



**2009 NCAA DIVISION III BASEBALL**

**UMPIRES' MANUAL**

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The purpose of this 2009 Game Officials Manual is to outline the guidelines, policies, and responsibilities for an umpire participating in the NCAA Division III Baseball Championship. This Game Officials Manual should be used as a complement to the 2009 NCAA Baseball Rules and Interpretations Book and the 2009 NCAA Division III Baseball Championship Handbook.

Comments and suggested additions to this manual are always welcome. If you have any questions, please contact either of the undersigned.

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Assistant Director of Championships

George Drouches  
Division III Coordinator of Baseball Umpires

**SECTION 1: CONTACT/ RESPONSIBILITIES INFORMATION****1.1 PERSONNEL.**

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## **1.2 POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES.**

1. Division III Coordinator.
  - a. May not serve as an officer in any national amateur baseball umpire association.
  - b. May not be assigned to umpire any NCAA baseball championship event.
  - c. Reports to the chair of the NCAA Division III Baseball Committee and the NCAA national coordinator of umpires.
  - d. Assist the national coordinator in the following areas:
    - (1) Coordinate annual clinic(s).
    - (2) Develop a comprehensive evaluation system.
    - (3) Develop, maintain and enforce the umpires' code of conduct.
    - (4) Monitor the conference's umpire programs and their compliance with NCAA policies.
  - e. Submits an annual status report to the national coordinator.
  - f. Make recommendations for umpire assignments for Division III regional and national championship.
  - g. Attends the national championship to coordinate the umpiring crew and assist in the game assignments and rotation.
  - h. Performs other duties as assigned by the national coordinator, national baseball committee and NCAA Division III Baseball Rules Committee.

## **1.3 - NCAA BASEBALL OFFICIALS WEB SITES.**

1. The Web site for NCAA baseball officiating bulletins, updates, video bulletins, and interpretations is <http://www.eofficials.com>.
2. The Web site for NCAA baseball championship information, rule books, and handbooks is <http://www.ncaa.org>. Go to spring sports, then baseball, then championships.
3. The Web site for verification of NCAA clinic attendance, background check information, sports wagering questionnaire, and required testing results have been received on the NCAA Officiating Verification web site is <https://web1.ncaa.org/mbaOfficials/umpirelogin.jsp>.

To access information, enter last name and the last four digits of your social security number. NOTE: If your social security number is not on file (via submitted background check form), your records will not be available for review. Please use your same name for all NCAA requirements.

This site will be active December 1, 2008.

**Reminder: The deadline for completion of all requirements is February 13, 2009**

## **SECTION 2: 2009 IMPORTANT DATES**

January 2-5	ABCA Convention	San Diego, California
January 3-4	NCAA Regional Umpire Clinic	San Diego, California
January 10-11	NCAA Regional Umpire Clinic	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
January 17-18	NCAA Regional Umpire Clinic	Atlanta, Georgia
January 24-25	NCAA Regional Umpire Clinic	Chicago, Illinois
February 13	Background Check, Rules Test Completion Deadline	
May 3	Regional Crew Chief & Umpire Conference Call	
May 10	Regional Teams and Sites Announced	
May 13- May 17	NCAA Division III Regionals	
May 21	National Championship pretournament meeting	Appleton, Wisconsin
May 21	National Championship ground rules meeting	Appleton, Wisconsin
May 21	National Championship crew meeting	Appleton, Wisconsin
May 22-26	National Championship	Appleton, Wisconsin
July 14 - 15	Baseball Rules Committee meeting	Indianapolis, Indiana
July 14	Conference Umpire Coordinator Meeting	Indianapolis, Indiana
TBD	Division III Baseball Committee meeting	Indianapolis, Indiana

## **SECTION 3: CHAMPIONSHIP ASSIGNMENT PROCEDURES**

### **3.1 SELECTION CRITERIA**

#### **1. Criteria for Assignment to NCAA Division III Regional.**

- Must be scheduled to work a minimum of six Division III games and be recommended by a conference;
- Must have at least five years of experience at the Division III level with a minimum of 25 NCAA games each year;
- Attendance at a NCAA baseball umpire clinic every two years; and
- The NCAA Baseball Umpire Improvement Program will select 64 umpires from the conference approved lists, taking the following into consideration:
  - National championship series experience;
  - NCAA Division III regional experience;
  - Division II and III postseason experience;
  - Division I conference and non-conference experience;
  - Strength of schedule;
  - Number of games officiated within the conference that has recommended them;
  - NJCAA or NAIA national championship experience;
  - Off field conduct (professionalism); and
  - Must receive a passing grade of 80 percent on the annual NCAA online rule test.

#### **2. Criteria for Assignment to National Championship.**

- Must be recommended by at least one Division III conference; and
- The NCAA baseball umpire improvement program will select eight umpires from the conference approved lists, taking the following into consideration:
  - National Championship experience;
  - NCAA Division III regional experience;
  - Division II and III postseason experience;
  - Division I conference and non conference experience;
  - Strength of schedule;
  - NJCAA or NAIA national championship experience;
  - Past evaluations;
  - Off-field behavior (professionalism);
  - Attendance at a NCAA umpire clinic every two years; and
  - Must receive a passing grade of 80 percent on the annual NCAA online rules test.

#### **3. Post Season Recommendation Procedures.**

A Division III coordinator/assignor may recommend as many umpires as they deem qualified for consideration, but they must recommend at least eight individuals.

#### **4. Assignment Procedures**

Once the lists have been received the national coordinator will compile and review the lists to ensure that all recommended umpires meet the requirements listed in this manual. The

national coordinator will evaluate all recommended umpires based on the criteria listed above and make a formal recommendation to the baseball committee.

Aside from the criteria listed above, the following are taken into consideration when making recommendations and final assignments:

- a. Where each umpire is ranked on the conference list;
- b. If the umpire is ranked on other conference lists and their ranking on those lists;
- c. If the umpire was selected to work the conference tournament this year; and
- d. In season evaluations by the national coordinator and regional advisors.

Umpires will also receive a letter of notification relative to your assignment.

## **SECTION 4: ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR UMPIRES**

1. In order to be considered for NCAA Division III umpire championship selection and assignment, the following eligibility requirements must be satisfied by the deadline dates:
  - a. **Attendance at NCAA regional umpire clinic** - See Appendix A for clinic sites and information.
  - b. **Receive a passing grade of 80 percent or better on the annual NCAA baseball test** – Online rules test must be completed on [www.eofficials.com](http://www.eofficials.com) by Friday, February 13, 2009.

## **SECTION 5: DIVISION III CHAMPIONSHIP TRAVEL**

### **5.1 – TRANSPORTATION.**

All umpires within 500 miles of their assigned site are required to drive and will be reimbursed at 51 cents per mile. If you live more than 500 miles from the site and choose to drive instead of fly, you will be reimbursed for the cost of the flight you would have taken. Contact Short's Travel Management (866/821-8547) for all flight arrangements and to calculate your approximate mileage reimbursement.

#### **1. Regional Umpires.**

You must be in the host city the night of May 12. Crew chiefs and assistant crew chiefs **must** arrive in time for the pretournament meeting with the NCAA game representative. Please note that due to weather conditions, it may be necessary to extend the competition. The umpires will receive a flat fee of \$780 and a \$45 per diem per day.

