



The Relief Pitcher

Presidents Message

The weather is starting to turn. The preseason is starting and the regular season is right around the corner. It is going to feel good to get out on the baseball field and umpire baseball once again.

If you have not made contact with your crew chief, please reach out to him. Go to your crew chief with any issues you may have and get guidance about umpiring. The crew chiefs are experienced veteran officials that have been through many situations and can offer insight to plays and rules.

Let's get excited to go back out on the field and work games!!!

-Gerry Malamisura

Treasurer's Report

Here is the Treasurer's Report:

For the month of February:

Opening Balance: \$7,938.67

Money in:

Interest Paid \$0.33

School Assignor Fees-\$1,768.00

Dues and Assessments-\$158.00

Shirts-\$64.25

Money Out:

Check #611- \$1,023.75 Inkadelics Shirts

Venmo John Wajda Assignor Fee-\$385.00

Staples-\$15.98 50/50 tickets

Lowes-\$11.71 Tote for Shirts

End-of-Month Balance: \$8,492.81

I am continuing to collect assignor fee deposits and dues.

SJUA will accept the following forms of payment for 2024.

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

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:

I would like to thank everyone who has registered and completed all their requirements for this year. As always, if you have any questions concerning Zebraweb please reach out to me for assistance. If I cannot help you immediately, allow me to contact Zebraweb so that they can update your accounts.

Have a great season and Play Ball.

-Doc

FROM THE DESK OF THE SUPERVISOR OF OFFICIALS



Treasurer Report: (Continued)

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

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 here! Again, please get your physical exam by a professional caretaker.

The NJSIAA is conducting an *Implicit Bias Training Course*. Any umpire wishing to be considered for a State Tournament assignment must complete this virtual training course. You have to register with the NJSIAA to take this course. It's only a one time training class.

A mandatory Association - Rules Interpretation meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 27th. at the Westampton Community Center. The Power Point Program was previously distributed to all SJUA members regarding the Rule Changes and Points of Emphasis, so we should have a short meeting. 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 .

Rule Changes: (Previously mentioned in the last article)

At our last meeting we discussed Obstruction and Interference definitions, plays, situations, etc. If you have any questions please contact me.

As a reminder, if you have the unfortunate situation to eject a player or coach, please contact me or our Secretary, Gary "Doc" Schmitt immediately.

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Cadet Class: I am pleased to report (13) cadets successfully completed the Training and passed the NJSIAA examination. Cadet scrimmages have been assigned for Saturday, March 23rd. at Burlington Twsp. (V/JV) and Rancocas Valley (V/JV); and on Saturday, March 30th. at Delran (V/JV).

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.

UNIFORMS: Please ensure your uniforms and equipment are clean and ready to go for the scrimmages and games.

ASSIGNMENTS: Cooperate with our Assignor and block out your dates ASAP . This will save him double duty work. Accept your respective assignments in a timely manner.

Please don't hesitate to provide any recommendations you feel would be beneficial. Good luck and best wishes to all for a successful 2024 baseball season!

-George T. Joo



IMPORTANT NJSIAA DATES

First Practice:
3/14/2024

First Scrimmage:
3/21/2024

Opening Day:
4/1/2024



Rules Interpretation March 27, 2024

Assignor's Korner:

By the time you read this, scrimmage season will be underway in about a week or so. Thoughts are now moving to the real season. I hope to have the second group of assignments out by Mid-April if not before. Please try to look in your crystal ball and block dates you cannot work. Nothing more frustrating than to show you are available, then get the game declined because you forgot to block the date. I get it, it happens.

With the weather starting to get warmer, please keep the following in mind:

1. Hydrate. Start well before game time.
2. Use sunscreen. A bad case of sunburn is very painful, not to mention the risk factor of skin cancer.
3. By rule this year, you do not do anything with fans. "Fan" is derived from Fanatic. They are passionate for their teams. So much so that any call you make is a bad one, even though it may be the correct call. If a Fan (Spectator) is harassing you or the players, stop the game if need be, go to the home coach to have him control the situation. Once that is done for the most part your job is completed.
4. Make sure your uniforms and gear are in good order.
5. In the memos section I will post openings for games that are uncovered. Those that are blocked for those days, if you can break free, please help. I do not want to one man games if I can avoid it.
6. Those that volunteered to help UUANJ I thank you. There was a good response and the games have been assigned. Both groups appreciate the efforts.

More later.....

-Joe Rosenberg



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)

As we get ready to head into the start of another season it is easy to set recruiting aside. This needs to be a continuing effort of just not the committee but every member of the SJUA. If you know of someone who maybe umpires in Little League, plays in a competitive league, or just has a love for the game please mention to them that we are always looking for new umpires no matter the time of the season. As the SJUA continues to grow it is important to expand our membership with quality umpires. If you are interested in being part of this committee we are in need of members with new ideas. Hope everyone has a great season. If anyone has any ideas or would like to join the committee please reach out to George Sanders.

Grievance Committee: (Committee Head Ken Shugars)

The Judicial Committee will confidentially, impartially, and fairly decide all matters between the Executive Board and the SJUA members. If you need to get in contact with the Judicial Grievance Committee, please contact Ken Shugars.

Social Media Committee: (Committee Head Matt Korang)

At the last membership meeting I mentioned that Facebook has a lot of umpire groups that I have found to be very interesting and a valuable resource for learning and preparing

for the upcoming season. For example, this question was recently posted:

SITUATION: R1 and R2. No outs.

PLAY: Fly ball to centerfield. PU rotates to 3rd and communicates, "I've got 3 if he goes!"

R2 tags and there is a play at 3rd. PU makes the call. Safe!

Defense appeals that R2 left early. Which umpire rules on the appeal?

Of course, our most esteemed and storied veteran umpires will know the answer to this, but for an umpire with less than five years, this could be tough call. These type of questions and more are posted regularly on the following groups:

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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/fedumps/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/117493108922960>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/289514437889406/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/524825141252256/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/289514437889406/>

I hope you will take a look and contribute to these groups.
Knowledge is power!

Email mkorang@comcast.net if you have any comments or recommendations on the website or our Facebook group.

Election Committee: (Committee Head Tom Wajda)

Joe Havers has volunteered to be on the committee. 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.