

## PRESS RELEASE

---

### Building Support in the Community

Football Clubs are generally seen as hard-nosed business entities, but in some cases the desire to develop closer ties with the local population is more than just another PR exercise. The Community Sports Hall, built with the backing of West Bromwich Albion FC, is part of a £30million investment from the Barclays Spaces for Sports initiative to create sustainable sports facilities across the UK.

Following the completion of the clubs indoor soccer training facility in the summer of 2006, Rubb Buildings started on the construction of the sports hall, providing a full 'Turnkey' service on both projects. The 35m long x 20m span building with an 8.5m column leg height was constructed with a well-engineered steel truss frame system, creating a clear span and high vertical walls making it suitable for a myriad of activities. The interior has been completed with an inner skin and is fully insulated.



The steel frame is covered with a high strength PVC coated polyester membrane. The use of this type of structural membrane allows for the creation of exciting architectural forms, this was demonstrated with the application of a new curved arch roof design; the first of it's kind for Rubb.



The facility can be used for a wide range of activities, including football, wheelchair football, cricket, basketball, volleyball, mini tennis and badminton. By using a pre-fabricated structure located within the main building, Rubb were able to create changing facilities complete with showers, an office, sports equipment storage, disabled facilities and a cleaner/boiler room. Entry to the building is through a set of double doors at the front. Two fire-alarmed exits at the back of the hall provide quick exit points in the event of an emergency. Service and maintenance areas are accessed via a 3.5m wide x 4m high roller shutter door at the rear of the premises.

Heating and air conditioning were integral to the build, with the six Ambi-Rad heaters being designed and installed to meet the required internal temperature of 18°C, with four high level Axial Fans and six fresh air louvers providing the hall with the requested 1.5 air changes per hour. The interior has been completed with rebound walls and a state of the art sports flooring, which consists of a 7mm shock pad covered by 2mm of polyurethane.

Sir David Richards, Chairman of the Football Foundation and FA Premier League, added his support for the project. "This outstanding new development offers a host of new sporting opportunities for communities in and around the area, regardless of age, ability or gender," he said.

Tony Mowbray West Bromwich Albion Football Club manager officially opened the sports hall on the 18th January 2007. The whole complex took Rubb Buildings just 15 months from initial ground clearance to completion, with the new facility taking only 5 months of the build time.

Tony Mowbray said: "The West Bromwich Albion FC Community Sports Hall project is a great example of how clubs like West Bromwich Albion, sponsors, football bodies and regeneration programmes can come together as partners to benefit the community."

The Rubb organization, with production facilities in Great Britain, Norway and the United States is recognized as a world leader in the design, development and manufacture of relocatable structures and is quality certified to ISO9001:2000.