

Manchester Baseball Association Coach Field Maintenance Checklist – 2019

Coach: Thank you for your commitment to keeping our fields in the best possible shape for baseball! As a reminder, the HOME TEAM is responsible for preparing the field before a game is played, and the VISITING TEAM is responsible for caring for the field after a game is played. (If you and your opponent are unsure which is the home team, consult the GAME SCHEDULE). The following is a checklist of the field-maintenance procedures all teams should follow.

BEFORE THE FIRST GAME/PRACTICE OF THE DAY

1. Drag the infield skin, working to keep your drag at least 6 inches away from the outfield grass.
2. Rake the edge of the dirt/grass area. Do not rake towards or away from the grass, rake along the edge. This will assist with preventing a lip to form.
3. Rake the home plate area and place the portable mound appropriately.
4. Use the template to mark the batters' boxes, then chalk the lines you've marked.
5. Chalk the foul lines by attaching the end of the baseline string to the back point of home plate, then rolling it down each base path to the edge where the infield skin meets the outfield grass and place the string on the outside edge of the painted line. If no painted line exists, take the line to the outside edge of the foul pole. Once the string is rolled out, use the chalker to slowly mark INSIDE the baseline string. Once you get to the grass, use the paint sprayer to handle the outfield grass area.
6. Replace base plugs with anchors and bases.
7. Return all tools and maintenance equipment to their designated area.
8. Check field lights if applicable.
9. Ensure all dugouts and surrounding areas are clear of trash and debris.
10. Play ball and HAVE FUN!!

BETWEEN GAMES/PRACTICE

1. Remove bases and replace them with base plugs.
2. If necessary, lightly water the infield and home plate areas.
3. Drag the infield and home plate area, as above.
4. Re-chalk the batters' boxes and foul lines if and as necessary.
5. Ensure all baseball areas are clear of trash and debris.
6. Replace plugs with bases and play ball!

AFTER THE LAST GAME OF THE DAY

1. Remove bases and insert base plugs.
2. Rake the home plate area, taking care to repair any holes or low spots present from wear during play.
3. Drag the infield, as described above and ensure all chalk lines are removed.
4. Lightly water mound and home plate areas, if and as necessary.
5. Return tools and maintenance equipment to the appropriate area.
6. Clear field, dugouts, and surrounding areas of trash and debris.
7. Empty field Trashcans of all trash. All trashcans should be completely empty before leaving.
8. Turn off all lights.
9. Lock all gates, doors and equipment buildings.

IN CASE OF STANDING WATER

1. To repair puddles or standing water on dirt surfaces, please use the Quick Dry mix provided. Pour some Quick Dry onto the affected area – **a little goes a long way** – and allow 5 minutes or so for absorption to take place. Then use a rake to blend with the surrounding dirt. **As with all chemicals and materials used for field maintenance; if you are not familiar with how to use it, please ask someone that does.**

All teams are responsible for keeping their own dugouts clean! We encourage the players to take part in the maintenance of the fields and welcome any volunteer support to help outside of game/practice days!