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**Expectations of "A" Tier Umpires**

**Complete Understanding and Consistent Application of the 2-Umpire System.**

**Complete Understanding of the Differences in the High School and Professional Rules**

**PLATE UMPIRE**

 **o Have the ability to walk on the field and be "In Charge"
o Have the confidence to conduct your own game in the presence of a domineering manager(s).
o Consistent slot positioning and head height throughout the game
o Consistent proper handling of equipment (mask / helmet & indicator)
o Consistent killing and putting ball back into play when required
o Consistent proper mechanics on tag up situations with runner on second and third
o Know responsibilities in all rundown situations
o Consistent vocalization of foul balls that require it
o Consistent execution of proper rotations
o Consistent coverage when base umpire goes out**

**STRIKE ZONE**

**o Consistent application of strike zone throughout the game
o Correct and consistent timing on call balls and strikes
o Has the ability to call strike 3 to end the game, on the same pitch you called a strike in the first inning
o Consistent vocalization on called balls and strikes

BASE UMPIRE**

 **o Complete knowledge of base umpire responsibilities
o Consistent application of the "Pause, Read, React" principal when going out
o The ability to consistently position yourself with the proper angle and distance for each play including double plays
o Have an ease fluidity of motion---getting into position ahead of the play without appearing to be scrambling around the field
o Know responsibilities in all rundown situations
o Know when and how to "sell" a call
o Consistent proper positioning on fly balls to the outfield with runners on base in tag up situations**

**BOTH POSITIONS**

 **o Complete knowledge of responsibilities of both positions
o Have complete understanding of the differences in professional and high school rules
o Have the ability to consistently get all your calls right
o Have confidence in awards and administration of the rules
o Have the willingness and savvy to call a balk in a crucial situation
o Have ability to recognize appropriate time to assist your partner on a call or rotation when an unforeseen play or event occurs and normal mechanics break down
o Have the awareness of the bench or a team's character, and the ability to deal with it
o Be assertive without hubris
o Hustle, enthusiasm, eagerness, and be in control when everyone else is losing control**

**FIELD PRESENCE**

 **o Sharp and decisive signals
o Clear and forceful verbalization of calls
o Purposeful and decisive positioning and movement before, during, and after plays and between innings**

**COMMUNICATION**

 **o Be able to communicate movements and situations with your partner
o Decisively announce play rulings with brevity
o Clearly communicate issues with partner and teams in a confident and authoritative manner while staying under control
o Effective use of preventative umpiring techniques**

**ATTITUDE**

 **o Have the ability to remain professional throughout the game
o Have the ability to be assertive with managers, coaches, and players without being confrontational. Has the ability to accept constructive criticism**

**PEER EVALUATIONS**

* **Consistently enters all Peer Evaluation information into Arbiter**
* **Enters Peer Evaluation information within 24 hours of the completion of each game**
* **Signs & Dates every Peer Evaluation**
* **Note game site & level of play on every Peer Evaluation**

**PARTNER EVALUATIONS**

* **Effectively & timely gives Partner Evaluations to (4) B Tier & (4) C Tier umpires (or as requested)**