

MVLA Soccer Club

Field Manual

Edition April 7, 2008

Section 6: Zen and the Art of Field Relining (with special thanks to Todd Rogers)

Please regularly check the **Field Relining Schedule** posted at either the MVLA Coaches Yahoo Groups site or the MVLA web site www.mvlasc.org. The schedule is a PDF file. Please contact the Field Lining Coordinator (currently Jamie Kelly at kellycru5@comcast.net) if you have trouble accessing the schedule or need to move your assigned date, or if you have any questions about field lining. Thanks to all the teams that sign up for relining duty.

Friday is listed on the Field Relining Schedule as the ideal day to reline the fields because of mowing schedules. Relining must be done each week even if there are no games scheduled that weekend, rain or shine.

Contact the Field Lining Coordinator (see MVLA Web Site for contact information) for the storage location(s) for lining paint and equipment.

Teams assigned to reline fields on a given day should coordinate access to the lining machine Friday afternoons. It is no fun finding that the machine is being used at that time you decided to reline the field. Also, please be aware that teams practice at most fields on Fridays, and some games are scheduled late Fridays, too. You can work around a practice, but not a game. Also, some schools do not want any outsider on their field while school is in session. So, try to do the relining in the 2:30-4:00 PM window.

Each field should take less than an hour to reline and only 6-8 cans of paint. Take the liner and a case of paint to the field, and return the liner and unused paint to the storage location immediately after use. **Do NOT keep the liner overnight, and do not return empty cans** to the storage location. Empty cans may be disposed of in the trash cans at each field.

At the field, load several cans of paint into the storage bin on the lining machine. Before using paint, shake the can vigorously. Carefully twist the plastic valve to be sure that it is seated firmly in the can. Insert the can in the lining machine with the valve set perpendicular to the liner wheels. Lines should be at least three inches wide. You can adjust line width by moving the spray platform up (wider) or down (narrower) using the locking screws on either side of the machine. Walk at a moderate pace to assure adequate coverage that will last through a full week of weather, watering, mowing and wear. Most lines may need two coats of paint, especially if the area appears to be over-watered or have high levels of wear. When laying two coats, change your walking direction to saturate the grass.

Be sure to re-stripe all lines on the field, including the touch line, goal and center lines; penalty areas and six-yard boxes; penalty arcs, center circle and corner arcs. Unless you are absolutely certain of the placement, do not paint the penalty spot. When relining in bright weather it helps to have the sun to your back or side so that that existing faint lines can be more easily seen and repainted.

When you are finished, step back and admire your job well done. Thanks from your colleagues in the MVLA Soccer Club.