



HLL Umpire Training



Introduction

- Thank You !!!
- Please turn in all forms / copy of insurance card
- Website account sign-up at www.hllbaseball.org
- Your umpire level will be based on experience
- No-Shows will result in suspension / other
- Coaches will likely ump with you at least once
- Post-game umpire ratings by coaches
- Post-game umpire feedback from umpires
- Paid monthly by check or service certificate



What makes a good Umpire?

Umpiring is as important to the success of a local little league program as is managing and coaching.

Character, good judgement, ability to get along with others and the desire to do the job well are the attributes of a good umpire.

A competent umpire is one who commands respect, knows the rules of the game and reacts intuitively to situations.



A Good Umpire...

- Makes sure his/her scheduled games are covered
- Arrives 15 minutes before the start of a game
- Is dressed appropriately (dark blue shirt, clicker)
- Keeps the game moving appropriately
- Is consistent (esp. the strike zone)
- Makes effort to cover each play from the best possible position (90 degrees to throw)
- Has a good attitude, is clear and confident
- Studies and knows the rules



The Umpire's primary job...

- Safety
 - This is job #1 for the umpire
 - Safety is primary reason for the rules in Little League
- Fairness
 - The umpire makes sure that one team does not have an unfair advantage over the other team
 - Highlights need for consistent application of rules
- Keep the game moving
 - Start games on time
 - 6 warm-up pitches for new pitchers and 4 warm-up tosses for returning pitchers
 - 60 seconds between innings and 20 seconds between pitches



We have 3 Umpire Jobs

Home Plate Umpire – is the Umpire In Chief, controls pace of game, calls balls/strikes, makes all calls at home plate. Home plate umpire also calls the baselines, except 1st base line when the Field umpire is there with no one on base. Also has final say on any appeal.

Field Umpire – is the most active, makes calls at all 3 bases and outfield calls and moves to an angle perpendicular to the throw.

Scoreboard Umpire – Handles the scoreboard and is also the backup ump in case one of the assigned umpires does not show or has to leave unexpectedly. Try to get a friend or kid at the game to take-over scoreboard if someone is not assigned.



HLL Overview

- Umpired games are staffed by:
 - Majors: two youths (including scoreboard), one adult
 - Minors: three youths (including scoreboard)
 - AAA / Softball: two youths
- **Majors:** 10 to 12 year-old players, 8 teams, 9 batters, no ties, will play extra innings if needed, no mercy-rule.
- **Minors:** 9 to 11 year-olds, 9 teams, continuous batting order, 5 run max per half-inning, ties allowed, no extra innings.
- **AAA:** 8 to 10 year-olds, 7 teams, continuous batting order, 5 run max per half-inning, 10-fielders OK, ties OK, no extra innings
- **Softball:** 9 to 12 year-olds, 3 teams, continuous batting order, 5 run max per half-inning, 10-fielders OK, ties OK, no extra innings



What if it is raining?

- Field status is updated daily by 2 PM on weekdays and 8 AM on Saturdays at the Hillsborough Rec Department website
- You can access this on the HLL website as follows:
 - Go to www.hllbaseball.org
 - Click on “Field Status” in top left corner
 - This takes you to the Hillsborough Recreation website for the latest information
- If it begins to rain during a game, the Home Plate Umpire makes the call on continuation. Safety is the top priority consideration in this decision



This is a paying job...

Please refer to the umpire rate sheet for payment per game / position

You will be paid monthly by check or certificate of civic service, at your election

If you are a No-Show for a committed game, you will be suspended indefinitely

- Will not be paid for prior game umpired
- Will only be eligible for remainder of season on an as-needed basis



Attendance: We're Counting On You!

If you sign up and can't make a game, you are responsible for:

- 1) Finding your replacement *and*
 - 2) Confirming your replacement by phone, no less than 24-hours in advance of game time
 - 3) Call Kent Ledbetter at (415) 516-1955 or Sean Vernon at (650) 522-0443.
- Replacement ump's will NOT count as a No-Show against you



Umpire Level System:

- **100:** Adult Volunteers, 4+ years experience
- **200:** 3rd Year: FIELD (all) or PLATE (all except Majors) or SCOREBOARD
- **300:** 2nd Year: FIELD (Minors/AAA/Softball) or PLATE (AAA/Softball) or SCOREBOARD
- **400:** Rookie: SCOREBOARD (all) or FIELD (AAA/Softball)
- **500:** SCOREBOARD only (under 12)



Post Game Feedback

After each game, managers will provide feedback on the umpires (including telling us if you didn't show up)

Umpires are not required to provide feedback, but should contact Kent Ledbetter if any of the following occurred:

- Any confrontation with a manager or coach
- Anyone ejected from the game (including manager, coach, player, or spectator)
- Any situation in which you felt uncomfortable, threatened, or disrespected in any way

HLL is committed to providing our umpires with a safe, enjoyable environment in which to learn the art of umpiring



HLL Rewards Umpire Performance

2015 Umpire Incentive Program:

- Perfect* Attendance PLUS
- A minimum of
 - 10 games ump'd**: \$ 50 EOS Bonus
 - 15 games ump'd: \$ 75 EOS Bonus
 - 20 games ump'd: \$100 EOS Bonus

* If you find a replacement – still perfect attendance

** “Ump’d” means field or plate only (scoreboard doesn’t count)



And Finally...

- Thank you !!!
- Umpire Coordinator is here to help. Contact Kent Ledbetter by email or phone with ANY issues or concerns
- Questions & Answers
- Let's Play Ball !!!

