



Case Study: GB Hockey Training Centre Optimisation

Requirements

GB Hockey is responsible for the administration of hockey in Great Britain, the development and selection of men's and women's squads for international events and the provision of facilities and other services to support this process.

In seeking to develop its nationwide network of training centres, GB Hockey sought to ensure that facilities were optimally located to provide reasonably equitable travel-times for up to 9,000 players, whilst meeting certain capacity thresholds at each training centre location.

GB Hockey posed two specific questions:

(1) To minimise the drive-time of our 9,000 players, where would we position 14, 16, 18 or 20 training centres and what would be the player numbers allocated to each, assuming we wanted approximately equal player numbers at each?

(2) How many training centres would we need to ensure 95% of players have a drive-time of less than 30, 40, 50 or 60 minutes? What would be the location of these training centres and what would be the player numbers allocated to each?

Solution

Edge Analytics used its Quest suite of optimisation software to derive and present a range of solutions which met GB Hockey's coverage, accessibility and capacity criteria.

The optimum location for 14, 16, 18 and 20 training centres was generated using Quest algorithms, targeting an equitable number of players associated with each centre, using both off-peak and peak drive-times.

In a second set of scenarios, Quest investigated how a network of training centres could be located to ensure 95% of players were within a 30, 40, 50 or 60-minute drive-time of their allocated training centre, again using off-peak and peak drive-times.

To support the strategic development of its training infrastructure, a suite of scenario output was delivered to GB Hockey, providing coverage, accessibility and capacity statistics, plus digital information on training centre locations and the allocation of players to these locations.

"Edge Analytics offered a valuable, bespoke and timely solution. Making informed and evidence-based decisions is critical to our investment of finite resources and Edge Analytics supported us in ensuring that we did just that"

Ed Barney, Head of Talent Development at GB Hockey