

Maintenance Diary

Soccer - Glades Recreational Field



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Schedule:

☀ Every month (except for May) the field is fertilized using a split-application at 1.5 lbs/acre using a fertilizer ratio of 2-1-2.

☀ Weekly maintenance during the months of May-November is regulatory painting and cutting 3 times per week with a HOC of 5/8", which we have found to help promote lateral growth (especially during transitioning).

☀ Due to the continuous use of the field, we have 1 month a year to perform an aggressive maintenance program.

☀ Starting in May we verti-cut, aerate (pull cores), top-dress and fertilize with a 20-2-10 at 2 lbs Nitrogen/acre.

☀ In mid-summer we schedule our first solid tine event and spot top-dress heavily worn areas.

☀ Prior to the start of FAU Soccer season, we are given a week to verti-cut, aerate and blow the cores back into the field. This is used as a replacement method for top-dressing while still achieving the same benefits.

☀ During the mid-season, we will also schedule our second solid tine event to obtain optimal growth.

☀ During November, prior to overseeding, we sweep the field against the grain and cut to help thin the canopy (allowing for better seed to soil contact,) then overseed at 8 lbs/1000 sq. ft. Following this transition we will then raise our HOC to 3/4" while cutting 2-3 times per week depending on the growth. We will then program our third solid tine event mid-winter while spot seeding another 6 lbs/1000 throughout the winter.

Glades Recreational Field is a 6-acre joint venture between Florida Atlantic University (FAU) and the Parks/Recreation Department for the City of Boca Raton. The field is primarily used as the practice facility for FAU mens and womens soccer teams and the Boca Raton soccer programs resulting in year-round use. Throughout the year the field will have 2 regulation sized soccer fields and 4 youth soccer fields. There are weekly soccer camps held at the facility throughout the summer as well as 5-on-5 soccer tournaments.

- Ken

