

RGFPSL Field Maintenance Review:

For all fields, do the following AFTER each practice/game:

1. Use the rake and fill in all the "holes" that were created. Be sure to check the high traffic spots including home plate and the pitcher's area. Also, look at the areas around the bases. For the best results, use the tamp tool (found in the equipment boxes). There is one drag screen for use at each set of fields in the sheds. Please drag the fields by hand or with the tractor. For questions or concerns regarding tractor use, please contact the Field Coordinator (916-257-4551).
2. Water the field. The sprinkler system is mainly used for watering the fields. There are hoses located in the shed for fields one, two, and three, as well as hoses located in the tractor shed for fields four and five. For watering with hoses, there are "quick-couplers" to connect the hose to the water source located in the sheds. A green circular or rectangular cover must be removed to access the connection at each of the fields. ***IMPORTANT: when shutting the sprinklers off, the valve must be closed all the way to prevent leaking from the sprinkler heads.**

Watering is a "must-do-thing" especially when the rain stops and the infield dirt area dries-up. If each team does their share of the maintenance, we'll keep the fields in great shape and easier to prep/repair for everyone.

Everyone! Make sure the lock to each equipment box is "secured" and successfully locked. Boxes are frequently found opened and unlocked. We do not want items to be stolen and it's not fun to start off a practice or game looking for field maintenance equipment or bases.

FIELD PREP

For best results, fill in all "hole" areas and water the field before performing the below detailed field prep.

1. The combination to the light-brown equipment box located in the dugout area of each field is provided each season by your division rep.
2. Inside the equipment box you will find a chalker and bucket of chalk. Please fill chalk buckets outside of the equipment box and do not leave bags of chalk inside the equipment box. Let's avoid the mess and use the buckets to store/contain the chalk.
3. Also notice the rake, which is chained to the fence next to the equipment box. The combination will be provided by your division rep.
4. Before you begin to line/chalk the field, water down the entire infield area.
5. In each box is a bucket containing additional field prep items. In that bag, you will find a metal stake, baseline rope/reel, hammer, dig out tool and tape measure.
6. Here are some pointers:
 - a. Use the PVC templates to mark each batter's box. Colored portion of PVC faces the pitching mound. The batter's box is 7 feet long; 4 feet forward of the plate midpoint and 3 feet back of the midpoint. The batter's box is 3 feet wide.

- b. For the on-deck circle, again use the rake. Find your circle location, hold the inside edge of the rake still and drag the rake from the inside edge pivot point in a circular motion to create your circle. Don't forget to chalk the outside.
- c. For the pitcher's circle, use your measuring device. In the dirt at the front middle point of the pitcher's rubber, sink your metal stake. Then, attached the measuring reel to the stake and walk out 8 ft, which is the radius of the circle. Lock the measuring tool and walk a circle using the edge of the measuring tool to create your circle edge.
- d. For the baselines, connect the end of the reel to the loop attached to the backstop and walk the reel down the baseline to the edge of the grass. The rope is your baseline, which you have to chalk. For the coach's boxes and 1st base runner's path, you can drag the rake to create your outer lines for both areas.

Field Set Up

6U

Pitching Distance 30 feet (pitching rubber not required for 6U)

Base Distance 50 feet

Ball in play arc 15 feet from the back of home plate into the infield

Outfield line 10 feet from baseline (chalked line)

8U

Pitching Distance 30 feet

Base Distance 60 feet

10U

Pitching Distance 35 feet

Base Distance 60 feet

12U

Pitching Distance 40 feet

Base Distance 60 feet

14/16U

Pitching Distance 43 feet

Base Distance 60 feet

******When pulling up the mounds, use the end of the hammer or pry bar to slightly lift the nails from under the strike plate. The nails should be loosened enough to pull out with your hands. PLEASE DO NOT pry the nails all of the way out of the ground by prying the strike plate as far as you can and NEVER pull the nails out of the ground by pulling on the middle of the rubber.**

Problems:

If locks don't work or field equipment items get broken, contact the Field Coordinator (916-257-4551), Board Member on Duty (during game days) or your Division rep...

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