

Artificial Turf versus Natural Grass Workshop - City Council City of Dover, NH

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- Do you happen to have any details you would be willing to share including costs, scope of maintenance, and products that you use in your field maintenance?
 - o Two totally different surfaces and scopes of maintenance.
 - o Equipment is totally different for Turf.
 - o UNH has all the lines stitched in rather than repainting (materials and labor).
 - o Multi-use
 - Football
 - Lacrosse
 - Soccer
 - Field Hockey (specific turf at the Whit)... very short
- Does the university perform the maintenance on any of the fields or is there a contractor that performs regular maintenance?
 - o UNH is all artificial.
 - Hard to keep grass during playing seasons.
 - GMax testing required for turf.
 - Loss of infill due to winter clearing and regular use requires it to be brushed more frequently than a high school may be.
 - Use of the Turf field earlier in the year versus grass. Example is a Lacrosse home game on February 19th.
 - No disinfection of the fields at UNH.
 - UNH does up to three practices a day plus games.
 - Brush field once every two weeks.
 - One hour daily on turf... grass seed cost have increased.
- Do you consider the migration to Artificial Turf a net positive for concussions?
 - o Yes.
 - o UNH operates under the direction of sustainable projects and given turf uses less pesticides it meets that criteria.
 - o UNH has replaced their turf with RAD Sports (same contractor that UMass used on the Rec field).
 - o UNH believes the turf is recyclable. (would need to confirm with Mark Guether).
- How does the maintenance of natural grass compare to the maintenance of artificial turf (\$ to \$)?
 - o No grass fields remain for competitive sports. One field for club rugby.
- Do you put any restrictions on use of your fields or put in any scheduled rest periods when fields lie dormant from athletic activity?
 - o No.
- Have you had any playability issues with any of the fields?
 - o Only issue that arose is on the field hockey field that needs to be watered. Watered before at half and after.

- Have you gone through a resurfacing of any of the turf fields yet? If so, was the surface recycled or repurposed in any particular way?
 - o They believe it was.
- Were there any concerns raised from students, athletes or the community about PFAS when deciding to install the artificial grass?
 - o No.
- Do you have any data supporting the safety of one surface over another in regards to youth sports and injuries?
 - o Would have to check with DH&S.



Picture of UNH Tucker Field turf April 4, 2024. They played a home game at UNH On April 6th (two days later).

See 2025 schedule below with the earliest game being played on February 8, 2025 (H: 33 deg, L: 17 deg).

DATE	CONFERENCE	OPPONENT	LOCATION
2/8/2025		Marist	Durham, N.H.
2/15/2025		at Brown	Providence, R.I.
2/18/2025		at Dartmouth	Hanover, N.H.
2/22/2025		at Quinnipiac	Hamden, Conn.
3/1/2025		at Merrimack	North Andover, Mass.
3/5/2025		at Sacred Heart	Fairfield, Conn.
3/12/2025		Boston U.	Durham, N.H.
3/16/2025	*	at UMass Lowell	Lowell, Mass.
3/21/2025	*	UMBC	Durham, NH
3/29/2025	*	Bryant	Durham, N.H.
3/31/2025		Cornell	Durham, N.H.
4/5-4/2025	*	at UAlbany	Albany, N.Y.
4/12/2025	*	at Vermont	Burlington, VT
4/19/2025	*	Binghamton	Durham, N.H.
4/22/2025		at Harvard	Cambridge, Mass.

- Field hockey pad and carpet recently replaced: \$1 million.