Re: Disinfectants

The Field Fund <thefieldfund@gmail.com>

Thu 7/9/2020 1:10 PM

Hi again, Adam.

I wanted to follow up on this thread after seeing the NFL’s health protocols for player safety re: COVID-19.

According to CBS Sports, “Field equipment must be cleaned after each practice and, if a team practices on field turf, that field turf must also be disinfected after each practice, according to the protocols.”

Obviously island athletes aren’t on million dollar contracts, but they too deserve to be safe while recreating. And, at the same time, the public should be fully aware of the potential impacts of the chemical treatments required to keep synthetic surfaces sanitary and properly maintained.

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of everyone.

My best,
Rebekah
NFL training camps 2020: Here are the coronavirus-related changes players can expect when they report

Things are going to be a lot different for players when they report to training camp

By Jonathan Jones  Jun 8, 2020 at 2:22 pm ET • 4 min read

Our world has taken on a different look since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, and professional football was never going to be immune to that. On Monday morning, commissioner Roger Goodell sent a memo to all 32 teams obtained by CBSSports.com that revealed the most detailed plans yet for what a player return to team facilities can and will look like.

The guidelines, agreed upon by the NFL and the NFL Players Association, detail a new normal for players, coach and staff that all teams must have in place before players are back on the field.

Though the memo does not set any hard dates for a player return, the focus for resuming on-field activities remains on training camp, as I've been reporting.

Here's what players can expect when they pull up to their team's facilities to begin the 2020 season.
Players and coaches will likely have a designated door for entry into the facility. There they may have their temperature checked before being asked a series of questions.

- Have you been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19?

- Are you experiencing a cough, shortness of breath, or sore throat?

- Have you had a fever (temperature above 100.4) in the last 48 hours?

- Have you had new loss of taste and/or smell?

- Have you had vomiting or diarrhea in the last 24 hours?

While inside the facilities, players will be required to wear a mask during all non-football related activities. Certain hallways will be designated as one-way, and it’s probable that other hallways will have tape on the floors indicating which side to travel. Teams must, at all times, have at least a two-week supply of PPE on hand.

High-touch surfaces like elevator buttons and security keypads must be sanitized at least three times a day with hospital-grade disinfectant. Team meeting rooms also have to be disinfected after each use.

Because of the need for physical distancing, teams are highly encouraged to hold virtual meetings. But if meetings must take place in person, the NFL is asking teams to hold them outdoors and have each player wear a mask.

When players use the equipment room, no more than 15 players can gather at a time. The strength and conditioning workouts will have to be staggered. Usually, position groups work out together, and that will be impossible for certain positions when teams have a 90-man roster. A team’s director of football operations will have to work closely with the strength coach to manage that schedule.

Also, players will have to bring their own chalk. The communal chalk bucket will be no more under these protocols. Strength coaches must wear masks, but they won’t be required for players working out—only "strongly encouraged."

Perhaps the greatest changes will be felt in the locker room. Teams "must reconfigure locker rooms to permit six feet of space between each other player ... where possible." This is going to take a lot of creativity for each team.
Most teams use small, temporary lockers during training camp in addition to what they have installed in order to satisfy a team of 90 players. Sometimes those lockers are in the middle of a locker room or off to the side. Per this memo, that won't be allowed where possible.

I anticipate some teams will have the offense in one locker room and the defense in another. Even that may not be enough, though. This will become less an issue when rosters are cut for the regular season, but most locker rooms still cannot support a 53-man roster plus a 12-man practice squad while maintaining six feet of space. It would see separate locker rooms for one team would have to continue into the regular season, based on these protocols.

It's important to note that the NFL and players union is still working on isolation and risk mitigation protocols for on-field activity. The memo does not require masks to be worn during practice, and there's language in the protocols that make it seem to me as though that will not be a requirement going forward. Football is obviously a contact sport that is incompatible with physical distancing, and the league is not ignorant to that.

Helmets, shoulder pads, mouthpieces, uniforms and gloves must all be cleaned after each practice. Field equipment must be cleaned after each practice and, if a team practices on field turf, that field turf must also be disinfected after each practice, according to the protocols.

There will be no towel sharing, meaning each player must use his own individual towel throughout practice. Further, there will be no water bottle sharing or using a shared water dispenser. Individual bottles or disposable cups will be used at practice.

This is just part of what NFL players can expect once they report to training camp in mid-July. The league notes “these protocols will change as medical and scientific knowledge of the disease continues to grow.”

This signals the start of the return to football in 2020, and it's just the beginning.

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Hi Adam, Lucy, Alex and Kim,

Hope everyone is safe and well.

With playgrounds and parks opening up, there have been some important conversations around how to adequately protect the public from viruses particularly on large-scale synthetic surfaces. It is already well-established that plastic fields can be a vector for pathogens, such as MRSA.

As you are likely aware, Coronavirus studies have shown it can live for days on plastic surfaces. Signs like the one below are appearing on public play areas. And the synthetic turf industry has begun advertising the importance of using disinfectants on plastic fields. Below are screenshots from synthetic turf companies showing the products they recommend for disinfecting. As you can see from their email, Greenfields USA recommends the use of mPact's mPerial.

We noticed that in the latest staff / applicant meeting notes, it claims that plastic fields are hot enough to kill off viruses and bacteria (despite the “cooler” Brockfill infill). Even if this turns out to be scientifically accurate, it seems that would only be true in certain weather conditions.

Of course it is critical that playing surfaces (where people perspire, spit, bleed, etc), are kept sanitary for athletes — but it is also important to protect our waters particularly because of the field's location in a Zone II wellhead protection area, in the Sengekontacket watershed. This poses a huge challenge. We hope these chemicals and protocols will be closely scrutinized in light of both imperatives.

