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UMPIRE NEWS

March 2022



UIC JAMES COLE



Meet Your Staff

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Take a look at our current staff. You will notice some Districts have new UIC's and the current DUIC's are now listed. The National Championship Selections for Nor Cal have been released. These Umpires have worked hard to get these selections. They get the chance to show others what they have learned and what Nor Cal has to offer USA Softball.

This year we have 12 umpires going to: Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Camarillo, California; Salinas, California and 3 to Open Slots in Southern California. Kudos to all of you for all the hard work you put in and have a great time at your National Championship. See Page 4 for the complete list of Umpires and where they are going.

All the past Plays and Clarifications have been removed from the main page. They are archived and can be reached with the search function or year and month. They are working on a video to show us the easiest way to find them. Please let everyone they have not gone away but need to be searched to find them.

USA Softball of Georgia has moved the Fast Pitch Camp location and dates to accommodate the dates of the tournament for the camp. Regretfully the dates do not match up for us to be able to hold the camp this year. The Fast Pitch Camp is officially cancelled. They will try again next year.



TRAINING

Current Nor Cal known Clinic dates and locations are

Sunday April 3rd 10AM
Santa Rosa Junior College
Sunday April 10 1PM
Santa Rosa Junior College
POC is Kevin Hager, 415-671-5242,
kevinhager@comcast.net

20 Nor Cal Umpires successfully completed this year's USA National Umpire School. They will definitely be a better umpire after working closely with the USA Softball National Umpire Staff.



SUGGESTIONS

This Newsletter is also a venue for you to voice your suggestions and concerns or identify any problems you might come across UMPIRING IN Nor Cal.

Don't be afraid to let me know. Nothing but time on my hands.

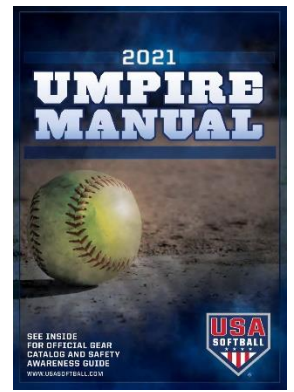
REGISTRATION

Register Now!

All Nor Cal Umpires have to be Registered with USA Softball every year. If you don't get Registered, you can't work any Nor Cal Sanctioned games, leagues, Tournaments or Championships. What does this mean for you? Simple, don't Register, don't work. We now have 125 USA Softball Registered Umpires. We have a long way to go. So, let's log into Register USA Softball Online, pay for your Background Check, pay our cheap Nor Cal dues, complete your Safe Sport Training and presto changeo, you're done. If you need help, see your UIC or give me a call/email.



Don't forget Safe Sport. Sport's Governing Bodies (USA Softball for one) must follow these guidelines to ensure the athletes safety. This is a Federal Law, not a USA Softball Law and definitely not a Nor Cal law. So, in Nor Cal, we all go on-line, do the training, cover ourselves and have a great time on the ball field. If you have any questions just ask your UIC or email me and I'll answer them.



We have some good news and bad news. **Good News:** The 2022 hard back copy of the Participant Manual just arrived from the printers this week. Once they are divided, they will be delivered to your local Association UIC or your District Commissioner (if you don't belong to an Association) once you have successfully registered with Nor Cal. **Good News:** The 2022 Participant Manual ([https://www.teamusa.org/USA-Softball/Umpires/Official Rulebook](https://www.teamusa.org/USA-Softball/Umpires/Official%20Rulebook)) and the 2022 Umpire Manual (<https://www.teamusa.org/USA-Softball/Umpires/Umpire-Manual>) are both online and working. Just paste either URL in your browser for your copy of either Book or Manual. You can also contact me for a book if you are having problems getting one or don't belong to an Association. **The Umpire Test:** It's now available online. Take the test depending on your local Association's policies/procedures. Remember, to be a member in good standing in Nor Cal, you must successfully pass the test each year.

