

Subject:	Huff-N-Puffers Umpires -- "View From Behind The Plate" Issue 2
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We have the best view of the game.

Here are a couple thoughts to make it even better? Hopefully this helps:

PITCH HEIGHT

Apparently still an issue. PLEASE revisit Rule 7.1. "6 to 12 feet"

We need to manage our games. Umpires should loudly call "Illegal" while the ball is still half-way to the plate.

INFIELD FLY

USASoftball defines: A fair fly ball, not including a line drive or an attempted bunt, which can be caught by an infielder, pitcher or catcher with ordinary effort when first and second or first, second and third bases are occupied with less than two outs.

Your signal (USASoftball Umpire Manual, pages 41-43):

THE INFIELD FLY SITUATION IS ON

- 1) The Plate Umpire should put their right hand over their chest and make eye contact with their partner.
- 2) The Base Umpire will return the same signal to the Plate Umpire.

RAINOUTS

Always interesting. 5/16, I had to make the call that fields were playable.

Some felt they "got up early to play ball."

Some felt "Yay, mom isn't making me come in out of the rain."

Some felt "Dumb move."

I'll always err on the side of playing if we can.

When rain resumed, umpires cancelled their games. Their prerogative: Rule 10.5:

"At game time or after a game starts, the Umpire(s) working the game will make the decision if the game can continue."

AT END OF EACH HALF INNING

Call out "__ runs scored". Get concurrence from both benches. Post to scoreboard.

HELP

If you have questions, and especially if newer umpires would like a chat or a little "coaching", senior umpires have offered to be available for you. Call me if you'd like to arrange?

Regards, Peter

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