



News for Blues

CALIFORNIA COLLEGIATE SOFTBALL UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

November 2016

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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE BY RICH KOLLEN

I'm looking forward to seeing everybody at our annual meeting on January 8 at Cerritos College will be getting more information out soon. Wishing everybody and their families a Happy Thanksgiving.

Rich Kollen
CCSUA Chairman
714-658-5793 - cell
dayofgame@me.com



ASSIGNORS MESSAGE

Update Arbiter

Please update your mileage & calendars in the Arbiter.

Some of you have never changed your mileage where you leave from -- zipcode home or zipcode work. So if you wonder why you don't get selected for games on busy days, this is the reason why. The Arbiter doesn't show you as available.

- Click on BLOCKS (grey tab)
- Click on TRAVEL LIMITS (sub grey tab)
- Put an X in the box of the day of the week you are going to input a zip code
- Type in the postal code you are leaving from (home or work site)
- Type in the number of miles you can travel to a contest site on that day

Do this for each day of the week. Your availability will open up.

Social Media – IT IS NOT YOUR FRIEND!

Despite the Locker Room's October *News & Notes* comments regarding social media, the assignors have received reports of postings of umpires on a college field in uniform; AND a picture showing two umpires and LARGE glasses of beer, titled "Doing our Postgame" (the third umpire was named as the person who posted the picture).

Perhaps "out with friends" may have been the topic--but the use of names or the word "umpires" when used in social media posts, or umpire hats, and attire just tells everyone that all umpires work games and go drinking afterwards. Just what angry fans are looking for when they want to Google an umpire's name.

We will repeat the words from the News & Notes posting:

There is no need for the general public to see which schools you are working or where you are having your "post-game". Yet there are posts on some of the popular social media sites on any given weekend with information on where groups of umpires are working or have "post-games" (with alcohol involved). This is another item which can jeopardize your college softball career.

We further Highly Recommend taking all the quizzes from August and continue self educating through the Locker Room.

Your Assignors,
Joanne, Terry, Jim, Rich, Dale

INSIDER PERSPECTIVE BY JIM SANDERSON

November: Veterans and Thanksgiving

November is the start of the holiday season and a time of cooler weather and changing colors. We are reminded by falling leaves like our fallen heroes that willingly sacrificed to pay for our freedoms and rights. I hope that all of us are thankful of the price paid by many, as we enjoy our American way of life.

We have a historical American tradition of stopping and gathering our friends and family to celebrate our bounty and harvest of life. Together, Thanksgiving, the word has is an important action. Giving thanks and taking time to count our blessings, we are focusing on what we have rather than what we want or don't have. It is a time for reflection and recognizing that we depend on others for what we enjoy. Thanksgiving is an opportunity to build family, team or crew. The words apart are also powerful.

Thanks, a simple gesture that recognizing the kindness and work of others. A word of thanks can be more powerful than a monetary reward. Some sincere thanks with eye contact, a firm

handshake or hug, if appropriate, is powerful and binds us as humanity.

Giving is the action that requires unselfish work, not expecting anything in return. Giving is what plants the seed that reaps the fruit of hard work. Our seeds of giving provide us much in return if we are open to giving thanks.

Veterans, thanks for your service, and welcome home. Thanks for paying that high price for my rights and freedoms that allow me to do what I do. I will celebrate a meal of Thanksgiving to recognize the many blessing that my family and I have. Life has been good to us. Thank you for being part of my world. You inspire me to do better as a person, teacher, father, and umpire observer. Giving, I search for better ways to help make our game and world a better place.

Giving does not equal **REWARD**

On a more realistic umpire note. Here are two plays that recently happened. They were either a time to shine or they could have been missed opportunities.

1. The batter dislodges the ball from the catcher's glove on the back swing. The ball rolls out into the infield towards the shortstop. The R2 seeing the loose ball safely advances to third base. What do you do plate umpire? What if you are a base umpire and the plate umpire does nothing? See EFFECT middle of page 123.
2. The batter foul tips the ball and it is caught by the catcher for the third strike. R1 is stealing on the pitch. The catcher's throw to retire advancing R1 contacts the batter's helmet who is leaning out over the plate. Plate umpire, what do you do? Base umpire what do you do if the plate umpire does nothing? See EFFECT near the bottom of pg. 123.

Your fan in the stands, there to celebrate good umpiring.

Jim Sanderson
SUP Regional Advisor
909-556-7202 cell
tinyjimsanderson@gmail.com

TRAINING STAFF INFORMATION



The Locker Room:

Have you visited the Locker Room this week? This should be, at the least, a weekly occurrence. Put a New Event on your calendar and set it up as a repetitive entry on the day/time best suited to your availability. Peruse the website for the new material (articles, videos, etc.) and review the old material.