#### **2. National Championship Umpires.**

Contact Short's Travel as soon as you receive your assignment,. Identify yourself as a baseball championship umpire and book your coach-class tickets. You must be in Appleton, Wisconsin by 4 p.m. Thursday, May 21. Schedule your departure for Wednesday, May 27. You will receive a flat fee of \$1,300 and a \$45 per diem per day.

#### **3. Dress Code**

Umpires **must** be dressed in the following manner while traveling to and from the host city and **all** tournament functions:

##### Acceptable

Coat and tie

Sport jacket with dress casual shirt

Golf shirt

##### Not Acceptable

Denim jeans of any type

Shorts of any type

T-shirts of any type

Warm-up suits

Any university/conference/pro logo item

### **5.2 – TRANSPORTATION AT CHAMPIONSHIP SITE**

#### **1. National Championship Umpires**

One courtesy car is will be available to use at the championship site.

### **5.3 - HOTEL**

#### **1. Regional Umpires.**

The host institution will make a hotel reservation for each crew member. The rooms will be set up as a direct-bill for the room and taxes. Any and all personal charges are the responsibility of the umpire. Be sure to settle all charges before you leave the site. If you have guests attending the tournament, they may stay with you or you may make other

arrangements. Do not ask the host institution, tournament officials, or the hotel for any extra rooms at no charge or to upgrade your room.

2. **National Championship Umpires.**

Umpires will have individual rooms at the following hotel:

Holiday Inn Select Appleton

150 South Nicolet Road

Appleton, Wisconsin 54914

Phone: 920-/35-9955

Fax: 920-735-0309

[http://www.ihotelsgroup.com/h/d/sl/1/en/hotel/aplwi?&cm\\_mmc=mdpr-\\_-yellowpages-\\_-sl-\\_-aplwi](http://www.ihotelsgroup.com/h/d/sl/1/en/hotel/aplwi?&cm_mmc=mdpr-_-yellowpages-_-sl-_-aplwi)

Rooms will be set up as a direct bill for the room and tax.

## **SECTION 6: DIVISION III PRE-TOURNAMENT INFORMATION**

### **6.1 - PRE TOURNAMENT MEETING.**

#### **1. Regional Umpires.**

The NCAA game representative and host institution will arrange a meeting Tuesday evening, May 12, between the coaches and administrators of each institution, the umpiring crew, and other game management personnel. The crew chief and assistant crew chief are required to attend. A ground rule review meeting will also be scheduled.

#### **2. National Championship Umpires.**

The national coordinator will meet with NCAA staff, baseball committee, and team representatives at a pre-tournament meeting Wednesday, May 21 at 8 p.m. Central.

### **6.2 - UMPIRE CREW MEETING.**

#### **1. Regionals.**

Before the tournament, the crew chief and assistant crew chief will conduct a meeting with the entire crew. It is preferred that the meeting be held the morning of the first game. The crew chief will conduct a thorough review of the four-man mechanics that are to be used during the tournament, including a review of the four-man mechanics videotape, and announce the rotation for the tournament. He will discuss off-field behavior, set a time to review ground rules with the NCAA game representative, and answer any questions from the crew.

#### **2. National Championship.**

The entire crew will meet THURSDAY, MAY 21 at 8:00 P.M. at the Holiday Inn Select Board Room. Game assignment for the first two days will be announced at this meeting.

### **6.3 – TICKETS.**

#### **1. Regional Tournaments.**

Tickets for tournaments must be arranged for and purchased from the host institution. No umpire should ask for or receive tickets for guests at no charge. It is recommended that host institutions provide seats for non working umpires.

#### **2. Baseball Championship.**

Championship tickets can be purchased at Fox Cities Stadium. **Guests must have a ticket for each game. Umpires will receive a credential for entry into the stadium.**

### **6.4 - PAYMENT OF FEES AND EXPENSES**

#### **1. Regional Umpires.**

The host institution is responsible for the payment of your game fees and expenses. Each umpire will receive a flat fee of \$780 plus 51 cents per mile for transportation to the site (if

driving). Each umpire also will receive \$45 per day for meals and incidentals beginning with day of arrival and ending with day of departure. All expense forms must be completed and sent by the crew chief or NCAA game representative. The NCAA and host institutions do not reimburse umpires for airport parking, laundry, or any other expenses. These are your responsibility.

2. **Championship Umpires.**

Each umpire will receive a flat fee of \$1,300 plus 51 cents per mile for transportation to the site (if driving) Each umpire also will receive \$45 per day for meals and incidentals beginning with day of arrival and ending with day of departure. The national coordinator will submit expense forms to the NCAA championship manger and to the host institution for processing.

**6.5 - PRE TOURNAMENT BANQUET.**

Per NCAA policy, game officials may not attend the pre tournament banquet or social event involving participating coaches or teams before the competition.

## **SECTION 7: AROUND THE STADIUM**

### **7.1 - TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM THE STADIUM.**

#### **1. Regionals.**

All umpires must coordinate with the crew chief and assistant crew chief as to their transportation plans to and from the stadium. Please notify the crew chief if you plan to arrange for your own transportation. All umpires scheduled to work, including the alternate, must be at the stadium at least one hour and fifteen minutes before the scheduled start time.

#### **2. National Championship.**

Parking for courtesy cars will be directly behind the first base side of the stadium. If you plan to use your own car, please notify the national coordinator so that an additional parking pass may be requested. Please note that parking passes will be received upon arrival at the stadium.

### **7.2 - LOCKER ROOMS.**

The host institution will provide the umpires with a secure locker room to be used for the duration of the tournament. This locker room is for the exclusive use of the umpires. No visitors will be allowed at any time. **AT NO TIME SHALL A COACH OR ANY OTHER MEMBER OF A PARTICIPATING INSTITUTION BE ALLOWED IN THE UMPIRE LOCKER ROOM.** The crew chief and assistant crew chief must make sure this is enforced. NCAA personnel, the NCAA game representative, and clubhouse attendants are the only other individuals permitted in the locker room. The crew chief will coordinate the handling of the locker room to ensure security. It is recommended that valuables not be left in the locker at any time. Remember you are guests of the host institution and always be respectful of their facilities. **There will be no tobacco products or alcohol allowed in any locker room.**

### **7.3 - GAME BALLS.**

#### **1. Regionals.**

Game balls will be delivered to the crew chief before the tournament. In most cases, the umpires will be responsible for rubbing up balls before each game. It is the policy of the NCAA to allow each umpire one new game ball as a souvenir. Any umpire discovered taking more than one ball would be subject to discipline by the NCAA. If it appears additional game balls might be necessary, please notify the NCAA game representative promptly.

#### **2. National Championship.**

Game balls will be handled by the NCAA and will be located directly behind home plate. It is the policy of the NCAA to allow each umpire two new game balls as souvenirs of the tournament. The crew chief will be responsible for distributing these balls. Any umpire discovered taking more than two balls will be subject to discipline by the NCAA.

## **7.4 - PRESS BOX.**

### **1. Regional and Tournaments.**

The press box is off limits to all members of the umpiring crew at all times.

### **2. National Championship.**

The press box and press meal area is off limits to all members of the umpiring crew at all times.

## **7.5 - DRESS CODE**

### **1. Regionals.**

It is acceptable for umpires to dress casually when traveling to and from the stadium and during their off games. It is acceptable to wear dress shorts (no cutoffs), however no denim jeans, t-shirts, or warm-up suits are allowed. You are not allowed to wear any university, conference, or pro logo item. Remember you are representing the NCAA from the time you leave your home until the time you return.

### **2. National Championship.**

All umpires will dress appropriately for travel to and from the stadium each day. Long pants and a dress, casual, or golf shirt are required.

