

## Maintenance

### Regupol® Running Track Surfaces

#### **1. General:**

By their nature, Regupol® athletic surfaces are extremely durable and most resistant to the normal wear they are exposed to during athletic activities. They are designed to satisfy various performance criteria whilst withstanding spike-use in climates varying from the arctic to tropic climate zones.

However, there is no such product as a "maintenance-free" track surface, and therefore all Regupol® surfaces will require a modest degree of maintenance as well.

This basic maintenance is of vital importance if the surface is to remain cosmetically appealing, consistent in performance, safe for the athletes to run and jump on, and long-lasting.

The following guidelines are to be obeyed to maintain full coverage of manufacturer's warranty.

#### **2. Maintenance Procedures:**

Maintenance procedures are implied to ensure that:

- The track surface is kept thoroughly clean.
- The track surface is safe for all users and athletes at all times.
- The drainage system is maintained and functional at all times.
- The facility looks and remains attractive and well-kept at all times.

These objectives are achieved by:

- Sweeping leaves and other debris from the surface periodically and immediately when needed. Only synthetic brushes are allowed! The use of steel brushes/brooms is strictly prohibited!
- Washing the surface when needed to remove contaminants, such as grime, algae, moss, sand, chewing gum, etc.
- Applying prophylactic treatments of moss killer and/or algaecide where and when appropriate.
- Keeping the drainage channels and control - shafts clean and free from debris. The periodical cleaning of underground drainage channels and pipes by hosing with water is mandatory.
- Removing weed growth periodically from all perimeters.

### **3. Cleaning the Surface:**

Leaves, tree flowers, pine needles, grass-cut and any other organic debris should not remain on the surface for any length of time. If this does happen, these rapidly rot down, forming a "congested skin" on the surface and providing a growing ground for algae and moss.

A mechanical leave-sweeper or vacuum-cleaner/blower is ideal for removing organic matter and other rubbish. Restricted areas may have to be swept by hand.

The maintenance equipment must be well-maintained and carefully operated to avoid contamination of, or physical damage to the surface. Spillage of fuel or lubricating oil may harm the surface! Therefore great care must be taken to ensure that the equipment remains in good mechanical order.

Under normal circumstances, latest once a year, it is advisable to wash the surface with a high-pressure water-jet apparatus (power-washer). There are many varieties of high-pressure washers available for purchase or rent. These can range from a simple hand-held lance through a tractor-mounted version. The higher the capacity of the machine, the quicker the operation will be completed.

When machinery is operated per instructions, Regupol® surfaces can withstand pressures up to 2,000 psi without suffering damage to the structure. Many commercial washers allow for carefully metered quantities of detergent and fungal inhibitors to be added to the water. These chemicals will help prevent moss and algae from invading the surface. The added detergent must provide a low PH-value.

### **4. Access over the Track:**

At all track venues, both, pedestrians and maintenance machinery require regular access to the central grass field.

It is good practice to provide protection for the track surface at regular pedestrian crossing points, e. g. from the changing rooms on to a central pitch. This protection could take the form of roll out matting to ensure that mud from football boots does not contaminate the track surface.

It is wise to provide plywood or similar sheeting to allow access to the central area for grass cutting machines, etc. The load imposed by such a machine should normally not exceed 1.500 kg, spread over four wheels. No sudden stopping or sharp turns over the synthetic surfacing are permitted as this might damage the wearing layer.

At some tracks, specially designated crossing points are designed to allow heavy items of plant, such as small trucks, forklifts, etc., access to the central area. Protection of the track surface will be required in these locations.

## 5. Spreading the Wear:

The inside lanes of the track, along with the start- and relay zones, the long/triple jump-, the high jump, the pole vault- and the javelin runways etc., are subject to a massive amount of wear compared to other areas of the facility. For this reason it will extend the useful life of the facility if the athletes use these areas as little as possible in training. This "athlete management" can be achieved by measures, such as coning off the inside lanes, sporadically changing training positions, etc.

Although all Regupol® materials are highly resistant to damage, sharp and heavy point loads and pushing/dragging of sports equipment etc. should be avoided otherwise localized damage to the track surface can occur.

Simple and straight forward maintenance can, in the long term, save a considerable amount of time and money. It requires a little thought and a regular maintenance plan only.

Please contact BSW for any further information regarding the use and maintenance of Regupol® sports-flooring systems at [info@berleburger.de](mailto:info@berleburger.de).



Washing heavily contaminated track with high pressure power washer or with tractor-mounted track-cleaning equipment.