



Maintenance Tips: To Prolong The Life Of Your Game



Advantage Tennis only applies the best sport surfaces that are very durable and require little maintenance. Basic cleaning will go a long way in preventing premature staining and wear. Here are some tips for maintaining your investment and extending the life of your sport surface between resurfacing.

Remove Standing Water

Rain showers help clean your court. However, dirt accumulates in standing water, leaving stains and piles of debris. This acts like sandpaper under players' feet and creates abrasion on the surface. Remove water from bird-baths as often as possible. Also be sure to avoid lawn sprinklers to spray on the court regularly.

Remove Foreign Matter

Leaves and pine needles not only can stain your court, but also are breeding grounds for mold and mildew. It is especially important to remove leaves in the fall and keep your court free of debris all winter. Snow is the only exception. Snow acts like a blanket and protects your surface all winter.

Clean Regularly

Once a month is suggested. Watch for evidence of mold or mildew in shaded areas and corners where organic debris tend to accumulate. Acrylic coatings do not support fungus growth, so growth of fungus or mold is a result from food and drink spills, decaying matter, or other foreign materials on the surface feeding these organisms. To remove mold, fungus & other organisms on the surface use: two parts household bleach, mixed with one part water. Use the solution to treat affected areas. Scrub gently with soft bristled brush (nylon or hair-type) and rinse thoroughly after a few minutes. Rinsing your surface with water is usually sufficient for general cleaning, when using a pressure washer or water broom, limit pressure to 70 p.s.i. If there are visible stains on the court surface, a mild detergent can be applied prior to gentle scrubbing with a soft bristle brush. The suggested mild detergent formula: combine four parts water with two parts TSP (trisodium phosphate) and one part household bleach (when mildew present).

Drainage Is Key

Drainage is a very important part of the success of your sport surface. Excess water that flows back onto the surface or beneath the court can cause many problems, including major cracking. Because we know landscaping is important and aesthetically pleasing, be sure vegetation does not block any drains or swales. We suggest that you keep grass and any other vegetation trimmed and away from the court surface as well, to allow adequate drainage off the surface.

Repair & Resurfacing

The standard resurfacing of sport facilities in New England occurs between 5 to 8 years. The asphalt base of a sport surface, no matter how well built, can exhibit cracking and low spots known as "birdbaths". There are many factors that can contribute to these problems including: ground movement and sinking, tree roots, improper base mixes and drainage. While the court owner can handle many of the cleaning and protection; keep in mind that surface repairs and resurfacing is best handled by sport surfacing professionals.