

Sports Acrylic Resurfacing and Cleaning

As the warmer weather comes around, tennis clubs can start to think about rejuvenating their acrylic sports surfacing.

This could include high pressure cleaning, resurfacing with an acrylic sports surfacing product or just re-linemarking. All of these court rejuvenating processes, should be carried out by suitably skilled and experienced contractors who can guarantee their work and deliver you a high-quality end product.

High Pressure Cleaning

There are specialty contractors who can be employed to undertake high pressure court cleaning for your tennis club. It is recommended that an experienced contractor be used for this work wherever possible. Some points to remember:

- While high pressure cleaning of acrylic surfaced courts is a recommended action, too much of a good thing can be bad. Cleaning too frequently can start to remove the acrylic surfacing prematurely.
- If club volunteers attempt to high pressure clean the courts, ensure that they don't concentrate the pressured water too much in one spot – this will blast off the acrylic surfacing in some instances.
- High pressure cleaning removes the build-up of dirt and grime from off the court surfaces. When done properly it can greatly reduce the risk of slipping on the courts and extend the life of your acrylic surface.



Acrylic Sports Surface – Resurfacing

Resurfacing of existing tennis courts with a new coat (or coats) of a sports acrylic surface is a highly skilled task that must be left to the experts.

To make sure you get the right product and the right installer, observe the following:

- Check what product you are purchasing. Make sure the acrylic surface product is of a high quality and suitable for competition tennis. Be wary of inferior imitations or lower quality versions of the known name brands.
- Make sure that the installer has been appropriately trained, they are accredited to install the product you select, and that they can provide examples of past high-quality work they have completed.
- Insist on inspecting other facilities that have used the product you wish to purchase, and that it was installed by the contractor you are dealing with. Hit balls on that surface so that you can be sure that it's exactly what your club wants for their courts.

Acrylic resurfacing and linemarking needs to be done in suitable conditions, and following correct process. There are many complex aspects associated with applying an acrylic sports surface that need to be considered, some points to remember are:

- No coating work should be contemplated if rain is imminent.
- The air temperature should be a minimum of 12 degrees and rising.
- Do not apply the acrylic coat if the surface temperature is above 40 degrees.
- The base and each layer should be absolutely dry before applying next coat.
- Aesthetically the edges should be finished neatly, taping of the net posts and edges will ensure neat straight lines. No excess material should be left on the court edges.



Linemarking Tennis Courts

Tennis court linemarking is a specialised skill that goes hand in hand with acrylic surface resurfacing.

The correct water based paint must be used, and the lines and the tennis court dimensions must meet the relevant standards. Some handy hints for your contractor to keep in mind are as follows:

- Ensure all court lines are completed so that they are straight (by taping) and that the dimensions are compliant and in accordance with the current standards. A correctly dimensioned tennis court is 23774mm long and 10973mm wide – outside edge of line to outside edge of line, with a 5mm plus or minus tolerance. All lines shall be 50mm (2in) wide with a tolerance of ± 1.5 mm.
- Full sized tennis Court line markings shall be painted using an approved 'white' line marking water based acrylic paint.
- Ensure the line paint is textured so that the balls bounce is as consistent as possible with the playing surface, on no account should traffic or oil based paints be used. All lines should be clean and sharp.

