



## Anderson Park District Ball Diamond Repair Certification 2022

We appreciate your willingness to get your certification to repair ball diamonds! The following information explains proper ball diamond repair methods; please keep this page with you as a reference whenever you attempt to repair a field.

Once you have read the information thoroughly, complete this form and return to the APD prior to the start of your season no later than April 11, 2022. Please send the form to [APDFields@AndersonParks.com](mailto:APDFields@AndersonParks.com) or mail to Anderson Park District, 8249 Clough Pike, Cincinnati, OH 45244. Your Certification Form will be emailed approximately two weeks of submitting this form along with a slide presentation you will need to review.

**Remember, a certified individual must be present for all repairs or work done to any Anderson Park District field! The current certified individual IS RESPONSIBLE for the field repairs, regardless of who actually does the work, and they must carry the Field Certification with him/her while working on a field.**

### **Examples of past POOR field repair practices:**

- 1) Adding mortar mix, topsoil, and/or mulch to diamond dirt in attempt to dry the field;
- 2) Adding soil dug out of turf areas to the diamond dirt;
- 3) Dragging fields with vehicles;
- 4) Pouring gasoline on infields with the intention of lighting them to dry the field.

### **What is the infield mix consistency of APD fields?**

The APD purchases a special blend of ball diamond dirt comprised of silt, clay, and sand. Adding other materials changes the mixture, thus negatively affecting the drainage and playability of the field.

### **How many games and practices does each field average per season?**

128 reservations per field

### **Field Status is posted on AndersonParks.com (Field & Activity Status tab) or download the Rainout Line app (search Anderson Parks). Always check the Rainout Line app status prior to maintenance:**

**Always check the field status at AndersonParks.com or Rainout Line App**

If it has rained, the each field will have a status:

**Green** – Field is open and playable

**Yellow** – Means field is dealing with the an issue which will be stated such as:

Standing Water and Muddy: field is muddy with some standing water

Muddy: when mud clings to shoes, causing deep, damaging footprints

Muddy to Tacky: part of the field is muddy, part of the field is tacky

Tacky: when mud partially, or lightly clings to shoes.

**Red** – Field is closed for play and any field repairs or maintenance is prohibited

**Note: The decision to play or not to play is ultimately determined by each league supervisor. However, when fields are overly saturated, APD may close fields for set period of time, prohibiting any repairs/field maintenance from being conducted by certified field repairers. This may be necessary to allow a field time to recover enough to safely perform maintenance without causing damage to the field. Any field closures will be communicated on the Rainout Line and at AndersonParks.com.**

### **Things to consider before working on a ball field:**

1. What is the air temperature? A 90-degree temperature dries a field faster than a 40-degree temperature.
2. What kind of rain did we have? Was it a fast, intense rain, or a slow, soaking rain? Fast intense rains generally run off the field; slow, soaking rain is usually absorbed in the soil.
3. What are the sunlight conditions? Obviously, on sunny days, fields will dry quicker than on cloudy days.

### **Field preparation after rain:**

- 1) Step on diamond dirt area to see if you sink into the surface or if you can walk without sinking. If you sink, immediately vacate the field and let it dry. If you have diamond dirt clinging to the soles of your shoes, let the field dry. These conditions indicate that the field is saturated and needs the wind, the sun's heat, and time to dry in order to become playable or even to work on it.
- 2) If you can walk on portions of the field without diamond dirt clinging to shoes, it is okay to proceed with work on the field to improve the field conditions.
- 3) Concentrate on limited areas, not the whole field.

**DO NOT, AT ANY TIME, REMOVE DIAMOND DIRT FROM THE FIELD AND PLACE IN GRASS AREAS.**

### **Removing Water:**

- a) Dig a hole 8" to 10" in the lowest spot of a puddle.
- b) Cup or bucket out the water.
- c) Use blower, pump, or sponge to remove small water areas.
- d) Use a pump and larger bucket or cart to remove large amounts of water.
- e) Rake diamond dirt to allow the elements (sun, wind, and humidity) to assist with evaporation.
- f) Incorporate Diamond Dry, Rapid Dry, Turface, 100% Clay Based Cat Litter to help absorb the moisture. **(NO SAND)**
- g) Rake in with sturdy rake and then leaf rake to break up clods.

### **After Every Practice and Game:**

Must rake dirt into batters boxes, pitching mound (area) and sliding spots on the base paths.

### **Approved Tools:**

Small Garden Shovel	Squeegee
Bow Rake	Leaf Blower
Leaf Rake	Hand or Gas Water Pump

### **Approved Amendments:**

Turface	Diamond Dry
Rapid Dry	100% Clay Cat Litter (No Fragrance)

### **DO NOT USE:**

Mortar Mix	Peat Moss
Concrete Mix	Gasoline or Diesel Fuel
Sand of any Kind	Top Soil
Mulch	Automotive Oil Absorbent

Thank you for your help and enjoy your season!

**BALL DIAMOND REPAIR CERTIFICATION FORM**  
**Deadline April 11, 2022**

Organization Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_  
Please Print

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Please Print

Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Please Print

Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_

**I, the undersigned, agree to follow the Anderson Park District (APD) Ball Diamond Repair Procedures listed above for the current year.**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Certification will be mailed to you within two weeks of the APD's receipt of your completed form.

**Return to:**

Email: [APDFields@AndersonParks.com](mailto:APDFields@AndersonParks.com)

Anderson Park District  
Attn: Diamond Repair Renewal  
8249 Clough Pike  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45244  
Questions: 388-5091