

## **THE ART OF BASEBALL SKINS**

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Baseball, America's past time, from early March through October, in rain, snow, sleet or shine, they count on us the grounds keepers to get the game in on time. Recent history has shown tremendous improvements in playing conditions and field appearance, causing grounds keepers to continue their educations and experimentations with new ideas and concepts. Whether it's a public park or a major league stadium they all have a mound, plate, and three bases to be maintained. While healthy, green turf impresses the fans and owners – players and coaches, however, are more concerned with the consistency of the infield skin, mound, and plate. Over 80% of baseball is played on the dirt portions of the field. With this in mind ask yourself where the majority of your time should be spent. If your answer was designing a mowing pattern, then you might want to start designing a new resume.

How do I achieve a consistent infield? What makes a good mound? How important are the base-paths? How firm should the pit be? How much and how often should I water? These are the types of questions that will be covered in this seminar along with a detailed plan for game days, rain days, and ideas for when your field is not being used. Besides everyday maintenance, good game day strategies can make all the difference!