

Additional Information about Sabourin Field

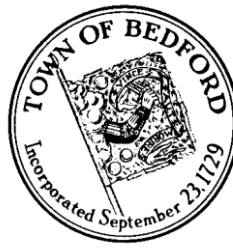
Safety Report Summary

Tom Irwin Advisors conducts a safety check of Sabourin Field turf each year. This produces a comprehensive synthetic field report card. This report gives an overall grade as well (overview on page 4 of the report). Testing is done using Core Performance Quality Standards, which is a field assessment approach that scientifically measures a field's existing conditions. A system of analytics that measures a field's overall state of fitness.

- Typically done in August, before Fall sports start
- Report sent to staff upon completion, recommendations given to DPW regarding maintenance
- In general, when new turf fields are installed they are supposed to be replaced every 10 years
 - Many communities only make it 7-8 years based on overall use and maintenance operations
 - Sabourin is over 10 years now (install in 2013) and at the end of its useful life
 - We are now past the time it should be replaced
 - Only reason it's still playable is because of the DPW grounds maintenance operations
- Current overall grade: D
 - 2019: B
 - 2020: B
 - 2021: C
 - 2022: C+
 - 2023: D
- Recommendations (page 9)
 - Replace the turf in the next 6 months and the sub base material should be replaced as well
 - Install a shock pad under the turf as well given the high amount of use of the field
 - For concussion safety

TOWN OF BEDFORD, MA

Recreation Department



Sabourin Field Usage

- The field is primarily used from March-November each year.
- During the time frame listed above, the school has priority use of Sabourin Field Monday-Friday from Dismissal (2:00 PM-6:00 PM) in the Fall and Spring seasons.
 - BHS uses the turf field on average 53% of the available time. They have exclusive use Monday-Friday 2:00 PM-6:00 PM during fall and springs sports seasons, and they have “bumping rights” outside of those times.
- The also has school has “bumping rights” as defined in the current Field Use Policy. So, if they want to use Sabourin Field outside of the hours listed above they can bump any other use with proper notice. This includes Recreation and private use.
- The field policy mandates that the lights are only available until 11:00 PM.
- Weekend use is primarily adult and youth sports with increased school use.
- 50% of Sabourin Turf Field Requests that were received in the past year have been denied due to a conflict with scheduled use from Schools, Recreation & Bedford Youth Sports.

Turf Rental Fees:

- This fee structure is for non-Bedford Public School/Bedford Rec/Bedford Youth Sports Organization Groups.
- Bedford Public School Athletes do not pay a fee to use the field.
- Adult Recreation Groups do not pay a fee to use the field.
- Youth Recreation/Town Youth Sports Organizations pay the regular \$15/player/season fee
 - Less than 50% Residency: \$125/hour
 - 50% or more residency: \$75/hour
 - Lights: Additional \$15/hour for field lights

What would it take to make money on this field?

- The prime use hours are weeknights from 4:00 PM-11:00 PM. Those hours are primarily used by Schools & Adult/Youth Recreation. If we took the total hours used (1473) times the rental fee (\$125/hour) we would make \$184,125/year.

Benefits of the Turf/Lights for Residents of Bedford:

- Before the turf was built, the grass football field and lights were only able to be utilized by the Bedford Football Teams in the fall.
- The creation of the turf led to increased hours of use under lights in any weather for both school, youth and adult programs.
- You do not need to rest the turf.
- Adults are able to use the field for active recreation in the evenings after work.
- Youth Sports have been able to use the field in any weather condition.
- Youth Sports have been able to use the fields in the evening, especially in the fall, when it gets dark earlier.
- It is the only lit rectangular field in Bedford.