

# East Valley Baseball Field Maintenance Instructions

We have BEAUTIFUL fields and facility - thanks to the hard work of our volunteers. Please respect their efforts and help keep the fields and facility in great condition.

**EACH TEAM** is responsible for performing field/facility maintenance following games **AND** practices. Always try to leave East Valley Baseball (and facilities we visit) in better condition and cleaner than it was when you arrived.

**AFTER EACH GAME/PRACTICE**, coaching staff and/or parents of the team/s need to take the time to ensure that the fields/facility are in good condition for the next games/practices. The pitcher's mound and the area around home plate should be lightly watered, raked, and watered again. Holes in the pitcher's mound, batter's box and catcher's box should be refilled and tamped down for safety. Take special note by 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> base areas where players slide/dive into bases and fill in as needed (same process as home and the mound). Use the rakes and drags that are located at the fields. **NEVER EVER** pull the drag over the grass. The drag should not be used in a manner that damages the grass or pulls dirt onto the grass. Do not drag the mound, but rake it. But, the home plate area may be dragged. Replace the drags when finished. Each team is to perform this maintenance after all games/practices. Failure to do so will result in the loss of future assigned practice times. For games, field work should be done by teams just finishing and teams coming. In other words, **BOTH TEAMS**. Bullpens must be properly maintained, just like the field mounds. Hoses will reach all bullpens except the field 2 left field pen. We are working on that.

**EACH TEAM** should ensure that their dugout/bleachers/cages are free of all debris and equipment. Get the kids to help - it builds responsibility. Remember, another team needs to use the facility after you. Both home & visitor are responsible for help w/ the fields before and after each game. Home: Mounds/Home plate. Visitors: Infield & Bases.

**DURING THE GAMES** keep ALL equipment in the dugout or the designated "on deck" areas. Do not leave equipment on the field of play during the game as it can be a significant safety hazard. Coaches and/or players may not sit on ball buckets on the field of play. PONY Baseball does not allow buckets on the field during tournament play.

**ONLY** coaches/managers/team moms/players are allowed in the dugout or on the field of play during games/practices.

**DO NOT** hit balls (soft toss or off a tee) into any fence at our facility or any other facility we may visit. And **NEVER** play catch, warm up or hit balls within the area of the infield arc prior to games/practices. Warm up in the outfields.

**IF YOU HAVE THE FIRST GAME OF THE DAY** the field will need to be set up for the day. The bases are located in your fields storage shed/knack box. When the bases are set, place the base plugs back in the mail boxes located by the 3<sup>rd</sup> base dugout (it will be appreciated at the end of the day). We do not use chalk at EVB. Foul lines will be painted in and batter's box may need to be painted. When painting the dirt, it is important to know: lightly water the dirt first, then line the dirt or batter's box. The paint will not adhere to dry dirt. Set up the scorer's unit, if desired..

**IF YOU HAVE THE LAST GAME OF THE DAY**, in addition to performing your regular post game/practice facility maintenance, the bases, base plugs and scorer's unit **MUST** all be put away in their proper places. Soak the infield dirt, it's okay. Make certain that the sheds, knack boxes, bathrooms and all gates are properly locked and secured. Please make sure that when leaving the facility, there are no children or snack stand volunteers left alone at the park.

**TRASH** Please help at the end of the day to dump all trash in the dumpsters. Wind and animals have habit of moving trash from the trashcans and creating a bigger mess for our volunteers. If we take a minute to empty all trashcans, our facility will be better for it.

**RAIN** happens. If you have a scheduled practice, please make sure the fields are safe. Our permit states that "standing water" means **NO PLAY**. Also, it will take a great amount of effort to repair a played on wet field than it does a playable surface. **ON GAME DAYS (when rain/wet conditions are a concern)** call the rain hot line (our snack stand) at **818-982-2255**, check our website, check your emails or texts. If it says no games, that means **NO PRACTICES** either.

**GAMES** take precedent over practices. So, if we schedule a game and forget to tell you, sorry.

**FINALLY**, please thank and respect the volunteers who work on these fields. They may need to access the fields prior/during/after your practice/game. Please remove your team from the field at the appointed time so that they can get their work done. And, if you are interested, offer to help - they can always use an extra set of hands and a healthy back. You can contact Frank Miceli or Juan Monreal if you'd like to be part of our "Green Team".

Thank you for dedicating your time and following these instructions to make our facility the best it can be.