



Turf Use, Maintenance and Turf Exhibition

Instructions for preventing damage

- Follow the aftercare and maintenance instructions of the turf supplier.
- When operating maintenance equipment on the surface, excessive braking, turning, etc. that could damage the synthetic turf fibres should be avoided.
- Do not drive on the pitch without the prior consent of the manufacturer.
- Do not apply any high static loads to the system.
- Proceed with care when clearing snow.
- Do not use any chemicals that may damage the surface.
- Do not light fires on the turf system.

Recommended maintenance equipment

- Drag brushes and drag mats and nets.
- Hand-held equipment such as a hard road-sweeping brush for brushing the infill material into the turf system.
- High-pressure cleaner (wet cleaning with a pressure of approx. 200 bar).
- Manually-operated sweeping machines with an hourly capacity of around 1,000 m² or a sweeping and suction machine, self-propelled, with an hourly capacity of up to 3,000 m².



Brushing, aspiration, cleaning and levelling in one go.



Design and Construction Recommendations

Elastic Layer

Even though football turf with no elastic pads performs well at the outset, from a sporting and technical point of view, with respect to shock absorbency, its performance can deteriorate quite quickly as a result – above all in terms – of general wear and tear. This can mean that not long after installation, the footballistic requirements are no longer fulfilled.

Experience with the first and second generations of artificial turf shows that turf without an elastic pad could not retain their initial qualities over a long period of time, while those with an elastic pad performed much better. In the last decade most of the high quality turf of the first two turf generations has been installed with an elastic pad.

Today (year/season 2001/02) many artificial turf systems are designed and installed without any elastic pad. It seems that history is repeating itself again with football turf.

Construction

A prefabricated elastic layer, or one constructed on site (in-situ installation), is installed on top of the base layer and offers the following advantages:

- Provides more protection and a more comfortable surface for the player.
- Delays the wear process of the fibres.
- Extends the performing life of the pitch surface.
- An elastic pad can outlive several artificial turf playing surfaces (as is the case with an asphalt-bearing layer). This applies especially to elastic layers produced in situ.



Elastic layer constructed in situ



Prefabricated elastic pad

Remarks:

When UEFA bought and installed its own football turf in Nyon, a decision was taken to keep the existing elastic layer, which – despite being 14 years old – was still in excellent condition. Tests to determine the ball rebound and shock absorbency characteristics of this new artificial pitch (with its old elastic layer) produced results similar to those carried out on natural turf.



Design and Construction Recommendations

