



Navarre Youth Sports Association

8840 High School Blvd.

Navarre, FL 32566

850-939-5202

Navarre Youth Sports Association Field Maintenance Policy March 2025

Navarre Youth Sports Association Field Maintenance Policy

Purpose:

This policy outlines the procedures and guidelines for the maintenance of sports fields at the Navarre Youth Sports Association (NYSA). The goal is to ensure that all fields are safe, well-maintained, and in optimal condition for play. This includes regular mowing, inspections, necessary repairs, and proper rest time to preserve field quality.

1. Field Mowing

- **Mowing Schedule:**

Fields will be mowed **prior to every scheduled game** to ensure that the playing surface is even, safe, and aesthetically appealing. Mowing will take place at least **24 hours before** scheduled game times to allow for any grass clippings to settle and minimize the risk of players slipping or injury.

- **Grass Height:**

Grass will be maintained at a height of **1.25 inches** for optimal playability during summer months and **1.5 inches** during the winter months. If weather conditions or other factors affect the growth of the grass, adjustments may be made to the mowing schedule to ensure proper field conditions.

2. Field Inspections

- **Pre-Game Inspections:**

Fields will be inspected **at least 24 hours before scheduled games** to identify any hazards such as holes, debris, or uneven surfaces. Any issues found will be addressed immediately to ensure the safety of players and the integrity of the game.

- **Post-Game Inspections:**

After each game, a **post-game inspection** will be conducted to assess the field's condition. Any damages or wear caused by the game, including areas with excessive divots, will be noted and addressed.

- **Regular Inspections:**

Fields will undergo **regular weekly inspections** to monitor overall field health and address minor issues before they become significant problems. This includes checking the turf, goalposts, sideline areas, and other equipment for safety.

3. Field Repairs

- **Minor Repairs:**

Minor field repairs (such as filling holes, patching worn areas, and repairing goalpost nets) will be performed as needed. These repairs will be completed before the field is used again for play.

- **Major Repairs:**

Any significant damage to the field (such as large divots, turf damage, or drainage issues) will be addressed by a qualified field maintenance technician. Major repairs will be scheduled promptly to minimize disruption to games and practices.

- **Temporary Field Closures:** (See Field Closure Policy for additional guidance)

If a field is deemed unfit for use due to major damage or poor conditions, it will be temporarily closed until repairs are completed. Teams and coaches will be notified immediately if a field is unavailable for use.

Navarre Youth Sports Association Field Maintenance Policy

4. Field Rest Time

- **Rest Periods Between Games:**

To allow for proper recovery and minimize wear on the turf, fields will be given **adequate rest** between games. This means scheduling enough time between games (ideally at least **24 hours** when possible) to allow the field to recover and minimize the risk of damage.

- **Weekly Rest Periods:**

Fields used regularly for games or practices will be provided with **weekly rest periods** to ensure that the turf remains healthy and strong. Ideally, fields should have **at least one full day of rest** per week with no use.

- **Field Rotation:**

To minimize stress on individual fields, a **field rotation schedule** will be implemented. This ensures that fields are used evenly throughout the season and that no field becomes overly worn. For example, if a field is heavily used during one week, it will be given priority rest time the following week.

5. Communication and Reporting

- **Commissioners/Coaches/Field Users Reporting Issues:**

Commissioners/Coaches, team managers, or any field users are encouraged to report any field concerns (such as unsafe conditions, damage, or maintenance issues) to the Field Manager or the Board of Directors immediately. This will allow for swift action and the prevention of further damage.

- **Maintenance Team Coordination:**

The Field Manager or Facilities Coordinator will oversee all field maintenance activities, ensuring that mowing, inspections, and repairs are completed on time. They will also manage the field rotation and rest schedule.

6. Field Maintenance Log

- **Documentation:**

A **field maintenance log** will be maintained to track all activities related to field care, including mowing dates, inspections, repairs, and rest periods. This log will help identify patterns in field use and maintenance needs, enabling better planning for the upcoming seasons.

- **Report Submission:**

The Field Manager will submit a monthly field maintenance report to the NYSA Executive Council, detailing the condition of fields, any repairs made, and plans for upcoming maintenance.

7. Environmental Considerations

- **Sustainable Practices:**

Whenever possible, NYSA will use **environmentally friendly** and sustainable practices in field maintenance, including organic fertilizers, environmentally safe pesticides, and water conservation methods per the laws and regulations for the State of Florida.

- **Watering Schedule:**

The watering schedule will be adjusted based on weather conditions to ensure the turf is properly hydrated, but over-watering or under-watering will be avoided to prevent turf damage.

Navarre Youth Sports Association Field Maintenance Policy

Policy Review:

This policy will be reviewed annually by the NYSA Executive Council to ensure that it remains effective, aligns with best practices in field maintenance, and meets the needs of the organization.