

# Special Sports: Cricket and Futsal

Presented by:  
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# Session Outcomes

- ▶ Learn history and origins of two emerging sports: cricket and futsal
- ▶ Understand the current state of these sports in Texas and nationwide
- ▶ Develop a framework to implement these (or other emerging sports) in your community

# History and Origins of Cricket

- ▶ First recorded record of a cricket match was in England in 1597
- ▶ The sport continued to evolve in the mid-1800s, as overhand bowling replaced underhand bowling
- ▶ British colonization of various countries allowed the game to spread and increase in popularity



# Cricket Explained - Briefly

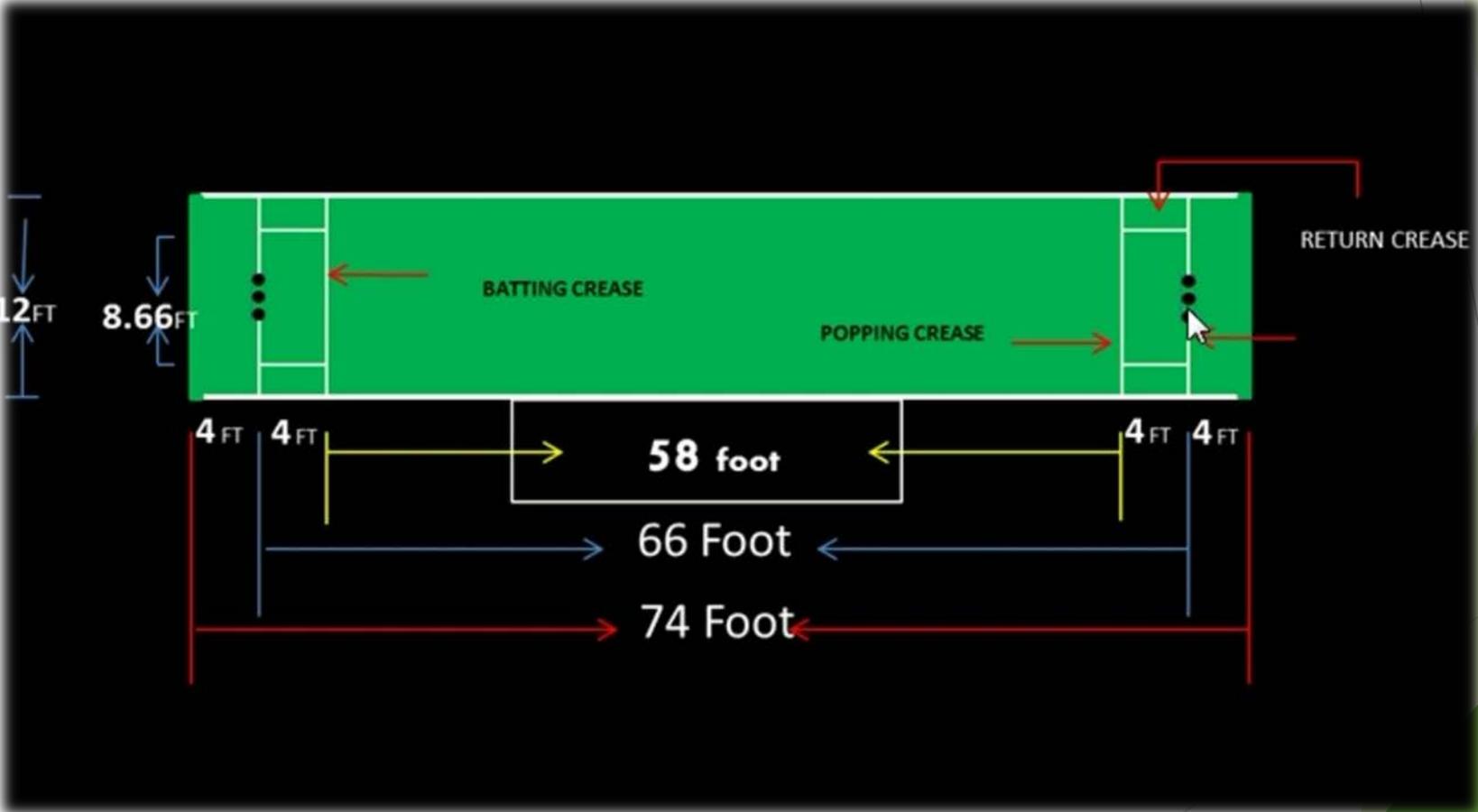
- ▶ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g-beFHld19c>

# Facility Requirements

- ▶ The Pitch
  - ▶ International competition: Typically compact ground with finely cut grass
  - ▶ Recreational play: concrete slab with synthetic turf
- ▶ A LOT OF OPEN SPACE
  - ▶ Minimum of 210 feet radius from center of pitch