## **7.6 - MEDIA/PRESS STATEMENTS.**

### **1. Regional Tournaments.**

In the event of an odd or confusing play or situation, a pool reporter, selected by the tournament media coordinator, will be escorted to the umpire's locker room by the NCAA game representative to receive a rule interpretation. All interpretations will be made by the crew chief, or assistant crew chief if the crew chief was involved in the play.

### **2. National Championship.**

The national coordinator, the baseball committee and Mr. Hairston will handle all press inquires.

## **7.7 – GIFTS.**

Host institutions may not give any member of the umpire crew any gift or memento that is not also given to all participating coaches. No umpire should request gifts or souvenirs from anyone involved in the tournament.

## **7.8 – SECURITY.**

The host institution must provide adequate security as umpires enter and exit the playing field and at the umpire locker room. Crew chiefs should discuss this with the NCAA game

representative before the tournament begins. It is recommended that at least one security officer accompany game officials to and from the playing field and their locker room.

## **SECTION 8: ON THE FIELD**

### **8.1 ASSIGNMENTS/ROTATIONS.**

#### **1. Regional Tournaments.**

All assignments are made by the crew chief in consultation with the national coordinator. Assignments will be announced at the pretournament umpires meeting. Either the crew chief or assistant crew chief must be on the field for every game. Umpires are not guaranteed a specific number of games (plate or bases) during the tournament. An alternate umpire must be in the stadium at all times. Generally the umpire who just worked home plate should be the alternate; however this may change if an umpire wants to stay at the stadium for some reason. Umpires are required to be in the locker room at least one hour and fifteen minutes before each game that they are assigned to work.

The rotation for all regional tournaments will be as follows:

HP / Off (Alt) / Third Base / Second Base / First Base / Off

In the event of injury, illness, or any other reason an umpire is not available to work as scheduled, the crew chief will coordinate an adjusted rotation with the national coordinator. The goal is to not require an umpire to work more than two games in a day.

#### **2. National Championship.**

The national coordinator, in consultation with the chair of the baseball committee, makes all assignments. Assignments for the first two days of the tournament will be made at the pretournament umpires meeting. After the first two days, assignments will be made daily and will be posted in the locker room. Due to numerous factors, the rotation will most likely not remain the same for the remainder of the tournament. Umpires are not guaranteed a specific number of games (plate or bases) during the tournament.

An alternate umpire must be in the stadium at all times. Generally, the umpire who just worked second base should be the alternate; however this may change if an umpire wants to stay at the stadium for some reason.

#### **3. Injury or Illness at Regional Tournaments.**

The alternate will take the position on the field of any base umpire who becomes ill or injured during a game. If the plate umpire becomes ill or injured, the alternate will work second base and the second base umpire will take over behind home plate. No umpire, unless ill or injured, shall leave the tournament before the conclusion of the championship game. The crew chief should contact the national coordinator if any member of the crew is unable to work the remainder of the tournament. The national coordinator will decide if a replacement is necessary and will select such person.

## **8.2 - TOBACCO PRODUCTS.**

The use of all tobacco products by umpires at the site of competition (i.e. umpire locker room, playing field, other areas of the stadium, etc.) as well as during other championship activities such as press conferences, post game interviews, shall be prohibited. The games committee, in accordance with the misconduct provisions, shall deal with violations of this regulation.

## **8.3 UNIFORMS/EQUIPMENT.**

### **1. Regional Tournaments.**

NCAA umpires should take pride in their appearance. Uniforms and hats shall be kept clean, pressed, and in first class condition. Uniforms will be worn only in the dressing room and on the field. Umpires may not sit in the stands or enter public areas of the stadium while in uniform.

Each umpire is responsible for his own equipment and uniform. The NCAA will provide a sized hat to each regional umpire. Please be sure to fax Honig's immediately to provide them with your hat size. The hats for the entire crew will be sent to the host institution and delivered to you on arrival.

See Appendix C for Honig's Information and order forms.

The standard uniform options are as follows:

- a. Short or long sleeve black pullover shirt with white tipping on collar and sleeve cuff (reference Honig's style NHMLS-B, NMLLS). Black or white T-shirt may be worn underneath the black shirt. All members of the crew must wear the same color on the bases.
- b. Short sleeve polo blue pullover style shirt with black and white tipping on the collar and sleeve cuff (reference Honig's style NHMLS-PB). Black or polo blue T-shirt or mock turtleneck may be worn underneath the polo blue shirt. Shiny or dazzle cloth versions are not acceptable.
- c. All shirts must have the "NCAA" letters embroidered on the left breast pocket.
- d. Black nylon pullover jacket with white shoulder trim and "NCAA" lettering on the left chest (reference Honig's NCAA17-B). Black, polo blue, or white T-Shirt, mock turtleneck worn underneath.
- e. Black blazer
- f. Gray pants (reference Honig's PBS1, PBS2 for consistent color).
- g. Black ball bags.
- h. Black socks.
- i. Black shoes (white stripes are permitted).
- j. Black belt.
- k. Black gloves.
- l. Black hat with "NCAA" lettering. Each regional umpire will receive one sized hat.

No other variations are allowed and no conference or association patches are allowed. No uniform numbers will be worn in regional or super regional tournaments. All base umpires

will dress in the same uniform top; the plate umpire may dress in the uniform of his choice. However, if all umpires are wearing shirts they must all be the same color. **It is not acceptable to wear a short sleeve shirt on the plate with a long sleeve shirt underneath.** No visible jewelry (excluding wedding bands and medical alert bracelets) or watches of any kind are to be worn on the field during any NCAA tournament game.

It is acceptable for umpires to wear athletic style sunglasses on the field if the conditions warrant. It is recommended that umpires carry the glasses onto the field and during the pre game conference and put them on once they reach their respective positions.

## **2. National Championship.**

The NCAA will provide sized NCAA hats, shirts, undershirts, and trousers. Umpires must return Honig's order form immediately for shipment.

## **8.4 – TEAMWORK.**

Games are to be officiated by a crew of umpires, not four or six individuals. Umpires should officiate and communicate as a team and should assist and support one another on the field at all times. Umpires should avoid any conduct (including communication both verbal and non verbal) that would suggest to coaches, student-athletes, or fans the existence of dissention or friction within the crew.

## **8.5 - STYLE OF FORM OF CALLS.**

The NCAA strongly encourages individualism in style and form of basic umpire mechanics and recognizes that the individual styles of veteran umpires have evolved over a number of years. However, the following certain fundamentals should be evident in signals and calls:

1. NCAA umpires shall make a signal on all calls with the exception of "ball" and an obvious catch of a fly ball. Signals are to be visible, crisp, and clear. Voice calls should be clearly audible.
2. All signals should project decisiveness to the teams, fans, and media. Signals should not be slow to the point of appearing uncertain or causing confusion for the fans or media.
3. NCAA umpires are expected to increase the assertiveness of their call (signal and voice) as the play becomes closer. A causal, laid back signal is not appropriate in a crucial, close play. However, over elaborate, excessive signals are not an acceptable technique either.

## **8.6 – ATTITUDE.**

The NCAA expects energetic and earnest work from every umpire working a post season assignment. Umpires must be 100 percent focused every pitch of every game without regard to the score, inning, record of teams involved, or any other external factor. Umpires must present themselves with a high level of intensity and concentration throughout every game. They are expected to display an alert, eager, confident, enthusiastic demeanor on the field. Unacceptable demeanor includes appearing bored, lethargic, casual, arrogant, cocky, antagonistic, timid, lackadaisical, and other non professional appearances.

