

CAROLINE SPRINGS SUB REGIONAL TENNIS FACILITY, Caroline Springs, (Melbourne) Victoria, Australia

In 2017 the Melton City Council released tender documentation for the \$11.18M extension and upgrade of the Caroline Springs Leisure Centre. As part of the upgrade, the scope of works included the construction of the new **Caroline Springs Sub-Regional Tennis Facility**.

The new Tennis Facility included the construction of eleven (11) full size competition tennis courts, four (4) Hot Shots tennis courts and one (1) competition sized netball court; all of which were constructed as reinforced concrete courts spanning approximately 8700m² that was surfaced with the MAPEI **Mapecoat TNS Professional** hard court system.

The overall tender was awarded to head contractor, '2 Construct Pty Ltd'; a building, civil and civic construction company with the experience to deliver multi-faceted projects throughout Victoria for both government and private clients. Their expertise spans various sectors including Education, Health, Aged Care, Civic Space, Commercial, and **Sport & Recreation**. 2 Construct Pty Ltd sub-contracted the acrylic surfacing component to Mapei Sports System Technology customer 'Tuff Turf Pty Ltd' for installation of the MAPEI **Mapecoat TNS Professional** system – consisting of **Mapecoat I 600 W Primer**, **Mapecoat TNS Finish-1**, **Mapecoat TNS Finish-3** and **Mapecoat TNS Lines**.

Back in 2012, the Melton City Council region was identified as one of four municipalities with the greatest potential to increase participation in tennis (Source: *Melton Shire Tennis Strategy – FINAL Report July-2012*). Key findings of the report identified a need to improve the condition of tennis facilities and planning of capital works within the council. Further, it was deemed that the region would benefit from applying the Tennis Australia facility hierarchy model, in which the development of larger tennis facilities meeting the sub-regional and regional criteria were to be realised in regions north and west of Melbourne. Five years later, strategy became reality when construction works commenced in 2017 on the development of a sub-regional tennis facility in Caroline Springs that would ultimately increase opportunities for participation in tennis at all levels of the sport and enable larger tennis competitions to be hosted.

As part of the specification, it was a requirement for the tennis courts to be surfaced in a two-tone blue colour combination consistent with the '**Velocity Blue**' and '**True Blue**' colours used for the Australian Open Series. As such, the Mapecoat TNS Finish coats were colour matched accordingly using the 'colour mapping' technology at Mapei Australia HQ in Brisbane. Another important consideration for the court surface was to provide a 'medium' pace that would provide a 'speed of play' conducive to both coaching and competition use as well as ensuring longevity of coatings. With this in mind Mapecoat TNS Finish-1 was used on the 1st application of finish coats and the Mapecoat TNS Finish-3 version was used on the final application of the two-tone blue playing surface to ensure a surface pace consistent with the ITF 3 – Medium pace range.

Completed in April 2019, the new sub-regional tennis facility featuring the MAPEI **Mapecoat TNS Professional** surfacing system – located at the Caroline Springs Leisure Centre is ‘state-of-the-art’ in its design and implementation. Congratulations to 2 Construct Pty Ltd and Mapei Sports Systems Technology customer Tuff Turf Pty Ltd on delivering new and improved tennis facilities to the Melton City Council situated in the outer suburban region north-west of Melbourne, Australia.



Below is the application sequence of the Mapecoat TNS Professional surfacing system for the completion of the courts:

Surface Preparation sequence;

- Clean and prep new concrete bases post 28 days curing using a combination of mechanical (diamond) grinding and high pressure water blasting.
- Apply Mapeflex PU40 to control (saw cut) joints and expansion joints.

Surfacing System sequence;

- Apply 'Mapecoat I 600 W Primer' to courts.
- Apply 'Mapecoat TNS Finish 1 – Velocity Blue' to the centre of courts. (First 'finish' coat)
- Apply 'Mapecoat TNS Finish 3 – Velocity Blue' to the centre of courts. (Second 'finish' Coat)
- Apply 'Mapecoat TNS Finish 1 – True Blue' to the perimeter of courts. (First 'finish' Coat)
- Apply 'Mapecoat TNS Finish 3 – True Blue' to the perimeter of courts. (Second 'finish' Coat)
- Apply 'Mapecoat TNS White Lines' for tennis to courts.