



TRACK MAINTENANCE

A SEASONAL GUIDE

Winter



The winter months are an ideal time to prepare your running track for the new season. It is important to recognise that athletics facilities require attention all year round, particularly in winter, when usage is reduced and the weather conditions are unfavourable. A running track that cannot reopen in spring costs money, time and inconvenience, which can be easily avoided with a worthwhile maintenance programme during the close season.

EQUIPMENT STORAGE

- Remove all equipment to storage areas - anything left on the track surface (such as hurdles or steeplechase barriers) may well leave a shadow or rust mark when it is moved at the start of the new season.
- Clean down any equipment such as hurdles or landing mats prior to storage.
- Ensure that only clean sand is put back in the landing pits before covering them.

DAILY CHECKS & SITE MAINTENANCE

- Identify any low-lying areas where water accumulates, as these will be prone to damage in freezing temperatures.
- Walk the track in full once per week, to identify if any repairs have formed as the track 'contracts' in the colder weather.
- Ensure drains remain free-flowing (little and often is the best approach here).
- Ensure that leaves are removed from the track and ideally taken off site or disposed of in a suitable location well away from the track. Allowing leaves to accumulate will result in surface contamination and the development of moss.
- Monitor wider grounds maintenance practices, and ensure that any grass clippings are removed from the track.
- Consider any other site-wide maintenance requirements, including drain surveys, securing landing pit covers, etc.

WINTER MAINTENANCE

- Brushing the track can help to manage moss levels.
- Consider arranging for specialist cleaning before the track reopens in the spring.
- The benefits of specialist cleaning includes restored drainage characteristics, improved traction underfoot and enhanced surface performance levels and user comfort.

THINGS TO CONSIDER:

- Rainfall



- Leaf Debris



- New Season

