



Touching All Bases

Let's Play Ball!

Hello all. Hope the season is going well! The election is underway. Please take part in the process as this is your group and I would like all members to have a say. You have until the April 30th to cast your votes.

Earlier this week a blast went out about pace of game and making sure that you **carry your plate gear even if you are working the bases**. This is very important! If there are any other situations that happen during a game or if you have any questions about rules or procedures please don't hesitate to ask.

Please let me know if you're interested in volunteering your time to work the Optimist All Star games May 29th at Capital Christian. There is room for more officials.

Please feel free contact me with any questions or concerns fmoreno4901@wavecable.com

Thanks

Frank Moreno

NCOA Softball Group Leader

From Your JSS Assignors

WOW, Mother Nature has had her say, and these past few weeks have been a hassle!! A record number of rescheduled games; more to come. We have begun the League Game part of their schedule, so most games have to be played. Several have scheduled double-headers, some more to come.

We require a 3 hour cancellation notice by phone or text so Arbiter can be updated; most of the AD's are good and meet the deadline. The late afternoon rains have caused some issues and late cancellations have been encountered. If we contact you prior to leaving home/work, no game fees are charged to the school. However, if you are in route, arrive at the game without cancellation notification, you will be paid. This has happened a few times as the AD or Athletic Office failed to inform us of any cancellation. The JSS assignors try to text or call if time permits, however, on some days the phone is one call after another and this may not happen. Arbiter sometimes has a hiccup and the notification that should go out to the umpires is lost in space.

YOU MUST enter a report in Arbiter that you and your partner arrived at the game site and no teams were present or AD agreed to cancel the game, field conditions were unplayable; etc. A report is required by the lead umpire (first name listed on the assignment).

Remember to **bring your plate gear to every game**; if a JV umpire does not show up, the Varsity umpires may have to split up so both games are covered; or the plate umpire is ill or injured and cannot finish the game... the base umpire may have to suit up and finish the game.

If something out of the ordinary happens, enter a report in Arbiter; text or call the assignors and make them aware of the situation. The NCOA report form is available on the JSS website if required.

We appreciate your continued cooperation and understanding this season. Been different and a bit difficult for all of us. Thank You!!

Dave & James
JSS Softball Assignors

Important News:

NCOA Softball Group Leadership Elections

NCOA North Softball is electing a new Group Leader and Rating Committee (2) positions for the upcoming season. These positions run for 3 years. **Voting will be open until April 30th.**

All of the nominees were asked to submit a short statement on why you, the group they will be serving, should vote for them. Please read each nominees statement and vote! *These statements have been provided to you in this issue as a backup to the last issue.*

Voting will be done through a Survey Monkey link that has been sent to you.

The nominees are:

Group Leader (select one)

Rudy Aquillio

Pete Dufour

Phil Perkins

Rudy Aquillio

My umpiring journey began in 2000 working recreational slow pitch with GSSA. However, I was introduced to it much earlier watching my father and uncle working fast pitch games. I would love to hang out in the umpire room and hear tales of bonds created on and off the field with men and women not just from our area, but also from across the nation.

I have always admired the role umpires play in the sport and the special skills needed to work together and succeed. What I have learned, officiating over the past 19 years, is that those skills do not come easy. I have made a conscious effort to improve my skill set through extra clinics, taking work in other regions, UIC work, leadership, volunteering, training, evaluating tasks and just sharing stories and listening. Officiating has given me the skills to be a better professional in my day job, as an IT Project Manager/Analyst, in the way I work and the way I interact with my teams to achieve our goals.

I come from a place where being genuine to and respectful of others is paramount. Our association is a team. ALL of its members are unique and important. We are all individuals contributing to a common goal. You each bring a special skill set to our collective.

As Group Leader, I would work to put together an org structure to support a collaborative dynamic that allows each individual a role in our development as a group. At the same time, the same culture would create

opportunities for the group to support each individual's personal development. I would help build an atmosphere of trust and bring a focus on quality, communication, efficiency, dedication and a positive attitude with an emphasis on teamwork.

There are some good challenges/opportunities for us in the near future, but we should also have Great Expectations. I look forward to team building with each of you and moving to the next evolution.

Pete Dufour

Many thanks to Frank and Carl for their leadership over the years!

The continued development of our existing group and the critical recruitment of new officials would be my main goals as Group Leader. I want to help YOU get better and have more fun on the ball field. I've served as the chair of the rating committee, developed the video observations at our clinics and games, created a video on pitching which has been used in some fashion ever since (Rudy included it in his great pitching webinar this year), I started the NCOA newsletter, and wrote the NCOA Umpire Guide that has provided a basis for much of our mechanics instructions in class. I began pushing for pre and post-game meetings with our fellow umpires years ago, and now we are doing a better job of that.

