



**TURFindustry**

3525 Old Dixie Highway  
Dalton, GA 30721  
T: 888-949-5296 • F: 888-949-4329  
www.turfindustry.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Synthetic turf is SAFE!

### Response to the NBC Story Regarding Synthetic Turf

By Mark Nicholls - Turf Industry Inc.

### Synthetic turf is safe!

NBC clearly and accurately reported that - ***“No research has linked cancer to artificial turf.”***

In the interview, Coach Griffin stated, “I’m looking for answers, because I’m not smart enough to come up with them on my own”

### Answers are available

The fact is, there is overwhelming evidence available to the public that synthetic turf is safe. The independent studies available regarding the safety of synthetic turf; are available from sources around the globe, conducted by respected research institutions, as well as numerous federal, state and local sources. The pure magnitude of research, reports and analysis span all aspects of safety; from water quality, air quality, skin contact, ingestion, etc. will surely satisfy anyone interested enough to review the science.

### The media

In a world, where news is often exaggerated and sensationalized to attract viewers, the latest media attacks on infill rubber used in artificial grass playing surfaces, is not surprising.

While scare tactics might sell papers and increase viewers, anyone who decides to seek out the research that already exists, will conclude that crumb rubber is not harmful and does not cause cancer.

It is important to note that the use of tires in society is not new.

There are no independent or credible studies that conclude synthetic turf is linked directly, or indirectly, to health concerns:



SBR Rubber Infill Summary



**TURFindustry**

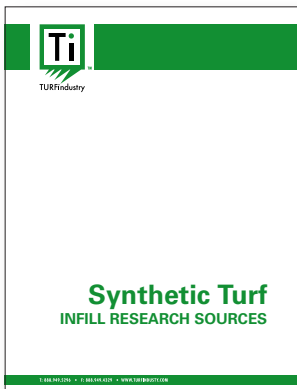
3525 Old Dixie Highway  
Dalton, GA 30721  
T: 888-949-5296 • F: 888-949-4329  
www.turfindustry.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Common Sense

Cancer is a horrific disease! It has negatively impacted far too many people, and it is irresponsible to manufacture unsubstantiated and non-scientific claims.

While it is alarming that Coach Griffin has made the claim that goalies are somehow more susceptible and at greater risk to cancer by playing on synthetic turf, her claims and/or concerns are simply speculation and in fact the science disputes the claim with real studies and not speculation.



Research Sources

### A common sense approach...

There is overwhelming independent research available to the public that synthetic turf is safe.

The fact is there is no research or study that has linked cancer to artificial turf.

In addition to the lack of research linking cancer to synthetic turf, there is absolutely no evidence that soccer goalies would specifically experience an elevated risk to cancer from playing on synthetic turf.

How is the soccer goalies interaction, while playing on synthetic turf, any different than the other players on the soccer team, a football player, or for that matter any other sport? Many players in all sports interact with the surface equally if not more than soccer goalies.

If the use of rubber infill was actually hazardous in anyway, wouldn't the installers that work with the material day after day, or the workers in the factories that process the material week after week be at the greatest risk?

Studies exist that indicate that exposure to rubber tires is greater for humans while standing roadside in any urban area than on a synthetic turf field. The rubber particle size utilized in synthetic turf fields is too large to be airborne, while the microscopic particles that come off tires from vehicles as they drive the road are microscopic. If tire rubber were ever going to become a concern, the use of vehicles and exposure roadside would be a tremendous cause for concern.



**TURFindustry**

3525 Old Dixie Highway  
Dalton, GA 30721  
T: 888-949-5296 • F: 888-949-4329  
www.turfindustry.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Synthetic turf affords increased utilization for athletic fields and is an instrument utilized by many facilities to promote a healthier lifestyle for kids and adults of all ages to become more active, fight obesity, and promote exercise.

***The suggestion that goalies get cancer from synthetic turf...  
...simply defies common sense!***

### **Natural Grass as an alternative?**

It is somewhat ironic that the media has chosen to focus its attention on the adverse effects of exposure to synthetic grass surfaces, even though there are no studies and/or proof that show any definitive links to actual health concerns. Yet, the media is ignoring the fact that there is plenty of research and/or studies that link the fertilizers used with maintenance of natural grass surfaces to a number of actual health concerns.

The use of synthetic turf reduces water usage. Water is a precious commodity and is too often wasted attempting to keep grass alive.

The use of synthetic turf eliminates the use of lawn chemicals - herbicides, fertilizers, weed killer, etc.. Science exists regarding the 30 commonly used lawn pesticides, 19 have studies pointing toward carcinogens, 13 are linked with liver or kidney damage, 27 are sensitizers and/or irritants, and 11 have the potential to disrupt the endocrine (hormonal) system.

The application of lawn chemicals links directly to our water supply.

Studies show low levels of exposure to actual lawn pesticide products are linked to increased rates of miscarriage, and suppression of the nervous, endocrine and immune systems.

Studies indicate that the consistent playability and performance of synthetic turf reduces specific player injuries versus grass.

Faced with the choices of not playing, playing on grass or utilizing synthetic turf, there is a compelling argument to be made the synthetic turf is the superior alternative.

***Synthetic turf is the environmentally responsible alternative!***



**REDUCE  
CHEMICAL USE**



**REDUCE  
WATER USE**



**SPORT SPECIFIC  
PERFORMANCE**



**CONSISTENCY IN  
ALL WEATHER**



**MAXIMIZE PLAYER  
SAFETY**

FOR FURTHER ASSISTANCE PLEASE CONTACT:  
MARK NICHOLLS C: 905-327-5501 E: markn@turfindustry.com