



Geneva Baseball Field and Game Guidelines/Etiquette 03/08/2009

Field Care:

- Please have players refrain from digging on the mound, plate area and in the fields.
- If possible, periodically quickly repair the mound between innings. Packing the dirt along with a little water can go a long way to keeping the mound in good condition throughout the game.
- Early in the spring season, prior to practices take a few minutes to have players collect rocks from the fields and place them in a pile by the field boxes.
- After your game or practice, if the next team has not shown up yet, please replace all bases and equipment into the field box and lock it. Do not assume there is another scheduled game or practice after yours.
- Rain soaked fields should not be played on. Field Dry / Field Conditioner may be applied to the field only under the direction of GBA.

Field Etiquette:

- If a field is prepped for a game and you are not the next game on that field then please stay off of that field unless you plan to rake and re-chalk the field after you are done.
- Unless otherwise specified by your league president -
 - Home team takes 3rd base dugout for regular season games
 - Upper bracket takes 3rd base dugout for tournament games
- If the field is open prior to a game, infield practice can commence 30 minutes prior to game time. The team with the most players should take the field first.
- If the field is open prior to your game, you may take batting practice up until 30 minutes prior to game time. If both teams would like BP then work it out together. You should stop batting practice 30 minutes prior to the game to allow for infield practice.
- Please keep spectators away from directly behind the backstop so as to not distract the pitcher. Also please keep spectators outside the fence line down the lines.
- Please clean out the dugout and remove all trash as soon as your game is over.
- Do your post game talks off of the field if other teams are waiting for the field.
- For lighted fields, please check with your league president for protocols for getting lights turned on.

Game Etiquette:

- In minors and above, please have your lineup ready to exchange with your opponent. It should have both the players name and number listed.
- Please have pitchers warmed up prior to their turn pitching. Have parents help if necessary. The pitchers should only have to take a few warm-up pitches at the start of an inning. This helps keep the games moving so that games can be completed timely.
- Please replace catchers on-base with 2 outs so that they can be ready when the team takes the field. Please have a coach or parent help them get ready if necessary.
- Please ask spectators, coaches, and players to refrain from saying anything to the umpire. If there is a question about a call, it should be calmly discussed between the Managers and the umpire. Not from across the field or by others.
- Please have base coaches refrain from making calls or safe/out gestures at bases so that they do not sway the umpire's calls. Let the umpires call the games as they see it.
- Please ask spectators, coaches, and players to refrain from saying anything derogatory about the other team or players. Some examples are: "He's not going to swing!", "You can strike him out!", "You can hit

that pitcher!", "He's going to drop it!". Praising your own players is encouraged, but not at the expense of the other players and team. Please try to remember their feelings as well.

- When a team obtains a big lead on another team and the slaughter rule does not apply yet, please use common sense in having players steal and advance on overthrows and so on.

Field Safety:

- On smaller fields the on-deck batter should be on the side behind the current batter. The player should also be positioned away from the dugout opening.
- Only one player should be on-deck at a time. Other players waiting to go on-deck should not be waiting inside the opponent's dugout. They should wait outside until it is their turn. They can then move through the opponent's dugout to get to the on-deck circle if necessary.
- All batters and runners must be wearing a helmet.
- Players warming up pitchers must be wearing catchers gear.
- Please choose an appropriate place to warm-up pitchers so that the pitcher is not throwing into spectators. You may also need to ask spectators to move in order to make room for you that is not too far away from the field.
- Please immediately report any safety concerns to your league President.