

Subject: Fwd: Huff-N-Puffers REVISED SCHEDULE -- AND "View From Behind The Plate" Issue 20

From: "Peter E. Toomey" <peter.e.toomey@gmail.com>

Date: 7/18/2023, 10:36

To: Bob Brown <RCBrown24@yahoo.com>, Don Evans III <DonEvans.III@gmail.com>, Grover Kistler <dgroversbar@aol.com>, Terry Dempsey <terrydempsey20@yahoo.com>, "Jim Dew (ump)" <jpd377@yahoo.com>, Jerry Bacher <GeraldBacher@att.net>, "Larry Govang (ump)" <LarryFromFord@aol.com>, Terry Rauckhorst <TerryRauckhorst@YAHOO.COM>

1.
FYI

2.
But I invite your attention to "The Late Game", below.

Last Winter, when we moved the D3 early game to 915, I commented that we fixed the wrong problem.

We closed the 'gap' between games.

This Winter, I will strongly recommend that we ~ 'make the D3 games "uniformly" 15 minutes later' -- giving my guys 15 more minutes to get from a long D2 early game.

No action recommended now. Just mull it over.

Regards, Peter
U-I-C

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

Subject:Huff-N-Puffers REVISED SCHEDULE -- AND "View From Behind The Plate" Issue 20

Date:Tue, 18 Jul 2023 10:29:37 -0400

From:Peter E. Toomey

FIRST--
ATTACHED --
REVISED SCHEDULE FOR JULY -- including the Legends Outing to League Park.

As always, we have the best view of the game.
Here are a couple thoughts to make it even better? Hopefully this helps:

THE LATE GAME

Some D3 players umpire in early D2 games. Making them late to play their own second game.
Or a D2 player is umpire for a D3 late game. But his early 9-inning game runs long.

I propose three helps:

1. If you're an umpire observing a game, grab your blue shirt, and start that late game until the assigned ump arrives.
2. If you're calling an early game that runs long, see if there's another umpire observing who can step in to finish this game, so you can run to yours.
3. If you're to work the late game, and a player is delayed arriving:
 - A. if both Managers agree to wait, wait. Allow the ump to warm up a bit!
 - B. if no agreement, wait the stipulated 10 minutes, allow the missing Player to be removed from the line-up, you start the game, when he arrives he enters the game and bats at the bottom of the lineup.

The Managers I've spoken with have expressed appreciation for the guys who ump, desire to have them comfortably ready to play, and eager to have them enjoy their game. Let's work to encourage that.

THE ORANGE BAG AT 1B

Belongs to the Batter-Runner. If the Fielder blocks it or has his foot on it and the B-R stomps on it, award B-R with 1st base.

(Unless the ball is overthrown to foul territory -- then B-R may hit White and Fielder hit Orange.)

COURTESY RUNNER

Yesterday, I made half a wrong call
(heck, maybe more, but we're all human):

Courtesy Runner on third base, his turn to bat:

-- Correct: an out was recorded

-- Incorrect: "Batter is out" -- nope: "Runner is out" (because the Courtesy Runner becomes the next Batter).

(Thanks to the Ump who invited my attention, after the game.)

AND IN CLOSING:

a thought from Chief Instructor Michael Blades:

Plate Mechanics --

I come out from behind the plate on every batted ball. Take a few steps toward the mound, to be closer to any action and in better position if I have to make a call.

If there's a potential play at 3d, I move closer there.

If there's a play at the plate, simply let the ball take me, pivot to Home, make my call.

I appreciate that some guys with limited mobility are still calling games.

But we have some men who CAN move, but DON'T.

I'm disappointed when, at the end of a game, I could draw a 5' circle and capture ALL of a PU's footprints.

With respect and appreciation, Peter

Huff-N-Puffers Umpire-In-Chief

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Schedules, Rules, 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.usasoftball.com/official-rulebook/ and the USA Umpire Manual at https://cdn1.sportngin.com/attachments/document/0144/3128/2023_Umpire_Manual.pdf

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