



PLAYING SURFACE STANDARDS

Maryland SoccerPlex Grounds & Environmental Management Spring 2022

INTRODUCTION

These Playing Surface Standards for Maryland SoccerPlex fields exist to serve as the minimum levels of maintenance to ensure maximum quality across ALL fields at Maryland SoccerPlex

BERMUDAGRASS

Mowing Height

- 1": March / October / November
- ½": April – September

Mowing Frequency

- 1-2x / week: April / November
- 3x / week: May / October
- 4x+ / week: June / July / August
 - o N inputs based on models + utilize Primo to reduce mowing frequency

Thatch Management

- Desired Vertical Deformation: 5 – 8mm
- Springtime to clean out: 2x / month (April – September)
- Verticut to clean out: 1x / month (May – August)
- Frazee Mow: Maximum time between – 4 years (preferably every 3 years)

KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS / PERENNIAL RYEGRASS

Mowing Height

- <1": March
- <1.25": April / May
- Up to 1.75": June / July / August (for lacrosse)
- <1.25": August / September / October / November

Mowing Frequency

- 1x+ / week: March
- 3x+ / week: April - May
- 2x+ / week: June / July / August
- 3x+ / week: September / October

Thatch Management

- Desired Vertical Deformation: 5 – 8mm
- Springtime to clean out: 1x / month (March – October)
- Verticut to clean out low use areas: 1x / month: March / April / September / October

**Maryland SoccerPlex Grounds &
Environmental Management**

18041 Central Park Circle
Boys, MD 20841



ALL FIELDS

Field Size (For competition)

- Maximum Soccer Field Size: 117yd x 75yd
- Minimum Soccer: 110yd x 70yd
- Girls Lacrosse: 115yd x 65yd
- Boys Lacrosse: 110yd x 60yd

Desired Surface Hardness / Compaction Level

- Force Reduction / Surface Hardness: Avg never <65% / No single point <55%
- Energy Restitution / Energy Rebound: Avg never >18% / No single point >30%

To achieve those levels:

- Surface Aeration, High Use Areas: Every 2 weeks (during use)
- Surface Aeration, Entire Field: 1x / month (during use)
- Decompaction Aeration: 1x / month (March – December)

Topdressing

- Sand topdressing: 2-4x / year on fields that have had drainage renovation work completed
- Profile Porous Ceramic: 1x+ / year on center 30,000 sq ft (85 x 350)
- 3-3-3 Compost: 1x+ / year on fields low on P (all)

Testing / Data / Analysis

- Soil Volumetric Water % Testing for irrigation: 3x+ / week
- Surface Performance / Compaction Testing: 2x / month
- Soil Nutrient Testing: 1x / year (all fields)
- Soil Organic Matter Testing: 1x/ year (all fields)
- N Organic Matter Release Modeling: Model updates daily to dictate applications
- Phosphorus Monitoring: PPM & release models done as part of yearly soil test
- Growing Degree Days: Dictate all plant growth regulator applications
- Disease Modeling: Dictate if / when preventative fungicide is used
- DLI Level: Dictate if / when grow lights are utilized
- TurfPods: Monitor soil & canopy conditions to dictate growth

Additional Standards

- Soil Penetrant Wetting Agent: Spray before every weekend rain event & / or every 3 weeks
- Granular Fertilizer: Use OMRI certified when available (must be 80%+ of material utilized)
- Grow Covers: On - soil temps below 40F for 5 days. Off - soil temps above 55F for 3 days

Drainage Renovation Work Standards

- 2" collector pipe: Installed > 12.5' apart & < 15' apart @ >8" depth (top of pipe)
- Sand installed on top of collectors must have at >5% Profile Porous Ceramic (or similar)
- SandMaster sand slits, perpendicular to collector pipes, installed at > 6" depth
- All sand used for drainage must be sub-rounded to sub-angular (CU between 2.2 & 2.9)