

Professional Sports Equipment and Facility Cleaning & Protection

Finally! A Way to be PROACTIVE in the fight against MRSA.



GearClean offers a professional method of cleaning valuable athletic equipment through a multiple-step process of washing, sanitizing, and finishing. The process results in thoroughly clean and bacteria-free equipment—without the repugnant odor and potentially serious, or even deadly, bacteria.

Why do you need GearClean?

We don't wear the same clothes for an entire year without washing them, but think about the athletic gear our kids wear. Athletes routinely wear their equipment for an entire season without cleaning. After use, during which the equipment absorbs sweat, dirt, blood, and mucus, it is stored in a locker or a duffle bag—the perfect breeding ground for bacteria—until its next wearing.

The unpleasant smell coming from that equipment is the by-product of strong and potentially dangerous strains of bacteria, mold, and fungus that live and breed in the equipment when it hasn't been properly cleaned.

Budget constraints have historically forced many school systems and teams to send their equipment out to long-standing service providers once per

season for reconditioning. Unfortunately, cleaning is secondary to this process.

Teams use their gear almost every day during a season, and these traditional service providers are not equipped to turn equipment around quickly enough to enable in-season cleaning. GearClean provides quick turnaround and guaranteed availability when you need your equipment.

What do you need to know about Staph?

Athletes are particularly susceptible to a variety of infections. Of particular concern is MSRA (Staphylococcus aureus), a specific staph bacteria that is particularly resistant to antibiotics. The Centers for Disease Control has been researching MSRA and has issued warnings about the need for regular cleaning of sports equipment to avoid contracting this potentially deadly infection.



One of the main reasons for athletes' susceptibility is that sweating softens skin and impairs its main barrier—the stratum corneum. Athletic equipment obstructs the skin, creating a warm, moist environment for bacteria growth. Skin-to-skin, and equipment-to-skin contact among athletes can promote rapid spreading among athletes.

Independent lab testing has demonstrated that our patented process kills 99.9997% of the harmful bacteria that can be found in sports equipment.

If just one of your student athletes contracts a staph infection resulting from unsanitary, school-owned equipment and needs hospitalization and treatment, the cost could be upwards of \$20,000. While your insurance would cover most or all of this bill, your premiums would likely be raised due to the risk of further infections within your athletic teams. Multiply these costs for a bacterial outbreak among just one of your athletic teams, and the financial liability could be staggering.

How does GearClean work?

GearClean utilizes the Esporta Wash System, which is clinically proven to kill contaminants and ensure the highest level of hygiene and safety for athletes. Independent lab testing has demonstrated that our patented process kills 99.9997% of the harmful bacteria that can be found in sports equipment.

The water-based, multi-step process uses no dangerous ozone gases or environmentally hazardous dry cleaning chemicals. Instead, the patented, four-step washing process forces detergents and disinfectants deep into the foam/fabrics of the gear, killing and removing the bacteria and germs that cause odors and dangerous infections—without damaging the equipment.

“Protecting our students was our number one concern. When it comes to the health and safety of our students, we take no chances. That’s why we chose GearClean to complete this project.”

*Larry Hardesty,
Director of Maintenance
& Transportation, Clarke
County Public Schools*

Frequently Asked Questions

Why have athletic gear professionally cleaned?

Have you smelled it lately? Aside from that, equipment is inundated with bacteria, mold, and fungus that can lead to anything from skin irritation to serious, life-threatening infections. In addition, cleaning will:

- Eliminate offensive odors
- Eliminate exposure to hazardous bacteria
- Remove decay that destroys equipment, making your valuable equipment last longer
- Sanitize equipment
- Promote good hygiene
- Help keep gear clean and sanitary longer
- Keep gear cleaner by choosing the optional dry barrier wash

Why can't we just use bleach to kill bacteria?

It's true that bleach will kill bacteria; however, it will also damage the padding in the equipment, compromising its effectiveness.

Will it really get the smell out?

Yes! However, if equipment is older and has never, or rarely, been cleaned, you may still notice a slight odor after the first cleaning. If you implement a regular cleaning routine, the odor should go away—usually after the second washing.

Won't water ruin the equipment?

No. The gear is held in place during the washing process so it isn't tumbled, twisted, banged,

or mangled. It probably takes more of a beating when it is worn during a game. Athletic equipment is regularly soaked from sweat for prolonged periods during games and practices. Our process uses gentle, but highly-effective detergents to deep clean and then rinse away grime, sweat, and bacteria. You get clean, disinfected, and ready-to-wear equipment.

What is Dry Barrier Wash?

Dry Barrier Wash is an optional process that treats garments with a special formula that penetrates deep within the fibers to provide a barrier to sweat, dirt, water, and stains. Dry Barrier Wash increases the life of gear and, once treated, and with proper regular cleaning, garments will remain lighter and cleaner.

How do I get our equipment to you?

You can drop it off at our location, or schedule a pick-up. We are currently working to schedule convenient drop-off locations in your area.

How long does it take?

The actual cleaning cycle takes about three hours. We then hang the gear for complete final drying. We strive to get your equipment back to you within 24 hours. We will ALWAYS work with you to make sure you have your stuff before your next game or practice.

