



August 3, 2009

Mr. Randy Mobley  
President  
International League of Professional Baseball Clubs, Inc.  
55 South High Street Suite 202  
Dublin, OH 43017

Dear Randy:

We have been in frequent communication since your letter dated July 7, 2009, regarding the field issues we have been experiencing. As you know, we remain hopeful the drainage problem has been solved short term, but in accordance with your written request, will outline the steps taken to remedy the field.

A short review. The decision was made to leave the existing drainage system in tact when the field was converted from turf to natural grass. The decision was also made to build a field with a short life expectancy, approximately three to five years. At that time, the thought was a new stadium would hopefully be in place within that time period. In June, SWB received an inordinate amount of rain, and the drainage system failed to perform. The field became unplayable.

In total, seven games to date have been affected by the problem. Three games were postponed; two on sunny days, the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of July, and four were relocated. Since that time, we have been able to play all home games at PNC Field, and the field continues to respond well, even under heavy rain. Following the inordinate amount of rain in June, which caused the drainage problem, we have taken several steps to solve the problem short term. They are listed below. Long term, it is our understanding, the drainage system and field will need to be replaced at the end of the season. Currently, the Stadium Authority and County Commissioners are enlisting the assistance of Murray Cook, field consultant, working closely with Steve Horne, our head groundskeeper, and Gary Mayse, Executive Vice President of Mandalay Baseball Properties, to begin the field design build process with October as the completion date.

Action Steps:

1. Brought in a helicopter to hover over right shallow field for two hours prior to game on July 5, 2009, in hopes of making the field playable. It was not.
2. Had an independent study done on the soil physics of our field.
3. Murray Cook, field consultant hired by Ewing Cole, brought in to evaluate problem and potential solutions.



4. Worked closely with NY Yankees head groundskeeper to review problem and solicit solutions.
5. Enlisted help of Dr. Frank Rossi, Assoc. Professor of Grass and Turf at Cornell University.
6. Worked with Gary Mayse, Executive Vice President Baseball Operations for Mandalay Baseball Properties.
7. Consulted with other experts including Roger Bossard and Chip Toma.


All options, presented as potential solutions by these experts, were implemented. They included:

1. Solid tine and core aeration followed by topdressing with USGA spec'd sand.
2. Quick drain caps installed on the left field and right field side where tarp is frequently dumped.
3. Deep tine aeration via the use of verti-drain was conducted on July 8<sup>th</sup>.
4. Sod and soil replacement project. Removed 5,000 sq ft of sod in right field and replaced with new sod on July 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. This was in addition to 14,000 square feet of sod replaced in May 2009.
5. Installed new Hydra Drains in the right field and tied into drain tile running the perimeter of the playing field on July 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>.
6. DryJect aeration of entire playing field took place on July 15<sup>th</sup>.
7. Core Aeration with heavy top dressing was carried out during the week of July 20<sup>th</sup>.
8. Will repeat the core aeration procedure mentioned above, with heavy top dressing, during the week of August 10<sup>th</sup>.

We acted in concert with the Stadium Authority and County Commissioners as we worked to solve the problem. Barring historical rainfall, like we received in June, we remain hopeful these measures have been successful. We appreciate your support during this challenging, unprecedented time.

Please let me know if you require additional information. We all look forward to a successful end to the 2009 season, and an even more successful 2010.

Best regards,

  
Kristen Rose  
President  
SWB Yankees

cc Steve Labovitz  
Corey O'Brien  
Mike Washo  
A.J. Munchak  
Tony Zaleski