

Thank you for volunteering to help keep our fields in top shape throughout the season. There are just a few basic maintenance steps that need to be implemented and followed after each practice or game. Doing so will ensure that our baseball complex remains as one of the top facilities in the Metro Area.

Perform the following after a game or practice.

Home Plate Area: Tends to get very sandy with big holes especially in the right side batter's box and catcher box. From the outside, go around in a circle pushing dirt up to plate area. Level batters' and catcher's boxes with large rakes and water generously. We want the area to be firm and a bit damp. A mixture of clay and Ag Lime (infield dirt) works best. A tip from a major league grounds crew leader is if the holes become too big and sandy, remove all loose sand, water the holes to dampen, put in a layer of dirt, water some more, pack, another layer of dirt, more water, pack etc. until it is level. Applying dirt and water in steps applies an appropriate amount of water without making it muddy.

Pitchers Mound: Use mound clay (not sand) to fill holes at the rubber and at the landing point. Clay will stay more firm than just Ag Lime. If you need more clay, take from the back of the mound. The hole at the rubber should be filled to the height of the rubber and packed. Hole at landing should be level with the mound. There should be a gradual slope from rubber to landing. Apply water and clay in steps as noted above. Pack with the tamp to ensure it remains firm.
Place the cover over the mound.

Raking Inside Edges: Hand-rake the inside edges of the infield. Sweep off any excess dirt from grass with a push broom. By hand-raking we are eliminating the need for the tractor to come too close to the grass. If the tractor comes too close to the grass it will drag dirt with it, and over time, will build a lip on the grass.

Bases and Peg Markers: Please return the bases to the storage room, and replace the peg markers after the game. Do not leave them on the fence.

Pre-Game:

Feel free to water down your infield with the hose before a game or make your mound and plate area groomed and packed.

Other Items:

1. Do not hit soft toss into any chain link with a real baseball.
2. Have your kids and parents clean up trash from both the stands area and the dug-out before they leave.
3. Do not play catch on the infield grass. Use the outfield.

Let's all pull together and leave the fields at least as good as when we arrived!!!