



News for Blues

CALIFORNIA COLLEGIATE SOFTBALL UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE BY RICH KOLLEN

As we wrap up the 2017 collegiate softball season, I would like to thank you for your hard work and dedication to CCSUA. Our recruiting, training programs, and evaluation process has produced excellent results for the colleges we serve. We didn't get every out or safe call correct, and maybe strike zones varied, or a few rules misinterpreted, but overall, the quality of softball umpires CCSUA assigned was outstanding. John Bennett's training program is a key to our success. If you participated in the monthly tests and spent time reading Locker Room information, then no doubt you're a better college softball umpire. As we go into the summer, I know you'll be working a lot of competitive youth softball. Keep your eyes out for any umpires you think would like to make the commitment to college umpiring and bring them to our attention. Remember that during those long hot summer tournaments, you are a collegiate softball umpire and represent CCSUA.

On a side note, during May, Joanne, John Bennett, and I had knee replacement surgery. Terry had his awhile back. So, from your bionic leadership team, have a wonderful summer.

Rich Kollen
 CCSUA Chairman
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dayofgame@me.com



ASSIGNORS MESSAGE

Thanks to all of you for focusing on this season to help us demonstrate our rule knowledge, and passion we have in umpiring the college game.

We have some coaches doubting our ability sometimes, and rightfully so, sometimes, as some of our peers on the field, forgot to come focused and excited that they had a game that day.

Because we get paid to do what we do on the field, sometimes can't be part of our tool box. The service each of you give to that game that day, shows the athletic departments that we are just as excited to be there working a softball game as they all are.

So again, thanks for your service all the time. It's nice to know that almost all of us have a great passion to get out and umpire each time we go out. Our CCSUA organization has good focus for providing opportunities, and giving everyone tools and resources to perform. Each of us then needs to take that focus and take the opportunity to demonstrate why we were selected for that game that day.

Check your tool box - what did you add to it? What difficult situations did you encounter? Put it away for now, but we will get it out in the fall to again see how we used the tools we had in there.

Great job this season!

Thanks, again

Your Assignors,
Joanne, Terry, Jim, Rich, and Bruce

INSIDER PERSPECTIVE BY JIM SANDERSON

Post Season, Celebrate, Shine, Reflect

I just returned from serving as the UIC for the D3 Championships in OKC and as the UIC at the Los Angeles D1 Regional. It was goal fulfilling to be part of a NCAA championship in the softball Mecca, ground zero of the USA Softball Hall of Fame Stadium in Oklahoma City. I had a great crew that made it easy for me to shine and serve. I hope that you all have the opportunity to reach your softball goals in the near future.

The post season is a time when umpires are recognized for their skills and abilities. They represent all of us as a team that serves the game and the student athlete. We should all celebrate their success. We have all helped each other achieve at high and higher levels. We all have our places and opportunities to shine. I never would have dreamed that I would serve as the UIC at the championship level. Doors open and we walk through.

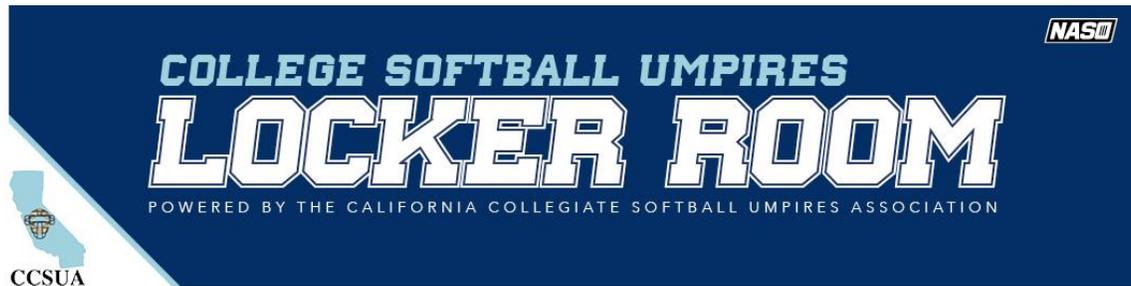
I hope that you celebrate with them rather than suffering bitterness and jealousy. Yes all of us have skills, but many are called and few are chosen. This past year, the west umpires were not geographically desirable. Our teams did not go deep into the championship rounds so local hosting opportunities were limited.

