

SJUA

The Relief Pitcher

Behind The Plate by Gerard Malamisura, SJUA President

As the summer starts to wind down, the SJUA has a few things on its plate. We are in the process of transitioning into a new Executive Board.

Welcome to our new Assignor, Gary "Doc" Schmitt, new Secretary Matt Korang, and to our new Vice President, George Sanders. The new board has had its first meeting and has

started to lay out our initiative of expanding training, recruitment, and evaluations. We will be sending out some information that will expand what SJUA does in these areas. Our hope is that these expanded efforts will enable us to get more umpires in to the organization and provide our current umpires

with the ability to fine tune their craft and have an avenue to move up in the organization to get better and playoff assignments. Please keep an eye out and let us know if you have any questions.



Important Dates

Register with NJSIAA	Now
Concussion Cert and take Diversity Course	1/1
First Meeting	2/26
HS Baseball Practices	3/7
Rules Interpretation	3/12
HS Scrimmages	3/17
Opening Day	3/24



“The integrity of the game is the umpires. Nobody else. The entire integrity of the game is the umpires.”

**Doug Harvey
MLB Umpire
1962-1992**



SJUA

Secretary’s Desk by Matt Korang, Secretary

My first act as new secretary of SJUA is to thank Doc Schmitt for his many years as previous secretary. He sets a hard example to follow and I am lucky he is still around to mentor me in the functions of this most important position. Thanks to the membership for entrusting this position to me. I will try to live up to my predecessor.

As we are in the off season, it is a good time to be progressive and tackle those

tasks required by the beginning of the spring season. It seems a long time away but it will be here before you know it.

Please take time to register for the new season with NJSIAA and take the concussion course (www.nfhslearn.com) prior to the end of the year. You will also need to complete the NJSIAA Implicit Bias Training Course prior to the start of the season. All three of these things are necessary to be in good standing. The Implicit

Bias course is a one time thing. If you took it last Spring you do not need to take it again. The concussion course needs to be completed yearly as does the NJSIAA Registration.

Please email me your concussion course completion certificate to mkorang@comcast.net immediately following your completion.

Have a good off-season.

The Bank Vault by John Henderson, Treasurer

Treasurers Report		Board Stipends	\$ (2,319.00)
Opening Balance 7/1	\$ 27,161.31	John Wajda Middle School Fees	\$ (576.00)
Money In:		Ending Balance 7/31	\$ 7,384.99
Interest	\$ 0.68		
Assigner Fees received	\$ 54.00		
Money Out:			
Killer B payments	\$ (7,595.00)		
SJUA Assigner Fees	\$ (5,683.00)		
GVAA refund	\$ (3,658.00)		

Committee Reports

Recruitment/Retention Committee – Committee Head George Sanders

With summer coming to a close, most of us have put the thought of umpiring aside. Although we may not be on the field we need to stay focused on recruitment and retention for the organization. The board is working on some ideas in the area of additional training and your assistance will be needed. We continue to see interest through the website and

will stay in touch with those prospects. If you know of anyone that may be interested in umpiring please have them contact me or fill out the form on the website. We always welcome fresh ideas and are looking to add members to the committee. Please let me know if you have interest in helping out.

Grievance Committee – Committee Head Ken Shugars
No new updates.

Social Media Committee – Committee Head Matt Korang
No new updates.

Bylaws Committee – Committee Head Curt Weller
No new updates.

Sunshine Committee – Committee Head Matt Korang
No new updates.

Baseball Talk by George Joo, Supervisor of Officials

Although the 2024 Baseball season is slowly coming to an end, independent games and playoffs are near. Maintain your professionalism and integrity.

Congratulations to the newly elected officers for the 2024-2025 Baseball Season.

Rule Changes (2025): Two rule changes regarding substances to enhance non-wood bat grips (1-3-2) and forfeited games (4-4-1) will be in effect during the 2025 season. More information to follow in the future.

SJUA Policy: Remember, if you have an ejection of a player or coach, please contact me immediately.

Training/Cadet Class:
Recruitment for next year

should start now. We are in need of additional umpires. Talk to your friends, relatives, players, etc. and get them interested in umpiring for next year's class.

The Executive Board, in conjunction with the Training Committee, is going to revise the training and conduct clinics in the Fall of 2024. These clinics will cover Umpire Mechanics. Attendance at these clinics is recommended for the less experienced umpires. These clinics will enable the Instructors and Supervisors to observe and evaluate individuals who would like to advance to Varsity and State Tournament games.

