CS-005 Committee Update Memorandum

Access Consultants Association Committee of Management

Subject	Draft AS 4422 Playground surfacing — Specifications, requirements and test method
Committee	Standards Australia Committee CS-005
Meeting format	Online – 12th October 2026
Purpose	Update for the ACA Committee of Management AGM

Meeting update

I (Dale Sheppard) on behalf of the ACA attended an online meeting of Standards Australia Committee CS-005 at which the draft *AS 4422 Playground surfacing — Specifications, requirements and test method* was tabled for committee comments, clarification and discussion.

The meeting primarily focused on minor adjustments to sentences for greater clarity and grammar corrections.

The document sets out the methods for testing the performance of impact-attenuated playground surfaces. Such testing is required in the development of prototype surfacing products, at the commissioning of newly installed surfaces, and during the periodic field-testing of the impact attenuating surface to confirm continuing minimum acceptable performance.

Injuries are inevitable when children play even when the minimum thresholds contained within the AS 4422 standard are met. Risk taking is fundamental to childhood development and this may lead to injuries which are no fault of the designers, suppliers, installers, operators and maintainers of playgrounds.

Relevance to access consulting

The draft does not contain provisions that apply directly or specifically to access consulting practice. On that basis, no immediate change to ACA guidance, member advice or access consulting procedures is identified from the draft in its current form.

Recommended position

- Continue monitoring the progress of the draft through Committee CS-005 for any provisions that may intersect with accessible playground design, circulation or associated advisory work.
- Provide a further update to the ACA Committee of Management if material relevant to access consulting is introduced.