

Subject: Fwd: Huff-N-Puffers Umpires -- "View From Behind The Plate" Issue 7

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Date: 6/25/2023, 22:20

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FYI -- to all your Umpires

----- Forwarded Message -----

Subject:Huff-N-Puffers Umpires -- "View From Behind The Plate" Issue 7

Date:Sun, 25 Jun 2023 22:18:50 -0400

From:Peter E. Toomey

We have the best view of the game.

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

OUR PROGRESS

You've all been working hard. I love the tone and depth of your questions and comments. I'm hearing from players that they see good things happening with their friends who are calling their games -- now better. So your efforts are worth it.

In that vein: three different managers in the past week have commented on what I'll call "demeanor". We don't need to be overly harsh.

But we'd talked at Clinic that it can help the guys listen to us if we maintain a professional attitude. A bit of distance.

And if we don't chat up guys we know, we allow them to focus on their game.

And, after the game, it's best to remove ourselves right after that last out. We're better off NOT being "available" for feedback or comments.

AND, if you DO hear one, don't.

Let's all stay focused. Apply the Rules that we know. Continue to gain respect.

COURTESY RUNNER

Under 8.1, should a player run a second time in an inning: "Effect: Once in, if discovered before a pitch, Runner is out."

So we don't tap-him-on-the-wrist and tell him to be a good boy. Raise our right arm. Then call "Batter".

SPEED OF PITCH

Chief Instructor Blades chimed in after last my note: "if the Umpire decides pitch speed is excessive, in addition to calling it illegal he must give the pitcher a warning. The second time, the pitcher is removed from the mound -- not the game."

LET'S HELP OUT

Secretary Don Evans works his butt off. re his recent All Members message: "home teams in 10:45 games are responsible for bringing the equipment back to the storage area."

Let's work at reminding home team managers at our pre-game or as we wrap up the game?

AND IN CLOSING:

a thought from Chief Instructor Michael Blades:

Remember you are partners out there. You should think of it as a 9-inning marriage -- you support each other completely -- if you think he made a mistake or missed a call, that thought should stay in your head -- does not show on your face or escape your lips. Communication is key. Newer umpires, don't be afraid to ask more experienced umpires -- they will always want to help.

With respect and appreciation, Peter
Huff-N-Puffers Umpire-In-Chief

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All Rules and Umpire Information and the Umpire Guide are *always* at www.huff-n-puffers.com/Rules-and-Regulations.html

The USA Softball rulebook can be downloaded as a PDF from www.teamusa.org/USA-Softball/Umpires/Official-Rulebook

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