



Sports & Barrier Netting Systems  
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# Golf Course Netting vs. Driving Range Netting

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# Golf Course Netting vs. Driving Range Netting: What's the Difference?

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*These are not the same thing. They serve different purposes, require different heights, handle different ball speeds and trajectories, and have different cost structures. We see facility owners confuse them regularly — and it leads to either over-spending on netting they do not need, or under-specifying a system that will not actually protect their property.*

## What Is Driving Range Netting?

Driving range netting is a containment system. Its job is to keep golf balls inside the range — period. Balls are hit in the same direction, repeatedly, from the same area. This creates high-volume, single-direction impact stress concentrated on specific zones of the netting.

- **Height:** 45–65 feet at the tee area; up to 140+ feet for full containment
- **Mesh size:** 3/4" to 1-inch
- **Material used:** Typically nylon or polyester. Dyneema netting is currently being tested, but cost increases with Dyneema material.
- **System length:** Often 400–2,600+/- feet to cover the full range perimeter

## What Is Golf Course Netting?

Golf course netting is a barrier and property protection system. It keeps errant balls from reaching roads, parking lots, homes, and adjacent properties. Balls arrive at various angles and speeds — slices, hooks, and pop-ups — with much lower frequency than a driving range.

- **Height:** 20–80 feet, sometimes higher depending on proximity to hazards
- **Impact pattern:** Variable angles, lower volume than a driving range
- **Common locations:** Fairway edges, property lines near roads, parking lots, residential boundaries
- **Material used:** Typically nylon or polyester. Dyneema netting is currently being tested, but cost increases with Dyneema material.
- **System type:** Barrier/perimeter — typically one-sided, not a full enclosure

## The Breakaway Difference

One of the most significant distinctions between a professionally installed driving range system and a standard netting installation is the option for a breakaway system. Gorilla Netting's breakaway systems are engineered so that netting panels release safely under extreme load — such as a wind event — rather



than pulling down poles and cables in a catastrophic collapse.

Breakaway systems turn a potential \$100,000–\$300,000+ catastrophic failure into a simple re-hanging job, saving thousands.

For driving ranges in hurricane zones or high-wind regions, this is not an option — it is a requirement.

## When You Need Both

Facilities with both a driving range and a golf course need both systems. The driving range requires containment netting engineered for high-volume, repetitive impact. The golf course requires barrier netting engineered for property protection and variable ball trajectories. These are different engineering solutions and should be specified separately.

## Side-by-Side Comparison

| Feature         | Driving Range Netting                     | Golf Course Barrier Netting               |
|-----------------|---|---|
| Primary Purpose | Ball containment                          | Property protection / separation          |
| Typical Height  | 45–65 ft (up to 140+ ft)                  | 20–80 ft                                  |
| Ball Impact     | Repeated, high volume, single direction   | Variable angles, lower volume             |
| Material Used   | Nylon or polyester (Dyneema being tested) | Nylon or polyester (Dyneema being tested) |
| Pole Type       | Steel (at height), wood                   | Wood or steel                             |
| System Type     | Open-ended or full containment            | Barrier/perimeter                         |

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Q: Is driving range netting and golf course netting the same thing?

A: No. Driving range netting is designed for high-volume, single-direction ball containment. Golf course barrier netting is designed for property protection against variable-trajectory errant shots. They have different height requirements, material considerations, and engineering profiles.

### Q: How high does driving range netting need to be?

A: Most driving ranges use 45–65 feet at the tee area. Full containment at country clubs or ranges near residential properties can require 100–140+ feet. Height is the biggest material cost driver.

### Q: What is a breakaway netting system?



A: A breakaway system is engineered so panels release safely under extreme loads like high winds, rather than pulling down the entire structural system. Gorilla Netting's breakaway systems allow panels to be re-hung after a storm without structural damage, protecting the most expensive components of the installation.

**Q: What netting material is used for golf applications?**

A: Gorilla Netting typically uses nylon or polyester for golf applications. Dyneema (UHMWPE) is being tested for expanded use — it offers exceptional strength and longevity at a premium cost.

**Not sure which system your facility needs?**

Call **1-800-274-1079** and talk to a Gorilla Netting estimator. We'll tell you exactly what you need — and what you don't.