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Post Season Recovery Techniques at the Recreational Sports Department's Penberthy Intramural Sports Center at Texas A & M University.

Presented by;

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This is a step by step demonstration of the effectiveness of post season agronomic recovery techniques developed at the Penberthy Center fields at Texas A & M University using fields 1 and 2 of the 13 fields at the complex beginning at the end of the '07-'08 intramural season until the start of the '08-'09 intramural Season. Fields 1 and 2 were chosen because, with football on them in the fall and soccer on them in the spring, they suffer the most wear of any of my intramural or club sport fields.

We photographed the fields, sub-divided into "A" fields and "B" fields to represent wear patterns related to the individual playing areas on each field, immediately after the close of intramural soccer on May 9th, 2008 and again immediately prior to the beginning of intramural football on September 10, 2008. We also photographed each piece of equipment used for the nine steps of the process as well as examples of the results of some steps and the events on the fields that cause interruptions to the process.

In this presentation I will discuss the process, step by step, and show the results, immediately after the major steps and at the end of the summer, along with the challenges met along the way. I will also discuss the importance of each step to the whole process. This process was developed over a period of 5 – 6 years due to the poor condition of the Intramural fields at Texas A & M. I developed the research to support the need to purchase the equipment needed to perform these tasks and presented them for budget approval 1 or 2 at a time, step by step, in much the same order that we perform the tasks on the field. When we started developing this process we had 17 acres of fields of which 3 acres, or 17%, of our fields were completely bare and unable to grow even weeds at any time during the year. I currently manage 34 acres of sports fields and we start each year with at least 97% coverage of all 13 fields on this center. I could not have successfully built this program without the support of the leadership of the Recreational Sports Department having a commitment to quality facilities and their realization that good facilities require good maintenance.

For more detailed information about this process, please refer to the November, 2007 issue of SportsTurf Magazine where the article that this presentation is based on is published.