**RULES == STUDY THEM == PRACTICE THEM
MASTER THEM**

2022 National Championship Umpires

*Terry Huskey
Spencer Schulz
Kevin Hager
Greg Sparks*

**Girl's 16U / 18U JO Cup
Men's "A/B" Slow Pitch
Girl's USA 12U
Girl's USA 12U**

*OK City, OK
OK City, OK
Camarillo, CA
Camarillo, CA*

Girl's 14U / 18U "A" Western National

Salinas, CA

*Anthony Bendik
Cameron Miller
Roy Scott*

*Howard Holderman
David Parker
Neil Wilson*

*Bill Hubacek
Kim Rupert
Mark Carver*



STUMP THE UMP!



All plays are for USA Softball. What is the correct result of the play and what is your Rule Reference / Justification.?

FEBRUARY 2022

PLAY: With R3 on third and R2 on second and one out, B4 hits a routine fly ball to second base. F4 easily settles under the ball and the notices B4 never leaves the batter's box. F4 intentionally drops the fly ball. Seeing the ball dropped, both R3 and R2 attempt to advance. F4 throws the ball to F2 who easily tags out R3 before reaching the plate.

RULING: There must be a runner on first base in order for an intentionally dropped fly ball to be ruled dead since doing so puts the runner at jeopardy of a double play. R3 and R2 are not forced to run so the intentionally drop by F4 does not impact them and they advance at their own risk. R3 out at the plate. R2's advance to third base is legal and B4 is still liable to be put out at first base.

JUSTIFICATION: Rule 8-2k

PLAY: With R1 on first base and off with the pitch, B2 hits safely to center field. F4 simulates fielding a ground to deceive the runner that she is about to field a batted ball. R1 slides into second base, thinking a play is about to be made on her.

RULING: A fielder simulating fielding a batted ball has not committed an infraction nor is considered faking a tag. The action is legal and all play stands.

JUSTIFICATION: Rule 1-Fake Tag; R/S 19

PLAY: With R1 on first, B2 hits a hard, line drive in the hole between third and short. F6 reaches out with her glove to make a catch, but the force of the ball knocks her glove off the hand and to the ground with the ball still in the pocket of the glove.

RULING: This is a live ball and not a catch. Although the ball never touched the ground, the glove coming off the hand and falling to the ground causes this to no longer meet the definition of a catch. The nearest umpire should give the safe signal to communicate the ball was not caught.

JUSTIFICATION: Rule 1 – Catch/No Catch.

MARCH 2022

PLAY: With R1 on first and no outs. B2 squares in the batter's box to bunt and holds her bat motionless in the strike zone. The pitch is high and outside and is called a ball by the plate umpire. The coach of the defensive team claims B2 should be charged with a strike for not withdrawing her bat.

RULING:

JUSTIFICATION:

PLAY: R1 is on first base when B2 hits a line drive that is caught by F6. F6 throws the ball to F3 to try to retire B2, who has wandered off the bag on the hit. F6's throw sails over the fence and out of play. F3's head goes over the fence and out of play. R1 was five feet from retouching first base when F6 released the throw and is standing on first when the ball goes out of play.

RULING:

JUSTIFICATION:

PLAY: With a 1-1 count on B2, R1 attempts to steal second base on the pitch. B2 swings and misses the pitch and her momentum carries her over the plate. F2's throwing arm makes contact with B2 as she throws the ball to second base, where F6 catches the ball and tags R1 before she reaches the bag.

RULING:

JUSTIFICATION:

MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!



NOR CAL STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

<u>WHAT</u>	<u>WHEN</u>	<u>WHERE</u>	<u>POC</u>
STATE "A"	17-19 JUNE	TWIN CREEKS, SUNNYVALE	JAMES COLE JIM RODONDI
STATE "B/C"	24-26 JUNE	TWIN CREEKS, SUNNYVALE	STAN ANGEL SEAN BEATON

GET YOUR NAMES INTO ME ASAP SO I CAN GET YOU ON THE AVAILABILITY/ASSIGNMENT ROSTER.



IT'S TIME TO WORK!!

Your Local Associations have finally begun to list their local Tournaments at [TournamentUSA Softball](https://www.tournamentusa.com) under the Nor Cal Web Section. Everything currently going on in Nor Cal and Surrounding Associations is there. Just be sure you are released by your Local Association UIC to make sure they can let you go.



