



The Relief Pitcher

Presidents Message

We are within 1 month of the scrimmage season starting and the SJUA meetings are right around the corner. Hopefully by now, you have taken the NJSIAA test, NJSIAA dues, and your concussion test so that you will have met the criteria to umpire baseball this season.

We have all received several emails from the Assignor and the Secretary to get us ready for the season. They are working diligently to get SJUA prepared to start the season off on the right foot.

The SJUA Executive Board is excited to start the season and continue to grow and make strides in 2024.

-Gerry Malamisura

Treasurer's Report

Here is the Treasurer's Report:

For the month of January:

Opening Balance: \$5,434.43

Money in:

Interest Paid \$0.24

School Assignor Fees-\$1,824.00

Cadet Fees-\$2,400.00

Money Out:

Check #610- \$800.00 (NJSIAA Rulebooks)

End-of-Month Balance: \$8,858.67

I am continuing to collect assignor fee deposits and dues.

Receipts for payments mailed to me will be given at the meeting on the 28th.

SJUA will accept the following forms of payment for 2024.

VENMO - @John-Henderson-3.
Please label as dues or assignor fees

ZELLE - the phone # is 267-978-5708

CHECK - accepted in person at meetings or mailed to my address

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Sunshine Committee

There is no Sunshine this month.

(If you know of anyone who has lost a family member or knows of an upcoming birth of a child, or any other sunshine worthy event, please text or email Gary Schmitt to be added to the newsletter)

Secretary Report:

The season is getting closer and closer with each passing day. With that said, so is the time for registration, Federation Test and Concussion Certification.

Just a reminder, the test this year is on the NJSIAA website NOT ZebraWeb. To get to the test, sign into www.njsiaa.org click on your account, then click on Officials. The test is 50 questions, unlimited attempts until you get an 80 or better. ZebraWeb will automatically let me know that you have a.....

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IMPORTANT NJSIAA DATES

First Practice:
3/14/2024

First Scrimmage:
3/21/2024

Opening Day:
4/1/2024

FROM THE DESK OF THE SUPERVISOR OF OFFICIALS



Treasurer Report: (Continued)

John Henderson
605 Linden Ave.
Riverton, NJ 08077

CASH - accepted in person only

Please reach out to me if there are any questions
or concerns

John Henderson - SJUA Treasurer
267 978-5708
hendersonj263@gmail.com

-John Henderson

The 2024 season is almost here! Please get your physical exam by a professional caretaker before the season starts.

The NJSIAA conducted a Rules Interpretation meeting on Monday, January 29, 2024. A copy of the Power Point Program was distributed to all SJUA members regarding the Rule Changes and Points of Emphasis. Remember, if you have any ideas, topics, or questions that you would like for me to address, just send me an email at gtj2963@comcast.net .

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RULE CHANGES: (PREVIOUSLY FROM JANUARY)

UPDATE: *Player/Coach Communication Equipment* (1-6-1; 1-6-2) Should the head coach designate an assistant coach to communicate with the catcher while on defense, this would be legal. The assistant coach must be in the dugout area while communicating with the catcher.

UPDATE: Non-electronic communication devices worn by the pitcher must be a solid color (not gray or white) and worn on the non-pitching arm. Should the “wristband device” have a white paper background, the device must have a flap or cover to hide the white paper background.

Remember, our Association meeting on March 27, 2024 will be our Rules Interpretation meeting. You must attend this mandatory meeting to officiate high school games.

Cadet Class: Training classes continue and (15) cadets are attending and will most likely become umpires with our Association.

NJSIAA Exam: The baseball exam is now open until June 1, 2024; however, you must pass the exam with a minimum score of 80 before April 1, 2024 to be eligible to officiate high school games! If you miss passing the test the first time, you will be allowed to re-test.

Please don't hesitate to provide any recommendations you feel would be beneficial. Good luck and best wishes to all for a successful baseball season!

George T. Joo



First Meeting is
February 28, 2024

Assignor's Korner:

By the time you read this, the Crew Chiefs have met and drafted who they wanted as crew members. Hopefully, you have heard something from your chief by now.

