

Field Maintenance Tips

Never rake across baselines. This tends to pull material to the edges of the baseline creating high places and lips on edges and gullies in the center that hold water. ****Instead, rake lengthwise from home toward first and third.***

Use moderate amounts of field drying agent at all times. It's better for the field and for the cost of product to use moderation. General guidance: If you feel you will need more than 5 bags to get the field ready, then it's probably an unplayable field.

Tarps should be placed with the white side UP to reflect the sun's heat. The dark side up brings in too much heat and puts extra stress on the grass. **Both Prospect and Walker tarps should be stored on 3rd base "out of play" areas.**

When "bolting down" the tarp with rocks, bricks, etc... use your best judgment on whether many or just a few are needed based on potential wind conditions.

All coaches please be mindful of the upcoming weather when you are the last game of the night. A good rule of thumb is if a storm is forecast overnight with good weather the next day, then tarp. If it's scheduled to rain all night and following day and the field could use water, then leave it off.

Always keep unused base pegs covered with orange caps. If missing, please contact the League.

Avoid continued raking of wet infield mix Raking thoroughly mixes the water in the infield mix and *loosens* the consistency, turning the mix into a soupy muck. ****Instead, make a single pass to "groove" the infield to create ridges, increasing surface area to spread drying.***

Never drag within 12" of turf areas

This causes the drag to sweep into the grass, depositing infield mix in the turf and building lips over time. ****Instead, hand rake this 12" strip after you have dragged the rest of the infield.***

Never attempt to fill holes in batters boxes or mounds without water and a tamp.

Dry material filled into the hole looks goods at first, but will kick out with the 1st batter or pitch, leaving a new hole in its place. ****Instead, sweep hole clean of loose material, add packing dirt/clay (located in pile down 3B line), water and tamp.***