

## Umpires Policy and Procedures Alexander Park Minor Baseball

As an umpire with Alexander Park Minor Baseball, you are expected to be familiar with and abide by these terms, guidelines, and procedures. We must have a consistent effort from everyone for the system to work properly. Remember this is a job – take it seriously.

**Website:** All appropriate documents and information will be posted on the Umpire Corner section of the Alexander Park website. Make it a habit of visiting regularly to stay current. Contact information for the Umpire Coordinator / Scheduler also there for your reference.

**Umpire Uniform:** Umpire shirts are available in the clubhouse. Gray or black pants and proper shoes are also required. The uniform must be worn for all games. Face mask, chest protector and shin guards **MUST** be worn and used properly by the plate umpire. To earn the respect of the coaches, players, and fans, you must look and act professional.

**Scheduling:** The number of games you are scheduled depends on several of factors. They include your age, experience, availability, dependability, skill, and competence. Schedules are usually prepared as far in advance as possible. You are encouraged to keep a calendar for the games you are working.

**Assignments:** You will be assigned to work either the plate or base. These assignments are not to be changed without the approval of the Umpire Coordinator. If you have a conflict or are unable to make an assignment, it is the umpire's responsibility to contact the Umpire Coordinator as soon as possible or at least two (2) hours prior to the start of the game.

**Working Alone:** Every effort is made to ensure that there are two umpires scheduled for each game. If you end up working the game alone, you will be paid plate rate plus half of the base rate.

**Equipment:** The plate umpire must obtain and return all equipment to the clubhouse after each game. A brush and indicator will be provided to you and must be returned at the end of the game.

**Game Time:** Umpires are required to be at the park 20 minutes prior to game time. This will enable the umpire to get the required equipment, ask any

questions and get to the diamond. You should be at the diamond 5 minutes prior to game time to conduct the plate conference and start the game on time.

Rules: Umpires are responsible for being familiar with the rules at all levels they are umpiring. Rules specific to the HDBA are available on the HDBA website and at the following link. [HDBA Interlock Rules](#)

Home Plate Conference: Rehearse your home plate meeting and start it 5 minutes before game time. It should be level-specific to review special rules and procedures at the level. It is okay to read from or refer to a “cheat sheet”. Home plate umpire conducts the meeting.

Rainouts: If games are called off because of rain or playing conditions, it will be posted on the website and via an email blast. You will not be paid for this game. Once a game starts, umpires will be paid in full. It is inappropriate conduct for umpires to start a game with the intention to call it soon after. Once a game starts and weather conditions deteriorate, the game should be called off by the Umpire Coordinator or their designate for safety concerns. Umpires should call a game if lightning is sighted, or thunder is heard.

Payment: Will be made at the end of each game.

Cell Phones/Electronic Devices: Umpires who use electronic devices on the field of play for texting, tweeting, phone calls or internet are subject to discipline. Exception: where the device is used to check time or when an umpire needs the help of the Umpire Coordinator in an emergency **\*\*NOTE\*\*** this call must be made off the field of play.

**Alexander Park Minor Baseball expects the following standards of conduct and behavior of all umpires:**

1. Fairly call the game based on your best judgment of the rules as established by the league.
2. Communicate the rules of the game effectively to the coaches and players.
3. Respond professionally when asked for clarification of rules and judgment calls.
4. Treat both teams and all players equally and fairly and ensure the rights of players.
5. Treat coaches, other volunteers, players, and parents with dignity. Attempt to pursue positive approaches to dealing with all parties.

6. Show good sportsmanship, a positive attitude and remember the real reason for the game: To have fun!
7. Report to the Umpire Coordinator any issues or problems beyond your authority or are unable to resolve.