

Golden Valley Little League Field Maintenance Guidelines

- 1. Golden Rule: Leave the field in the condition you would want it in at the beginning of your next game.**
- 2. Every team will have field maintenance responsibilities at every practice or game. Teams are encouraged to assign these responsibilities on a rotating basis. These responsibilities are IN ADDITION to the leagues volunteer requirement and are necessary to keep our facilities in the best possible conditions.**
- 3. There will be a scheduled demonstration day for managers and coaches. If teams would like to have the Field/Maintenance team demonstrate to their teams, contact the Field Supervisor.**
- 4. NEVER ALLOW YOUR PLAYERS TO HIT BASEBALLS INTO THE FENCE
(The league has provided teams with nets for tee and soft toss work)**
- 5. At all times discourage players from digging in the infield dirt and outfield grass.**
- 6. Never hang the mound cover or the home plate cover over the fence or fold them. Do not allow your players to walk across the covers with their cleats.**
- 7. All equipment should be replaced to the correct location. We would like to avoid having to clean our storage facilities several times per year.**
- 8. There are trash and recycling cans around the parks. Please use them accordingly and encourage your players and teams to do so as well.**
- 9. If you are the last manager leaving Isaacson, verify that the concession stand is sealed and locked as well.**

TIPS

- Drag mats should be kept 12" from turf. When raking along the grass lines, rake away from the grass, never parallel to or towards the grass. KEEP THE DIRT OFF THE GRASS.**
- To avoid creating lips and edges along the baselines, rake/drag from the plate towards the base.**
- Coaches/parent volunteers should handle the maintenance around the mound and the bullpens.**
- If you have your players rake, monitor them and inspect the field after they are done. Only players in the MAJORS should be allowed to rake the fields.**

PRACTICES

- **When there is practice AFTER yours: Estimated time 10-15 minutes**
 - Clean the dugouts. Do not leave empty bottles or garbage laying around.
 - Rake and tamp around home plate. Rake 1st Base, 2nd Base, Shortstop and 3rd base. Groom the mound.
 - If you used bullpens smooth them out and tamp in front of mound and behind plate.
 - Make sure all equipment is returned to its correct location.
- **When you are the last team of the day: Estimated 20-30 minutes**
 - Clean the dugouts. Do not leave empty bottles or garbage laying around.
 - Hand rake the edges of the infield and outfield grass and around the bases.
 - Drag the infield using the drag mats.
 - Rake and tamp around home plate.
 - Groom and tamp the mound.
 - If you used bullpens smooth them out and tamp in front of mound and behind plate.
 - Bases should be placed in storage lockers and post covers replaced BEFORE raking and dragging.
 - Make sure all equipment is returned to its correct location and all storage sheds are closed and locked.
 - Replace mound and home plate covers.

GAME DAY

- **When there is only one game and there are two GVLL teams playing the home team is responsible to prepare the field before the game, the away team is responsible for post game maintenance. Follow the procedures for last practice of the day.**
- **When there are two games, the home team in each game is responsible for field prep and the visiting GVLL team is responsible for post game maintenance following the last game of the day. The visiting teams from the early games are encouraged to assist the next home team in their prep efforts. Follow the procedures for the last practice of the day.**
 - Avoid raking out the chalk lines from the first game. An excess of chalk will create lips and edges.
- **In the event that there is only one GVLL team playing, that team will be responsible for all field maintenance.**
- **Chalking**
 - Using the provided spike and string, start with the spike at the apex of home plate, aligning the string with the outside of the base and onto the outside of the painted line in the outfield.
 - Chalk should be applied on the inside of the line, avoiding covering the bases and not applying chalk to the outfield grass.
 - **Batters Box:** Use the batters box templates. The batters box is 3x6 and extends 4" from home plate. The center of the batters box is located at the side corner of the plate.
 - Catchers box is created by extending foul lines 9' from point of home plate. (Do not line inside batters boxes.)
 - The basepath widens by 2'6" (width of wider rake) halfway (30') to first base and can be chalked with a parallel line.
 - Coaches boxes are 4x8, six feet off baseline and end at furthest edge of base.

Diagram No. 1
 Diagram showing Tee Ball/Minor League/Little League Baseball field layout.
 All dimensions are compulsory unless marked "optional" or "recommended."
 NOTE: Tee Ball basepaths may be 50 feet.

