



Diamond Pro's Newest Infield Conditioner Introduced at the All Star Game in Kansas City!

Stadium:	Kaufman Stadium , Kansas City, Missouri, home of the Kansas City Royals
Groundskeeper:	Trevor Vance , Director of Groundskeeping & Landscape
Products:	DoublePlay™ Infield Conditioner
General Facts:	DoublePlay makes its national debut at the MLB All Star Game and plays spectacularly

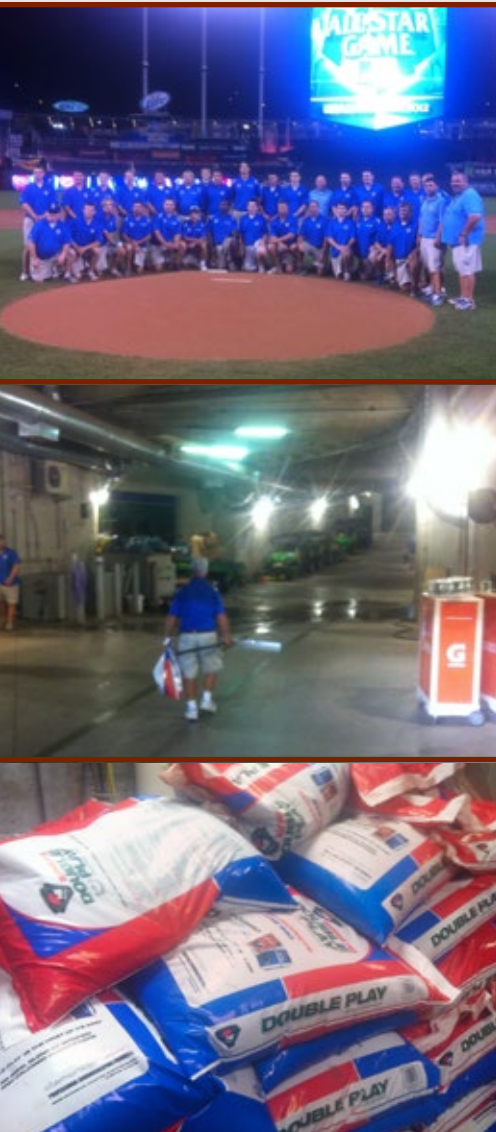


Diamond Pro would like to extend a special thank you to Trevor Vance, Director of Groundskeeping & Landscape at Kaufman Stadium, home of the Kansas City Royals and host site for the 2012 Major League Baseball All Star Game. Trevor and his crew were gracious enough to welcome us into their "home" for the week prior to the All Star Game.

Arriving on Thursday, July 5th, 2012 we immediately began assisting the crew with getting everything ready (many of the preparations had already begun and were in place) for the numerous rehearsals and events, like the Home Run Derby, that took place prior to the actual game on Tuesday night. Naturally, we first confirmed that our new product, a truck-load of **Double Play™**, had indeed been delivered, and everyone was excited to get it on the infield. Trevor and his crew had already stripped most of the infield conditioner prior to our arrival. They prepared the infield by checking grades, touching up edges and smoothing the infield surface; thus, everything was ready for the first bag of Double Play™ to be applied. Rob Schulte and Curt Mayes (Trevor's assistants) led the way, carrying the new, eye-catching, red, white and blue, 50 pound bags of Double Play™ to the infield, so we could start applying (see photos) the new infield conditioner. Approximately 40 bags were initially used, and over the weekend a few more were added as small improvements were needed. The infield looked and played outstanding all week, even with the numerous activities, stages and various happenings that took place on the dirt.

