



# Saddlebrook Tennis Academy at the Saddlebrook Resort Tampa

Wesley Chapel (Tampa), FL, USA



## Project Information

**Project category:**  
Sports Facilities

**Year of construction:**  
1981

**Year of MAPEI involvement:**  
2022

**MAPEI coordinator:**  
Darren Clare

**Project owner:**  
Saddlebrook Tennis Academy

**General contractor:**  
Sportsline Inc.

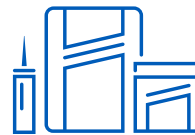
**Installer:**  
Sportsline Inc.

**Project size:**  
21,000 sq. ft. (1 951 m<sup>2</sup>)



## Project Overview

Saddlebrook Tennis Academy is an historic tennis academy, home to training for tennis greats Monica Seles, Pete Sampras and Martina Hingis among other Association of Tennis Professionals and Women's Tennis Association members. Located just outside Tampa, Florida, Saddlebrook is among the best, most high-profile tennis academies not only in Florida, but also in the world, attracting and competing for top-notch coaches and athletes. However, times change and technology, including sports technology, continually improves. To further raise the bar on competing tennis academies, Saddlebrook decided to "refresh" its historic grounds, including the transformation of the tennis courts using the latest building innovations in the sports industry. The owners turned to MAPEI's Sports Flooring Group and the *Mapecoat TNS* system for help with the transformation.



## Products Used

- Mapecoat™ TNS Base Coat Binder, Black*
- Mapecoat TNS Binder, Dark Gray*
- Mapecoat TNS Binder, NY Blue*
- Mapecoat TNS Binder 1, Dark Gray*
- Mapecoat TNS Binder 1, London Green*
- Mapecoat TNS Binder 1, NY Blue*
- Mapecoat TNS Line Seal*
- Mapecoat TNS Line Tex*
- Mapectex® P1 FT*
- Mapenet™ Reinforced*
- Planitop® 200 Gray*



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## Saddlebrook Tennis Academy courts transformation with MAPEI's sports solutions

### A legacy of champions: Saddlebrook Tennis Academy

Founded in 1981, Saddlebrook Tennis Academy has played a significant role in the development of numerous ATP and WTA professionals. Offering private and group training for juniors and adults, the academy is renowned for its adherence to the "Hopman Method," a tennis skill set immortalized by Harry Hopman, the highly successful Davis Cup captain and founder of the Harry Hopman Academy.

Despite the changing times, Saddlebrook's commitment to excellence remains unwavering. The decision to refresh its historic grounds, especially the tennis courts, is a testament to the academy's dedication to providing world-class facilities for the next generation of tennis stars.

### The challenge: Restoring history amidst nature's forces

The Saddlebrook courts had witnessed the triumphs and challenges of tennis greats for decades. However, exposure to Florida's relentless elements – extreme sun, high humidity, wind and rain – had taken a toll on the surfaces. In addition to the natural wear and tear from usage, tree root damage and drainage issues had emerged over time, necessitating a comprehensive restoration.

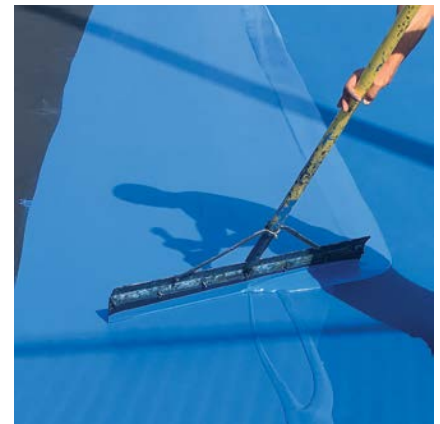
The project not only aimed at resurfacing but also included essential repairs to ensure the longevity and functionality of the courts. Surface preparation was a crucial step, addressing the concrete substrate with *Planitop 200 Gray* and *Mapeflex PI FT* for efficient repair and preparation.

### MAPEI's sports solutions: Elevating excellence

To undertake this ambitious project, Saddlebrook Tennis Academy turned to MAPEI's Sports Flooring Group, a leader in innovative solutions for sports surfaces. MAPEI's cutting-edge technology and commitment to quality made them the ideal partner for the task.

Working with three- to four-men teams, the crew from Sportsline Inc. began surface preparation of the concrete courts, cleaning them and removing any debris. Joints and any cracks were chased and cleaned. Then, *Planitop 200 Gray* and *Mapeflex PI FT* were applied.

- *Planitop 200 Gray*: A high-performance, fast-setting repair mortar, *Planitop 200 Gray* was used to address the concrete substrate's imperfections and ensure a smooth, durable surface for the subsequent layers.





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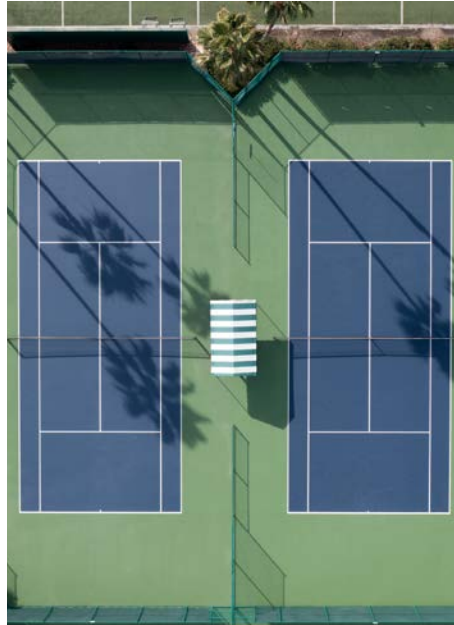
- *Mapeflex PU FT*: This flexible polyurethane sealant played a crucial role in addressing joint and crack repairs, ensuring long-term durability and resistance to environmental stressors.

Following the surface preparation, the Sportsline crew began the general repair and resurfacing using MAPEI's *Mapecoat TNS* system. Consisting of premium acrylic binders and coatings, the *Mapecoat TNS* system was employed to provide a resilient and high-performance surface for the Saddlebrook courts. This system offers excellent player comfort, optimal ball response and durability, making it the preferred choice for top-tier tennis facilities.

## A blend of tradition and innovation

The meticulous application of MAPEI's sports solutions has resulted in a revitalized Saddlebrook Tennis Academy. The upgraded courts seamlessly blend the historic legacy of champions with modern excellence, providing a state-of-the-art environment for athletes to hone their skills.

The successful transformation of Saddlebrook Tennis Academy's courts stands as a testament to the power of collaboration between industry leaders. By choosing MAPEI's Sports Flooring Group and leveraging the *Mapecoat TNS* system, Saddlebrook has not only preserved its historic legacy but has also embraced the future of tennis infrastructure.



### MAPEI Headquarters of North America

1144 East Newport Center Drive  
Deerfield Beach, Florida 33442  
1-888-US-MAPEI (1-888-876-2734) • (954) 246-8888

### Technical Services

1-800-992-6273 (U.S. and Puerto Rico)  
1-800-361-9309 (Canada)

### Customer Service

1-800-42-MAPEI (1-800-426-2734)

### Services in Mexico

0-1-800-MX-MAPEI (0-1-800-696-2734)