

Northumberland FA 3G Pitch Maintenance Training

Thursday 21st November 2019







What we will cover



- Introductions
- A bit of background knowledge
- Why maintain
- FA Performance Standards
- What affects performance
- What are the challenges
- Best maintenance practice
- Reporting & tracking





Company profile

- Established 2002
- 2 Offices England and Scotland
- 30 Employees
- 100 Pitches per week maintained
- 1500+ Facilities inspected & maintained annually









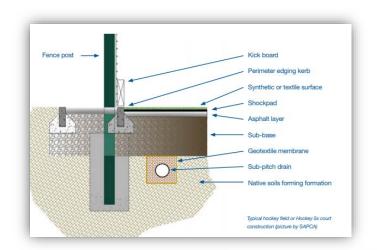


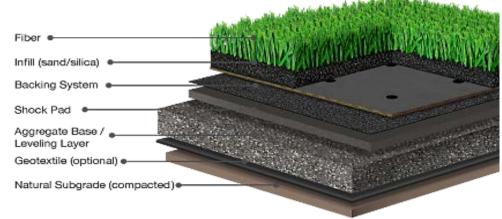






How a pitch is built













Surface Categories

- 1G the original Astroturf non infill
- 2G Sand Filled and Sand Dressed
- ■3G Rubber infilled (40mm to 65mm)
- ■4Gback to non infill



Surface Types



© Sport England 2013



Why Maintain

The key aims are to maximise:

- Safety
- Appearance
- Life Expectancy
- Performance Standards

Maintenance should always be considered a preventative rather than a reactive measure.



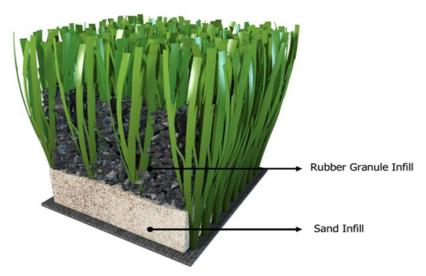


The aim of Maintenance

An active maintenance programme will maximise the lifetime of the installation and ensure many satisfactory years of use.

The maintenance regime is based around simple principles:

- Keeping the surface clean
- Maintaining the infill level
- Keeping the fibres upright
- Find & report minor defects before they become a problem





FIFA Football Turf Field Test Report

4.3 Overview – Ball and Player to surface interactions

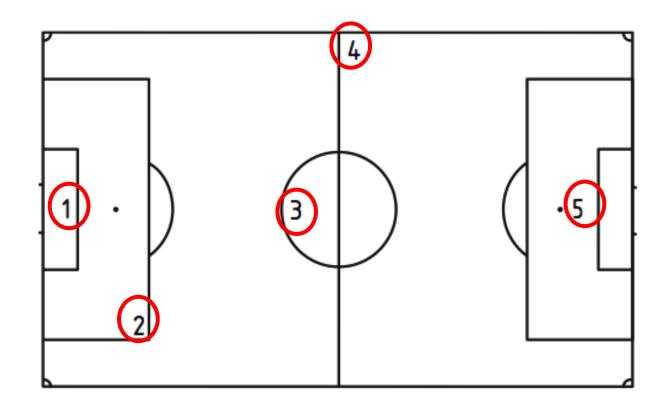
How is the field to play?

By means of the following parameters, this question can be answered very well. Furthermore, some values allow **conclusions regarding maintenance** in order to keep the field in top shape.



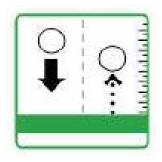


Test positions for full-size football pitches





Ball / Surface Interaction



Vertical Ball Rebound –

The higher the value the higher the ball will rebound. The ball should not bounce too high or too low.



Ball Roll -

The higher the value the faster the ball will run over the surface. The ball should not be too fast or too slow.



Player / Surface Interaction



Rotational Resistance

This simulates the player's ability to alter direction, too high a value and stress can occur across knee ligaments, too low and the player will not be able to grip the surface and may slip causing ligament damage.