Many thanks in advance,
Mollie, Rebekah, and Dardy
CAUTION
This playground is open but not sanitized; use cautiously at your own risk.

Stay home if you feel sick
Wear a face covering
Maintain at least six feet from others
Avoid large gatherings
Wash or sanitize hands frequently

Mass.gov/coronavirus
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Please contact Medway Parks and Recreation with any questions: 508-321-4740
priority, which is why we have taken the time to assemble an experienced and dedicated customer service department. We proactively follow up with each and every one of our customers to ensure complete and continuous satisfaction.

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The FieldCleanse Program, part of FieldTurf’s multi-pronged service platform, is designed to increase safety measures for our clients and their athletes. FieldTurf, which for over 25 years has been recognized as the leader in artificial turf and player safety is proud to introduce the FieldCleanse program designed to elevate the cleanliness standards of our fields and to meet the new health and safety challenges presented by the current Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic environment. This multi-faceted approach includes our standard guidance for Brushing, Aaising, Raising and Sweeping along with new options for those who want to sanitize their turf fields.

EPA APPROVED CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) SANITIZER

FieldTurf’s NEW FieldCleanse program will help deep clean your surface to combat COVID-19. Utilizing an EPA approved coronavirus sanitizer, mPerial™, by MPact™ Environmental Solutions, LLC, which confirms results that demonstrates the ability of the mPact™ technology to prevent and protect against the spread of the COVID-19 Virus.

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- Norovirus
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- Commonly associated Methicillin resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA)

*Progenics application is uric acid neutralized, so has no residual smell and will not protect against future contamination.

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AstroTurf Offers Program to Help Clients Re-Open Athletic Fields in the Wake of Covid-19

DALTON, Ga., June 12, 2020 (PRNewswire) -- Over the last several months, COVID-19 restrictions have meant that most all sports facilities have been closed and off limits to athletes for quite some time. Hopefully, facilities are making plans to reopen athletic fields in the very near future and have considered all the necessary steps to do so. It may be a mistake to think that just because a synthetic field has not been played on in four months it should be in good condition. That could be far from the truth. There is still a lot to consider before you open your fields back up for play.

Today’s synthetic turf systems are more like natural grass. Manufacturers have been able to simulate the look and feel of natural grass by using taller, grass-like fibers and fill the fiber matrix with infill like sand, rubber, or organic materials. The finished product requires specialized, consistent maintenance to remain uniform, predictable, and high performing, especially in terms of shock attenuation, traction, and ball response. Proper maintenance will contribute to greater durability and longevity of your synthetic turf system.

Your turf system may just need a deep-brushing, or it may require an intensive cleaning. Even though the field has been closed, it should be inspected for vegetation, animal activity, vandalism, or other contamination. Only some minor grooming may be in order, but for reassurance and peace of mind, an intensive grooming program that includes a field disinfectant is highly recommended.

AstroTurf's Maintain the Game Aftercare Program has put together a comprehensive field maintenance program that considers the surface safety concerns facing our world today. This regular service program can be upgraded to include ProGenics. ProGenics Concentrated Hard Surface Disinfectant is a proactive approach to disease prevention & odor control that can be used on a wide range of surfaces found in athletic fields, fitness centers, weight rooms, common areas, children's playgrounds or anywhere with synthetic turf. This application is effective against a wide variety of mold, bacteria, fungi, and viruses including COVID-19. The result is a completely disinfected playing surface that is safe for athletes.

The use of ProGenics has been determined to kill 99.9% of germs, viruses, bacteria, mold, fungus, mildew, and microbes that cause diseases and infections on contaminated surfaces including artificial turf, athletic fields, playgrounds, locker rooms, and more. The treatment is 100% human, animal, and is environmentally friendly.
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Artificial Turf Disinfectant Program for COVID-19 First in the United States

With increased demand to re-open sports fields, businesses, and public playgrounds, Genesis Turf has developed a turf disinfectant program designed to eliminate coronavirus along with any other viruses, bacteria, mold, and fungi from artificial turf surfaces. The result is a completely disinfected and deodorized surface safe for children, players, and customers.

Persistent high level protection of environmental surfaces against germ contamination is at its highest demand. Genesis Turf has partnered with KPD Global for use of Medecide in its Genesis Bio Clean Service. This innovative disinfection technology combats the spread of infectious germs of all kinds including bacteria, viruses, yeasts, fungi and spores after one treatment.

This treatment has been 100% tested to kill 99.9% of germs, virus, bacteria, spores, fungus, mildew and microbes that cause diseases and infections on contaminated, uncleaned, untreated surfaces including artificial turf, athletic fields, play surfaces, bleachers, locker rooms, bathrooms, toilets, sinks and office spaces. Our process is 100% human, animal, and environment friendly.

FEATURES:

+ Disinfects surfaces and immediately destroys all viruses and all other pathogens within seconds of application.
Rebekah,

I received your information from our head of marketing, Erica Rumpke. In regards to field disinfecting procedures, Tencate Grass/Greenfields USA recommends the use of an *in-situ* application of mPact mPerial disinfectant. The chemical can be sprayed across our surfaces using any approved vehicle (read: Gator or UTV featuring low ground pressure “turf” tires). I personally recommend the use of a Laymor which can apply the disinfectant while performing a professional level grooming to a field. However, this is a technique which must be performed by a professional turf installer and the Laymor can cause damage if used by improperly trained personnel. It should be said that the process can be tailored to different field applications and products. Given more information, I can generate a customized disinfecting plan for your surface. Feel free to call me if you have any other questions or concerns.

-Best

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