SEE PAGE 7 FOR THE LISTED TOURNAMENTS.

The 2022 Senior Games, which include Slow Pitch Softball, are being held in Fort Lauderdale. Softball will be held from May 13 through the 23rd. Please reach out to your Local Associations and see if any are interested in call the games. Not sure how many umpires we will need yet so just trying to get an interest. When asking please find out if they would be available the whole time or just part of the time. Umpires need to get there on their own. Housing will be paid. NUS not required.

Tournament USA Softball

Date	Tournament	Facility	Divisions	Format	®	Cost
Apr 9 - 10	Nor Cal PreQualifier-USA Spring Bash (ALL AMERICAN IDENTIFIER)	Salinas Sports Complex Salinas, CA	•10A •12A •14A	4 Game Guar...	0	\$595
May 27 - 30	PreQualifier-Jan Macpherson Memorial Tournament	San Carlos San Carlos, CA	•8C •8Rec •10BC •12BC •14B •16B	4 Game Guar...	18	\$575
May 28 - 29	Nor Cal PreQualifier-Relay For Life	Hayward Sports Park Hayward, CA	•8C •10ABC •12ABC •14AB •16AB •18AB	4 Game Guar...	3	\$595
Jun 4 - 5	Nor Cal PreQualifier-USA Summer Spectacular	Salinas Sports Complex Salinas, CA	•10A •12A •14A •16A •18A	4 Game Guar...	0	\$595
Jun 4 - 5	Twister Classic	San Jose San Jose, CA	•8C •10C •12C •14B	4 Game Guar...	3	\$550
Jun 10 - 12	Nor Cal PreQualifier-Billie Sue Memorial	Burlingame Burlingame, CA	•8Rec •10BC •12BC •16B	4 Game Guar...	0	\$575
Jun 10 - 12	PreQualifier-Bagby Classic	Bagby Elementary School San Jose, CA	•8C •8Rec •10BC •12BC	4 Game Guar...	7	\$575
Jun 11 - 12	CSA Early Summer Shoot-Out	Al Patch Park Vacaville, CA	•8C •10B •12B •14B •16B •18B	4 Game Guar...	0	\$595
Jun 17 - 19	PreQualifier-Father's Day Tournament	Petaluma Petaluma, CA	•8C •10BC •12B •14B	4 Game Guar...	9	\$575
Jun 18 - 19	Nor Cal PreQualifier-USA Father's Day	Salinas Sports Complex Salinas, CA	•10BC •12BC •14B •16B	4 Game Guar...	1	\$595
Jul 1 - 3	Carmel Classic	Carmel Carmel, CA	•10B •12B •14B	4 Game Guar...	2	\$675
Jul 8 - 10	Pleasanton Summer Classic	Pleasanton Pleasanton, CA	•8C •10BC •12BC	4 Game Guar...	0	\$575
Jul 8 - 10	Rudy and Rita Vera Invitational	Santa Clara Santa Clara, CA	•8C •10BC •12BC •14B	4 Game Guar...	9	\$575
Jul 9 - 10	Del Holson Firecracker	Benicia Benicia, CA	•8C •8Rec •10ABC •12ABC •14AB •16AB	4 Game Guar...	1	\$550
Jul 15 - 17	Bytheal Ratliff's Blast By The Bay	Anna Jean Cummings Park Soquel, CA	•8Rec •10B •12B	4 Game Guar...	1	\$595
Jul 15 - 17	Rebel Classic	Rohnert Park Rohnert Park, CA	•8C •10B •12B	4 Game Guar...	4	\$550
Jul 30 - 31	CSA End of Summer Tournament	Al Patch Park Vacaville, CA	•8C •10B •12B •14B •16B •18B	4 Game Guar...	1	\$595

INSURANCE - ARE YOU COVERED YET?

**IF NOT → REGISTER AS A NOR CAL UMPIRE NOW!!
BEST DEAL IN TOWN FOR \$65.00.**

[NOR CAL ADULTS \(18 and over\): \\$65](#)

(With a successful Background Check and completed online Safe Sport Training.)

[NOR CAL YOUTH \(Under 18\) \\$40](#)

LIABILITY AND ACCIDENT COVERED.