

# Notes From The Shed:



Karl says: "I'm good – but one man can only do so much..."

## EVERYONE PLAYS A MAJOR ROLE IN TAKING CARE OF THE BALLFIELDS AT THE LITTLE LEAGUE COMPLEX

### COACHES RESPONSIBILITIES:

#### Pre - Game:

##### Field Assessment: Is the field prepped and ready for play?

The fields are unplayable and games/practices should be canceled when:

- A) There is standing water on the infield or
- B) The infield mix is greasy and slick and footing cannot be gained through raking.

*Verona Little League does not use drying agents (like Diamond Dry) as it breaks down the integrity of the infield mix.*

*Magic Mix is a state-of-the art top dressing made of a high fired - crushed granite aggregate. This mixture allows water to flow through freely to the hard clay below which runs off the field away from the crown. If we were to use drying agents - we would later have to pay the price to have someone remove the contaminated material and replace it with new magic mix.*

*The fields can be playable on the same day after 1" of rain or less - given lowered humidity, sunshine, wind, or a good combination of all.*

*Precipitation over 1" will need 24hrs to drain off the fields and will cause cancellations.*

*Weeknight cancellations will be posted on the weather tab of the VLL web site by 4:30pm - weekends by 8am.*

#### Post Game:

Responsibility of the home team - ANY time there is NOT another team waiting to get on the field.

Rakes will be left in the 1st base dugout of each field:

##### Lund, Frank-Homan & 5th Quarter Fields:

- 1) Remove bases and replace with plugs - store bases in white box in dugout.
- 2) Rake and level home plate area - tamp batters and catchers boxes with back of rake, brush infield mix out of the grass - cover with tarp and stake.
- 3) Rake mound and fill and tamp in front of rubber and landing area, brush infield mix out of the grass, tarp and stake
- 4) Rake infield areas around bases and fill in low spots. This can prevent rain outs the next day if done properly.
- 5) Rake base paths - remove infield mix from grass areas.
- 6) Brush magic mix away from 1st and 3rd base grass areas
- 7) Pick up trash, bottles, etc in dugouts.

##### Heartland:

- 1) Remove bases and replace with plugs - store bases in white box in dugout.
- 2) Rake and level home plate area, tamp batters and catchers boxes with back of rake.
- 3) Rake and fill in low spots around mound and base areas.
- 4) Pick up trash, bottles, etc in dugouts.

**Get your entire team involved in this process - the players should take ownership of THEIR fields!**

**Failure to follow these steps could cause game cancellations the following day.**

**If everyone helps out - this should take no more than 10 minutes at the end of the evening.**



**Help Keep Your Ballpark Beautiful!**