## **8.7 – CHARACTER.**

NCAA umpires are expected to exhibit and uphold the standards of integrity of the umpiring profession. The image of an NCAA umpire demands honesty and a sense of high ethical standards. NCAA umpires should make every decision based on the circumstances and facts presented, regardless of an umpire's past history with a particular student-athlete or team. No umpire should ever threaten a student-athlete, coach, or team with future retaliation. NCAA umpires should accept constructive criticism from conference or national umpire supervisors.

## **8.8 – FRATERNAZATION.**

NCAA umpires should avoid excessive casual, unnecessary conversations with student-athletes, coaches, team personnel, or fans during the progress of a game. Umpires may not visit team or university offices unless official business requires otherwise. To avoid appearances of impropriety, umpires should be cautious regarding any casual fraternization with university employees.

## **8.9 - HUSTLE AND ENTHUSIASM.**

The NCAA expects a consistently high level of hustle and enthusiasm from every umpire. These qualities should be evident in all movements and mannerisms on the field. Umpires are expected to hustle to and from positions while not exhibiting "false" or "over hustle". They must demonstrate a keen interest from start to finish and must not appear disinterested at any time. They must also remain focused and intense regardless of their position on the field or the status of the game. Every pitch and every play must be treated with the same respect. Umpires must assume a ready position (hands on knees or walking into the pitch) before every pitch. Hands on hips or arms folded across the chest are not acceptable ready positions.

## **8.10 GETTING THE CALL RIGHT.**

The first requisite of an umpire is to ultimately get all decisions correct. Umpire pride is important, but never as important as getting the play right. It is the philosophy of the NCAA that umpires always seek to get the call right. This may involve the reversal of a previously rendered decision. However, the correct decision, not the pride of any umpire, must prevail.

Following are general guidelines for this policy:

1. NCAA rule 3-6-g states "No umpire shall criticize or interfere with another umpire's decision, unless asked by the one making it; however, if there is a misinterpretation of a rule, it should be brought to the attention of the umpire-in-chief". Therefore, except in special situations such as those outlined in the next paragraphs, the umpire making the call must be the one to seek assistance of a partner.
2. An umpire is urged to seek help when his view is blocked or positioning prevents him from seeing crucial elements of a play. An umpire is also encouraged to seek help in instances

when he has any doubt and a partner has additional information that could lead to the proper ruling.

3. In the situations listed below, a partner, who is 100 percent certain he has additional information unknown to the umpire making the call, should approach unsolicited and alert the other umpire to such information. **However, the ultimate decision to change a call rests with the calling umpire.**
  - a. Deciding if a home run is fair or foul;
  - b. Deciding whether a batted ball left the playing field for a home run or ground rule double;
  - c. Cases where a foul tip is dropped or trapped by the catcher;
  - d. Cases where a foul fly ball is caught or not caught;
  - e. Cases when an umpire clearly errs in judgment because they did not see a ball dropped or juggled after making a tag or force;
  - f. Spectator interference plays; and
  - g. Balks called by an umpire who clearly did not realize the pitcher's foot was off the rubber.

Umpires are not to seek help on plays on which they are 100 percent confident in their judgment and view of the play. **Head coaches are not entitled to a second opinion when the calling umpire is certain his decision is correct.** On the other hand, umpires are not to "die" with a call in cases where the following occurs:

- a. The calling umpire is not 100 percent certain he is right; and
  - b. Another umpire has additional information which could lead to a proper ruling. Both NCAA philosophy and umpire integrity, consistent with NCAA rules, dictate that calls be reversed in this situation.
4. When an umpire seeks help, he should do so shortly after making the original call. He should not have a lengthy discussion with the head coach or others and then ask for help. If the calling umpire seeks help, he should include other umpire(s) who would likely have the best position to see the elements of the play. This conversation must take place away from student-athletes or coaches. If a crew chief deems it necessary, he can, at his discretion, bring together the entire crew. All umpires involved should meet at once; multiple meetings unnecessarily delay the game. Crew chiefs can conduct conferences and are expected to ensure that NCAA philosophies are given priority over any single umpire's pride. After a request for an umpire conference has been granted, coaches are not allowed to continue to argue a call once the final decision has been made. If a call is reversed, coaches are entitled to an explanation.
5. Judgment calls, which have traditionally not been subject to reversal, include steal and other tag plays (except if the ball is dropped without the umpire's knowledge as discussed above), force plays (when the ball is not dropped and foot is not pulled), balls and strikes (other than check swings). This practice will continue. Also some calls cannot be reversed

without creating larger problems. An example is the “catch/no catch” with multiple runners or a ball that is ruled foul.

Overall, umpires are urged to seek help on reversible plays in which they may have erred by not seeing a crucial element of a play. Such meetings, while necessary, should be infrequent and not become a substitute for umpires seeking proper angles, exercising sound judgment, and having the conviction to stay with a call that an umpire believes was properly made.

### **8.11 - HANDLING SITUATIONS.**

NCAA umpires must walk a fine line between keeping the game under control and not exacerbating situations with overly aggressive or arrogant actions. Although every situation is unique, the NCAA strives for uniformity in dealing with situations on the field with the following general guidelines:

1. Umpires should remain calm, professional, tactful, firm, in control, fair, and impartial. They cannot be perceived as overly aggressive, confrontational, hot-headed, short-tempered, timid, intimidated, or nervous. Umpires must never display impatience or a condescending attitude.
2. Umpires are expected to understand their role as a steady, calming influence on the game. Umpires must be able to sort out complex and important situations and cannot be hesitant to make unpopular decisions.
3. Umpires should never ignore occurrences on the field that require their attention to maintain order and control. But when difficult situations arise, it is essential that umpires stay above the emotional fray and never lower themselves to the excitable level of a particular student-athlete or coach. Umpires must be clear and decisive, while not overly aggressive or overbearing. They are expected to become more assertive if the situation calls for such, but must control their temper at all times. All in all, umpires must calm volatile situations while keeping control and managing them.
4. Umpires are required to listen to head coaches if discussions are reasonable and non emotional. Umpires are to be firm and authoritative in conversations with head coaches, but never should initiate an argument. Umpires must not create unnecessary friction by ignoring reasonable inquires. At the same time, NCAA umpires must command respect and never tolerate personal abuse.
5. Umpires should avoid sarcastic remarks or profanity and not insist on the last word. The NCAA will not tolerate umpires’ language, which if used by a student-athlete or coach toward an umpire, would result in discipline.
6. Umpires must not charge a student-athlete or coach or follow him if the argument is over and he is walking away. Umpires cannot look for trouble or invite arguments. If a situation can defuse itself, umpires must allow it to happen. Umpires must not be perceived as having escalated a situation.

7. Umpires must not initiate contact with a student-athlete or coach. Initiating contact, including “bumping” and physical finger pointing will subject umpires to discipline.
8. Umpires must never be resentful or hold grudges. Decisions must be made individually regardless of past history with a particular student-athlete, coach, or institution. Umpires should never attempt to “even-up” with a student-athlete or coach with whom he has had previous problems.