Shock Absorption –

Shock absorbency is an indication of how hard the field feels to the player. A value that is too low indicates a hard field and cause damage to player's joints too soft and the surface is energy sapping resulting in increases in fatigue and over-use injuries.



Deformation.

A surface that deforms too much will result in overstretching of ligaments particularly around the ankle.





- Surface Regularity (<10mm)</p>
- Pitch Dimensions (Length 90-120m Width 45-90m)
- Run Offs (min. 3m)



Maintenance Equipment on site



Construction:

- Seams and Inlaid lines
- Engineered or Dynamic base
- Shockpad









Fibres:

- Flattened Carpet Fibres
- Fibrillated, Split or Worn Fibres





Infill:

- Compacted
- Uneven
- Too low or too high





Debris and Contamination:

- Leaves & Litter
- Weeds & Moss
- Dirt & Dust (micro-plastics)









Other:

- Goals & Nets
- Fence & Surrounds
- Access & Egress







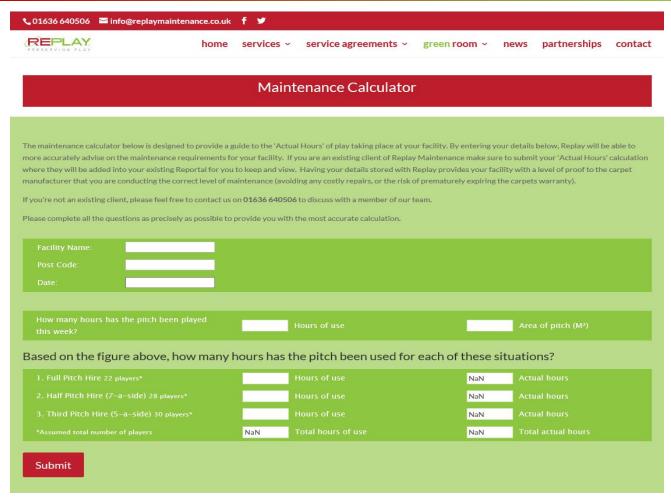


What are the Challenges?

- Player Footwear
 - X Flatsoled trainers
 - X Blades
 - X Metal studs
 - ✓ AG Boots
- Amount of players on the pitch
 - 11 v 11 (22 players x 1 hour play) = 1 hour of use
 - 7 v 7 (x 3 pitches) (42 players x 1 hour play) = 2 hours of real use
 - Warranties based on hours of use rather than years of play
- Overuse (eg. penalty spots, corners, goalmouths)

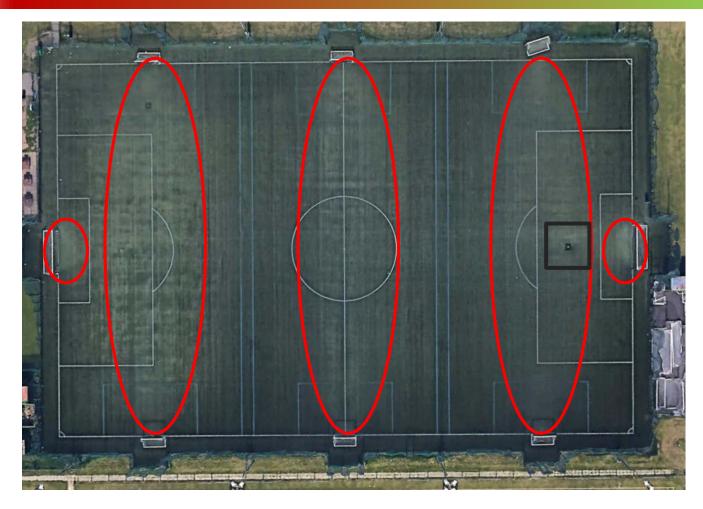


Actual Pitch Usage Calculator





Pitch Overuse





What's the solution?