The focus for the chiefs and assistant chiefs is to help you attain the next level of umpiring. As the assignor, I ask that you keep an open mind when being critiqued by your chief or assistant. The goal is to make you think and make you better. Listen to what they have to say.

If you end up working games as a single umpire it is expected that you move out from behind the plate to the proper calling positions on the field. This requires some hustle to get those positions. More than likely, you may not get to the proper position, so angle over distance.

Remember, to call "Time" after the play is over and are moving back to the plate. There is nothing more embarrassing than turning your back and someone makes a play which you did not see. Remember, to keep your attention focused on the ball. Nothing can happen without the ball.

Once "Time" is called, move to the plate. When everyone is ready, put the ball in play. A point or a beckoning motion to the pitcher is sufficient. You can also verbalize with the point. Sometimes, people forget to put the ball in play; that happens. It is generally accepted that when the batter is in the box, the catcher is in position to receive the pitch and the pitcher is on the rubber, the ball is in play. To avoid any confusion, put the ball in play.

Final note, please keep your availability updated. I am assigning now. If you try to block a date and you are having issues, more than likely you have been assigned and I just have not released the games. Remember to register with the state.

-Joe Rosenberg

Secretary Report: (Continued from page 1)

...passing score but turning your eligibility green under test.

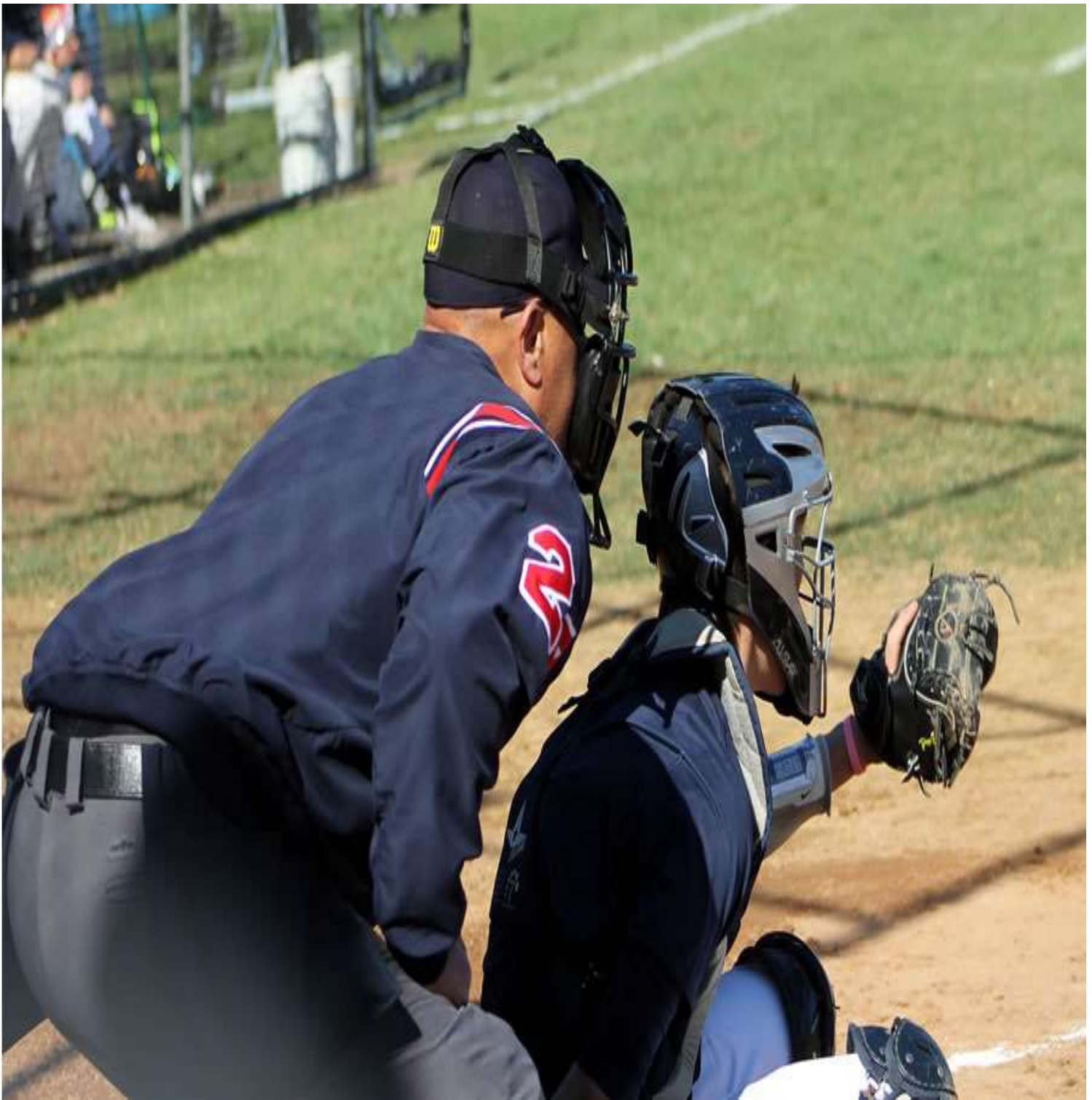
For the concussion certification, go to www.nfhslearn.com follow the links presented. Once you complete the course send me an email with a certificate attached. Those who have completed the course in another sport, submit the one you have already completed.