## **8.12 - EJECTIONS/SUSPENSIONS.**

### **1. Ejections.**

Umpires are entrusted with the power to remove any participant from a game. This responsibility should never be taken lightly. The NCAA recognizes that every situation is unique and that umpire discretion is essential to proper game management. Notwithstanding unique or extraordinary circumstances, student-athletes and coaches look to umpires for uniformity in applying standards to determine grounds for ejection. The following guidelines should be followed and considered cause for ejection of the offender:

- a. Any threat of physical intimidation or harm to include pushing, shoving, bumping, kicking, spitting, spewing, throwing at, or attempting to make physical contact.
- b. Use of profanity specifically directed at an umpire or vulgar personal insults, including accusations of bias or cheating.
- c. Refusal to stop arguing, and further delaying the game after the umpire has provided a student-athlete or coach adequate opportunity to make his point. The umpire should warn the student-athlete or coach that he has been heard and should return to his position or the dugout or he will be ejected.
- d. Arguing balls and strikes (including check swings) after being warned.
- e. Use of gestures (i.e. jumping up and down, sliding on the ground, violently waving arms) while arguing with an umpire, or stepping out of the dugout and making such gestures toward an umpire.
- f. Throwing uniform items, equipment, or other items while arguing or from the dugout.
- g. Assistant coaches engaging in a prolonged argument with an umpire over a rule or judgment call. Only head coaches may enter the field of play to discuss a rule or play with an umpire.
- h. There are other specific actions listed in the NCAA Rule Book that result in an immediate ejection. These violations include a pitcher intentionally throwing at a batter, a runner flagrantly colliding with a fielder, bench jockeying, etc. These rules are to be enforced strictly as written.

If an ejection does occur, the umpire must complete the NCAA Ejection Report and send the report by e mail to the national coordinator within 8 hours after the completion of the game. A call should also be made following the game to the national coordinator.

### **2. Suspensions.**

If the student-athlete or coach commits an act that by rule is cause for suspension, the umpire must notify the head coach or game management administrator and the NCAA

game representative immediately. The umpire must complete the NCAA Suspension Report and send the report by e mail to the national coordinator within 8 hours after the completion of the game. A call should also be made following the game to the national coordinator.

See Appendix D for the Ejection and Suspension Report Forms.

### **8.13 - RAIN/LIGHTNING SITUATIONS.**

#### **1. Regionals.**

The umpire-in-chief will work with the crew chief, assistant crew chief, the NCAA game representative, tournament manager and the ground crew in determining when to use the tarp and when the game will be halted and/or resumed. If field conditions become dangerous to student-athletes, the umpire in chief and crew chief should halt the game and consult with the NCAA game representative.

#### **2. National Championship.**

All decisions to cover the field will be made by the NCAA staff in consultation with stadium personnel and broadcast partners. If field conditions become dangerous to the student-athletes, the umpire in chief and crew chief should halt the game and consult with NCAA staff and stadium personnel.

### **8.14 – PROTESTS.**

Any protest by the coach of a completing team must be made at the time of the action or incident that caused the protest and before play is resumed. If the game ends (legal contest) in a protestable situation, the offended team has until all fielders have left fair territory to voice its protest intentions. All protests must be made to the crew chief. However, if he is not working the game, the assistant crew chief or the home plate umpire shall receive the protest. No protest shall be allowed that involves a judgment decision by an umpire. All protests must be ruled on immediately by the protest committee. The committee shall confer with the umpires before making its decision, and the NCAA game representative will make a written report to the baseball committee chair.

### **8.15 – EVALUATIONS.**

NCAA game representatives, regional advisors, crew chiefs and assistant crew chiefs, as well as anyone designated by the national coordinator, will complete an evaluation form for each member of the crew (excluding himself).

See Appendix E for the evaluation criteria and scale.

These evaluations must be sent to the national coordinator by June 15. Head coaches of participating institutions are given the opportunity to evaluate umpires as well. Immediately upon completion of the tournament these evaluation must be sent to the national coordinator. It is recommended that the crew chief meet with each member of the crew to discuss his overall

evaluations and any problem areas. It is not the policy of the NCAA to forward copies of evaluations to umpires; however, any umpire may contact the national coordinator to discuss his evaluations. The national coordinator will compile all the evaluations submitted during the championship and submit a recap to the officiating subcommittee.

At the championship, the national coordinator with input from the baseball committee members will complete an evaluation form for each umpire at the championship.

## **SECTION 9: OFF THE FIELD**

### **9.1 CREW CHIEF.**

Once notified of his site and crew, the crew chief should first contact his assistant and start the process of notifying the other members of the crew. He should then contact the tournament manager and NCAA game representative to confirm the pre tournament meeting time and site. If all members of the crew have not been contacted and response received by Monday night, May 12 for regionals, the crew chief should contact the national coordinator. The NCAA office staff will provide the host institution regional site information for each regional.

The crew chief should confirm the hotel arrangements and then notify the national coordinator with the following numbers:

1. Crew chief cell phone.
2. Assistant crew chief cell phone.
3. Locker room.
4. Press box.
5. Hotel (phone and fax).

Aside from the leadership responsibilities on the field, crew chiefs are responsible for conduct of the umpires off the field as well. The crew chief must file a written report of any incident of misconduct, unprofessional behavior, or violation of these guidelines with the national coordinator immediately after the tournament. Crew chiefs will be held responsible, and possibly disciplined for any incident not reported or for any umpire violations of these policies and procedures.

### **9.2 – GUESTS.**

Some umpires like to bring wives or other guests to tournaments. This is acceptable as long as the umpire does not abuse the situation or inconvenience his partners, NCAA game representatives, or anyone at the host institution. Umpires should not ask for free tickets, hotel rooms, or for any other special requests. Having these guests in attendance is the umpire's responsibility. While it is acceptable to have guests, please remember that your duties and responsibilities as a tournament umpire come first.

### **9.3 – ALCOHOL.**

No alcoholic beverages of any type are permitted in the umpire locker room during a tournament. After an umpire has completed his assignments for a day (including serving as an alternate), he is allowed to drink alcoholic beverages. However, the following guidelines should be adhered to:

1. Do not drink at the stadium.
2. Do not drink in any public places at the hotel.

3. Find a reputable establishment that is not frequented by the media, coaches, or student-athletes.
4. If you are in an establishment when members of the media, coaches, or student-athletes arrive, you should finish your drinks and leave.
5. Do not, under any circumstances, drive an automobile after having consumed alcohol.
6. Do not bring undue attention to yourselves by announcing to people who you are and why you are in town.

We are all adults and should know these things but past experience mandates such policies. Umpires are very visible and therefore recognizable to the media, coaches, student-athletes, and fans. The Umpire Improvement program wants every umpire to have fun and enjoy the experience of working championship tournaments; however, we must be aware of the perception that can be created by inappropriate behavior off the field. If you are not able to adhere to these policies for an entire tournament, we will be forced to replace you.

#### **9.4 – GAMBLING.**

The NCAA opposes all forms of legal and illegal sports wagering. Sports wagering has the potential to undermine the integrity of sports contests and jeopardizes the welfare of student-athletes and the intercollegiate athletics community. Sports wagering demeans the competition and competitors alike by sending a message that is contrary to the purposes and meaning of “sport”. Sports competition should be appreciated for the inherent benefits related to participation of student-athletes, coaches, and institutions in fair contests, not the amount wagered on the outcome of the competition.

For these reasons, the NCAA membership has adopted specific rules prohibiting athletics staff members and student-athletes from engaging in gambling activities as they relate to intercollegiate or professional sporting events.

