## COMMON TENNIS COURT PROBLEMS

	PROBLEM	DESCRIPTION OF APPEARANCE	POSSIBLE CAUSES	POTENTIAL REMEDIES
i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i	Fading	Surface color is faded, washed out, or slightly chalky looking.	Oxidation of surface due to sun exposure, excessive wear without resurfacing, defective surface material (usually very rare.)	Acrylic resurfacing
	Discoloration	Dark green, brownish or black dusty, sticky or slimy areas on courts, especially in areas puddling, frequent shadowing by trees or buildings	Mold mildew, algae fungus or other vegetative growth due to excessive shading, poor drainage, or poor maintenance.	Washing with a mild detergent, correction of court drainage, acrylic resurfacing, elimination or pruning of nearby vegetation, correction of surface drainage outside of court areas.
	Birdbaths	Randomly located elliptical, or elongated depressions ¼" or less which tend to puddle and hold water after the rest of the court has dried	Poor slope of the court pavement improper paving of the court, settling or upheaval of the court, pavement, base or subsurface	Leveling, patching, or regarding of pavement, patch or remove bubbled areas, acrylic surfacing.
	Bubbles	Soft humps or blisters in court surface varying in size from ¼: to several feet in diameter, isolated hollow sounding areas below court surface.	Excessive moisture below court pavement , standing water over court surface, poor surface or subsurface drainage outside court areas, build-up of excessive acrylic surfacing layers	Correction of drainage problems outside of court areas, leveling or regrading of pavement, patch or remove bubbled areas, acrylic surfacing.
	Rust Spots	Orangy-brown, rust colored stains or streaking in random patterns over court surface.	Poor maintenance of court surface, contamination of court surface material during installation, presence of pyrites or iron deposits in court pavement mix	Overlayment of court surfacing or repaving of court, and new acrylic surfacing, in minor cases removal of spots, patching and resurfacing
	Hairline Cracks	Fine hairline cracks of variable lengths often occurring over entire court surface. Usually of shallow depth in the court surface of uppermost layer of pavement.	Contamination of court surfacing during installation, use of incompatible surface materials or solvent-type coatings, improper pavement seal coating, or improper pavement mix design	Surface or pavement overlay treatments, and new acrylic surfacing. These cracks have the potential to develop into structural cracks over longer periods of time
2-1-2004	Raveling	Pock-marked pavement, spauling, or crumbling of surface and pavement.	Oxidation of surface and pavement due to prolonged wear and exposure to sun	Surface of pavement overlay treatments, and new acrylic surfacing. For more severe cases, reconstruction of court pavement and new acrylic surfacing.
	Alligatoring	Alligator skin-like pattern of interconnected cracks usually in court surfacing and varying in depth. Often accompanied by loose particles of surface material.	Contamination of court surfacing during installation, use of incompatible surface materials of solvent-type coatings, improper pavement seal coating, or improper pavement mix design	Surface or pavement overlay treatments, and new acrylic surfacing. These cracks have the potential to develop into structural cracks over longer periods of time and exposure
1	Structural Cracks	Cracks which penetrate into the pavement often occurring in long straight lines or irregular patterns emanating from a clear point in the pavement, such as net or fence posts.	Improperly constructed pavement joints thermal shock, shrinkage of pavement due to oxidation, heaving of base or subbase, tree roots, improperly designed or constructed post footings.	Surface or pavement overlay treatments, or reconstruction of court pavement and new acrylic surfacing, complete reconstruction of court for more severe cases.
	Upheaval or Depression	Isolated vertical displacement of court pavement more than 1/4:" above or below the surface.	Frost heaves, swelling of base or subsurface soils due to improper drainage, tree roots, or decomposition of organic matter in subgrade or court, poor compaction of base or subbase.	Usually complete reconstruction of the court pavement or in more severe cases, reconstruction or relocation of the entire court.

<sup>\*</sup> prepared by Alex Levitsky (GlobalTennisDesign.com) and based on <u>Rehab: Asphalt Tennis Courts – Brief Overview of Methods and Costs</u> by Sheldon Westervelt, PE & Andrew Lavallee, ASLA – Tennis Industry1995