



BSUK Facilities guidance off-field

STORAGE

A few clubs in the UK have the luxury of a clubhouse for storing their equipment, many use storage containers or sheds instead. This could also depend on how secure your venue is.

We recommend you search online at the time of purchase as prices may vary depending on the size required and local availability.

Exeter Baseball Club obtained a 20ft x 8ft container at an approximate cost of £2500 plus £300 delivery in 2019.

www.heaverbros.co.uk/shipping-container-stock

Worcester Baseball Club purchased a metal shed in 2022 for £360 from a local supplier.



BACKSTOP AND FENCING

A 20ft high backstop is recommended for adult baseball, depending on your club's grounds, you may need a higher backstop if there are buildings or car parks nearby.

Similarly, a fastpitch backstop can be 20ft in height or 10ft straight with panels at a 45-degree angle on top.

See Appendix 1 – Backstop Guide

Perimeter and foul line fences are advised at 1.2m high.

We have had quotations in 2020 from www.agripower.co.uk for our Farnham Park facility

6m high backstop, fenced dugouts and roofs, 2 x foul line fences (1.2m) (no outfield fence) – £22,633.30 + VAT

6m high backstop, fenced dugouts and roofs, 1 x foul line fence (1.2m) – £19,479.34 + VAT

6m high backstop, fenced dugouts and roofs – £16,325.38 + VAT

Based on these quotations, we would expect an outfield fence of 1.2m high to be circa £4-5k.



LINE MARKERS

For the job of marking the lines on the field, whether you are doing width 5cm (2 inches) or 10cm (4 inches) lines, you may want to get yourself some good marking equipment like the ones in the links below or you can make your own equipment with some planks and a can, buy your chalk and away you go.

It'll also be a good idea to watch some professionals do it in these links:

<https://tinyurl.com/yylamqyv>

<https://youtu.be/pOxPRBHMZ2k>

Line marking equipment:

<https://coveesports.com/en/training-field/field-equipment-1/field-equipment>

www.netsportique.uk/football/football-pitch-accessories/spray-line-marker-machine-fa019

BASES

One of the most exciting parts of building your field is deciding which type of base you'll be sliding into.

Below you can see a selection of the readily available bases styles which you can use in your field design. You may purchase these from various shops in the UK and abroad.

Portable (throw down) rubber bases

Great for indoors and outdoors, easy to carry. Not good with high grass:

<https://bit.ly/3F88oHd>

Vinyl coated (pillow) base set

Best for grass fields, really easy to set up and carry: <https://bit.ly/3Y63F1k>

Hollywood Safe slide bases

These are easy to install and can be move to different locations: <https://bit.ly/3VWc5GJ>

Holliwood bases (anchored)

These have a permanent fixing to your field: <https://bit.ly/3iHc7UH>



See instructions on this link on how to set the base anchors in your field:

<https://bit.ly/3BfNxAG>

If they're already anchored, you can see how to fix them here: <https://bit.ly/3ixDH6H>



Welcome to the BaseballSoftballUK BACKSTOP GUIDE

How BSUK can Help

BaseballSoftballUK constantly works with suppliers to be able to offer Chartered organisations discounts and assistance. The following have been vetted by BSUK at time of publication:

Baseball Outlet (BSUK's Official Supplier)

0800 049 2364
2 Vale Row, Parkvale Avenue,
Wirral CH43 3HF
www.baseballoutlet.co.uk

First Fence

01283 512 111
Kiln Way, Woodville
Swadlincote, Derbyshire DE118EA
www.firstfence.co.uk

BSUK is always looking for other suppliers, products and options that work for a wide variety of clubs – please check with your Relationship Manager for the latest information.

The BSUK Facilities Fund

Available each autumn, the fund can assist your club in financing a new or improved backstop. Contact your Relationship Manager for more info.

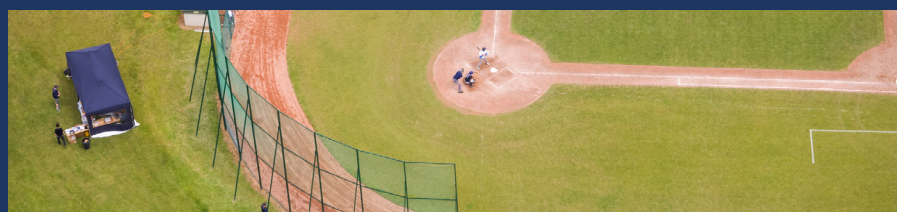
Whether your club plays slowpitch softball, fastpitch softball or baseball, we want to help you choose the appropriate backstop for your club's needs.

Taking a leading role the improvement and creation of appropriate local facilities is one of the top priorities highlighted in BSUK's Two Sports, One Ambition Strategy. As a step towards this, and as part of the Development Charter, this document has been created to support any organisation, club, or league looking to build or develop, and maintain a typical baseball and softball facility in the UK.

BaseballSoftballUK has explored the market in the UK for pop-up style backstop options as well as for more permanent options. This document will help your club on various stages of its development and growth.

E: facilities@bsuk.com

www.baseballsoftballuk.com



POP-UP STYLE

Whether your club is new and not ready yet for a permanent backstop, planning permission is needed for a solid structure or finances don't currently allow for it, the two options below will allow your club to set-up a backstop for game-day.



Stop That Ball™ system

With removable steel ground sockets. The durable ball stop net is ideal for baseball and softball.

Height: 3.7m

Lengths available: 3m, 6m, 9m, 12m, 15m.

Price approx: £150 (3m length)



Ball Stop Net and Post System

With removable ball stop post & net system, including sockets, pulleys, deats and hauling ropes.

Heights: 3.7m, 6m or 8m

Length: 5m – 150m

Price approx: £1,300 (6m x 20m)

PERMANENT STYLE

Baseball and Softball 'Panel and Post system'

A readily available solution for baseball and softball backstops in the UK. This system is popular in schools and Multi Use Games Areas (MUGAs).

Your club is ready to set base and have all the planning permits needed to construct a solid backstop, the First Fence style option will allow you to begin constructing a backstop which is right for your sport. This modular build will allow you to add on to your fence as your club needs grow.

Height: starting at 1.2 metres up to 3 metres high. Posts come 1 metre longer than the final height to allow for a strong, buried foundation

Lengths available: Flexible

Price approx: First Fence quoted £1,612 for the materials for a backstop shown, including £130 for delivery to Manchester. All screws, plastic inserts, security bolts are included. They also supplied the post concrete to which you simply add water.

Delivery: Available for £130 to Birmingham, Dartford, Bristol, Bradford and Glasgow

Installation: The panels are easily installed once the posts have been planted. A handy member of your club should be able to install the backstop. You may choose to get a quote from a local builder.



Benefits:

- ✓ Quick and simple assembly
- ✓ Used widely in schools
- ✓ Solid and durable
- ✓ Low maintenance
- ✓ Can be built in stages and to size