I worked at the NCAA Division II level (with some Div. I) for six years and currently work with the West Coast Conference and Big West Conference helping umpires evaluate their performance. I have plans for better video training for all levels, and an off season "camp" which would also be videotaped, so we have more online training and continuity in our training program. I'd like to think we all want to grow each year. It will require some work, but if

the group is up to this challenge, I'd be happy to serve as your GL.

Sincerely,

Pete

Phil Perkins

Good day NCOA membership, this is Phil Perkins, and at this time I would like to ask you for your support and vote for NCOA Softball Group Leader. As some may know, I've been an umpire at the NCAA, USA, and NCOA levels for some 30 plus years in the Sacramento area. I have a considerable amount of experience within the Softball world. Besides being an umpire, I played in the men's Fast Pitch game for many years at a competitive and national level. I then moved into coaching my daughters and helped them to have successful careers. I also have been involved as an administrator and board member for some of our local leagues and associations. As well as being on the instructional staff for USA Softball of Sacramento & NCOA, I'm the UIC for the Northern California Girls Softball Association.

In my years as an NCOA member I have had the privilege to work with several very good and strong Group Leaders. I guarantee I will follow in the footsteps of those before me to be sure that NCOA Softball continuous to grow and improve in all areas. While I will follow up on what our past and current leadership has established, I will also bring many of my own ideas to help improve the group. I will work extremely hard to be sure that each member is satisfied and confident with the group and is reaching whatever goals they may have as an umpire. I will also be more than just your leader, but also be a listener, help the group to be more cohesive, and maintain a positive outlook and high morale. And above all be

sure that NCOA Softball North, is the best trained, and well-prepared groups of Umpires in the state. Thanks in advance for your support.

Sincerely

Phil Perkins

Rating Committee (select two)

Rudy Aguilio

Steve Everett

Danny Galyean

Loren Gardner

Robert Morris

Dennis O'Leary

Rudy Aguilio

See statement in Group Leader section (Group Leader position is advisory to the Rating Committee... therefore one cannot be elected to both positions)

Steve Everett

When I started umpiring in 1983, we didn't have the training that we have here in Sacramento. I went years with no one helping me to develop in to a good umpire. I want to be able to help the younger (less experienced) umpires develop. With the decreasing number of umpires, it is necessary to nurture the new umpires, so they are not intimidated and have the confidence when they take the field, so they will continue umpiring for many years to come. With the age of our current roster, we need to encourage young people to get in to the umpiring profession.

Danny Galyean

I have been with NCOA Softball for over 30 years and have been through lots of change. I feel that I can give lots of ideas to make the rating committee a better committee. I will listen to your concerns.

Thank you,

Danny Galyean

Loren Gardner

I am interested in joining the Training Committee. After working within NCOA and GSSA Softball I feel it is time to give back to softball. I have played baseball, fast pitch and slow pitch softball since I was 9 years old. It has been a blast. I started umpiring in my early 20's with Little League. I became a slow pitch umpire in SoCal around 35 to support my playing habits. When I moved to NorCal in 2006 I began working for NCOA baseball & softball, and GSSA/ASA softball. Umpiring has allowed me to "stay in the game" I enjoyed playing for so many years. It is time to give back to the organizations that have allowed me to do so. Looking forward to new adventures.

Robert Morris

Hello to all. I'm Robert Morris. Some of you know me as Rob...others, as Bob. Some of you may call me other names that I'm not certain I want to know about. Anyway, I have been nominated, along with other qualified officials, for election to the NCOA's Rating Committee.

I am and have been a member of NCOA's extended Training Leadership and Umpire Evaluation Teams. I have, also, co-chaired with Jim Halstead, our annual 6-wk Study Sessions in Rancho Cordova. I could tell you of a whole list of my accomplishments, awards and years of experience in NCOA and USA/ASA Softball, but I won't. I will leave that for someone else to say if they wish to.

What I really would like you to know about me (if you don't already) ... is that I am honest, and I am fair with all my evaluations of each umpire based solely on that particular game. I go over each item with you in our post game reviews so that you are aware of what might be in your written evaluations. There are NEVER any surprises. I have honed my craft through the years and continue to do so by working and studying hard, staying in shape and listening & adapting to positive critiques given to me by my peers. We NEVER stop learning or improving and adding to our tool belts.

