



Minors AL Field Prep Guide

Equipment: Equipment is stored in a storage bin on the outside of the backstop. Team managers have the code to open the lockbox that contains the key to open the padlock on the storage box as well as unlock the large items chained to the fence. For the **American League Minors division**, you will find at each FCLL diamond:

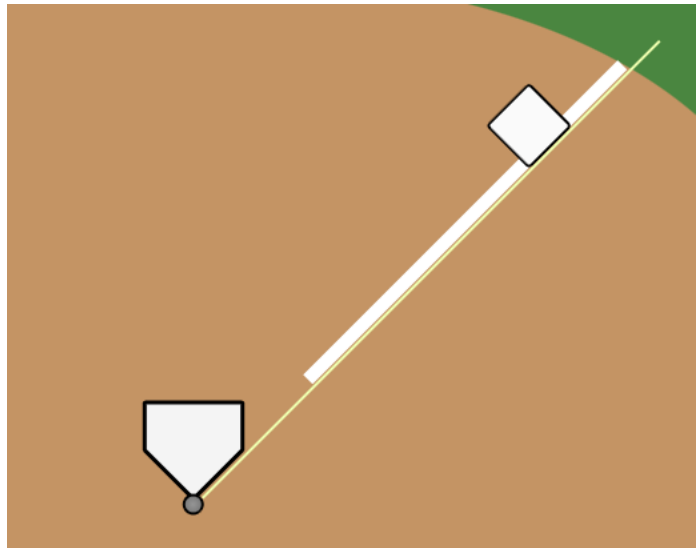
- Pitching Machine
- Small L-Screen
- Home plate
- 3 Bases
- Large landscape rake
- Field Drag
- Hammer
- String Line
- Chalk Liner
- Chalk

Before the Game: Home Team Field Prep

- Walk the field and remove any debris. Ensure there is no garbage, branches, large rocks, or stones on the infield skin or outfield grass.
- Using the large landscape rake, level any low or high spots on the infield skin particularly around the bases and home plate area. Rake shale from behind each base towards the center of the diamond.
- For any areas of standing water, remove as much as possible with the large landscape rake and rake dry shale over any remaining wet areas.
- Using the field drag, drag the infield skin overlapping runs. Stay at least 2 feet from the outfield edge to keep shale from building up a mound at the grass edge.
- If the diamond does not have an in-ground home plate, place home plate with the point facing the backstop on top of the marking whiskers at home.
- Place a base at each of the 60' whiskers at 1st base, 2nd base, and 3rd base.
- Setup the L-Screen 30 feet from home plate between home and 2nd base.
- Setup the Pitching Machine behind the L-Screen (see pitching Machine Setup and Use Guide for instructions).
- If the diamond has a portable toilet, unlock the portable toilet with the key on the lanyard and ensure the key is returned to the storage bin.

Chalking the Foul Lines

- Drive the nail at the end of the string line into the ground at the apex of the plate.
- Unwind the string line down the first base line and 5 feet onto the grass.
- Line the stringline up the first base side of the plate and with foul side edge of 1st base.
- Stretch the string line taut and move the base aside.
- Roll the line chalker to the fair side of the string line about 4 feet from the plate
- Set the chalk liner to **setting 2** for a 2" foul line
- Roll the chalk liner slowly down the string line ensuring the chalk is being laid to the left (fair territory) of the string line to the grass.
- Place first base on top of the foul line aligning the right edge of the base with the right edge of the foul line.
- Move the string line to the third base side of the plate and with the foul edge of 3rd base.
- Repeat the steps above making sure to chalk the right side of the string line and place third base in fair territory.



After the Game: Visiting Team Field Take Down

- Both teams are responsible for ensuring their dugout/bench is clean of garbage and gear.
- Lock the portable toilet.
- Lay the landscape rake behind the storage bin and lock it to the backstop with the chain.
- Place the portable toilet key, pitching machine, field prep equipment, plate, and bases should in the storage bin.
- Ensure the key is in the lock box, scramble the combination tumblers, and close the cover.
- Lock the storage bin with the padlock.

Let's aim to leave the field each night with it in better shape than when we arrived!

For any questions, concerns, or issues with diamonds or equipment, please email:

diamonds@fcll.ca