Please note the following basic guidelines that college baseball umpires should adhere to:

1. Do not ever bet on a game – with anyone. All kinds of tactics will be used by gamblers to encourage your involvement.
2. Do not associate with known or suspected bettors.
3. Do not offer any opinions about any game to anyone – before or after the game.
4. Do not put yourself in a compromising situation through any personal misconduct.
5. Do not accept favors or gifts from suspected or known bettors.

6. Do not furnish any information about a game, student-athletes, coaches, or officials to anyone except when following your conference's procedures.
7. Do not hesitate to discuss any suspicious person(s) with your crew chief, who will notify the national coordinator. If necessary, a confidential investigation can be conducted. Always inform your crew chief any time an individual suggests (even apparently in fun) that you accept money to affect the outcome of a game.

Gambling not only is a big business – it is dangerous. Your cooperation in the fight to combat it not only will protect intercollegiate competition from its harmful influences, but will place one of your more important aspects- your personal integrity- above reproach.

The NCAA is very concerned about the perception of its officials and gambling. Any local area casino, racetrack, or other establishment where any form of wagering occurs is strictly off limits at all times. No exceptions or allowances will be given in this area and offenders will immediately removed from the crew.

### **9.5 – OTHER.**

Be very careful of what you say to anyone about your work as an umpire. Whether you are talking directly to a person or not, be aware that what you say can be overheard and misinterpreted. You should not socialize in any way with anyone from the host institution or from any of the participating institutions. Whenever possible, umpires should enter and exit the stadium together. If confronted by a coach, student-athlete, or fan, do not enter into a discussion; simply excuse yourself and leave.

You should also be extremely careful of any remarks made while traveling, in and around the stadium, and in any social situation that may be interpreted as harassing or sexually offending. Again, you are representing the NCAA at all times and your actions must be above reproach.



## APPENDIX A



### 2009 NCAA Umpire Clinics

**January 3-4, 2009**

**San Diego, California**

**Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina**

1380 Harbor Island Drive  
San Diego, California 92101  
619/291-2900

NCAA room rate - \$119  
Cut-off date – December 3, 2008

Division I conferences expected to attend: Big West Conference, Mountain West Conference, Pacific 10 Conference, Western Athletic Conference, and West Coast Conference.

**January 10-11, 2009**

**Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

**Hilton Philadelphia Airport**

4509 Island Avenue  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19153  
215/365-4150

NCAA room rate - \$109  
Cut-off date – December 10, 2008

Division I conferences expected to attend: America East Conference, Atlantic 10 Conference, Big East Conference, Colonial Conference, Eastern College Athletic Conference, Ivy League, Metro Atlantic Conference, Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference, Northeast Conference, Patriot League.

**January 17-18, 2009**

**Atlanta, Georgia**

**Atlanta Marriott Marquis**

265 Peachtree Center Avenue  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303  
404/521-0000

NCAA room rate - \$139  
Cut-off date – December 19, 2008

Division I conferences expected to attend: Atlantic Coast Conference, Atlantic Sun Conference, Big South Conference, Colonial Athletic Association, Conference USA, Mid-Eastern Athletic

Conference, Ohio Valley Conference, Southeastern Conference, Southwestern Conference, Southern Conference, and Sunbelt Conference.

**January 24-25, 2009**

**Chicago, Illinois**

**Hyatt Regency O'Hare**  
9300 West Bryn Mawr Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60018  
847/696-1234

NCAA room rate - \$119  
Cut-off date – December 23, 2008

Division I conferences expected to attend: Atlantic 10 Conference, Big East Conference, Big 10 Conference, Big 12 Conference, Conference USA, East Coast Athletic Conference, Horizon League, Mid-American Conference, Mid-Continent Conference, Missouri Valley Conference, The Summit League.

In order to receive the room rates listed, each clinic attendee should inform hotel personnel that he or she will be attending the NCAA umpiring clinic. All arrangements for sleeping rooms should be made through the reservation desk at the appropriate hotel before the designated reservation cut-off date. All room blocks are limited and on a first come, first serve basis.

\* The hotel sales contact should be contacted directly only if coordinators or conference representatives wish to schedule meeting(s) prior to or after the NCAA clinic. Please do not contact these individuals when making sleeping room reservations only.

\*\* It is permissible for an individual to attend a clinic other than the one to which his or her conference or institution is assigned.

# APPENDIX D



## Umpire Ejection/Incident Report

**Procedure to follow after an ejection:**

1. The ejecting umpire shall call his conference coordinator immediately after the game to report any ejection or incident.
2. The ejecting umpire shall file an NCAA or conference approved ejection report with his conference coordinator as soon as possible after the completion of the contest.
3. If a suspension was also issued, a separate NCAA approved suspension report must also be filed. Further instructions for filing the suspension are included on that form.
4. If ejection occurs during NCAA Div-1 Post-Season play, a copy of the report and an immediate phone call needs to be placed to the National Coordinator. If he is not available, please then contact the Director of Umpires.

National Coordinator  
 Gene McArtor  
 573-999-9162 Cell  
 McArtorE@missouri.edu

Director of Umpires  
 Tom Hiler  
 208-598-5558 Cell  
 TomasHiler@yahoo.com

**Date and Time Report is written:**

**Name of Conference Coordinator:**

**Reporting Umpire (Name/Telephone # and Email Address):**

**Home Plate Umpire:**

**Location at time of incident:**

**First Base Umpire:**

**Location at time of incident:**

**Second Base Umpire:**

**Location at time of incident:**

**Third Base Umpire:**

**Location at time of incident:**

**Date of Game:**

**Location & Conference of Game:**

**Home Team :**

**Visiting Team:**

**Name of Player(s)/Coach(s)/Personnel involved (FULL NAME & UNIFORM #):**

**Situation that led up to the incident (BE DETAILED):**

**Describe any consequences as a result of the incident:**

**In my opinion this offense was (check all that apply):**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Offensive      | <input type="checkbox"/> Violent       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Very Offensive | <input type="checkbox"/> Too Prolonged |

The ejected person(s) was  was not  warned.

The ejection delayed the game for approximately \_\_\_\_\_ minutes.



**BASEBALL**  
Suspension Report Form

**Procedure when an ejection carries a suspension:**

1. The ejecting umpire will notify his conference supervisor immediately after the game and will file this suspension report with his supervisor and the secretary-rules editor as soon as possible after the completion of the contest.
2. The ejecting umpire/crew chief shall notify the head coach of the suspension, either personally or through the home team game management administrator on site.

**Procedure for a Post-Participation Ejection:**

1. If a situation occurs after the last out to end a game or after a player has been removed from the game and this conduct would result in an ejection during the normal course of play, the umpire/Crew chief will issue a post-participation ejection.
2. If the ejected person is an assistant coach, player or other team personnel, the umpire/crew chief is to inform the head coach personally or through the home team game management administrator on site.
3. If the head coach is ejected, the umpire/crew chief is to inform the head coach and the home team game management administrator of the head coach's postgame ejection.
4. The ejecting umpire shall file a suspension report with the conference administrator, coordinator and NCAA secretary-rules editor noting that the ejection shall be served in that team's next scheduled contest. For clarification, the suspended individual is not allowed to:
  - a) Be dressed in game uniform;
  - b) Communicate with any team personnel or umpires;
  - c) Take part in any pre-game activities at the site of competition; or
  - d) Be in the stadium or on the field once pregame activities have started.

