

Subject: Huff-N-Puffers Umpires -- "View From Behind The Plate" Issue 36 -- End of Season

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Sent to all Umpires ~~~~~

We have the best view of the game.

And I hope you've had as much fun there this summer as I have.

RECAP

Although we're almost critically short of volunteers to work, we covered every game.

There were times when a guy had to work solo, because there literally was no one available to partner with him.

So he did. And the Players I spoke with appreciated that. And respected how hard we worked -- dedication, hustle, attention.

Several guys have gotten to the point where calling a game *before* they play is just too tiring. I understand that. And honor it whenever I can.

So my thanks to those who can work early.

We had very few instances of a man failing to show for an assignment. So the system of you paying attention to your email Inbox generally works. Thanks. Do.

YOUR "MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT"

The League values your contribution, so will provide a \$10 stipend for each game worked, to cover your gasoline cost.

This week, I'll provide Treasurer Grover Kistler with my tally from the Sign-In Sheets you marked up in the Equipment Room, or phone calls to me, or one man's list he gave me (because his legs weren't up to trekking in from Field 5 after working and playing -- I get that).

Grover is very careful to match payments to my list.

JACKETS

I am continuing Umpire-In-Chief Emeritus Keating's practice of awarding a HnP Umpire windbreaker to men who worked 10 or more games this season.

Please join me in congratulating those who have not previously attained that honor:

Dave Berry

Michael Blades

Bill Edelburg

Joe Kilburg

Dave Kulka
George Maskovyak
Tom Smith
Paul Synek
Tom Zinn

Gentlemen named above, please provide me your jacket size by Thursday so I can place the order?
Barring supply chain issues, I'll present jackets at The Banquet.

SPRING CLINICS

Yep. I'm planning. You'll know when I know.

The off-season is a great time to curl up by the fire, with a brandy and cigar, and while away a cozy evening absorbing the USA and HnP Rule Books!!

THE BANQUET

Hope to see you there so I can personally thank you for your dedication to the job, your study of the Rules, and your attention to improving your Mechanics!

AND TO END ON A HIGH NOTE:

This morning, leaving the Playoffs, a Player stopped me in the parking lot.

Thanked me for my work scheduling.

Applauded the quality of the men who worked the Playoffs.

And appreciated the progress many men have made in their skills at working the game well. A tribute to your acceptance and attention to the Clinics and coaching we've been providing.

With respect and appreciation, Peter

Huff-N-Puffers Umpire-In-Chief

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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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