

Field Maintenance/Prep Procedures

Field 3:

Field 3 uses a different infield mix. This mix is located outside of the lawn mower/infield dirt building beside field 1.

It is recommended to wet field 3's infield during dry or normal condition before games. This infield mix tend to dry out quickly and makes for a hard playing surface.

DO NOT USE field dry on field 3. If the field is to wet and normal maintenance (raking or adding dry infield mix) does not create a playable surface it recommended to cancel/postpone the game or practice.

Practice -

Practicing team is responsible for raking, dragging, and filling in any low spots following it's use.

Field dry should NOT be used to get the field ready for practice.

Games - Field Prep/ Maintenance Procedures

Home team is responsible for pre game preparation. Home team rep(s) arrive at your field early!!

Tasks to be accomplished before 20 minutes start time include:

• Identifying/correcting any field hazards. Picking up any trash around and inside the field

• Baselines are dragged with the pull behind hand drags. If rakes are needed raking must be done in the direction between the bases and home plate. Raking baselines back and forth between fair grass and foul grass causes "dishing" of the baseline and must be avoided.

• Home Plate - Hand drag in a circular direction from outside to center. If pits develop in the batters box area, with a rake, push material from the outer circle of home plate area. Rake to the center of home plate fill in batters and catchers area.

• Make sure there is enough chalk in the liner.

DO NOT overfill the liner it makes it hard to push. DO NOT push or pull the liner up and down the steps on field one. Push the liner around.

• Use batters box template to outline the batter's box.

Trace outside the box, remove template.

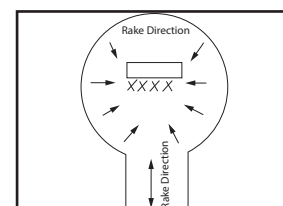
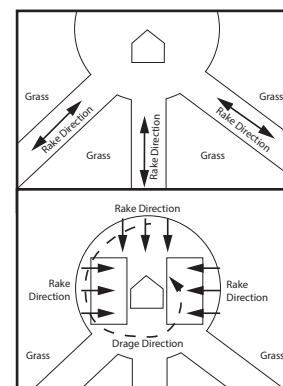
Use the outline you just traced the line should go outside of your outline.

• Foul lines, Use the string provided. One end of the string is placed at the point of home plate, the other end is placed in the grass of the out field. Pull string tight. The string should be touching the foul side of thirdbase/firstbase. The foul line should be on the inside of the string and travels under the base. Do not line into the grass or over the painted foul lines.

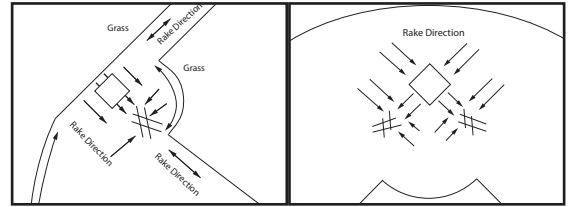
• Pitching Mound - Rake to the center of the of the pitcher mound, fill in the hole in front of the rubber. Rake the mound in the direction of the rubber (pitchers plate). Fill in hole and use water to dampen dirt. Mix with a rake and tamp.

Leave dry this should be done 30 to 15 mins before game and after the game.

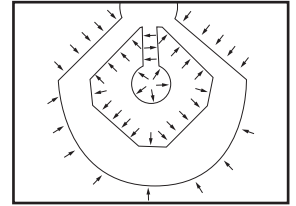
If the hole can not be repaired from existing material around the mound, wet and use field dirt from the mower building, fill the hole and tamp until firm.



- Base area – If pits develop in base areas, with rakes, push existing infield mix from high spots to the low spots. Try to avoid bringing in additional material. Rake Around 1st and 3rd Base Areas
Rake from the foul line or the edge of the grass to in front of 1st and 3rd base. Rake from behind 2nd base, to the sides of 2nd. Move dirt in base path areas and fill in sliding holes.



- Infield Area – With pull behind drag. Keep 1' away from grass (Field tractor maybe used) Drag the infield in a figure 8 motion (2nd base being the center of the figure 8). Rake field mix out of grass areas with a leaf rake to prevent ridges of field mix from building up in playing areas.



Inclement Weather Field Conditions

Managers or acting managers of both teams must agree on field and weather conditions before the game to cancel or play. If both teams cannot agree on whether or not to play a scheduled game because of inclement weather, senior officer present will make the final decision. If none are present the league president or minor league president should be called. The umpires and managers will decide whether the field and weather conditions are suitable to continue play once the game starts, umpires have the final say. The umpires may call any games due to darkness or field conditions.

Both Bellefonte teams are responsible for preparing the field before a scheduled game in the event of inclement weather. Both teams may have to share the batting cage and no infield or out field drills held, so volunteers can prepare the field. Overall condition of the infield is sloppy, or has standing water; rescheduling the game should be the first consideration before an attempt to make the field playable is made.

Maintenance of wet fields

- Standing water must be removed from the infield dirt portions. **NEVER**, sweep the water, mud and dirt onto the grass. Disperse water around the infield dirt and rake to help the drying process. Using the field squeegee or broom
- If sponge roller is available use this to soak up and remove the water. Remove standing water by bailing the water out, digging a sump (i.e. small hole) with a shovel in the center of the puddle may have to be done. Then, bail the water with a small container or cup. Pour the water onto dry portions of the infield (or outside the field). Fill hole with new dirt.
- Adding fresh dry infield mix may work faster and will be better for the field. Infield mix is located behind Field 1 inside the garage.
- After standing water has been removed and field has been raked so that the air can help the drying process. Field dry may be used. **No more than 3 bags of field dry** may be used for one game. **DO NOT** place field dry onto standing water. Apply field dry on the damp areas of the field wait 10-15 mins then rake. If more drying agent is needed after 3 bags are used, the field is too wet for play and the game should be canceled until the field dries naturally. **DO NOT USE FIELD DRY ON FIELD 3.**