

Subject: Huff-N-Puffers Umpires -- "View From Behind The Plate" Issue 3 -- IMPORTANT UPDATES
Date: Sat, 28 May 2022 11:25:44 -0400
From: Peter E. Toomey <peter.e.toomey@gmail.com>

We have the best view of the game.

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

JUNE SCHEDULE

Attached.

With vacations and restricted hours from some, you may find yourself occasionally working out of your usual Division.

MY SCHEDULE

Speaking of vacations, your Umpire-In-Chief will be out of town June 2 and 13-28.

So any schedule issues should go to **Bob Brown:** rcbrown24@yahoo.com or (day-of) **216-372-3626**.

It is more important than ever that you Sign In when you work -- because I won't be around to see your smiling face and give you credit. (Or if you forget, email later.)

DIVISION 3 -- CLARIFICATION OF RULES 4.2 AND 4.5

4.2 applies to NON-RUNNER BATTERS only

Ball hitting the green will be a hit unless a fly ball is caught. Any base runner being forced gets the next base without jeopardy, then may advance further at their own risk.

4.5 applies to RUNNING BATTERS only

The batter cannot be forced out at 1st base by an outfielder or a short-fielder (anyone other than an "infielder" i.e. first, second, shortstop, third).

Force outs at 2nd, 3rd, or Home are still permitted.

GAME SCORES

Don Knight works hard to get them onto the website.

Although winning Managers are SUPPOSED to report, our thanks to those umps who take the extra minute to [corrected 5/30] send to DArthurKnight@gmail.com or VM to 440-937-5414:

early/late

diamond

winning team (manager, #, home/away)

score

PLAYING EQUIPMENT

Red/white paint stick to position Runner-From-Home: because it's easily misplaced or missed, at the end of the late game, please clip it to the pitcher's screen. That way, it's sure to make its way onto the field next game day.

"CHOPPING" THE BALL

USASoftball rules:

1. A Bunt is defined on Pg 16: "A pitched ball that is intentionally tapped with a bat slowly within the infield."

2. A Chopped Ball is defined on Pg 17: "Chopped Ball occurs when the batter strikes downward with a chopping motion of the bat."
3. The applicable rule is under the section "The Batter is Out", found on Pg 83 in Subsection J: "The Batter is out when the batter bunts or chops the ball."

INTERPRETATION:

The positioning of the hands is immaterial to your decision to call a "chop".

Applicable in all Divisions, but especially in D3, it's a long throw from third or short.

EFFECT:

We should be diligent in calling out a batter who attempts an inappropriate advantage by "chopping" down on a pitch.

Regards, Peter

Huff-N-Puffers Umpire-In-Chief

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Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail -- but if it makes you a better umpire ...