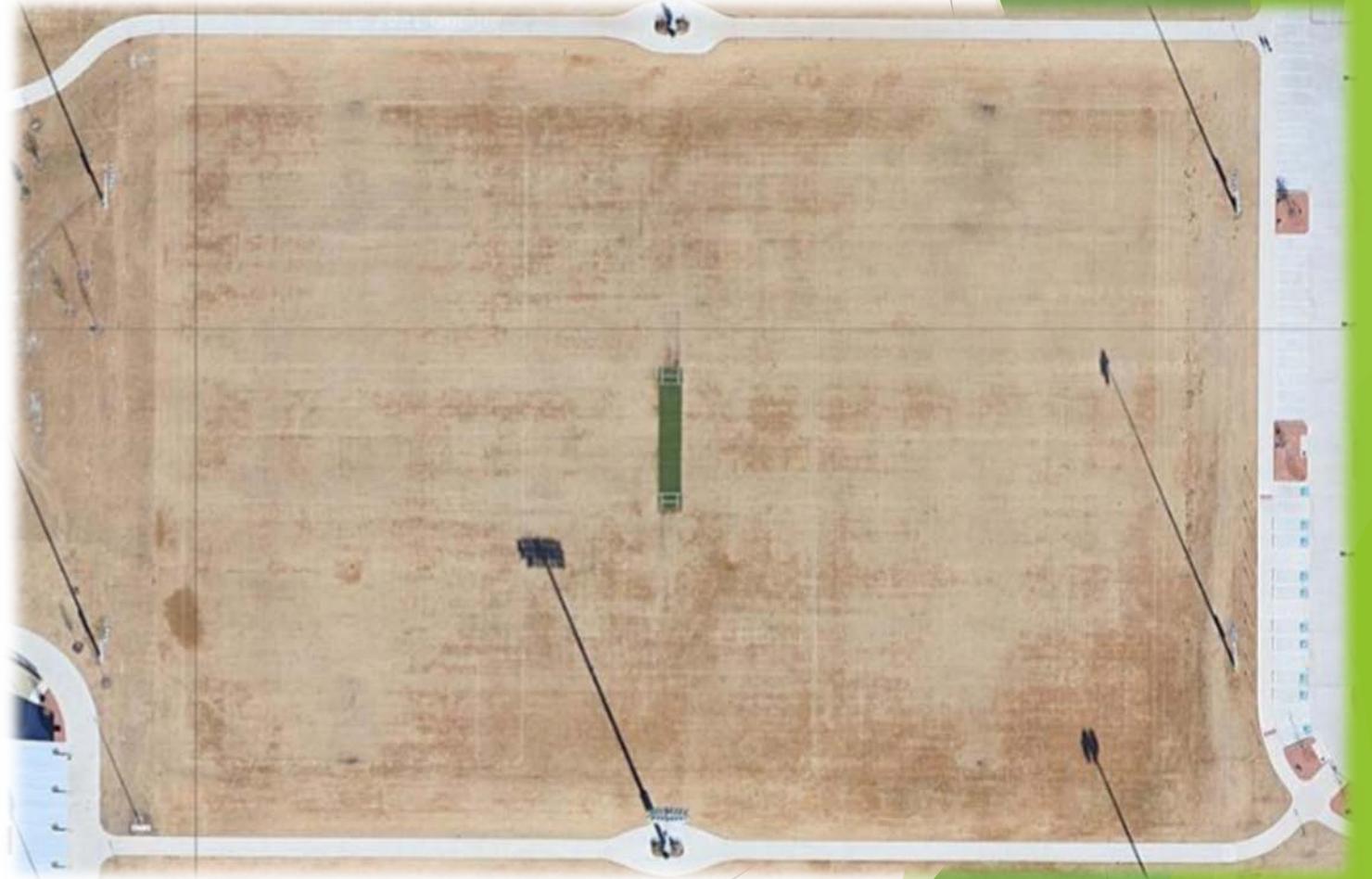


# The Pitch



# Field Layout

- ▶ Multi-use facility layout
- ▶ Potential challenges?



Northeast Community Park - Frisco, TX

# Cricket Equipment

Full Kit includes:

- ▶ Bat
- ▶ Batting gloves
- ▶ Leg guards
- ▶ Thigh guards
- ▶ Abdomen guard
- ▶ Helmet

