

# Field Maintenance

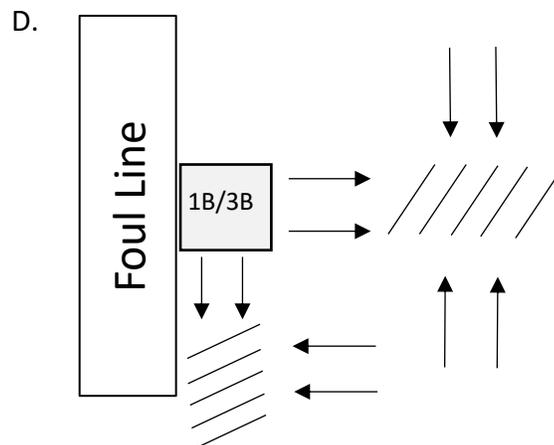
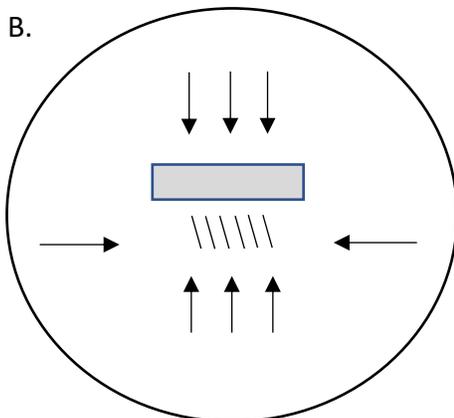
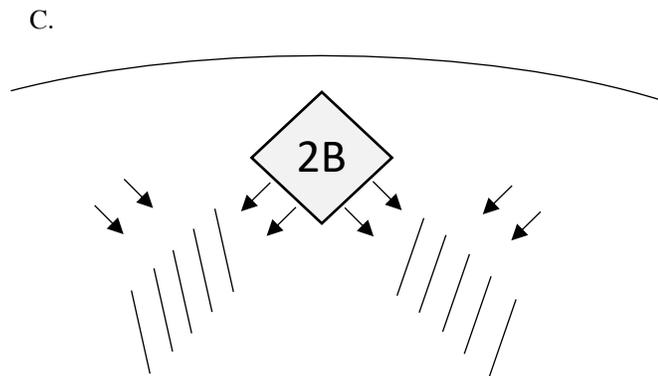
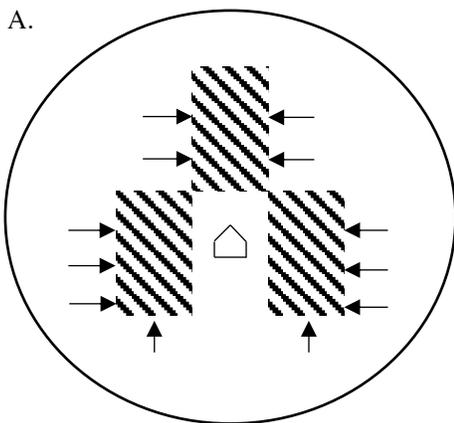
M.O.T. Little League has spent many hours and dollars on our eight playing fields. We need YOU to help us keep moving forward!

**Puddles:** **DO NOT** ever push, pull, rake, sweep, squeegee or broom puddles into the grass or infield! This causes the puddles to become bigger the next time it rains. It takes money and days to repair the damage. It is easier to make up a 2-hour game, than it is spending days repairing fields.



**Raking:** It is the responsibility of both teams to rake the field. After every practice/game please rake around all bases, batter's boxes and the pitcher's mound. Failure to rake leaves low spots that become puddles during the next rainstorm. When raking is done properly, game cancellation is kept to a minimum.

- Rake in the batter's box area.** Rake to the center of home plate and fill in holes in the batter's, catcher's, and umpire's boxes.
- Rake in the pitcher's mound.** Rake to the center of the pitcher's mound, fill in the hole in front of the rubber.
- Rake from behind 2nd base, to the sides of 2nd base.** Move dirt into base path areas and fill in siding holes.
- Rake around 1st and 3rd base areas.** Rake from the foul line or the edge of the grass to the base path in front of 1st and 3rd base.



## Dragging:

- **NEVER DRAG UP TO THE EDGE OF THE GRASS!** Some fields have hand drags available. If you drag the field, please pull the drag up to about 6"-12" before the grass edge. If you drag right up to and into the grass edges, you create an unsafe "lip".
- It's not a race! Take your time especially as your turn. Always keep the drag about a foot away from the grass and always pull the bases when you drag. Trying to dodge second base might be fun but you are changing the grade of the field and causing lips.
- If the drag doesn't fit down the baseline, don't pull it down the baseline! You need to hand rake these areas parallel to the foul line.
- Initially do a small circle pattern (Zamboni) across the entire field then make a center line drag from end to end. Another option is to use a circle pattern from the edge of the outfield grass to the edge of the infield grass. For fields without a grass infield, run your Zamboni or circle patter up to the edge of the pitcher's mound.