Here are the new posts added in October (direct links are provided if you are currently logged in. Use your browser back button to return to the Newsletter):

- *Calendar* updates have been made with important events added
- The October *News & Notes* has future meeting information. Do not be guilty of calling the CCSUA staff to ask when the CCSUA/Assignors meeting will be in January (both North and South. You are just telling them (and the Assignors) that you are not using all your resources.
- One more *Lost Mechanic* has been added – Taking substitutions from the coach
- Videos – two excellent *Hit by Pitch* videos, courtesy of Emily Alexander

Thoughts and Observations from Vince Price:

As we work on our skills during the Fall Ball Season. I've noticed a few things.....

- Fall Ball is a Great Time to work on the "Small Things" to get yourself ready for the up and coming Softball Season.
- Just a Reminder....you are only as good, (yourself personally), as your weakest link. Whatever those areas are.....this needs to be your focal point(s). Here are some examples:
 - Footwork. It is best to lead or step in a direction with the foot that is closer or in the direction of the play. As an Athlete, Umpires are Athletes, your footwork is of the utmost importance.
 - Angle and Distance with Movement on the Field. Movement on the Field with Action to a Play(s). This comes down to Reason and Purpose. Every movement has a Reason and it is setting you up for the Purpose - which is Angle and Distance to a play or possible play.
 - Let the "Ball" tell you what you need to do. Example: A ground ball to the infield..... Tells you to move with a Reason for the Purpose of a Play. And of course this requires Footwork.
 - Reading the Defense and the Offense. Example: Look at how the Defense is set up with the Offensive player at bat. Is the batter a right-handed or a left-handed batter? Is she a "Slapper, Power Hitter, or an "Everything" batter?" This is where the "3 P's" come into thought.

John Bennett
 CCSUA Chairperson of Education and Training
 Chairperson, NFCA Rules and Officials Committee

WHAT'S NEW AT THE SUP?



News and Announcements:

- 2017 NCAA Softball Umpire Clinics

Important Dates for 2017 Season

Please mark your calendar with the dates below that are relevant to you:

	Date Opened	Date Closed
NCAA Registration	December 1**	
NCAA Softball Umpire Clinic – Los Angeles		January 7
Big West/WCC/CCAA/PacWest Meeting		January 7
Annual Meeting – Southern California		January 8
NCAA Softball Umpire Clinic – Indianapolis		January 14
Annual Meeting – Northern California		January 14
NCAA Officiating Exam		
Annual Meeting - Arizona		January 21
CCSUA Pre-Season Camp		January 27 and 28
NCAA Softball Umpire Clinic – Philadelphia		January 28
CCSUA Qualification Test, for members that do not complete the NCAA Officiating Exam		
Conference Meeting - Utah		TBD
NCAA Online Clinic – For eligibility all Division II and III umpires who do not attend the Regional Clinic, will need to view the posted clinic		

** - Based upon last year's information. Final dates still to be confirmed.

Annual Meeting Information

Annual/Conference Meetings:

Registration – Approximately an hour before meeting start time.
You need to contact the appropriate person below, **no later than December 15, 2016**, to confirm which meeting location you will be attending.
Lunch will be provided.
Snacks and beverages will be available during the meeting.
Dress is Business Casual.

Southern California – January 8, 2017:

Cerritos College
11110 Alondra Blvd, Norwalk, CA 90650
Meeting Start Time – 9am
Parking information will be provided at a later date.
You must contact Dave Long at dave_long1@verizon.net to attend this meeting.

Northern California – January 14, 2017:

Hayward Japanese Garden
22373 N 3rd St, Castro Valley, CA 94546
Meeting Start Time – 8:15am
You must contact Oscar Segura at segurao@yahoo.com to attend this meeting.

Arizona – January 21, 2017

Location: To be determined
Meeting Start Time – 10am
You must contact Dale Wilson at [520-275-1074](tel:520-275-1074) to attend this meeting.

Utah –

Location: TBD
Meeting Start Time – 9am
You must contact Brett Higgins at golfumpire@gmail.com to attend this meeting.

Hawaii – February TBD, 2017

Location: To be determined

Meeting Start Time – 6pm

You must contact John Park at johnparkhi@yahoo.com to attend this meeting.

We Need Your Help

This is a general request for articles to be included in future newsletters. Let us know what is on your mind. The only requirement for an article is to keep it under 200 words.

Please send photos of our umpires working for inclusion in future newsletters.

Any articles and photos should be sent to mgkorras@gmail.com