UNIFORMS: Please keep your uniforms and equipment clean and ready to go for the games.

You are being "sized up" as you walk on the field. Look and act professional within the confines of the field and parking lot.

ASSIGNMENTS: Please continue to cooperate with the Assignor and block out your dates ASAP.

Please don't hesitate to provide any recommendations or baseball situations you feel would be beneficial for discussion. Good luck and best wishes to all for continued success in the 2024 baseball season!

Laughter is the Best Medicine: The Phillies just signed the Kool-Aid man to the team as..... a Relief Pitcher!



“Umpires, like players, are expected to show constant improvement each season and at each level. Inconsistent plate work and the inability to handle situations are probably the two biggest problems that minor league umpires face.”

**Jim Evans
MLB Umpire
1971 – 1999**

Stay Sharp (answers on last page)

1. B1 asks for and receives time to talk to his third-base coach. While they are conferring, the defensive coach motions for the pitcher to meet him at the foul line. As the offensive conference breaks up, the defensive coach returns to his dugout.
 - a. Only a defensive conference is charged.
 - b. Only an offensive conference is charged.
 - c. Both a defensive conference and an offensive conference are charged.
2. With no runners on base, B1 takes a called third strike. B1 heads for his dugout not realizing F2 dropped the pitch. F2 then throws the ball wildly toward first. B1 heads for first and makes the base safely.
 - a. B1 is out only if he reached the dugout before breaking for first.
 - b. B1 is out only if he left the dirt circle of the plate area before breaking for first.
 - c. B1 is out regardless of where he was before breaking for first.
3. With R2 on second, B1 grounds to FG. FG fields the ball and chases R2 back toward second. He then swipes at and misses R2, and throws wildly to first into dead-ball territory. Before FG throws, B1 touches first.
 - a. B1 is awarded second and R2 is awarded third.
 - b. B1 is awarded third and R2 is awarded home.
 - c. The bases awarded are a judgment call depending on whether or not the umpire rules that chasing R2 back to second is a play.

Your Assignment by Gary Schmitt, Assigner

I want to thank you for your confidence in me by electing me as your new assigner. I thank Joe Rosenberg for his past two years as the assigner. The assigner is only as good as the members meeting all their requirements being completed on a timely matter. Please ensure you are prepared by meeting your requirements, checking clothing and equipment, and being physically ready to umpire.

At one of our membership meetings this past season, member(s) voiced concern about the level of games they

were assigned or not assigned. In this off season, our training committee will be hosting clinics, that I would ask you to attend.

We have spoken often about umpires doing a good pregame and post-game. This is very important. This is a time for corrective actions to be taken. I would like to also hear positive and negative aspect of umpires you work with. It is as simple as a text, phone call or email.

I have received some game schedules. 102 games have been uploaded into Zebraweb.

As the Major League Baseball comes to an end, we need to remember in 6 months we will be in high school preseason.

Again, I look forward to working with each of you as your assigner.

Late Addition

If you want to work this fall, you will need to register with NJSIAA now. I cannot assign you in Zebraweb unless you register for the 2025 season at this time.

Election Committee Tom Wajda, Committee Head

Election Results for SJUA 2024 Election of Officers

Vice President *****

Candidate	Votes	Percentage
John Schmidt (Incumbent)	14	36.84%
George Sanders	24	63.16%

Votes tallied: 38
Abstentions: 0
George Sanders wins with 63.16% of the vote.

Secretary *****

Candidate	Votes	Percentage
Matt Korang	37	100.00%

Votes tallied: 37
Abstentions: 1
Matt Korang wins with 100.00% of the vote.

Assignor *****

Candidate	Votes	Percentage
Gary "Doc" Schmitt	36	97.30%
Bud Selig	1	2.70%

Votes tallied: 37
Abstentions: 1
Gary "Doc" Schmitt wins with 97.30% of the vote.

South Jersey Umpire Association

Board Members

Gerard Malamisura
President
gerardmalamisura@yahoo.com

George Sander
Vice President
sandersgtk@verizon.net

Matt Korang
Secretary
mkorang@comcast.net

John Henderson
Treasurer
hendersonj263@gmail.com

Gary Schmitt
Assigner
docschmitt@yahoo.com

Stay Sharp Answers

1. NFHS - b (3-4-2, 3-4-5)
2. NFHS - a (8-4-1i)
3. NFHS - b (8-3-5)