

**CLIENT:**

BOCCIA UK

**SOLUTION:**

TARAFLEX® EVOLUTION

**LOCATION:**

GLASGOW

## Boccia UK specify world class Taraflex® sports flooring from Gerflor.

In anticipation of the 2024 World Cups, Boccia UK has made a strategic decision to enhance their training and competition venue with world class Taraflex® Evolution sports flooring. This choice underscores the importance of high-quality, durable surfaces in the world of competitive sports.

Taraflex® Evolution, provided by Gerflor, is renowned for its versatility across various sports and leisure activities, making it an excellent choice for Boccia UK's diverse needs. The flooring's benefits, such as comfort, safety, and a specialised surface treatment for easy maintenance and optimal performance, align with the rigorous demands of elite boccia players.

This collaboration with Gerflor not only prepares Boccia UK for the upcoming global events but also sets a new standard in the sporting community for facilities that prioritise athlete welfare and performance. The end result, 450m<sup>2</sup> Taraflex® installed in Mint Green, a major transformation to their facilities, a world class indoor sports surface...it's where champions begin, learn, train and play!

Boccia stands out as a paragon of inclusivity in sports, designed to accommodate athletes with high support needs. It is a precision ball sport, similar to bocce, that is contested at local, national, and international levels. Players deliver soft leather balls with the goal of getting closest to a white target ball, or jack. The sport demands strategic thinking, precision, and teamwork, making it not only a test of physical skill but also of mental acuity. Its accessibility allows people of all abilities to compete on an equal footing, promoting social integration and fostering a sense of community and equality.



“What is important for us, is that it's the same flooring that will be used as the playing surface at all the major sporting events we will be attending, around the world in 2024.”

Greg Baker, Performance Director, Boccia UK



With over 54,000 people playing in England alone, Boccia's impact on physical and mental well-being is significant, with many players reporting improved confidence and quality of life. As the sport continues to grow, it fosters a competitive yet supportive community that celebrates the achievements of athletes with disabilities on an international stage.

Greg Baker - Boccia UK's Performance Director said, "We are now in the middle of a busy season with a full calendar of events." On the association with Gerflor, Baker added, "We have managed to agree a partnership with Gerflor who are providing us with their Elite Performance sports flooring at our training camps in Glasgow. What is important for us, is that it's the same flooring that will be used as the playing surface at all the major sporting events we will be attending, around the world in 2024."

It is clearly evident that this partnership between Boccia UK and Gerflor has marked a significant step in the preparation for upcoming major sporting events. By securing Gerflor's Elite Performance Sports flooring for their training camps in Glasgow, Boccia UK athletes can train on the same high-quality surfaces they will compete on globally in 2024. This consistency

is crucial for athletes to perform at their best, as it allows them to become accustomed to the playing surface, reducing the potential for surprises during competition and enhancing their overall preparedness for the challenges ahead. The collaboration underscores the commitment to providing athletes with top-tier facilities that mirror the conditions of the world's most prestigious tournaments.

Commenting on the project David Carter Gerflor National Sales Manager, Sports Flooring said, "Funded by Sport England, we have agreed to supply our world class Taraflex® Evolution sports flooring to Boccia UK for their training camps in Scotland. This is precisely the surface on which the team will compete on across all the significant sporting occasions in 2024".

Claire Taggart from Larne in Northern Ireland and David Smith OBE who lives in Swansea, are both currently world number ones. David Smith is Britain's best ever Boccia player and is known for his colourful blue and red dyed haircuts. They also come together to compete as the BC1/2 Team which is currently ranked third in the world.

Claire Taggart commented, "Training on the Taraflex® sports flooring is incredibly important, mainly because

all major tournaments are held on this surface. Competing across many different surfaces means it's tough to find familiarity and get used to every surface, but having regular access to Taraflex® will mean that at major competitions we are better prepared and can hit the ground running."

Echoing Clare Taggart's comments, David Smith OBE said, "Being able to use and train on Gerflor's Taraflex® sports flooring is really important for us a squad. All the major international events use Taraflex® as the preferred surface of choice for World Boccia. Being able to train on Taraflex® at world class performance camps just gives us that extra bit of practice and confidence."

David Smith OBE concluded, "The playing surface does make a huge difference on how the balls react and having that extra training on Taraflex® sports flooring means that we are not going to be found wanting, when it comes to competing on the bigger stages around the world in 2024."

David Carter ended by saying, "Gerflor have contributed by funding the costs incurred for the temporary install and removal for a number of camps to ensure the team get the best preparation possible".

For further information on Gerflor's extensive range of flooring solutions please contact us:

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