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Bona® Technical Bulletin: Bona Sport® Hardwood Gym Floor Cleaning Recommendations for COVID-19

Based on current CDC guidelines and Bona's knowledge of how different cleaners interact with sport floor finishes we have developed a three level approach to cleaning sport floors. This approach will help maintain a clean floor and minimize any damage to the finish system during the process. Within these recommendations we refer to two different Bona products. Bona SuperCourt® Cleaner Concentrate for regular cleaning needs and Bona PowerPlus® Antibacterial Hard-Surface Floor Cleaner which is on the EPA list of Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2 (EPA Reg. No.85837-4-91861) and can be used on most hardsurface floors in addition to a hardwood gym floor.

The CDC guidelines for Public Spaces, Workplaces, Businesses, Schools, and Homes do not specifically list flooring as a critical area requiring the use of disinfectants.* This doesn't say you shouldn't or can't disinfect a hardwood gym floor but helps us understand the level of concern associated with flooring. Ultimately it is important to match the cleaning and disinfecting practices with the type and frequency of use the floor sees.

Excerpt from CDC website:

5. Cleaning and Disinfecting Environmental Surfaces in Healthcare Facilities**

- A. Clean housekeeping surfaces (e.g., floors, tabletops) on a regular basis, when spills occur, and when these surfaces are visibly soiled. **Category II.**

CDC Cleaning and Disinfecting definitions*:**

- **Cleaning** refers to the removal of germs, dirt, and impurities from surfaces. It does not kill germs, but by removing them, it lowers their numbers and the risk of spreading infection.
- **Disinfecting** refers to using chemicals, for example, EPA-registered disinfectants, to kill germs on surfaces. This process does not necessarily clean dirty surfaces or remove germs, but by killing germs on a surface *after* cleaning, it can further lower the risk of spreading infection.

Cleaning Recommendations:

Level 1: Daily cleaning - no disinfectant being used:

1. Clean with Bona SuperCourt® Cleaner Concentrate per label directions, paying special attention to the cleaning tools used and keeping them in good working condition.
 - a. If using disposable pads be sure to dispose of after cleaning
 - b. If using washable pads be sure to properly wash before using again

Level 2: Spot cleaning & disinfecting using an EPA approved disinfectant

1. For instances of suspected contamination in a specific spot.
 - a. Per CDC recommendations, clean before disinfecting. Clean area with Bona SuperCourt® Cleaner Concentrate per label directions
 - b. Disinfect the area with Bona PowerPlus® Antibacterial Hard-Surface Floor Cleaner(On EPA list EPA Reg. No.85837-4-91861) following label directions for use as a disinfectant
 - c. Re-clean area with Bona SuperCourt® Cleaner Concentrate to remove any residue. Regardless of which disinfectant cleaner is used, they will leave a residue and it is important to remove this residue to minimize any negative affects to slip resistance, finish appearance and performance.

Level 3: Full cleaning & disinfecting using an EPA approved disinfectant

1. For instances where the entire floor needs to be disinfected.
 - a. Per CDC recommendations, clean before disinfecting. Clean area with Bona SuperCourt® Cleaner Concentrate per label directions
 - b. Divide the floor into sections of 250-500 square feet to disinfect each section with Bona PowerPlus® Antibacterial Hard-Surface Floor Cleaner following label directions for use as a disinfectant. Working in smaller areas is important since the floor must stay wet for 10 minutes to allow the disinfectant to be effective. Keeping the gym floor wet for 10 minutes may be difficult depending on the environmental conditions (temperature, humidity levels). In such situations using an EPA approve disinfectant with a shorter dwell time may be necessary to disinfect the floor. In these situations, we recommend a cleaner with a 5 minute or less dwell time and one that is as close to pH neutral as possible. It is recommended the selected cleaner be tested on a small section to determine the level of damage to the finish and if it is acceptable.
 - c. Once all sections have been cleaned and disinfected, reclean the entire floor using Bona SuperCourt® Cleaner Concentrate to remove residue

Caution: Repeated and frequent disinfecting of a hardwood sport floor will lead to dulling of the finish and potentially impact the slip resistance. There are many types of disinfectant cleaners listed by the EPA for use against COVID-19, however many of them have not been tested on hardwood sport floor finishes in terms of how they impact the finish overall. Generally speaking, cleaners with very short dwell times will have a stronger, negative affect on the floor finish. If your facility is unable to use Bona PowerPlus® Antibacterial Hard-Surface Floor Cleaner be sure to select one from the EPA's approved list and test in a inconspious place to understand how it will react with your floor finish.

For more information visit Bona.com or contact:

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References:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/guidelines/disinfection/recommendations.html#r4>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/reopen-guidance.html>

<https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2>

<https://us.bona.com/products/bona-powerplus-hard-surface-antibacterial-floor-cleaner.html>