

FIELD USE INSTRUCTIONS: LHCC Main Field

Field Prep

1. Remove tarps from pitcher mound and home plate area and drag them next to the storage container by the third base bullpen. Push them into a narrow pile instead of leaving them spread wide where they become easy to interfere with play



2. Drag all dirt using metal drag mats (home plate area, first and third base paths, dirt between infield and outfield). Please avoid dragging mats over top of the 1st/2nd/3rd base mounts as it can tear the mount pegs off the mounts and wear them out prematurely



3. Rake and repair the field where needed. This is primarily around each of the base mounts, down 1st and 3rd base paths, and around home plate. Pull excess dirt away from the base mounts as needed to expose base mounts and level the dirt around base mounts and along base paths, runner lanes, and batter boxes so the ground is even and safe



4. Rake and repair pitcher mound anywhere dirt is not level due to prior use and possible water drainage. Pitcher mound clay should be level with all edges of pitcher mound for a little more than about the width of a player's shoe. Then an even and gradual slope toward home plate to the grass and steeper slopes toward 1st/2nd/3rd bases until the grass. Add mound clay to any holes around pitching rubber or on slopes toward grass as needed and tamp down using tamper covered with towel

5. Use batter box guide to draw a batter box as follows: Orient per sticker on guide with handle aligned with edge of home plate (Find shorter section of guide relative to handle on guide and



place shorter section of guide toward pitcher mound with handle aligned with the straight edge of home plate and longer section of guide relative to the handle toward the backstop. Check the handle guide is straight to the edge of home plate **and** the pitcher mound **and** 2nd base). Then step on all sides of the guide to create an impression in the dirt from the guide edges. This impression “channel” is the outer edges of the chalk line you will lay down using the chalk cart in the next steps. Repeat for other batter box

6. Use chalk cart and lay down **a single pass of chalk** for each batter box remembering the impression you created in the dirt in step 5 is the outside edges of the batter box. Please remember: “Less chalk is more more chalk IS NOT more here!” If you need to carefully add chalk to fill in voids, do so carefully by hand or use chalk cart but seriously, LESS IS MORE!!! If it can be seen by the players and umpires at the start of the game, that is all that matters as we expect it to get used/messed up/washed out during the game, and this is just fine 😊



7. Run a string straight from the back corner of home plate to the foul pole outside edge. Place 1st/3rd base on the base mount and align the string with the foul edge of the base and the foul pole and back corner of home plate. **This string is the foul edge of the foul line.**



8. Use chalk cart and lay down **a single pass of chalk** from batter box edge to front edge of the base and the back edge of the base to the grass (or remove the base and run continuous line from batter box to grass); do not lay chalk down on the grass. **REMEMBER...**the string is the foul edge of the chalk so all the chalk should be “inside” or toward the pitcher mound with the foul edge of the chalk aligning with the string. Please remember: “Less chalk is more more chalk IS NOT more here!”

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9. Use spray paint cart and can of white marking spray to apply foul line marking on the grass between the foul pole and the end of the chalk.
REMEMBER...the string is the foul edge of the paint so all the paint should be “inside” or toward center field with the foul edge of the paint aligning with the string



10. Repeat steps 7, 8, and 9 for the other foul chalk and paint

11. Broom dirt off base mounts and edges of base mounts and press bases onto base mounts so each base is secure; you may need to use handle of a tool to scrape/break-up hardened dirt between pegs and around the tapered edges to remove all dirt from base mount and base mount edges. Gently rake any uneven dirt around base edges to smooth out any dirt if needed and level dirt so players have a flat and safe ground. Be careful not to mess up the nice chalk you have already worked so hard to put in place

12. If necessary, attach hose to water spigot and lightly water all dirt and the pitcher mound. Less is typically more here. Water should have 15-30 min to sit and start drying before players run onto field so if this watering step needs to be done earlier, feel free to adjust the order of these steps to help facilitate watering the mound and field appropriately. The pitcher mound is composed of “mound clay” and needs just enough moisture to effectively soften up the clay and be playable. Too little water and the clay remains very hard and can be slippery. Too much water and you will have mud that sticks to players’ cleats easily. It is a balance, but some raking and light watering should help the moisture absorb into the mound and then dry off before each game.

13. Put tools away and enjoy the game

Field Take-Down

1. Remove bases from the base mounts and put them away

2. Drag all dirt using metal drag mats (home plate area, first and third base paths, dirt between infield and outfield). Please avoid dragging mats over top of the 1st/2nd/3rd base mounts as it can tear the mount pegs off the mounts and wear them out prematurely



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5. Cover pitcher mound and home plate areas with appropriately sized tarps. Try and not cover any sprinklers
6. Take your kid home or out for a treat and tell them how much you enjoyed watching them play ball!

LHCC Main Field scoreboard use instructions

1. Turn power on for scoreboard. This is done by flipping the handle on the grey box highlighted in the photo up to the “ON” position.



2. Retrieve the “NEVCO” scoring controller box storage container in the third base foul area.



3. Press the “ON/OFF” button to turn the controller on. It can take up to 15 seconds for 1) the controller to turn on, 2) wireless communication between the controller and scoreboard to be established, and 3) illumination of the LED lighting on the scoreboard to activate.

If scoreboard LED lighting does not illuminate after about 30 seconds, double check to make sure the handheld unit is powered on. If not, put fresh batteries in and try again. If scoreboard still isn't turning on, double check the power toggle switch on the scoreboard is on. If it is still not working, please turn everything off and return all equipment to storage container and notify the league to get corrected.

4. Use scoreboard controller to display game information on the scoreboard as it occurs.
 - a. First: Based on the umpire call, increment “ball” or “strike” by pressing “BALL” or “STRIKE” button and verifying the correct count on the controller screen. If it is a third strike, press and hold the “STRIKE” button and the scoreboard will automatically reset the “balls” and “strikes” to ZERO. If it is a fourth ball, press and hold the “BALL” button and the scoreboard will automatically reset the “balls” and “strikes” to ZERO. Increment the outs by

pressing the “OUT” button on the controller and verify the correct number of outs on the controller. If it is a third out, press and hold “OUT” button and the “balls” and “strikes” and “outs” will all automatically reset to ZERO. Always focus on the controller display information...the scoreboard will adjust appropriately.

- b. Second: If a play was made and information needs to be updated, use the controller button and the controller screen to update accordingly as follows:
 - i. Outs: Press “OUT” and verify the correct number of outs on the controller display
 - ii. Scoring a run: Press “HOME” or “GUESTS” depending on the team and then the “+” button for each of the runs that scored, and verify the correct score on the controller display
 - iii. Inning: Press “inning” and then the “+” to increment to the next inning and verify the information on the controller display
- c. If you ever need to correct any information, this can be done by pressing the correct button to help adjust anything you need. Do the following: Press and release the term associated with the item that needs adjusting and then press and release the “+” or “-“ button to increment up or down as needed. Always verify on the controller display



- 5. After the game:
 - a. Turn the controller off by pressing and holding the “ON/OFF” until the controller turns off.
 - b. Turn the power toggle switch on the score board to the “OFF” position.
 - c. Put the controller back into the NEVCO box and latch securely and return to the storage shed.