

**Lemont Park
District
(LPD)**

March 17, 2008

**Baseball Field
Maintenance
Guide &
Instructions**

2008 Projected Field Enhancements

Field 3: Miracle Field development for youth and disabled children

Quads: *New 8' fencing installed on base lines*

Bambrick A

- Skin infield

Bambrick B

- Skin infield

North View

- Installation of base pegs @ 50 & 60 ft
- Temporary outfield fence @ 200 ft

NOTES:

- Bids are being accepted for these items.
- 1) New bases have been supplied for 2nd & 3rd bases on all fields. These are the new break away models. There will be a regular 1st base and the safety 1st base available on all fields.
 - 2) The fencing on the home plate side of all dugouts have been removed to increase in/out access. I would like teams taking the field to use the field side access, and teams leaving use the open end of the dugout.

SPECIAL NOTE:

The area of Centennial Park located in between field 2 and the Pavillion to the south end, is to be used for stretching, running, and throwing. Any activity must be done in a North\South direction. This restriction applies to **ALL** age groups. **There will be no hitting allowed in this area by any team.**

Managers\Coaches: With the scheduled construction to begin this spring, open areas are at a premium. Teams will need to work together and be expected to share fields. This should include splitting infields and outfields at the same time. If you have a field that you are Assigned and not going to use, either trade with another team, or make sure you contact the Park District (Ross Bruni) and make the field available to everyone.

Field Maintenance Procedures:

Per PAF expectations of member organizations:

Participating PAF members are responsible to restore and clean any property or facility that is used to the same, or better condition, than when received. Therefore, the Park District's expectations are, but not limited to, the following:

- 1) Please **PICK UP** your garbage. Police the area, including the dugouts, and empty the dugout buckets at the end of each practice or game, and dispose of the garbage in the cans provided.
- 2) Water is **NOT** to be pushed off the RED and into grass areas. This kills grass, and develops a dangerous lip at the grass lines.
- 3) Standing water must be **BAILED** off fields. Dig a **SMALL** hole at the waters deepest point, and spread that water across the rest of the RED area of the infield.
- 4) Home plate, base lines, and base areas must be **RAKED** after each use. Team **COACHES** and parents are responsible for this. Assign a rake to your parents as you meet with your team after your game or practice. Leave the field better than you found it.
- 5) Rake the RED **AWAY** from grass and toward the middle of the infield area.
- 6) If **you** take it out, **you** need to put it away.
- 7) No more than **1** bag of field dry will be used per field during rains.
- 8) LPD will **SOLELY** determine if fields are playable. LPD will post field availability on the website by 4PM, or earlier as deemed by conditions.
- 9) **Do not allow your players and/or coaches to hit balls into the fence while warming up for batting.**
- 10) Once fields have been **LINED**, only those teams assigned to that field should utilize that field. Fields will only be allowed to be lined once per day. Team warm ups should be conducted in the outfield grass.
- 11) If you can see lightning, or hear thunder, you are **REQUIRED** to leave the field immediately. You know the risk. If you are directed by an LPD employee to clear the field, you will do so immediately, and without confrontation. This direction comes from LPD Administration and Commissioners, and is Park District Policy.
- 12) Please speak to your parents & players regarding fields. **EDUCATE** them as to when to enter a field, and when not to walk or play on a field. A bad decision to play or practice when fields have been closed may damage the field, causing another team a game or practice opportunity. Even if it is the following day. Trying to remove footprints from dried mud takes time. It may also be dangerous in that it can create bad bounces causing

serious injury to players.

- 13) LPD will make every possible effort to prepare fields on rain days. We will also make every effort to post field status by 3 pm on the website. If a team wants to make an attempt to prep a questionable field, you may do so **ONLY** with my direct approval. We are here to help, and to work with you, on these fields, but not at the expense of losing additional day's of play due to improper decision making.
- 14) LPD is receptive to your input. If you have a method or idea that can improve field conditions or utilization, please feel free to share your idea with me. However, keep in mind that LPD has an operating budget that must be maintained.

There may be as many as 3 to 4 field work days in the spring. The expectation is that all programs will supply parents\coaches, and\or, parents\players, to assist in pre-season field maintenance. I will E-mail these dates ASAP as weather allows. **This most likely will be short notice.** Your participation (PAF) in these dates is expected.

OUR JOINT MISSION:

By working together with LPD, Little League, Travel ball programs, and the community at large, these fields can become spectacular playing fields. They will be attractive for the community, and a draw for competition. These fields may even be capable of raising funds for LPD to further enhance and preserve the opportunity for the youth of the community to enjoy. Become a participant in your parks system. Become a "Maker of Memories" and help the Lemont Park District achieve our goal of "Good to Great".

Michael Slonski
Maintenance & Environmental Administrator
Lemont Park District