

**Regular maintenance of your Clayrite facility will optimise playing performance, maximise the life expectancy of the surface and increase revenue.**

**The following information is for guidance purposes only and should be read in conjunction with any specific maintenance documents issued. Not all processes will be applicable to all facilities.**

### **Litter / Flora Collection**

Fallen leaves and litter should be removed from your Clayrite court on a regular basis as they can quickly breakdown, contaminating the infill and causing problems with drainage. Litter and flora collection should ideally be carried out daily.

### **Drag Brushing**

Drag brushing is an essential part of the maintenance programme for a Clayrite surface and should be carried out after every match in order to correct any imbalance of the sand infill. As the infill acts as the wearing course, it is essential that it is returned to the high use areas in order to help prolong the life of the surface. The process is carried out by attaching a drag brush to the rear of your grounds maintenance vehicle. Regular brushing of the court allows play from day one, with a steady improvement in consistency over the first few weeks.

### **Infill Levels**

Due to the nature of Clayrite as a clay-style performance tennis surface with specialist sand infill it is extremely important that sand levels are monitored regularly to ensure correct and even levels are maintained. Too little or too much infill can have a detrimental effect on the performance, appearance and wear rate of the surface, which is estimated at an average of no more than 1mm per annum.

Over time, infill can either compact inside the surface pile or be removed altogether by players footwear or adverse weather. In this situation, it is important that infill levels are increased in order to prevent health and safety issues arising and avoid the premature wearing of the surface fibres. The carpet pile wears down over time and this can leave infill levels high across the surface, presenting a potential slip hazard to users of the facility. In these circumstances excess infill should be removed to leave the facility in a safer condition.

### **Seams / Inlaid Lines**

It is recommended that you regularly inspect your court's seams and inlaid lines for soundness in order to ensure that any failures are highlighted at an early stage and repairs can be completed before they create a health and safety risk.

### **Vegetation Growth**

Areas of your Clayrite court which are affected by the growth of vegetation, moss and algae require specialist chemical treatment to kill the spores. Many facilities are surrounded by trees or vegetation which increase the potential for the development of moss or vegetation within the surfacing. By treating the perimeter of the facility on a regular basis this will help to prevent the ingress of potential hazardous vegetation.

Any changes in health and safety legislation should be taken into consideration prior to the use of chemicals. Always refer to the supplier of the chemical to ensure its suitability for use.

### **Summer Deep Clean**

The Summer Deep Clean process is the ideal way to back up the regular maintenance during the summer months. This process works by getting much deeper into the carpet, cleaning the existing infill and then re-dressing the infill back into the carpet. This process is best carried out in the Summer months as the infill needs to be as dry as possible to be effective.

### **Drainage**

Manhole/catchment pits and drainage pipes should be cleared out on a regular basis, if water stands on the surface after heavy rain, it is important to check the drainage system thoroughly by examining the outlet and the pipe drainage system to ensure that it is fully operational. Rodding of the drains may be required to clear any blockages. If the drains are clear, check the surface porosity as poor drainage may be a result of dirty or contaminated sand within the surface pile.

### **Vehicles**

Do not allow vehicles or equipment with narrow wheels or tyres to run over the surface. All equipment should be tested prior to use to ensure no grooves or carpet rucking is evident.

### **Footwear & General Care**

Always ensure that the correct footwear is worn and that footwear is clean when entering the facility.

Your court and its surrounding area should be a no-smoking zone as a discarded cigarette will melt the surface fibres, leaving an unsightly mark. Chewing gum and the use of glass bottles should also be banned.

### **Signage**

Appropriate signs should be erected displaying information to the user on simple rules which need to be observed to ensure everyone can enjoy the pitch in a safe environment.