

# WOOD SPORTS FLOOR MAINTENANCE

CARING FOR YOUR HORNER MAPLE FLOOR



HORNER FLOORING COMPANY, INC. 800.380.0119 / www.hornerflooring.com

P.O. Box 380, 23400 Hellman Drive, Dollar Bay, MI 49922 P: 906.482.1180 / F: 906.482.6115 / info@hornerflooring.com

# Maintaining Your (Hood Sports Floor

To be in compliance with warranty conditions it is the responsibility of the facility owner/managers to maintain their Horner floor under the recommendations outlined in floor specifications and maintenance instructions.

Performance and durability are best "maintained" by proper control of relative humidity and temperature. Areas containing wood flooring perform best by adequately providing air circulation by mechanical or natural means. Temperature and humidity must be fully functional and monitored year round.

Note: Different geographical regions may require varied degrees of control. Please consult your HVAC provider or your local Horner Flooring Representative for more information.

### Sports Vs. Civic Non Sport Use

Your wood sports floor is designed to take the rigors of multiple sports activities. In addition, non-sports activities may be an essential part of your facilities usage. Given this, Horner Flooring recommends that your care and maintenance program be designed to accommodate other activities. Please consult Horner Flooring and your local representative to help in designing a maintenance system for all your uses.

USE IT... BUT DON'T ABUSE IT!

# **Floor Care Essentials**

#### **Maintenance Products**

Horner Flooring recommends that before any floor care or refinishing products are used, a full review is done with your installation/maintenance professional recommended and certified by Horner Flooring. There are a lot of products - some of which work better than others.

#### **Daily Floor Care**

To protect the finish, appearance and performance of your floor, it's imperative that daily sweeping/mopping of your floor is conducted. Dust, dirt and debris are best removed with the recommended mop and floor cleaner. Proper daily cleaning maintains the correct surface friction and athletic performance characteristics by reducing slips and inconsistent stops.

DON'T JUST **PUSH** THE DUST......**REMOVE** THE DUST!

#### Entrance/Walk-off Mats

Depending on the outside areas specific to your floor, catching dirt and dust before it gets on the floor is one of the best ways to extend the appearance and performance of the wood floor. Placing walk-off and entrance mats designed to catch dirt and grit in heavy traffic areas helps protect the floor. Horner Flooring recommends placing mats directly outside or at the entrances of the floor. Regular cleaning and vacuuming of mats will ensure best results.

#### **Monthly and Quarterly Floor Care**

Your maple floor should be scrubbed and treated with an approved floor cleaner. If an auto scrubber is used, make sure proper training and performance is maintained. Consult Horner Flooring or your certified representative for proper equipment and product usage.

#### **Yearly Floor Care**

Horner Sports Flooring recommends that your maple floor be cleaned, screened and recoated annually with an approved finish. Your warranty may be affected by product and contractor usage. Please consult your warranty and Horner Sports Flooring Representative before this procedure. Please see Yearly/Restorative Coating section.

#### Floor Stain Prevention

In the case of spills, be sure to wipe with damp cloth immediately. Use a soft cloth or towel. Note: Be sure that any wet areas are cleaned and dried immediately.

#### **Shoe Mark Removal and Prevention**

Shoe marks can be removed with an approved floor cleaner. Different finishes will use different cleaners. Consult your installation and floor care professional for best products. To remove shoe marks:

- Rub the mark with a tennis ball attached to a pole or broom handle.
- (slit the ball and press onto the handle)
- Rag dampened in mineral spirits (oil based finishes only).
- · Red scrub pad with recommended cleaner.

Prevent shoe marks by monitoring and recommending only non marking shoes to be allowed on the playing surface.

#### **Gum and Tar Removal**

Removal of gum, tar or adhesives is accomplished by using a plastic scraper and rubbing the area with Mineral Spirits. Also using an ice pack or freeze-it spray to harden the gum or adhesive and then scraping it off with a plastic scraper will work as well. Wipe areas with soft dry cloth towel when removal is complete.



