

STANDARD GUIDE SURVEY FOR CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF SKINNED AREAS ON SPORTS FIELDS.

The Technical Committee of the STMA has offered the support through its membership to assist the ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials) to develop standard guidelines for the construction and maintenance for Athletic Skinned Areas. These standards will pertain to not only skinned areas for baseball and softball, but any soil only athletic surface where soil stability, drainage, playability and safety is of concern. I would appreciate your assistance in the development of these standards by first filling out the enclosed survey and returning it to: Guise & Associates, 515 W. Commonwealth Avenue #215, Fullerton, CA, 92632.

SKINNED AREA SURVEY

1. Check one Baseball Softball (use two forms if you maintain both types of fields)

Have you had your soil in the skinned areas of your fields tested for particle size and distribution? If yes, complete the following by percent or enclose lab report with survey.

List area(s) infield, mound, baselines, etc .	Very Coarse 2 - 1 mm	Coarse 1 - .5 mm	Medium .5 - .25 mm	Fine .25 - .10 mm	Very Fine .10 - .05 mm	Silt .05 - .002 mm	Clay < .002 mm
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

For each soil described above, indicate whether you consider the soil to be (a) very good, (b) good, (c) fair, (d), poor, (e) very poor. Describe limitations for each soil, such as "too sandy," "too clayey," "too hard," "dusty," "poorly drained," "etc.

2. Do you use the same soil mix for your skinned areas between first and third base as well as the pitchers, catchers and baseline areas?
3. Check the box or boxes that best represent the field design at your facility. For multiple fields, place the number of fields in the boxes.
- Entire field soil Entire infield soil, outfield grass Grass infield only
 Grass field w/skinned area Artificial field w/cut outs Other surface (Specify)

4. List in order of importance, the criteria necessary in selection of material for skinned areas. (List in order of 1 being most important)
- Drainage (surface) Drainage (Sub-surface) Color
 Traction (Players' footing) Particle size/distribution Ease of grooming
 Moisture retention Depth of profile require
 Other criteria (Specify) _____

5. List the depth and soil mix used in the construction of:
- Pitchers' area _____
- Home plate area _____
- Skinned areas _____

6. Which areas are the most difficult to maintain? (List in the order of 1 being the most difficult)
- Pitching area Batters' boxes Catchers box
 Baseline (home-first, third-home) Base sliding areas Base lead-off areas
 Skinned area (first-third base) On deck circles (soil only)

7. Check off equipment used to maintain and groom your skinned areas.
- Scarifier drag (Nail drag) Float, leveling drag (Straight edge)
 Other drags _____ Rakes

- Mats (Chain link)
- Mats (Coco mat or carpet)
- Mats (Link mat)
- Mats, other _____
- Screen (soil) 1.8" mesh
- Screen, other _____
- Hoe
- Commercially available groomer

- Brooms
- Tamps
- Shovels
- Hose and adjustable nozzle
- Irrigation (in ground)
- Edger
- Equipment to pull drags

8. What materials are used to maintain your skinned areas? (e.g., sand, clay, calcined clay, diatomite, moisture absorbent material)

9. Do you water down your skinned areas prior to play? Yes No
 If yes, what criteria do you use to make this decision? _____
 How much water will you apply? _____

10. How do you apply the water? (i.e. water truck, hose, irrigation in ground, quick coupler)

11. Where are your hose water sources located around your field? (indicate if water not available)

12. What process if any is used in the repair of pitchers and home plate areas?

13. How do you protect your skinned areas from excessive water? _____

14. How do you protect your field from excessive wear? _____

15. How much use does your field receive? ___ # of events (___ week ___ month) ___ hrs/day used for sports

16. What other events take place on your baseball and softball fields? _____

17. Draw your skinned area drainage profile, if possible, and include materials used, depth of materials and distance to drain lines.

18. What is the primary level of play on your field? (If multiple fields, indicate # in each category)

Professional (___ Major ___ Minor league) Professional (Training Center)

College Secondary School Elementary School

Recreation facility (Park & Recreation)

19. Do you want the results of this survey? If yes, include your business card or name, address and phone number. _____
