

Whitmore Ball Field Improvements



2/4/2021

Whitmore



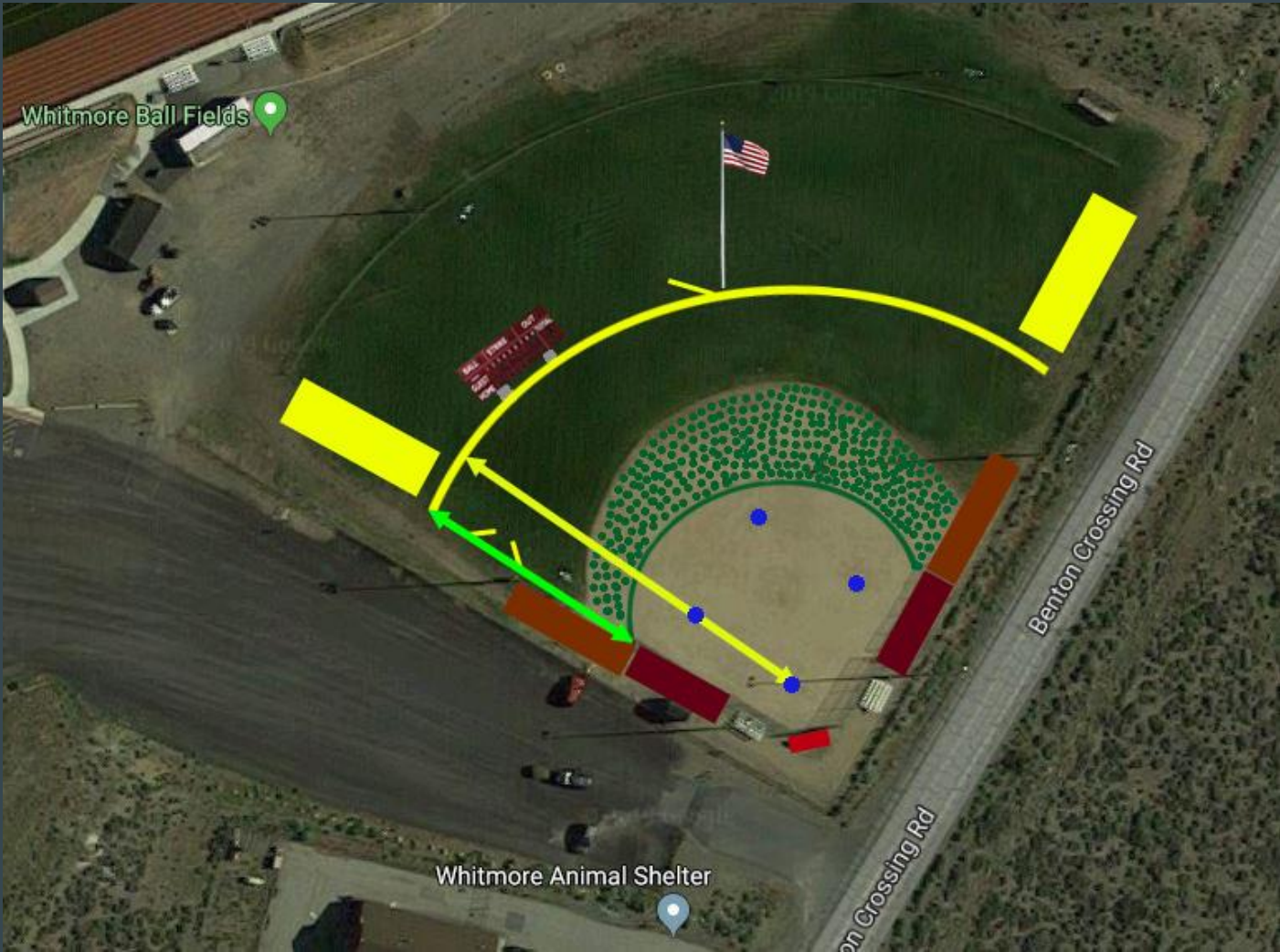
Whitmore Field 1

(before)



Whitmore Field 1

(after)



Reasons for improvements

- Sub-standard fields
 - Safety issues
 - Fence issues
 - Dirt
 - Quality of game
- Low quality field comparable to HS Baseball - Title IX
- Improves impression of TOML
- Better utilization of space
- Opens possibility to host
 - Tournaments = more visitors
 - CIF Playoffs
 - Little League All-Stars
 - Training Camps

What do teams require

- Field to practice on
 - Field
 - Batting cage(s) - safe and increased hitting practice
 - Bullpen - practice and in-game use to warm up pitchers properly
- Field(s) to play games
 - Proper dirt conditioning - reduces injuries
 - Lights required for most tournaments (already installed at field 1)
 - Stands to accommodate parents/fans
- Proper dimensions and field requirements per
 - CIF - 1st priority Girls HS Softball
 - LLI - Little League International

Field 1

Urgent needs

- Better Dirt
- Backstop
- Larger/Covered Dugouts
- Batting Cage/Bullpen

Long term

- Fence moved in to 200' +/- 20'
- Fence down extended from dugout to outfield fence
- Scoreboard

Phase 1 (Suggested)

- Backstop
 - Top portion that is missing
 - Padding
- Dugouts
 - Should accommodate 25+ people
- Bullpens/Batting cages

Phase 2 (Suggested)

- Outfield fence
 - Outfield warning track - at least 10' wide
 - Foul poles
- Out of play fence - from foul lines with 5' warning track
- Dirt
 - New
 - Graded 1% from pitchers mound

Phase 3 (Suggested)

- Flag
- Scoreboard
- On deck circles, example:

<https://www.baseballexpress.com/catalog/product.jsp?productId=130686>

NFHS Guidelines

- Outfield fence
 - Arc of equal distance to all fields
 - Minimum 185'
 - Maximum 235'
 - Height - not mentioned, my guess is safer is higher, lets research - 6-8' local recommendation
- Distance to backstop 25'
- Distance to out of play fence from foul line
 - Minimum 25'
 - Maximum 30'
- Distance to outfield grass - 60' arc from center of pitcher's plate
- Pitching Plate
 - 43' from the plate. Need to remeasure current location to stay in compliance
 - <https://www.nfhs.org/media/881554/nfhs-softball-pitching-plate-relocation.pdf>
- Source: <http://fs.ncaa.org/Docs/rules/softball/Fielddiagram.pdf>