Wickets



# Recreational Styles of Play

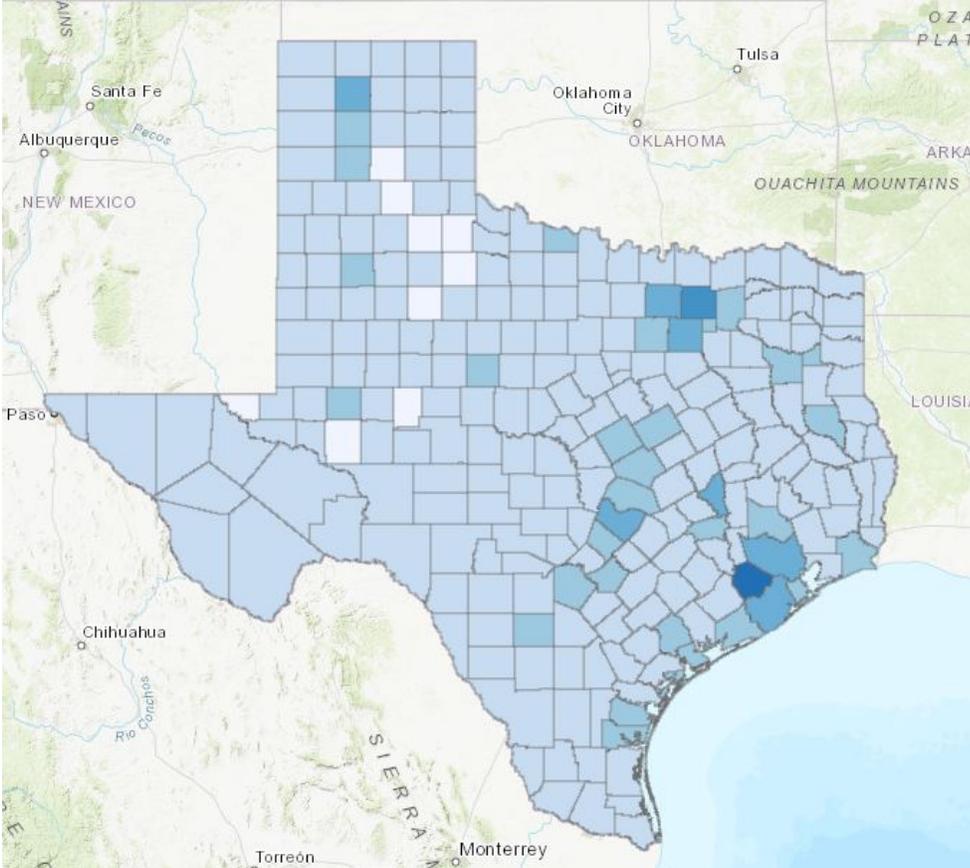
- ▶ Hard Ball/ Leather Ball Cricket
  - ▶ Requires all equipment shown previously
  - ▶ Traditionally "40 overs"
  - ▶ Games typically take eight hours to complete
- ▶ Tape Ball Cricket
  - ▶ Ball is a tennis ball heavily wrapped in electrical tape
  - ▶ Doesn't require all the equipment
  - ▶ Traditionally "20 overs"
  - ▶ Games typically take three to four hours to complete



# Cricket Today



# Texas' Changing Demographics



- Asian Population is projected to be the fastest growing race/ethnicity in Texas by 2030
  - 950,000 (2010) to 2.4 million (2030)
  - Projected 7% of entire state in 2030
- Concentrated Growth In Population Triangle
  - Dallas (Denton and Collin)
  - Houston (Fort Bend and Montgomery)
  - Austin (Williamson and Hays)

# Asian - Indian Population Growth

Year	Population	% of Frisco
2010	4,210	3.6%
2013	8,605	6.3%
2017	23,945	13.5%
2018	30,630	16.3%

# Cricket – It's Popular!



82 Million



102 Million

# Futsal - History and Origins

- ▶ Origins traced to the early 1900's in Uruguay by a teacher who wanted to offer an indoor soccer/football option
- ▶ Popularity spread throughout South America, with official rules first being adopted in the 1950's
- ▶ The Asociación Mundial de Futsal (World Futsal Association) was founded in 1971
- ▶ FIFA held its first futsal event in 1989 and now holds a Futsal World Cup

