



## Maintenance | Stryker

### **INTRODUCTION**

This manual is intended as guidance for managers and ground staff. It is intended as a reference guideline for proprietors and users, with the aim of achieving optimum and safety conditions.

As with all such manuals, PLAE recommends setting aside time and reading it once from the beginning to the end, rather than just turn to the section you feel most relevant, as information in other parts may also provide help.

Maintenance is also identified and a very important factor in the short-term and long-term viability of the pitch. Over the longer term, a good maintenance of the pitch will contribute to greatly increase the product longevity.

Sufficient pitch maintenance must be performed to ensure the pitch is kept in top condition. This applies both to indoor and outdoor pitches, hence this manual covers both.

### **OBJECTIVES**

It is generally recognized that a well-maintained surface has positive influence on:

- The safety of the user
- The aesthetic properties of the field
- The general degree of satisfaction expressed by the players, the trainers and all people concerned.

### **GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

- As a form of regular maintenance, the surface of the grass should be made free from any kind of litter (leaves, twigs, cans, paper...).
- The surface will also suffer from the presence of moss and weeds. Preventive maintenance will be more efficient in this case than any form of curative treatment..
- Finally, PLAE suggests to use an alternate system where different field are available, so as not to put too much of the burden on the same fields.

## **Inspection / Maintenance Record**

The importance of keeping a record of what is found and the actions that have been taken cannot be over emphasised. This information will help you in your future maintenance operations. Importantly, in our ever increasing legal claim society, it will also help to protect you if you are sued by a player because of an injury, which they claim, resulted from a badly maintained playing surface.

- Always take your record sheet and write down any points as you find them. We suggest you take a note book and record them afterwards
- The inspection must be done by systematically and progressively by walking along a join line across the full pitch width (It must not be done by walking the length of the pitch as differences between adjacent panels in the same playing area are not so easily assessed)
- As you do this you can also inspect one row of panels either side

## **Regular Cleaning Practices**

### ***Brushing and Grooming***

Frequency:

Very regularly, at least once a week. When the fibre becomes flattened and is at an angle of less than 20 degrees.

Purpose:

To straighten the pile, which tends to lie down

How to brush:

- With a groomer system which is usually pulled by a mini-tractor.
- NEVER use groomer with a spring rack for X-GEN and KOMBI systems.
- Always brush at 180 degrees against the direction that the fibre was inserted into the backing mat, otherwise the brushing will flatten or move the fibre into the wrong direction

***NOTE: For non-infill products, use of a Verti-Groom by Redexim or GreensGroomer by Greengroomer without Slicer Spring Tine Rack or equal***

### ***Brushing with a Self-Propelled Sweeper***

Frequency:

It's also possible to substitute the grooming equipment by a self-propelled sweeper.

Purpose:

Besides removing the litter, a strong brushing will straighten the pile.

How:

With a mechanically powered field sweeper, or with heavy duty Nylon brush which retains their shape, resist wear and will not deteriorate from moisture.

***Collecting the litter, the leaves and twigs***

Frequency:

Very regularly, at least once a week

**CLEANING**

The non infill systems Stryker and Stryker HD give the possibility of washing the surface to eliminate at minimum the risk of bacteria proliferation.

Frequency:

Once a year or if desired

Equipment:

5700 Walk Behind or equivalent with cylindrical scrub heads. Equipment should have the micro adjustment of the cylindrical brush.

***NOTE: The type of cleaning agent should not contain any Chloride agent. NEVER USE STEAM!***

For surfaces smaller than 1000 sq.ft. using Stryker, PLAE recommends the usage of a water pressure compressor with TASKI Profi soap or equivalent.

***Disinfectant Cleaning***

**AS OF MARCH 10, 2020:** We recommend RMC Enviro Care Neutral Disinfectant for disinfecting viruses, bacteria & fungi to include **Coronavirus (COVID-19)**, **HIV-1**, and **Hepatitis-B**. Follow Regular Maintenance directions as described in following section, and manufacturer's recommendation for dilution as labeled.

For an extensive list of all viruses, fungi & bacteria that Enviro Care is effective against, please visit: <https://www.rochestermidland.com/>

***Removing Panels:***

Raise the panel by the Velcro side, **NOT THE FIBER**. The panel will easily detach from the other panels remaining on the ground. This way you avoid unnecessary bending of the panels and causing damages.

Be certain that the attachment rivet at each corner are not damaged. Missing of the ratchet will avoid the warranty of the panel.

Install pallets outside the field. **AVOID PLACING PALLETS OR EXCESSIVE WEIGHT ON THE FIELD**. Always start the removal from the upper left corner of the field.

Stack the panels on the pallets. The first panel (the bottom panel) should have the absorbing base (polypropylene) laying on the pallet. Stack the panel *fiber to fiber* and *pad to pad* to minimize fiber compression. Continue this operation row by row.

**Rolling Equipment:**

- Rolling equipment should not exceed 35psi in static position and 65psi in dynamic position  
To determine the PSI, measure the wheel contact area :
- Check equipment name plate and find the equipment weight and add additional weight (pallet per example)
- Divide weight per the contact area.

**NOTE: If pressure exceed the PLAE recommendations, it's mandatory to use cover (1" plywood or composite) to dissipate the load.**

**Line Marking**

Frequency:

3 or 4 times a year

How:

Manually with a roller applicator or with an air pressure applicator. Painting only when all the litter, leaves, moss and weeds have been removed from the field

**RECOMMENDED MARKING PRODUCTS**

*TYPE OF PAINT*

Medium-Term Line Paint (Latex water base)

*RECOMMENDED SUPPLIERS*

TITAN (pioneerathletics.com)

**\*\*All water-based paint can be used for temp line.**

Permanent Line Paint

Two-Component PUR line painting

- The use of water based line marking is particularly useful when marking out temporary pitches
- Never apply a thick layer of line marking compound as a method of making it last longer. Thick coatings can be abrasive and cause injury to a player's skin, for example in a sliding tackle. Such accidents have resulted in injury and subsequent insurance claims and court cases.

## **CLEANSING PROBLEMS**

### ***Chewing gum***

Use a small quantity of water ice on the surface to harden the chewing gum substance and scrape it with a metal spatula. The chewing gum should, once frozen, crumble. As a last resort only, use nitrogen based spray gel for carpets without solvent.

### ***Bird muck and mess***

If dry, carefully hand brush. If wet remove physically as much as possible. Then as necessary apply water and carefully power jet. If necessary use eco-friendly hygienically cleaner.

### ***Animal muck and mess***

If dry, carefully hand brush. If wet remove physically as much as possible. Then as necessary apply water and carefully power jet. If necessary use eco-friendly hygienically cleaner.

### ***Spilt line marking paint that is water or latex based***

Keep wet, apply water and carefully power jet as necessary

### ***Paint that is not water based***

Remove tile and treat off the main pitch area to avoid possibility of contaminating or damaging other tiles

### ***Vomit, blood***

Physically remove as much as possible. Then apply water and carefully power jet as necessary. If necessary use eco-friendly hygienically cleaner.

### ***Leaves, Tree Seed, Flowers etc***

Remove by brushing or vacuuming up taking care that they do not become embedded into the fibre.

### ***Salt Spray***

Remove by diluting with clean desalinated water

As the pitch may often be used when ground staff is not present, procedures must be issued to pitch hirers and users on 'what to do if'. It may be also an advantage that users are notified, in writing, as part of their hire arrangements; for example, that if they fail to take appropriate actions, they will be financially responsible for rectifying the problem and invoiced for the cleaning / repair cost