NCAA secretary-rules editor contact information:

Jim Paronto, secretary-rules editor

749 Winters Avenue

Grand Junction, Colorado 81501

\*E-mail: paronto25@aol.com

Cell: 970/985-0233

Fax: 970/263-4529

**\*E-mail is the preferred method of communication.**

*\*During NCAA Division III Post-Season play, if an individual is suspended or receives a post-participation ejection, the National Coordinator must be notified immediately and a copy of this report forwarded directly to him. If National Coordinator is **not available**, please contact the George Drouiches, DIII Coordinator of Umpires and/or Patrick Hairston, Assistant Director of Championships.*

**DII Coordinator of Umpires**

**George Drouches**

**612/432-5351 (Cell)**

**george@autoporter.com**

**Assistant Director of Championships**

**Patrick Hairston**

**317/341-3190 (Cell)**

**phairston@ncaa.org**



# APPENDIX E

## EVALUATION CRITERIA AND SCALE

### 2009 NCAA DIVISION III BASEBALL

### Umpire Evaluation Standards

#### Grading Scale

- (5) **Outstanding**- never deviates from the listed standards
- (4) **Above Standard**- seldom deviates from the listed standards
- (3) **Meets Standard**- Adheres to an acceptable level from the listed standards
- (2) **Below Standard**- Occasionally deviates from the listed standards
- (1) **Unacceptable**- Consistently deviates from the listed standards

#### STANDARDS FOR NCAA UMPIRE EVALUATIONS

#### Plate Work

##### **Stability of Head and Body Position**

- Establishes “Locked In” position on every pitch
- Does not drift side to side or up and down with pitch
- Does not flinch on swings or foul tips
- Maintains proper spacing from catchers as not to become entangled if catcher moves quickly and unexpectedly
- Eyes remain at horizontal level with ground and does not dip as game goes on. Head at proper height to allow unobstructed view of entire plate
- Works in the “slot” not over top of catcher or to the outside
- Does not set in an unusually high or deep position that would draw attention or questioning of judgment

##### **Timing**

- Does not anticipate pitch
- Allows everything that can happen, to happen, before making DECISION, then makes a call
- Does not make a call as the ball is approaching the plate or crossing but, after the catcher has caught the ball
- Stays down in position to call balls

##### **Proper Positioning for Plays**

- Attains the appropriate angle and distance for plays
- Not too close nor too far from the play
- Works to get angle over distance when appropriate
- Adjusts position for poor throws or unusual play

**Style/Mechanics of call**

- Gives clear authoritative signals and uses correct signals
- Possesses smooth, relaxed style that projects confidence
- Coordinate voice and signals to give professional appearance. Voice is loud enough to be heard but does not draw undue attention
- Does not showboat or change the mechanics of his call during the course of a game

**Judgment, Interpretation and Consistency of Strike Zone throughout the game**

- Maintains the same zone throughout the game
- Is the same for both teams
- Has a grasp of how zone can be adjusted in lopsided game
- Interprets and calls the zone to its written limits
- Does not call “unhittable”pitch a strike nor zone is too small
- Makes concerted effort to call pitches above the belt as strikes

**Crew Mechanics and Communications**

- Follows NCAA umpire mechanics
- Has good knowledge of proper mechanics and rotations
- Rotates to first and third as needed
- Uses proper verbal and non-verbal communications
- Makes good eye contact with partners between hitters and during developing plays

**Base Work****Proper Positioning for Plays**

- Attains appropriate angle and distance for plays
- Not too close not too far from the play
- Works to get angle over distance when appropriate
- Adjusts position for poor throws or unusual play

**Style/Mechanics of call**

- Gives clear authoritative signals. Possesses smooth, relaxed styles that project confidence
- Coordinates voice and signals to give a professional appearance
- Does not showboat or change the mechanics of his call during course of game
- Uses a voice that is loud enough to be heard but does not draw undue attention

**Timing/Judgment**

- Does not anticipate the play
- Allows everything that can happen, to happen, before making DECISION
- Gets the call right

**NCAA Mechanics/Crew Communication**

- Has a good knowledge of proper mechanics and rotates in the proper situations and is alert enough to adjust if one of his partners misses coverage
- Reads partners and fly balls well on outfield coverage and goes out as needed
- Uses proper verbal and non-verbal communications
- Establishes eye contact with partners between hitters and during developing plays

**Reactions to Developing plays**

- Exhibits knowledge and perception of how play will develop through correctly anticipating where, how, and the speed at which the play will occur

**Game and Situation Management****NCAA Policies and Procedures**

- Adheres to all policies and procedures as outlined in the NCAA Game Officials Manual

**NCAA Playing Rules**

- Adheres to and applies rules, accepted practices, and interpretations detailed in NCAA Rule Book.

**Situation Management**

- Adheres to provisions of the NCAA Game Officials Manual

**Effort and Professionalism****Focus and Hustle**

- Concentrates consistently on the crucial elements throughout the game
- Is prepared for every pitch and play, developing plays and situations
- Is aware of all that is going on within a game including dugout situations and inter-team developments
- Moves with a purpose during a play to get into proper position to cover plays
- Does not over hustle to draw attention to themselves

**Appearance and Demeanor**

- Proper display of uniform and fit or athletic appearance within the uniform
- Displays a conscientious and earnest desire to carry out on-field duties
- Exhibits posture that reflects interest in the game

**Mobility**

- Possesses physical ability to move into proper position on field
- Runs athletically and is able to keep pace

**Fraternization**

- Avoids excessive, casual, and/or unnecessary conversation with uniformed personnel or spectators during the game



# BASEBALL

## UMPIRE EVALUATION REPORT

Team and Score: \_\_\_\_\_ | vs. \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_

Place: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Evaluated by: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Umpire: \_\_\_\_\_ 1st Base Umpire: \_\_\_\_\_

2nd Base Umpire: \_\_\_\_\_ 3rd Base Umpire: \_\_\_\_\_

5: Outstanding 4: Above standard 3: Meets standard 2: Below standard 1: Unacceptable **Any rating of 2 or lower should be accompanied by specific comments.	HP	1B	2B	3B
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**1) PLATE WORK**

a) Stability of head & body position				
b) Timing				
c) Proper positioning for plays				
d) Style & mechanics of calls				
e) Judgement, interpretation, consistency of strike zone				
f) Crew mechanics & communication				

**2) BASE WORK**

a) Proper positioning of calls				
b) Style & mechanics of calls				
c) Timing & judgement calls				
d) Crew mechanics and communication				
e) Reaction to development of plays				

**3) GAME & SITUATION MANAGEMENT**

a) NCAA policies, procedures and points of emphasis				
b) NCAA playing rules				
c) Situation management / Ejections / Warnings				

**4) EFFORT & PROFESSIONALISM**

a) Focus / Hustle				
b) Appearance / Demeanor				
c) Mobility				
d) Fraternalization				
<b>Regional Eval Overall Rating 5 to 1 5-Outstanding 1-Unacceptable</b>				
<b>Regional Eval Post Season Recommendation Reg.-Super Reg. CWS</b>				

Evaluator's Summary Comments

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## APPENDIX F

### NCAA BASEBALL RULES COMMITTEE 2009 RULE CHANGES

#### Major Rules Changes

**Rule 1-3-c- Add: “At the time of the pitch, the base coach must remain within the confines of the coaches’ box with both feet. It is legal for the base coach to be positioned farther away from home plate than the boundaries of the coaches’ box.”**

**PENALTY: Warning on the first offense; a further violation shall result in the coach being ejected.**

**Rule 1-12-b-PENALTY for a. and b:** “...cause an unusual reaction on the baseball shall be removed from the game. If detected **after the first pitch** the batter shall be declared...”

