

APPLICATION OF WETPOUR RUBBER

Environment

Wetpour rubber is a polyurethane based product and is greatly affected by environmental conditions, mainly temperature and humidity. The polyurethane binder must only be applied in the correct environmental condition to ensure the product is workable during application and the correct finish is achieved. For this reason application cannot be managed based on a building schedule or an expected time frame. The application must be managed based on environmental conditions and ensuring these are suitable before applying products. It is recommended for these works to not be scheduled in North Queensland from late November to March, as the humidity is usually too high. Advantage Sports & Leisure will not apply this product outside the required conditions and will not be held to a time frame if conditions are not suitable.

Cracking – Just like a concrete slab, rubber surfaces can also crack.

Application Cracking

Cracking can occur during or just after application. This is mainly due to the change of temperature and the layers of product expanding and shrinking at different rates before the wear layer (top layer) has fully cured. The curing of the wear layer is governed by the environment, as it is an aromatic binder. Advantage Sports & Leisure, as the applicator, cannot control the environment and cannot accelerate the curing process. It is unfortunate if cracking does occur, however it does not affect the integrity of the product with regards to safety or meeting the required FHOF standard. These cracks can be fixed, however may still be noticeable as a blemish in the finished surface.

Expansion Cracking

Wetpour rubber will expand and shrink as the temperature changes throughout the day. Being rubber it does have a degree of flex, however it can and will shrink and expand beyond its limits and in some cases may cause a crack or pull away from the edge joint. The most common places a rubber surface will crack are at the joins and along the edge where the rubber surface meets a concrete, timber, or other edging surface. Advantage Sports & Leisure uses certain techniques to try and reduce this effect, such as key joint at joins and thickening at the edges where the product meets another finished surface. Although these techniques certainly help, they still do not guarantee cracks will not occur.

Yellowing of rubber

The aromatic binder will cause some yellowing of the finished product. This occurs during the curing process and the degree to which this will occur depends on the humidity, angle of sunlight and colour section. This yellowing affect will fade over a three to six month period and does not affect the integrity of the product. Please refer to the following link for further information. [Yellowing of Binder](#)