Trevor and his crew put in long days and nights getting the field in pristine condition. Every day, Trevor had something new or unexpected thrown at him, but he handled each situation and every challenge like this was just another game, even though we all knew it

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was much more. One big project involved implementing the "Crown," from the Royals logo, into the centerfield grass. The design was outstanding, and the crew worked long and hard to get it done. Making numerous trips upstairs to confirm that the pattern was visible and looked just right was one of those fun things with which we were able to assist (see photos). The Crown was patterned in by hand brooms, no paint. Trevor's goal was to achieve a natural, mowed-in appearance, and he and his crew clearly succeeded. The Crown looked great on TV, as well as in person, for all three major events: the Futures Game on Sunday, All Star Workout and Home Run Derby on Monday, and of course the finale, the All Star Game on Tuesday night.

The significance of the week was made apparent by the amount of help the crew had on hand. The presence of a full crew each day, in addition to us "volunteers," obviously made it a little crowded in the grounds crew area. Nonetheless, all went well, and Rob and Curt kept everyone on task. Not only did the Diamond Pro crew act as volunteers, but Trevor also invited his old boss and good friend, George Toma, to participate in the preparations. George has been a great friend to Diamond Pro over the years and is one of the true legends in our business. It was such a pleasure to spend more time with him, and hear more stories from his Hall of Fame career. (Attached are some photos of George, including one where he is taking his famous Diamond Pro rake and bag of Double Play™ to the house!)

Also among the volunteer crew, were some other friends of Diamond Pro: Billy Findley (Head Groundskeeper St. Louis Cardinals), Justin Scott (Head Groundskeeper Milwaukee Brewers), Bill Deacon (Head Groundskeeper New York Mets), and Evan Fowler (Little League, Williamsport, PA). Like Trevor, Billy had an equally tough year dealing with the extreme heat that occurred across the Midwest this summer. Despite the heat, Trevor and his crew mastered the task of keeping the grass in excellent condition. Much hard work went into the early planning for this special week, and contributing towards these early efforts was Justin Scott. Justin worked as Trevor's assistant prior to this season, at which time he accepted the head job in Milwaukee for the Brewers. Hence, it was nice that he could come back and see the result of his work from his time spent with the Royals and Trevor.

Looking ahead to next year, the 2013 All Star Game will be held at Citi Field in New York, home of the New York Mets. Accordingly, it was great that Bill Deacon (Head Groundskeeper for the Mets) could attend for a couple of days, and gain a better understanding of what he can expect as he plans for next year.



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A lot of experience and years in the business were on hand, but let's not forget about the future. Evan Fowler, who has been working at the Little League World Series complex in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, is among that future generation. Evan is getting ready to attend Penn State and enroll in the turf program. It has been a pleasure knowing Evan and his family (all are in the business, father Jeff is with Penn State, and grandfather Don is widely considered one of the best in the industry) from our time spent assisting at the Little League World Series (every August) throughout the past ten years.

Catching up with all of our friends while at the same time helping out was both rewarding and fun, and we were grateful to have had this opportunity. It was a fun-filled time, but plenty of work and long hours were never lacking. It was such a thrill for us to be on the field during each of the events, knowing that we played a little, albeit very little, part in what was a huge and successful endeavor for Trevor and his crew. So with that in mind, and please forgive us if we fail to mention anyone by name, thanks again to the Royals grounds crew, Trevor, Rob, Curt, Shane, Elbow, Fatman, Rickie, Mac and Pee Wee!

Thanks Trev!

Diamond Pro
Rene Asprion

Also present were Tom Burns, Brad Garrison, Wynne Stallcop, and Ernest Cubit.

*Diamond Pro launched Double Play™, a new Infield Conditioner, which joined our line of other great groundskeeping products in July 2012. **Double Play™ Infield Conditioner** is a product unlike any other. This product is an ideal blend of our Vitrified Red Infield Conditioner and our Professional Calcined Clay conditioner, together in one bag.*

Double Play™ was first used in Kansas City, at Kaufman Stadium during the week of the 2012 All Star Game. Our unique partnership with Trevor Vance, Head Groundskeeper for the Kansas City Royals, allowed us to test this product at the highest level of baseball and the result was a huge success. An ideal blend of two products ready to use from one bag, Double Play™ is available in 50 lb. bags, 40 bags per pallet. Look for it at your local distributors.