Thanks to all the umpires, observers and assignors that work and improve their game. We are all a team. I challenge you to use the off season to reevaluate your goals and plans to better serve the game.

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

Jim Sanderson
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TRAINING STAFF INFORMATION



Do Your "Post-Season" Assessment Now:

Most CCSUA umpires have completed their season and our Training Staff hopes you all had a great experience. You did if you accepted every game assignment with the idea of setting a goal – both for that game and to help you attain the goals you set for the season.

Now is a great time to do your year college umpire self-assessment. More information about your seasonal self-assessment will be covered in a posting to our Locker Room. Here is a good start – decide where you are in the five stages of college softball umpiring.

Meandering (Happy to Be Here):

This may be the stage you are in for the first two or three years as a college umpire. Just moving up to this level, you have shown the desire to improve. You need to do a lot of studying and attending clinics to learn the college rules and mechanics. This is also the stage to be talking to more experienced umpires to learn the things you cannot get from rule books and mechanics manuals, especially how to deal with coaches, players and spectators.

Measuring (I Want to Stay Here):

The second stage of officiating could also be named "survival mode." Now that you have had some game experience and have participated in close calls, rule interpretations, arguments, and good and bad mechanics, it is important for you to start doing some serious bookwork – rule books, mechanics manuals, reading articles from Referee magazine, using any and all resources available to them – for example, our Locker Room.

Momentum (I Belong Here):

In this stage umpires begin to think about where they would like to go with their officiating. They should set a specific goal, such as working Community College state finals, D1

postseason games, or even the Women's College World Series. You can do this because you have successfully moved through the first two stages, and you should begin to feel confident in your abilities and comfortable at this level.

Mountaintop (I Want To Work As Many "Big Games" As I Can):

When an official believes that he or she has reached this stage, a good self-question is: does my assigner think this also? Many officials think they are ready and prepared for this level but an honest conversation with an assigner will help; otherwise frustration may set in. The best way to approach this stage: be patient and view each one of your assignments as if it is a championship or Division 1 game.

Mentoring (I Want To Give Back To Officiating):

It may be difficult for some officials, when they reach this last stage, to completely walk away from officiating. A great way for them to stay involved is to become an instructor, evaluator, observer or mentor to new officials.

Some Comments About the Monthly Tests:

The training staff tries its best to not have "trick questions" on the monthly tests. We have a review committee of 8 instructors who check the tests for clarity, commonality (no arcane questions found hidden deep in the rule book or Manual), and correctness. Only after that review is the test posted.

Please, never use only the definition rule to research your answer. You must get deeper into the rule book to find the appropriate rule for each question. A ruling on the field or a protest decision will never be based only a definition. The Definition rule, in all rule books, is intended only to try to clarify some of the terms used later in the rule book. The actual rules by which the college softball game is played are listed in detail in Rules 1 through 13 and Rule 15.

When you send an email regarding the correct answers on a test, you must cite the question number and the rules you have researched to make you think that the answer key is not correct.

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

WHAT'S NEW AT THE SUP?



News and Announcements:

- Addendum to Dead-Ball Appeal Situation From May 2, 2017
- Getting The Call Right

Post Season Assignments

Congratulations to the following umpires on receiving post season assignments:

GSAC (NAIA) Conference Championship:

Harrison Cole; Lyle Dove; Kent Jacobsen; Gary Krause; JD Lambright; Robert McElroy; Ronnie Strange; James Walker

CAL-PAC (NAIA) Conference Championship:

Steve Boudreaux; Zach Snell

SCIAC (DIII) Conference Championship:

Jess Black; Steven Kayo; Gary Krause; JD Lanbright

CCAA (DII) Conference Championship:

Joe Campanella; Mark Maciel; Martin Vandenberg; Mindy Villa

Community College – Wild Card:

Joe Campanella; Dan Cowan; Tom Davis; Laura Head; Eric Hutchinson; Steven Kayo

Community College – Regional:

Randy Adair; Alex Alexander; Justin Allen; Tim Altheide; Sean Beaton; Frank Bispo; Tony Bretz; Tracey Canady; Harrison Cole; Tom Davis; Darren Deckard; John Diaz; Lyle Dove; Brandon Easton; David Florentino; David Futterman; Mike Girouard; Paul Heathcote; Dennis Hobart; Eric Hutchinson; Kent Jacobsen; Orlando Mahone; Dan Marksbury; Bobby Martinez; Robert McElroy; Jim Miller; Dave Petersen; Rick Petros; Robert Plancich; Jason Robinson; Vince Robledo; Vincent Rojas; Mario Romero; Jeffery Samuels; Norm Schendel; Robert Schord; Bob Senchy; Ronnie Strange; Bill Terrell; Joe Torres; Douglas Trout; Ric Turner; Ralph Vasquez; Greg Walker; John Williams; Wyatt Wong; Robert Zuniga

Community College – Super Regional:

Alex Alexander; Sean Beaton; Jessica Black; Joe Campanella; Tracey Candy; Tom Davis; Darren Deckard; David Florentino; Dave Hardage; Herb Huitt; Kent Jacobsen; Dan

Marksbury; Bobby Martinez; Jim Miller; Rob Penticoff; Rick Petros; Jason Robinson; Steve Rodriguez; Vincent Rojas; Ronnie Strange; Russell Tanihana; Douglas Trout; Joe Torres; Ric Turner; David Viratos; Steve Wilson; Robert Zuniga

Community College – Championship:

Alex Alexander; Rick Petros; Ronnie Strange; Joe Torres; Ric Turner; Steve Wilson; Dennis Wren (UIC)

NAIA – Regional:

Kent Jacobsen; Robert McElroy; Ronnie Strange; David Viratos; James Walker

DIII – National Championship:

Jim Sanderson (UIC)

DII – Regional:

Fred Barker; Dan Cowan; Mark Craver; Erik Geierman; Dave Long; Zach Snell; Martin Vandenberg; Mindy Villa

DII – Super Regional:

Fred Barker; Zach Snell; Martin Vandenberg, Brian Nava

D1 – NISC

Tom Eddy; Michael Herz; Mark Maciel; Rick Petros; Russell Tanihana; Martin Vandenberg; Dennis Wren

DI – Regional:

John Baca; Mike Bartling; Jim Bertuzzi; Brandon Bluhm; Ron Burkhart; Ed Cooper; Rick Cowan; Chris Drumm; Smokey Edds; Tanya Garig; Tracy Hart; Laura Head; Brett Higgins; Gerri Magwire; Erin Peterson; Vince Price; Megan Rabin; Jim Sanderson (UIC); Calvin Walker

DI – Super Regional:

Mike Bartling; Jim Bertuzzi; Brandon Bluhm (Alt); Ron Burkhart; Chris Drumm; Smokey Edds; Tracy Hart; Laura Head (Alt); Erin Peterson; Vince Price; Megan Rabin; Calvin Walker; Dale Wilson (Alt)

Women’s College World Series:

Chris Drumm; Erin Peterson

If any errors or omissions are identified, please forward to mgkorras@gmail.com

Umpire Camp Information

The following softball camps have been listed on the SUP site for 2017. Additional camps are likely to be added and you should review the available camps on a regular basis. The listed camps can be found in the General Umpiring Information section of the NCAA Softball Umpiring Home Plate.

Date	Location
June 9 - 11	Richland, WA
June 28 – July 1	Aurora, CO
July 7 - 9	Binghamton, NY
July 6 - 9	Elgin, IL
July 14	Meriden, CT
September 9	Southington, CT
September 23 - 24	Phoenix, AZ
October 19 - 22	Conroe, TX

In conjunction with So Cal USA Softball, an Observation Clinic in Southern California for prospective new college umpires will be held in Irvine during the week of July 13 through 16. Specific dates and other information will be available at a later date.

The Observation Clinic in Northern California is scheduled for sometime in October 2017, titled Bay Area Showcase, in Santa Clara. This Clinic is available to all current and prospective college umpires. The Clinic focuses two umpire mechanics. Contact Oscar Segura (segurao@yahoo.com) with your availability, lodging and game fees provided.

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



