Fairyhouse Racecourse

Co. Meath, Ireland



Title of Contract	Fairyhouse Racecourse Renovation Works
Type of Contract	Public Works Contract for Building Works Designed by the Employer
CRL Contract Number	012647 & 012670
Contract Value	€215,717.55
Client	Fairyhouse Club Limited, Ratoath, Co. Meath
Where the works were carried out	Fairyhouse Racecourse, Ratoath, Co. Meath
Start Date	12/09/2016
Completion Date	08/09/2017
Pitch Design	James Healy Agronomist, Inisgrove, Lahinch Road, Co. Clare
Consultants	James Healy Agronomist, Inisgrove, Lahinch Road, Co. Clare

Over the course of one year Clive Richardson Limited undertook substantial improvement works to Fairyhouse Racecourse. These works included the construction of a canter down gallop, the widening of the bend on the inner track, installation and upgrading of track drainage, realignment of bend between 2nd and 3rd furlong, re-establishing ambulance road between 2nd and 3rd furlong, and modifications of boundary at 11th furlong.

Works were carried out by CRL in two distinct phases carried out at times to suit the extensive schedule of the racecourse. These works included:

Phase One – canter down surface and inner track works

1. Strip surface from existing gallop area and stockpile at a designated area on site. Material excavated using 13T Digger and 9T Dumpers.
2. Set out and agree line of new gallop. Strip existing topsoil and stockpile. Excavate sub-soil to the required depth and dispose on site.
3. Excavate for and install new drain in centre of the track, to required falls and connect to an existing outlet. Pip trench backfilled with clean drainage stone by tractor and stone-cart, to sub-soil level.
4. Supply and place imported clean graded stone to base of track. Material to be tipped in an agreed stockpile location and transported by a 9T Dumper or tractor and trailer to the required location. Similar material to be spread along the line of the existing track.
5. Geotextile layer will be laid on the stone surface and extended beyond the track to overlap the existing ground. Topsoil will then be placed on the track perimeter to facilitate the formation of new banks and to hold the topsoil in place. The perimeter areas to be cultivated and sown out.
6. An approved sand will then be imported and spread to the required depth. Sand will be placed in layers, firmed during building-up and graded to required levels.
7. The reinforcing fibre will be imported in bales and passed through a 'chopping' process. It will then be spread in a consistent layer over the sand surface and mixed with the upper 100mm layer using a buryavator. The surface will then be regraded and firmed.

Phase Two – 2nd, 3rd and 11th furlong works and ambulance road

1. Strip tarmac from existing road and dispose on site
2. Excavate stone base and place into existing drain line
3. Excavate soil from line of new road and stockpile
4. Excavate sub-soil and place into old road
5. Strip topsoil from prepared area on site
6. Haul and fill into line of old road and drain
7. Grade the whole area
8. Install new lateral drains
9. Install new sand slits
10. Spread previously stripped sand
11. Supply and spread additional sand
12. Supply and place stone base to ambulance road
13. Supply and place hra surface to road
14. Cultivate, rake and seed out
15. Install drainage and sand slits to other areas of the site
16. Install new drainage pipes at 11th furlong
17. Cultivate existing soil and supplement with additional site soil if required
18. Erect new fence
19. Seed out extension area
20. Plant new hedge line

Operations had to be carried out in a controlled manner as horses were using various parts of the track on a daily basis and this obviously meant constraints around the use of machinery and limitations on the delivery of goods to site. Periodically during the works ground had to be reinstated to allow meetings to take place. CRL carefully planned and coordinated all works in conjunction with the client and course management to ensure that the operational delivery of the project went without hitch.

The standard of the work carried out by CRL was recognised in the 2018/19 ALCI Landscaping Awards where the project was given an Award of Merit in the Sportsgrounds category.













Post Contract

Clive Richardson Limited have been retained by the Racecourse Management to undertake an additional phase of improvement works to the course in 2018. We continue to work in partnership with Horse Racing Ireland and the course management to ensure that the racecourse is maintained in the best possible condition following the improvement and upgrade works which we have completed.

More Information

For more information on this project please contact Priscilla McFarland, General Manager/Director, Clive Richardson Limited via post to 54 Derrycoose Road, Portadown, Co. Armagh, BT62 1LY; via email to pmcf@cliverichardsonltd.co.uk or via telephone on +44 (0) 2838852888