*\*\*Rationale: Clarifies when a batter should be called out for using an illegal bat.*

**Rule 1-14-g. It is required that base coaches wear a helmet. Play will not continue until compliance with this rule is met. It is recommended that the helmet meet NOCSAE \ standards.**

*\*\*Rationale: To enhance the safety of base coaches, who often are assisting runners and may not be directing their attention to the batter at the time of the pitch. Additionally, base coaches that are outside of the coaching area are in jeopardy of interfering with a live play.*

**Rule 3-6-d, A.R.1:** “An umpire first may warn any violator **or team** before ejecting the individual(s) from the game.

*\*\*Rationale: Clarification that a warning can be issued individually or for the entire team.*

#### **Rule 3-6-d; and Appendix D:**

**A.R. 1, Sight and sound shall mean that the ejected person(s) cannot view the contest, cannot communicate with their team nor be where the umpires may hear them. It may still be possible for the ejected person(s) to be able to hear the sounds of the game; however, they must have left the confines of the playing field and the grandstands.**

**A.R. 3, The ejected individual is not allowed to return to the dugout, field or grandstands until the umpiring crew has been escorted to their dressing area by security or game management.**

**PENALTY: A minimum of a one game suspension, in addition to the post-game or post-participation ejection, will apply to any individual in violation of this rule.**

*\*\*Rationale: Assists game management and the umpires in identifying what the Committee defines as “sound” as well as defines where an ejected individual must go and sets penalties for violations of 3-6-d.*

**Rule 3-6-e: “... decision and seek its reversal.” Coaches are not entitled to a second opinion simply because they dispute a call. [See Appendix E, (c) 1-7]**

**A.R.: After a request for an umpire conference has been granted, coaches are not allowed to continue to argue a call once the final decision has been made. If a call is reversed, coaches are entitled to an explanation.**

**PENALTY: Ejection.**

*\*\*Rationale: Clarification for Appendix E.*

**Rule 3-6-f, A.R. 2: “If a coach leaves the dugout or their position to argue a ball or strike call (including a checked swing), the coach may be ejected without warning.”**

*\*\*Rationale: Clarifies that no one should be allowed to argue a ball or strike call which includes a check swing.*

**Rule 3-6-k: “Jurisdiction on personal confrontations and conduct towards the officiating staff does not end until the umpires have left the parking lot.”**

*\*\*Rationale: Clarifies when an official’s jurisdiction ends with regard to the officiating crew.*

**Rule 5-2-f, A.R. 3: Televisions and any live broadcast (e.g., Internet streaming) shall be turned off in the dugout and clubhouse during a game.**

Revise the penalty for “f” to read: ...shall be removed from the stands **or shall receive a post participation ejection.**

*\*\*Rationale: Brings the regular-season code in line with all post-season play regulations.*

**Rule 5-16-b. Any threat of physical intimidation or harm to include pushing, shoving, bumping, kicking, spewing, spitting....**

*\*\*Rationale: that any type of spitting or spewing that is directed at an official will be cause for an additional suspension.*

**Rule 6-5-f: Each team shall be allowed three (3) offensive and (3) defensive conferences per game. If the game goes into extra innings, the team will receive one (1) extra offensive and one (1) extra defensive conference plus any unused conferences from the first nine innings.**

*\*\*Rationale: An attempt to improve pace of play.*

**Rule 7-7-e, p. 81:** “Hits the batter in the batter’s box or hits the dirt or home plate and then hits the batter or the bat, **which is in the hand or hands of the batter**, while the batter is still in the batter’s box; or . . .”

*\*\*Rationale: Clarifies that when the batter is still holding the bat, a ball should be ruled foul that rebounds from the ground and hits the batter while the batter is still in the batter’s box.*

**Rule 8-6-b (1) (b):** “... return the ball to the base **and the fielder may tag the runner or the base.**”

*\*\*Rationale: Eliminates the ambiguity between 8-6-a and 8-6-b, both rule sections now allow the defensive player the same type of defensive response when playing on a runner.*

**Rule 9-4-b, A.R. 1:** “If after ...the coach goes to the plate umpire to announce a pitching change, the second trip is charged (**when the change is recorded on the official line-up card**). If moved to a defensive position, the removed pitcher shall not return to pitch.”

*\*\*Rationale: Clarifies when the second trip is officially charged.*

**Rule 9-4-d:** A trip to the mound, that may include a conference with the infielders ... **begins when the coach crosses the foul line** and shall be concluded when the ... ”

*\*\*Rationale: Clarifies when a defensive conference begins.*

## **Appendix B:**

**Section A-1-a:** Add: **Exception: In-stadium replays of swinging third strikes are allowed, if shown immediately and before the next batter of either team enters the batter’s box.**

*\*\*Rationale: Clarifies the time frame that swinging third strikes may be shown on the video board.*

**Section A-3:** Add to the existing sentence, “Any instance in which an umpire has made a judgment call may be replayed only one time at regular speed **and must be replayed prior to the next batter (for either team)** .

*\*\*Rationale: Defines when a judgment call may be replayed and sets a definite time frame for the replay.*

**Appendix E: Add to F, Line 5:** Add: “Also some calls cannot be reversed without creating larger problems. Examples include a “catch/no catch” with multiple runners **or a ball that is ruled foul.**”

*\*\*Rationale: The addition defines that a ball that is ruled foul cannot be changed.*

**EDITORIAL CHANGES**

Number the sections in **Rule 2-Definitions** as all other rules are numbered.

*\*\*Rationale: Provides for consistency throughout entire rulebook, makes it easier to reference back to Rule 2 by number.*

**Rule 2—Ejection, A.R. 2:** If a situation occurs after the last out of a contest or after a player is no longer eligible to participate and such conduct would result in an ejection during the normal course of play, the umpire(s) shall issue a **post-participation** ejection. This ejection shall be served in the team’s next regularly scheduled contest ...”

*\*\*Rationale: Editorial*

**Rule 5-2-c, PENALTY:** Add to read, PENALTY for “**c**” and d.—

**Rule 5-2-d**—Last sentence of that paragraph, “Team personnel ...shall not enter the dirt “**area**” [delete “circle” and replace with “area” since on some fields the area around the plate is not in the shape of a circle].

**Rule 5-16 a & b, PENALTY:** “If a player, coach or team representative is ejected from a contest because of physically abusing an “**umpire**” [delete, “official” in the old wording].

## NCAA Baseball Rules Committee Point of Emphasis – Pace of Play

After making pace of play a point of emphasis last season, the Committee remains concerned with delays in game action that are distractions from what is an exciting and enjoyable game to watch, coach and play. After thorough review and consideration of new rules to address these issues, the Committee ultimately decided to reinforce several rules that are already in place for 2009 and 2010.

These include, but are not limited to:

1. The continued enforcement of time limits on when the pitcher must deliver a pitch with no runners on base;
2. Not allowing the batter to repeatedly step out of the batter's box unless there is a safety issue or legitimate reason;
3. Adhering to a consistent mechanic dealing with the handling of offensive and defensive conferences; and
4. Reducing offensive conferences in extra inning games and requiring umpires to consistently enforce the mechanic that makes for a smooth and speedy transition between each half inning.

Additionally, more stringent guidelines were incorporated into the rules that regulate scoreboards and video and audio presentations. It remains the responsibility of the home team to monitor and to abide by all of the guidelines and policies including between-inning and between-hitter entertainment. If there are violations, the umpires have the authority to stop the game and have the matter corrected.