- Advising on the development & construction of the Club's Lawn Bowling Green, including preparing of all specifications for the project, including turf, growing medium, drainage, irrigation and general concept
- Project Management of the project including all facets of the project
- Responsible for the grow in of the turf up to playable standard

**Turf Consultant, Project, July 2011 & July 2013
Chennai, India**

- Advising on the development & construction of new sports grounds, including preparing all specifications for the project. Including turf, growing medium, drainage, irrigation and general concept
- Advising on the construction of cricket turf practice wickets for a new facility, including preparing all the specifications for the projects
- Advising on & assisting in the selection of suitable new turf machinery for the projects

Turf Consultant, Project, April 2011

China Cricket Association, Guangdong Cricket Stadium, Guangzhou China

- Advising on preparation & maintenance of turf cricket wickets
- Advising on preparation and maintenance of the outfield
- Managing , supervision and training of 10 indigenous staff
- Advising on & assisting on the selection of suitable turf machinery

Turf Consultant Project, March 2011

Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea

- Attending to site, preparing written reports advising on the development & upgrading of existing cricket grounds and facilities, including identifying current problems and providing solutions to rectify the issues
- Advising on & assisting on the purchase of suitable new turf machinery

Turf Consultant, March 2008 – June 2008

Deccan Chargers, Indian Premier League, Rajiv Gandhi Stadium, India

- Advising on preparation and maintenance of the outfield, wickets & all playing surfaces within the Rajiv Gandhi Stadium in Hyderabad for the Indian Premier League
- Managing , and supervision and training of 15 indigenous staff
- Development & implementation of Integrated Pest Management Programs (IPM) and the use of chemical applicators
- Advising on & assisting on the selection of suitable turf machinery
- Advising & educating of the local indigenous staff on all facets of turf management
- Submitting reports and lectures to guide staff towards the improvements of the facility

Turf Consultant, July 2008

Andhra Cricket Association, Visakhapatnam, India

- Advising on the construction of centre turf wicket area
- Advising on the construction of cricket turf practice wickets
- Advising on & assisting on the selection of suitable turf machinery
- Advising & educating of the local indigenous staff on the maintenance & preparation of cricket practice wickets and general turf management

Head Groundsman's Assistant, 1998 & 2000

Marylebone Cricket Club – Lord's Cricket Ground, London U.K

- Assisting in preparation and maintenance of cricket wickets
- Assisting in preparation and maintenance of the outfield
- Assisting in preparation of practice wickets

Head Curator, 1995 - 2002

Burnie City Council – Tasmania, Australia

- Maintenance & preparation of centre cricket wickets and practice wickets.
- Maintenance & preparation of multiple high usage sporting grounds.
- Responsible for fast and effective transition of sports from season to season (Australian Rules Football, Cricket, Rugby, and Soccer)

- Major event management of facility events including concerts, athletic carnivals, and field days
- Supervision and training of staff including tradesman , apprentices and labourers
- Responsible for the management and training of staff to ensure their knowledge & skills are up to a high standard

Apprentice Greenkeeper, 1992 - 1995
South Burnie Bowls Club,
Burnie, Tasmania, Australia

Voluntary Positions

South China Turf Managers Association – Hong Kong
President, 2007 – 2011

- Operation of regular conferences and seminars
- Ambassador for the turf industry
- Coordinated mutual knowledge sharing days

Burnie Athletic Club Inc.
President, 2015 – Current

- 130-year-old club
- Conducts annual New Year's Day Sports Carnival including Athletics, Cycling and Woodchopping
- Strong membership base
- Strong community involvement

EDUCATION

Diploma in Turf Management (2002 - 2005)

North Melbourne Institute of Technology
 Victoria, Australia

Project Management (Civil, 2001)

Burnie TAFE
 Tasmania, Australia

Certificate in Horticulture 3 (Turf Management, 1993 – 1996)

Burnie TAFE,
 Tasmania, Australia

School Certificate (Year 10 level, 1992)

Parklands High School
 Burnie, Tasmania, Australia

PUBLISHED ARTICLES

Golf & Sportsturf Magazine Australia

"Our man In Hong Kong" Volume 14 – Number 4

New Zealand Turf Conference Proceeding Papers

"Managing Cricket Grounds for the Indian Premier League"

New Zealand Turf Conference Proceeding Papers

"Construction of Cricket Squares in Asia"

New Zealand Turf Conference Proceeding Papers

"Management of Lawn Bowling Greens in Adverse Weather Conditions"

Pitchcare.com.au - Online Magazine

"Hong Kong Groundsmanship"

Turfmate.com.au

"Overseeding of Warm Season Grasses"

PUBLIC SPEAKING

South China Turf Managers Association Seminar – November 2005

"Rebuilding The Hong Kong Cricket Club"

South China Turf Managers Association Seminar – MAY 2009

"Managing Cricket Grounds for the Indian Premier League"

New Zealand Turf Conference – July 2009

"Managing Cricket Grounds for the Indian Premier League"

New Zealand Turf Conference – July 2009

"Construction of Cricket Squares in Asia"

New Zealand Turf Conference – July 2009

"Management of Lawn Bowling Greens in Adverse Weather Conditions"

Sports Turf Australia (NSW) – September 2010

"Preparing Wickets for the IPL"

Sports Turf Australia (NSW) – September 2010

"Life as a Curator in Hong Kong"

The Institute of Horticulture Science of Hong Kong Ltd – December 2010

"Managing Turf at a Multiuse Venue"

Centre for Urban Greenery and Ecology – November 2013

“Venue Challenges facing maintenance of tropical amenity turf”

Centre for Urban Greenery and Ecology – November 2013

“Construction and renovation of tropical amenity turf”

INTERNET REFERENCES

<http://www.cricketgroundsiinternational.com/testimonial.php>

<http://www.turfmate.com.au/article/1063/overseeding-warm-season-grasses>

<http://www.turfmate.com.au/article/1000/around-the-world-with-cricket>