**New Zealand First Class Cricket Grounds**

32 grounds have been used over a fourteen year period from 1996/97 with 16 having more than 5 matches. A number of

those grounds will not be used in the future for first class matches. The 2006/07 season used only nine grounds which was

the fewest number used over the past fourteen years. 2007/08 season saw an increase in number to twelve, the 2008/09 season

used 13 grounds, although the final was played at Lincoln Oval and in 2009/10 twelve grounds were used. In the 2002/03 season

18 grounds were used, the most over the last fourteen years.

**First Class Grounds 2004/05 to 2009/10**

This chart analyses matches played at the most frequently used grounds over the past six years. Of interest to

the CCA is the difficulty in achieving results at the QE2 ground.

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|  | **Matches** | **Results** | **Result%** | **r/o** | **300+** | **300%** | **100-** | **r/wkt** | **Century** | **100/balls** | **LBW%** |
| Basin Reserve | 22 | 13 | 59.09% | 3.10 | 29 | 39.19% | 1 | 32.83 | 36 | 1154 | 18.96% |
| Hamilton | 13 | 6 | 46.15% | 3.07 | 19 | 39.58% | 0 | 35.30 | 29 | 905 | 14.96% |
| Invercargill | 3 | 1 | 33.33% | 3.28 | 5 | 45.45% | 0 | 37.44 | 3 | 1783 | 11.54% |
| McLean Park | 11 | 4 | 36.36% | 3.46 | 26 | 65.00% | 0 | 43.27 | 34 | 693 | 11.46% |
| Nelson Park | 4 | 1 | 25.00% | 3.35 | 9 | 60.00% | 0 | 38.75 | 9 | 949 | 16.26% |
| New Plymouth | 4 | 4 | 100.00% | 3.45 | 5 | 33.33% | 0 | 36.37 | 7 | 1113 | 11.38% |
| Palmerston Nth | 3 | 2 | 66.67% | 3.19 | 6 | 60.00% | 0 | 33.29 | 5 | 1228 | 11.22% |
| Queenstown | 7 | 7 | 100.00% | 3.07 | 6 | 24.00% | 0 | 31.25 | 11 | 1138 | 19.51% |
| Mainpower Oval | 8 | 6 | 75.00% | 3.22 | 14 | 48.28% | 0 | 35.47 | 17 | 985 | 17.00% |
| University Oval | 14 | 9 | 64.29% | 3.00 | 12 | 24.00% | 5 | 27.07 | 12 | 1960 | 18.20% |
| Village Green | 15 | 5 | 33.33% | 3.23 | 24 | 48.00% | 0 | 41.15 | 34 | 831 | 18.97% |
|  | **104** | **58** | **55.77%** | **3.18** | **155** | **42.23%** | **6** | **35.04** | **197** | **1016** | **16.59%** |

**Overall comparison of grounds 2004/05 to 2009/10**

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|  | **Results** |  |  | **Run Rate** | |  | **Centuries** | |  | **300%** |  |
| New Plymouth | 100.00% |  | McLean Park | 3.46 |  | McLean Park | 693 |  | McLean Park | 65.00% |  |
| Queenstown | 100.00% |  | New Plymouth | 3.45 |  | Village Green | 831 |  | Palmerston Nth | 60.00% |  |
| Mainpower | 75.00% |  | Nelson Park | 3.35 |  | Hamilton | 905 |  | Nelson Park | 60.00% |  |
| Palmerston Nth | 66.67% |  | Invercargill | 3.28 |  | Nelson Park | 949 |  | Mainpower | 48.28% |  |
| University Oval | 64.29% |  | Villlage Green | 3.23 |  | Mainpower | 985 |  | Village Green | 48.00% |  |
| Basin Reserve | 59.09% |  | Mainpower | 3.22 |  | New Plymouth | 1113 |  | Invercargill | 45.45% |  |
| Hamilton | 46.15% |  | Palmerston Nth | 3.19 |  | Queenstown | 1138 |  | Hamilton | 39.58% |  |
| McLean Park | 36.36% |  | Basin Reserve | 3.10 |  | Basin Reserve | 1154 |  | Basin Reserve | 39.19% |  |
| Village Green | 33.33% |  | Hamilton | 3.10 |  | Palmerston Nth | 1228 |  | New Plymouth | 33.33% |  |
| Invercargill | 33.33% |  | Queenstown | 3.07 |  | Invercargill | 1783 |  | University Oval | 24.00% |  |
| Nelson Park | 25.00% |  | University Oval | 3.00 |  | University Oval | 1960 |  | Queenstown | 24.00% |  |
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|  | **Runs/wkt** |  |  | **LBW %** |  |  | **Ranking** |  |  |  |  |
| McLean Park | 43.27 |  | Palmerston Nth | 11.22% |  | McLean Park | 15 |  |  |  |  |
| Village Green | 41.15 |  | New Plymouth | 11.38% |  | New Plymouth | 25 |  |  |  |  |
| Nelson Park | 38.75 |  | McLean Park | 11.46% |  | Nelson Park | 30 |  |  |  |  |
| Invercargill | 37.44 |  | Invercargill | 11.54% |  | Mainpower | 31 |  |  |  |  |
| New Plymouth | 36.37 |  | Hamilton | 14.96% |  | Palmerston Nth | 31 |  |  |  |  |
| Mainpower | 35.47 |  | Nelson Park | 16.26% |  | Village Green | 32 |  |  |  |  |
| Hamilton | 35.00 |  | Mainpower | 17.00% |  | Invercargill | 38 |  |  |  |  |
| Palmerston nth | 33.29 |  | University Oval | 18.20% |  | Hamilton | 38 |  |  |  |  |
| Basin Reserve | 32.83 |  | Village Green | 18.97% |  | Basin Reserve | 49 |  |  |  |  |
| Queenstown | 31.25 |  | Basin Reserve | 18.96% |  | Queenstown | 51 |  |  |  |  |
| University Oval | 27.07 |  | Queenstown | 19.51% |  | University Oval | 56 |  |  |  |  |

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| As the number of matches played at each ground varies considerably (74 inns at Basin Reserve, 29 at Mainpower Oval, 15  at New Plymouth and Nelson Park and 10 inns at Palmerston North) it is difficult to make accurate comparisons. However some  trends do stand out.  The two grounds that clearly favour the batsmen are Pukekura Park and McLean Park.  Grounds that rank low are the University Oval, Queenstown and the Basin Reserve. |
| 1. Results  Outright decisions have been the most difficult to obtain at Nelson Park, ( one result in 4 matches), Invercargill( one result in three matches)  and the Village Green with five decisions in 15 matches  2. Run Rate  Three grounds stand out with the highest run rate achieved at McLean Park. It is surprising to note the low run rate at the University  Oval.  3. Centuries  A very wide range between top and bottom grounds. A surprise to see such a low figure at the University Oval with only twelve centuries  in 50 innings.  4. 300+ Innings  Another wide range from top to bottom and it is surprising with the short boundaries at the University Oval that only twelve  300+ have been recorded in 50 innings. The ratio improved greatly in 2009/10 with five plus scores over 300.  5. Runs/Wicket  By a clear margin more runs are scored for wickets lost are achieved at McLean Park and the Village Green but there is a  large gap to the lower rates achieved at the University Oval and Queenstown..  6. LBW decisions  Not surprising there is a low number of lbw’s at McLean Park but a high number at Queenstown and the Basin Reserve..  The Basin Reserve with 124 lbw decisions in 654 wickets is high for an International ground. However the rate has fallen  over the past three years. |