I know that we have been harping about these requirements, without these showing as completed, it makes it very difficult for the Assignor to do his job. If we all work together, it helps and is very much appreciated. I am here to assist you if you have any questions. The easiest way to contact me is by text. 609-864-4238. Please leave your name with your text. I will contact you the same day, and if possible, within minutes of receiving the text at least acknowledging that it was received.

Let's have a great season.

Play Ball and call them like you see them. Enjoy.

Doc



Membership Meeting Dates Announced:

Membership Meetings will be held on the following dates. Meetings will be Wednesday evenings starting at 7:15 p.m.

Location - 50 Springside Rd, Westampton, NJ 08060 (Continued on page 6)

2/28 - [All Sports Officials](#) will be on-site for your umpiring equipment needs!!!!
3/13 - General Membership Meeting
3/27 - Mandatory Rules Interpretation Meeting
4/10 - Nominations of Officers for 2025
4/24 - Nominations of Officers for 2025
5/8 - General Membership Meeting
5/22 - General Membership Meeting
6/12 - General Membership Meeting
6/26 - General Membership Meeting

(More information to come on specific meeting topics)

SJUA Gear:

NEW SHIRTS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE!!!

The SJUA executive board has created new performance wear shirts and they are available to be ordered. The cost is \$20 per shirt. Add \$2 for XXL and \$3 for XXXL. We have blue and black shirts. Money will be due to the Treasurer upon completion of the transaction. If you have any questions, please refer them to SJUA President.

*******Unfortunately, after gauging interest from the SJUA, the Executive Boards has decided to not pursue a SJUA hat at this time due to cost and interest.***

Donations:

If you have a donation or have lightly used equipment that you would like to sell to a Cadet, please contact the SJUA president to set up a time and date for the connection.

COMMITTEE REPORTS :

Recruitment/Retention Committee: (Committee Head George Sanders)
There are no updates at this time. If anyone has any ideas or would like to join the committee please reach out to George Sanders.

Grievance Committee: (Committee Head Ken Shugars)
We are about to undertake creating guidelines for dealing with potential grievances, which would be based on our bylaws. We hope to have this in place by opening day. If you need to get in contact with the Grievance Committee, please contact Ken Shugars.

Social Media Committee: (Committee Head Matt Korang)
There are no updates at this time. Email mkorang@comcast.net if you have any comments or recommendations on the website or our Facebook group.

Election Committee: (Committee Head Tom Wajda)
No updates at this time. If you need to get in contact with the Election Committee, please contact Tom Wajda.

Bylaws Committee: (Committee Head Curt Weller)
No updates at this time. If you'd like to get in contact with the Bylaws Committee, please contact Curt Weller.