

Polo / Sport Horse Arena Sand Spec

Engineered for speed, fast drainage, and turf-style recovery.

Sand Specification

Specification	Recommended Range
Sand Type	Washed silica, sub-angular
Particle Size (D50)	0.30 – 0.60 mm (medium to medium-coarse)
Gradation	Well-graded for high-speed shear resistance
Fines Content (<0.075 mm)	< 3% by weight
Particle Shape	Sub-angular
Hardness (Mohs)	≥ 6.5 silica
Footing Depth	3.0 – 4.0 inches over free-draining base
Base	Heavily engineered free-draining sub-base; primary focus on drainage
Moisture Target	10% – 14% — irrigation primary, LOCK secondary
Recommended Additives	FIBR for lateral shear stability under speed; light LOCK.

Why This Spec Works

- Drainage is the dominant design constraint for polo — low fines, free-draining sub-base.
- FIBR resists shear blow-outs during fast turns and lateral play.
- Coarser median grain holds together at full speed without rutting.

Outdoor-Specific Considerations

- Sub-base drainage layer is more important than the sand itself — do not compromise.
- Divot recovery program is critical; daily grooming under heavy play.

Common Failure Modes to Avoid

- **Fine sand:** migrates and seals under heavy hoof shear.
- **Poor sub-base drainage:** arena unusable for days after rain.

Need a tuned ArenaSpec™ for your facility?

Every arena is different. Climate, base condition, traffic, and discipline intensity all change the ideal blend. Request a custom ArenaSpec™ Report Card at performancefooting.com or call 877-835-0878.

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