**Dust Mopping** 



**Shoe Mark Removal** 



**Poly-Based Spill Clean-up** 



Wet Tacking





Water-Based Spill Clean-up

#### Ventilation, Moisture, Temperature

Your hardwood maple floor system is designed to withstand normal variations in humidity and temperature. A fully functional HVAC system providing proper ventilation (air movement) will prevent changes in the floor systems shape and



appearance. The HVAC system must be adjusted to maintain room temperatures between 55-80°F. If during high humidity outdoor periods the space gains humidity in excess of 55% immediate air movement and exhaust of moisture laden air must be accomplished. During warm humid seasons regular inspections of the space and floor should be conducted. Please consult the facilities HVAC provider so that these recommendations and requirements are fully understood.

Better air circulation can be achieved if interior doors remain open and the air circulation system is operating. If humidity levels in the facility drop below 35% (geographically sensitive) Horner Sports Flooring recommends that humidity be introduced into the space to avoid excessive shrinkage.

Excessive expansion or shrinkage in your floor caused by environmental conditions which exceed normal ranges are not the responsibility of Horner Sports Flooring and are not covered by the warranty. Please review with building/facility managers and personnel

#### Damage from Water/Moisture

Water or excessive moisture is the main item that can cause damage to your floor. Wood is a hygroscopic material that nature intends to expand and contract under normal conditions. This is by retention and release of moisture within the woods cell structure.

#### **Tightening/Cupping**

If cupping is observed in your wood

floor, immediate lowering of relative humidity and introduction of a steady air flow is recommended. This will lower the moisture content in the wood floor system. Contact your authorized floor contractor or Horner Sports Flooring. If cupping is localized it is best to determine the cause of the moisture. Never sand a cupped floor without consultation with a professional and properly preparing the facility.



**Questions?** Clarifications? Do not hesitate to contact Horner Sports Flooring at

1-800-482-1180 www.hornerflooring.com.





## **Excessive Gaps** (Cracks Between Floor Boards)

Your floor may have intermittent "gaps" or internal expansion provision built into the system during installation. This is to allow for normal expansion and contraction that occur throughout the seasons. Depending on specific site and seasonal conditions at the time of the installation varying degrees of built-in provisions will occur. These are normal and questions concerning these should be directed to your authorized installation contractor

Excessive gaps occur due to low humidity levels or excessive dryness in the facility. This can be remedied by introducing higher humidity/moisture laden air into the space. Contract your floor care professional or Horner Sports Flooring for other corrective measures

### **Moisture Exposure Prevention**

- Some items to watch for
- Abnormal dampness/condensation
- Exterior door thresholds and window seals need to be weather tight
- Ceiling or pipe/drain leaks must be corrected immediately
- Excessive water from foot traffic should be dried or corrected immediately
- Monitor relative humidity levels regularly
- Roof drains should be kept clear and drain away from the building
- Report any abnormal visual or measurement (temp/RH) to building manager

#### **Expansion Joints**

Your floor has designed-in expansion joints. Never block or obstruct any expansion joints at the perimeter or vertical obstructions (i.e. columns, game inserts, bleachers).

#### **Bleacher Systems**

Be certain that your floor is designed to take rolling and point loads that the bleachers will place on the floor system. Bleacher wheels should be designed for wood floors. Regular cleaning behind and beneath bleachers will prevent undue wear and unsightly marring and scratching of the floor.

## Yearly/Regular Restorative Coating

Horner Sports Flooring recommends that your maple floor be cleaned, screened and recoated annually with an approved finish. Your warranty may be affected by product and contractor usage. Please consult your warranty and Horner Sports Flooring Representative before this procedure.

Depending on daily maintenance, traffic and usage, your floor may require a more aggressive recoating program. Horner Flooring recommends the use of an approved maintenance contractor. Proper scheduling and dry/cure time is essential to the finishes performance. Products vary greatly and overall safety and performance of your floor can be adversely affected if incompatible

finishes and products are used.

Good workmanship by a professional properly coordinated with the facility staff will make for low life cycle costs as well as other savings. Contact Horner with any questions or if you are in need of any recommendations.