I want you to vote from the heart for the person you feel will help you best improve your skills, knowledge and overall game management with their honest and fair evaluations that you can trust. If you are sincerely wanting to improve, move up to higher levels and become the most successful umpire you can be...you must be open to positive critique and honest feedback. That's where a Rating Committee Member comes in. That's their job.....to help you become your very best in officiating and achieve all your goals. We want every umpire that has the desire...to become a 100 Rated Umpire. It just makes us all better as an association and as partners on the field of play.

Make a choice for 1 or 2 of us (whomever you decide).....But....PLEASE VOTE!!!!

Sincerely yours,

Rob/Bob Morris

Dennis O'Leary

My name is Dennis O'Leary and I am seeking a seat on the Rating Committee.

I have been an umpire for the last 30 year predominately doing fast pitch and slow pitch. The last 12 years I have umpired High School games, mostly doing varsity games. I have also been privileged to be one of the teachers for the Instructional Clinics for the last 8 years

and I have taught components of the weekly pre-season classes for the last 5 years.

For the past 12 years I have seen many changes within the organization, all for the better. This Committee is one of those changes. This Committee's task is to help umpires improve their techniques and skills to provide a positive and professional experience for players, coaches and fans. I believe that I am ready to take on this challenge and feel I have much to contribute.

I have had many great mentors over my 30 years, and I recognize that without their guidance I would not be the umpire I am today. I want to pass my knowledge on to other umpires like others have done for me.

I thank you for considering me for this position.

Other News:

* **On-line Webinars** - Webinars are posted on Arbiter on the **NCOA Central Hub under the Video tab**. This is where you can brush up on some basics such as general, one-umpire, and two-umpire mechanics, Pitching, Obstruction/Interference, and the DP/Flex rule. These videos will remain available to you throughout the season. Don't be afraid to watch them multiple times if needed!!





WEEKLY QUIZ

Each newsletter will include a 10-15 question true/false quiz for your enjoyment. Answers are included in the same issue.

1. Defensive players may wear face/head protection, but it must have a non-glare outer surface.
2. An on-deck batter may use either the circle nearest her own dugout or the circle nearest the opponent's dugout.
3. F1 and F6 may switch defensive positions any number of times in the same half-inning.
4. A player not listed as an eligible substitute on the lineup card shall be prohibited from playing.
5. It is a dead ball when the ball slips from the pitcher's hand during the backward motion of her delivery.
6. A foul is called on the batter when, after hitting the ball, she intentionally hits the ball a second time in fair territory.
7. A runner is out if a fair batted ball strikes her while not in contact with a base before it passes an infielder, except the pitcher.
8. The catcher is charged with an error on a third strike, passed ball that permits the batter to reach first base.
9. Umpires working the plate are required to wear a mask, throat protector and chest protector.
10. If a base coach in foul territory intentionally interferes with a thrown ball, the runner closest to home is out.



Answers:			
1. ANS:	T	REF:	1-8-4
2. ANS:	F	REF:	2-5-3
3. ANS:	F	REF:	3-3-2 note
4. ANS:	F	REF:	3-3-1
5. ANS:	F	REF:	6-2-6
6. ANS:	F	REF:	7-4-13
7. ANS:	T	REF:	8-6-11
8. ANS:	F	REF:	9-5-5 exception 4
9. ANS:	F	REF:	10-4-1
10. ANS:	T	REF:	8-6-16 penalty

Softball - Sacramento

2019 Training Options

Updated 1/1/19

Training Options (18 hours Required by CIF/SJS)

	#	Hours	Total
<u>All Umpires</u>	<u>Required</u>	<u>Credit</u>	<u>Req. Hours</u>
Study Groups 4 of 6	4	2 each	8
Webinar sessions 4 of 6	4	1 each	4
Scrimmage (2 games)	1	2	2
Classification Exam (required by CIF)	1	1	1

Recommended

Basic Skills Boot Camp (newer officials)	3 each
On-Field Clinic (all officials)	5

Optional Training Hours

General Meeting	2
On-field Clinic (if space available)	5
Boot Camp (if space available)	3
Study Guide (80% +)	2
Extra Study Group	2
GSSA Clinic	2
USA Softball National School	4
USA Softball National Fast Pitch School	8
NCAA Clinic (verified) (non paid)	2

NOTE:

- Required sessions can be made up with approval of the Group Leaders on a case-by-case basis with an agreed upon training plan.
- **It is the responsibility of the umpire to submit an email request to the Group Leader for an alternate training plan.**