

Memo

To: Dr. Mark Silverstein
From: Christian Lynch
Date: April 6, 2022
Re: Glassboro High School tennis courts

A few years ago, the Borough supported the Glassboro Public School District in a renovation of its tennis courts. The old courts had foundational issues such as cracking and water pooling. The financial support was much appreciated by the district and helped the district in its goal to make the site suitable for playing interscholastic matches as well as hosting community tennis events. .

In hearing how the new court was constructed, I was told the old court had its cracks filled, and then the old surface was kept as the foundation for the new surface. However, it does not sound like the old surface was milled and evened before adhering the new surface. The new grid surface (approximately ½" in thickness) was laid on top of the old surface and fastened to it.

It now appears that some of the issues of the old surface are affecting the new surface. Areas that pooled on the old surface now pool over on the new surface when the rain accumulates. Because it is a grid surface, we cannot roll off the water like we would with a traditional surface. We have no way to get to the water and remove it once it is there. We also theorize that it may take longer for the water to evaporate off, as wind does not reach the water underneath the grids. It sometimes can take multiple days for the water to evaporate completely.

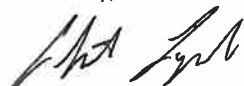
Areas which were depressed spots on the old surface currently are "dead" spots where the balls do not act normally upon impact. Also, these spots have some "give" when standing on them. Generally, the surface is slow in its play and reactivity. Also, this new grid surface is slicker than a traditional surface, and, when wet, is even slicker. It renders the surface unsafe for play.

Also, recently, in a match versus Penns Grove, the match was halted at the halfway point due to high winds. The effects of the wind were exasperated by the fact that we do not have windscreens around the courts. With the courts being in such an open area, it is necessary to get screens around the fencing of the courts.

The Glassboro Public School District is thankful for the Borough for sponsoring the renovation of the courts. It simply appears that we need to look at possible action steps to rectify some of the issues that have arisen, so we can optimize this facility.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Christian Lynch

Director of Athletics, Glassboro Public School District