



## **TAKING CARE OF YOUR SYNTHETIC SPORT SURFACE:**

A facility with a Synthetic surface can be used for many different activities.

In a gym or field house it is ideal for the following athletic activities: Basketball, Volleyball, and Floor Hockey (non-marking blades & equipment – only plastic blades, produced for the indoor surfaces, are considered risk free) Aerobics, Gymnastics, Handball, Racquetball, Squash, Badminton and Team Handball.

Athletic footwear appropriate to the sports activity being played should be required. When proper footwear is used, the footing on all synthetic surfaces is excellent and the chances of injury are greatly reduced.

**IT IS IMPORTANT THAT SPIKED FOOTWEAR SUCH AS TRACK SHOES, GOLF SHOES AND BASEBALL CLEATS NOT BE ALLOWED ON A SYNTHETIC FLOOR SINCE THEIR USE MAY PERMANENTLY DAMAGE THE SURFACE.**

Black rubber-soled athletic footwear (i.e. "waffle" type jogging shoes) can leave scuff marks. Black soled court shoes with urethane soles will not leave marks.

The surface should be dry when used for athletic activities since it may be slippery when wet. Synthetic surfaces are used for more than just sports related activities. School assemblies, convocations, meetings, dances, bingos and religious services are amongst the activities that have been held on these floors.

Synthetic floors have been installed in locker rooms, cafeterias, and classrooms for the physically challenged, isolation rooms, school auditoriums and multi-purpose areas.

If chairs, tables and other furniture are to be placed on the floor, it is important that the furniture legs have the necessary protective end caps or covers in place. Sharp edges can damage the finish and even cut the material.

When rolling objects across the surface, or if bleachers are to be deployed, verify that the wheels rotate freely and have no flat spots. Improperly functioning wheels can leave scuff or burn marks.

Certain types of rubber or metal wheels may also leave marks. Wheels on equipment should be plastic or composition.

When rolling heavy objects across the floor, it is important to check that there is no creeping or puckering of the flooring

[www.calibersport.com](http://www.calibersport.com)



material. If it occurs, stop moving the object immediately and continue only after the surface has been protected with Masonite or plywood panels.

In extreme cases, high, stationary point loads may cause severe indentation of the floor. In such instances, protect the surface with Masonite or plywood panels.

Do not drag objects across the surface since it may mark or burn the finish.

Intense heat, whether from a cigarette or an open flame, may cause discoloration of the finish and the material.

Synthetic surfaces are unaffected by most chemicals, foods, acids and liquids. Organic solvents (acetone, nail polish, remover, etc.) and tar can cause damage and should be removed promptly.

Synthetic surfaces will not absorb water and is resistant to surface water damage.

Due to the addition of anti-bacterial and anti-microbial agents during the manufacturing process, the material resists bacteria and fungus.

Synthetic sport surfaces have been engineered and manufactured to be the highest quality and extremely durable.

Over 50 years of experience and thousands of installations world-wide are proof of our quality and durability. The lifespan and the appearance of the surface will be directly linked to the quality of the maintenance, which will be carried out on it.

### **MAINTENANCE**

These instructions are intended to serve as a guide in establishing a cleaning and maintenance program that will provide maximum use and appearance with minimum care and interference in the utilization of your synthetic surface.

Maintenance procedures should not begin until a minimum of seventy-two hours following installation.

If construction activities occur after the floor has been installed, the surface should be covered with a non-staining building paper to prevent damage.

[www.calibersport.com](http://www.calibersport.com)



## **Maintenance Recommendations**

### **1. General**

In order to retain the initial attributes of your synthetic floor, a regular maintenance program should be set up. Equipment and procedures for proper maintenance will be suggested. You may elect to use all or some of these procedures, **depending on the intensity of use and local conditions.**

### **2. Specialized Equipment**

The equipment required for cleaning your synthetic surface will vary with the use and size of the area to be cleaned. The manner in which your synthetic floor is installed will also determine what type and size equipment can be used.

Larger areas will be more efficiently cleaned by automatic scrubbers, which automatically dispense a mixture of cleaning agent and water, brush the floor and aspirate the dirty solution.

Small areas can be handled using a floor-buffing machine equipped with the proper brushes or pads and a wet vac.

Some leading manufacturers of such cleaning equipment are:

- Advance Floor Machine Company
- American Lincoln Company
- Tennant Company
- Clarke
- Taski

### **Required Accessories**

#### **Basic cleaning accessories**

- Buckets
- Broom
- Dust mops
- Dust mop treatment

[www.calibersport.com](http://www.calibersport.com)



### Cleaning accessories with automatic scrubbing machine

- White **OR** red scouring
- Discs **OR** soft hair brushes

### Low foam neutral detergent, such as:

- *Hydro Tack by Caliber Sport (weekly cleaning) OR*
- *Taski CombiPlus from Wood Wyant Inc. (weekly cleaning)*
- *Hydro Clean by Caliber Sport (deep cleaning only – twice a year) OR*
- *Buro-Net from Sani-Marc (deep cleaning only – twice a year)*

## **2. Important Notes**

It can be helpful to put walk-off mats at all entrances to help remove dirt and grit from people's shoes. It is also helpful to restrict direct access from the outdoors onto the sports floor.

