

# Athletic Fields

Ali Hedin <alihedin@hotmail.com>

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To: Alex Elvin <elvin@mvcommission.org>;

My wife and I are long time residents of Martha's Vineyard. We are opposed to any artificial surface for the athletic fields. I grew up playing sports my entire youth years and into college so I have experience with fields. The best fields to play on is natural grass. Whenever I played on artificial surfaces I was burned by the surface and suffered nagging knee pain. For our community to even consider this as a option is inconceivable to me. The expense as well as the impact on our environment far outweighs the alternative of natural grass. The reason our fields are in disrepair is neglect and a budget to maintain them to a level that is acceptable. We have a local organization ( The Field Fund) who have come in and proven that you can have grass fields that are more then adequate for what the Island needs. Remember all professional sports for the most part have abandoned the idea of artificial surfaces because of injuries and cost. Let's dedicate ourselves to overhauling our fields with the expertise we have on Island. Lastly to even consider a product that presently no one in the US recycles is absurd & also let's face these fields may be outlawed in the future, remember plastic single bottles are going to vanish along with more of this type of plastic product so why go down this road at all. Thank you, Ali Hedin & Chelsea Pennebaker and family

Sent from my iPhone