- Maintenance Regime
 - Quality
 - Frequency
 - Purpose





Preventative – In-House Maintenance

- Litter Pick
- Empty bins
- Drag Brush
- Inspect the pitch
- Top up penalty spots etc.
- Log & report any issues

Considerations:

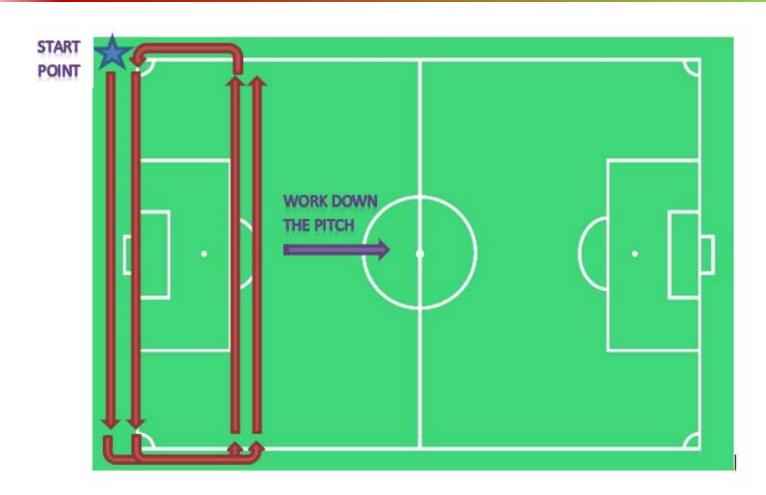
- Budget & Machinery
- Staff expertise and time
- Type and hours of usage







Drag Brushing





Drag Brushing

- Drag Brushing should be carried out in a uniform pattern working width-ways across the pitch.
- Avoid tight 180° degree turns so stagger each pass.
- Alternate the Start Point each time so that the pitch gets brushed in both directions.
- Pay particular attention to high wear Goal Mouth Areas and if necessary brush these multiple times backwards and forwards to help agitate and lift the fibres in all directions. (This would also apply for 5-a-side and 7-a-side Goalmouths)



Preventative - Specialist Maintenance

- Remove surface debris
- De-compact the surface and infill
- Deep clean removing fines and dusts.
- Lift the carpet fibres
- Evenly redistribute the infill
- Restick seam & lines as required
- Post Maintenance Report







Reactive - Specialist Maintenance Processes

- Rejuvenation (sand)
- Repairs
- Infill Top-Ups
- Line Marking
- Weed removal













Maintenance Innovation - Aqua Field

AquaField3G Infill WashMicroplastic removal





Measuring the Benefits

Measuring the benefits:

- Infill height
- Free pile height
- Ball roll
- Shock Absorbency
- Deformation
- FA Testing











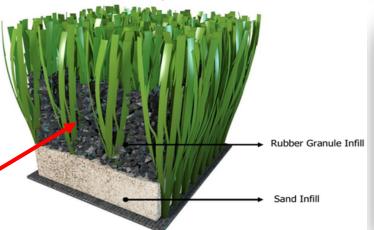
Taking Measures

Infill height

■ Free pile height











Record your maintenance



- Track & Trace
- Protects Warranty
- Protects You
- Claims Defence
- Proof of work
- Manage your time
- Save & Store







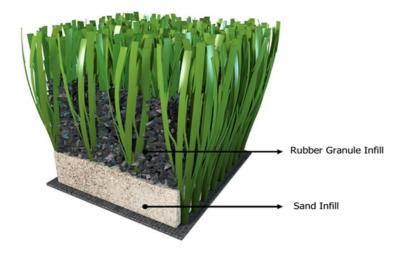




To Summarise Maintain Performance

The maintenance is based around simple principles:

- Keep the surface clean
- Regulate the infill levels
- Keep the fibres upright
- Find & report minor defects before they become a problem







3G Pitch Maintenance Training

Thank You – Any Questions?