Maintenance is a daily procedure. **Grit and dirt are a major cause of wear** and their removal on a daily basis will prolong the life of your synthetic floor.

Your synthetic sports floor has been finished with a specially formulated polyurethane topcoat. **DO NOT APPLY ANY TYPE OF FLOOR SEALER, FLOOR FINISH, COATING OR WAX.**

Do not sweep or dust mop floor with oil-treated mops or brooms.

Do not attempt to clean the surface with any type of abrasive material such as kitchen cleanser, steel wool, sand paper, brown or black pads, etc. Scrubbing should be done only as required and the only with the lightest scrub brush or pad necessary to clean the soiled area. This will guarantee maximum life of the finish.

[www.calibersport.com](http://www.calibersport.com)



Dry buffing of the floor surface may be performed prior to washing the floor.

Always use clean equipment and materials.

Remove dirt and spills as soon as possible.

Do not "heel" buffing machine or apply excess pressure to buffing brushes of automatic scrubbing machines. Excessive pressure can cause damage and reduce normal life of the surface. **Stubborn dirt, stains or marks should be removed with cleaning solvent.**

Follow our instructions carefully. Do not experiment without first consulting the manufacturer.

### 3. **Maintenance Procedures**

#### **Daily**

Dust mop the entire area with an untreated dust mop at least once a day to remove grit, surface dust, dirt, litter, etc. Daily dust mopping will solve the majority of the soiling problems.

#### **Weekly And Monthly Maintenance**

**The daily removal of surface dirt and debris must be coupled with a regular cycle of washing.** Floors can be exposed to varying amounts of traffic. During some months, there is very little traffic and repeated washings are not necessary. Each institution must decide on the frequency of the washing cycle based on the intensity of use, student population and whether the facility is used by the local community after hours.

Most gymnasiums should be washed at least once a month during the peak season. Locker-rooms and cafeterias might need to be washed every day.

Dust mop the entire floor surface with a non-treated dust mop.

Mix a solution of 200 ml of neutral detergent and 10 litres of lukewarm water or prepare according to manufacturer's instructions.

[www.calibersport.com](http://www.calibersport.com)



Using a clean mop or automatic scrubbing machine, deposit a liberal amount of cleaning solution on the floor and **let it soak for at least 15 minutes.** It is important that the dirt remain suspended in the cleaning solution, until it is taken up. If there is not enough solution, or it evaporates, it will make task more difficult. On heavily soiled floors, let the cleaning solution stand for a while.

Scrub floor surface with a floor buffing machine (150-350 rpm) or automatic scrubbing machine. Both machines should be equipped with a WHITE or RED pad or soft bristle brush.

After scrubbing is complete, remove the dirty cleaning solution with a wet vac or automatic scrubbing machine.

**Rinse floor thoroughly** with clean, lukewarm water and again wet vac entire surface to remove all excess water.

Allow floor surface to dry completely before allowing traffic. Use of circulating fan can accelerate the drying process. **DO NOT APPLY ANY FINISHES, COATINGS OR WAXES OF ANY KIND.**

### **Removal of Stubborn Marks**

From time to time, certain marks will be more difficult to remove than others. These scuff marks are usually deposited by certain types of footwear and by the movement of equipment.

Use clean white rag dampened with cleaning solvent. Heavier marks may require a light scrub pad and more time for the cleaning solvent to accomplish its task. Once marks are gone, rinse floor thoroughly making sure no solvent is left.

**The cleaning solvent is not to be used as a substitute for the cleaning detergent and a general wash, nor is it to be left on the surface for an extended period of time.** It is to be used on marks that resist normal cleaning solutions and procedures.

### **Periodic Inspections**

Maintenance personnel should inspect the floor thoroughly 3 to 4 times a year to determine if there has been any surface damage to the floor such as cuts or gouges. These types of damage are easily repaired and should be dealt with

[www.calibersport.com](http://www.calibersport.com)



promptly in order to prevent dirt and liquids from accumulating in the damaged areas. Please contact Caliber Sport Systems as they are trained and are equipped to make such repairs.

**If you have any questions or problems regarding the use of your new synthetic floor, please do not hesitate to communicate with Caliber Sport Systems Inc.**

*Telephone 855.718.9787*

*Facsimile 877.225.9441*

[www.calibersport.com](http://www.calibersport.com)