



Birdbaths for New or Reconstructed Courts

“Birdbath” is a term commonly used in the tennis industry to describe a low area on a tennis court that holds water. More precisely, the American Sports Builders Association (ASBA) defines a birdbath as any area where standing water more than 1/16” (2mm) (commonly measured using a nickel) remains after drainage of the area has ceased or after one hour of drying at 70 degrees Fahrenheit in sunlight.

Paving and surfacing, even with laser-guided equipment, involves both skill and judgment. The number of variables impacting the paving and surfacing processes makes it unreasonable to expect perfection. Minor depressions in the surface, those less than 1/16” deep or those that drain or dry in under an hour, are considered within tolerance and are acceptable. In a new or recently reconstructed (not recolored) court, however, the contractor should correct birdbaths that are outside of tolerance..

Differences in site, weather and soil conditions require variations in construction and repair methods and materials. Readers are advised to consult a qualified contractor or design professional before undertaking construction or repair of a court. Rev. 06/08