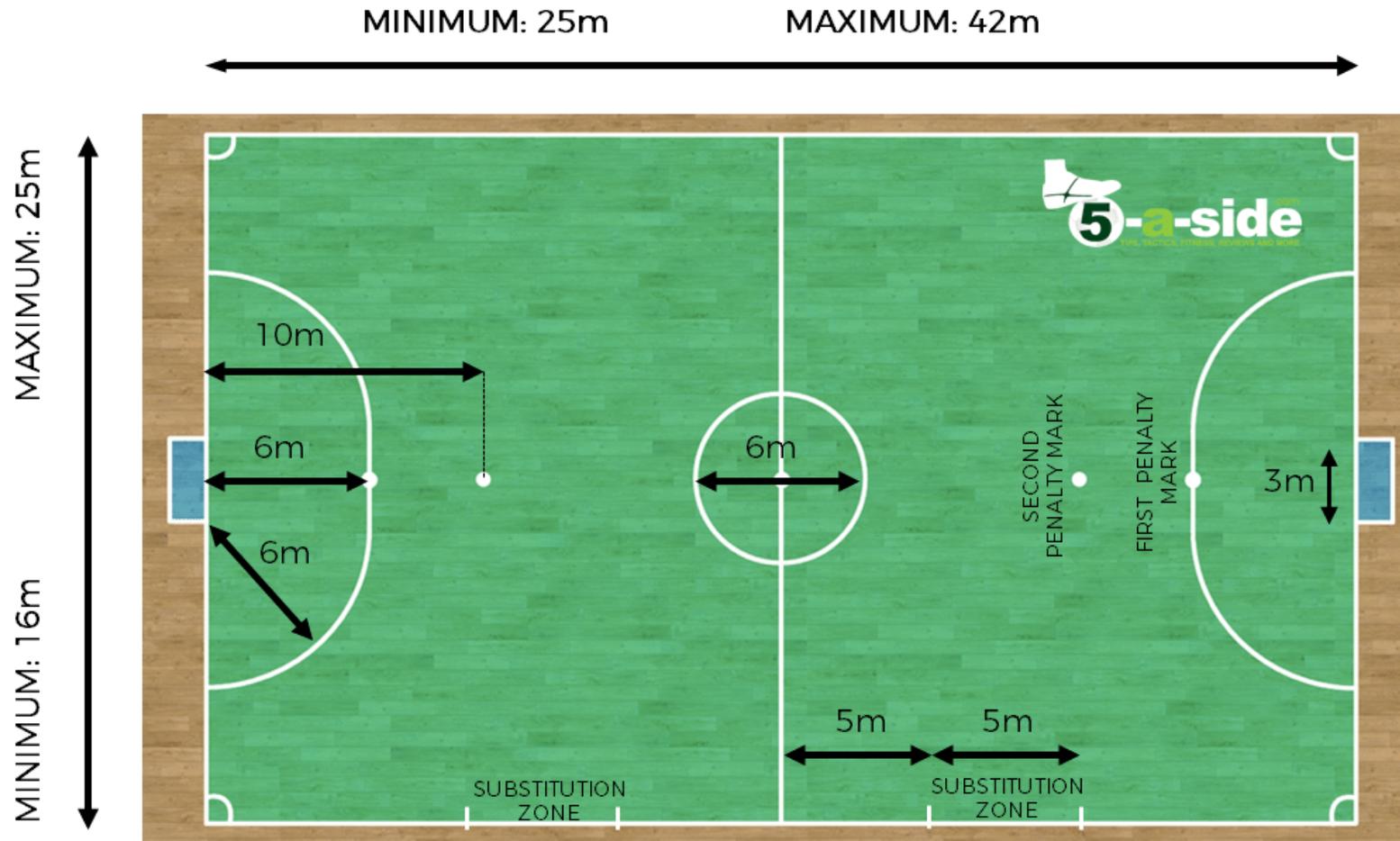
# Key Differences from Soccer

- ▶ Five players on the court
- ▶ Unlimited, rolling substitutions
- ▶ Size 4 ball
- ▶ Two twenty minute halves; clock is stopped when ball goes out of bounds
- ▶ No throw-ins; kick-ins instead



The Epic - Grand Prairie, TX

# Futsal Court Layout and Dimensions



# Futsal Programming

- ▶ It's now a TAAF sport!
- ▶ Has anyone successfully implemented futsal yet?



# Case Study - Cricket in Frisco

- ▶ Two new pitches came online in Fall 2017
- ▶ Unfamiliarity with the sport required serious research regarding the climate of cricket locally and across the DFW area.
- ▶ Outreach to surrounding cities to determine how they handled field allocation and use.
- ▶ Conduct “Town Hall” meeting with residents to determine a path moving forward.



# Case Study - Cricket in Frisco

- ▶ Hybrid model with attempted balanced allocation among multiple groups
- ▶ Challenges regarding residency verification
- ▶ Misrepresentation for personal agenda
- ▶ Shared use/limited capacityward.



# Case Study - Cricket in Frisco

- ▶ Implemented a city-run league beginning in Spring 2019
- ▶ League filled up immediately, with expansion to 28 teams by Spring 2020... then COVID
- ▶ Still faced challenges regarding residency, allocation, and use from associations



# Common Challenges of Special Sports

- ▶ Overall unfamiliarity:
  - ▶ Culture
  - ▶ Expectations
  - ▶ Logistics
  - ▶ Rules/Policies
  - ▶ Best Practices
- ▶ Skepticism
- ▶ Shared Facilities – how to program space efficiently and equitably



# Strategies for Programming Special Sports

- ▶ Evaluate current programming
- ▶ Pay attention – monitor requests and comments
- ▶ Identify key stakeholders in your community
- ▶ Develop a partnership with a quality organization, if possible
- ▶ We're the programming/league expert; they're the content expert.



# Questions?

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