



## Rubb are at the top of their league in sports hall division

**R**ubb Buildings continue to score goals when it comes to the design and construction of sports halls. The company has netted a successful entry into the market thanks to two key points: Rubb's experience in pioneering the design and manufacture of permanent and relocatable fabric engineered buildings over the last 40 years and total quality in product delivery.

A winning example which proves Rubb are at the top of their league in the sporting sector is the state-of-the-art Meadowbank Sports Arena in Magherafelt, Mid-Ulster. At 70m span x 145m long, with sidewalls of 9m, the complex is the largest of its kind in Europe.

The arena's indoor synthetic surface measures 137m x 70m and provides

a consistent playing area where a host of sporting activities can take place simultaneously. The space can be quickly divided by rebound boards which are removable at court positions.

This means it can be converted into a full size hockey/soccer pitch and four mini-pitches, all badminton court sized. Rubb's sophisticated electrical netting system also allows the court to be expanded so that the full hall can be used. Alternatively it can accommodate an indoor 300m track which is complemented with seating for 450 spectators on a first floor gallery.

A more recent project is the Blue Flames Sporting Club at Longbenton, Newcastle upon Tyne. The client came to Rubb after viewing the company's successful sporting complex for West Bromwich Albion

Football Club, which boasts an indoor training facility and community sports hall.

Blue Flames' reverse curved roof provided a construction challenge, with Rubb having to ensure a seamless curve on both the steel framework and the PVC cladding.

One of the key features of these indoor facilities is the natural light allowed in through the semi-translucent roof. This natural lighting not only saves on energy costs but also provides a lighter, brighter and more appealing sports activity environment than other structures.

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