



MID-ILLINI UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

www.miua.org

March 2, 2010

Dear Umpire:

The 2010 Summer Softball season is fast approaching. With this in mind, members of the board would like to take this time to challenge each umpire to take the extra effort to be physically fit, study the official rules and practice game mechanics so you can provide a fair and safe environment for all players, coaches, and fans. It is our goal as a board to help provide an atmosphere for each of us to continue to learn and improve. The ASA has developed an Umpire Mechanics DVD which has been purchased by the MIUA. This is an animated instructional DVD for all ASA umpires and features plate mechanics, base mechanics, signals, etc. In addition, the MIUA has purchased the 2009 Umpire Casebook that contains specific scenarios to help explain the proper application of rules. Each will be available to check out for a period of one week at a time.

State Umpires Meeting

The 2010 Illinois ASA State Umpires Meeting will be held on Friday, March 5th at the Holiday Inn Hotel in Bloomington. All 2009 registered umpires should have received information on the meeting in the mail; directly from the Illinois ASA.

This meeting will allow those in attendance to register with the ASA and update themselves on the latest ASA rule changes and see the newest umpiring equipment. The particulars on identification of illegal bats will be one of the topics discussed. This year half of the 50/50 drawing proceeds will go directly to the Mid-Illini Umpires Association and will be used to help purchase raffle prizes for the Umpire Appreciation Party.

2010 Registration Information

All umpires working games for Bloomington, Normal, and El Paso for the 2010 season will be scheduled by the MIUA. The assigner for these leagues is Don Wright. The assigner for the State Farm Leagues is Tom Nolin. If you are planning to umpire, the following are a list of the requirements:

1. Register with the Illinois ASA and MIUA by Thursday, April 15th.
 - Complete MIUA registration Form (enclosed/attached)
 - Pay \$45.00 ASA Dues at state or local meeting.
 - Pay \$5.00 local dues to MIUA.
2. Attend the local umpire rules meeting **April 15th at 7:00 p.m. - Miller Park Pavilion - Rec. Room.**
3. Take and pass the ASA rules test by April 17th. Return all completed tests to Don Wright prior to April 18th. The test will be available at the state and local meetings.
4. For the Bloomington and Normal leagues, email or call Don Wright at 452-1800 to let him know which nights you would like to work. For the State Farm leagues, call Tom Nolin at 661-2136. All efforts will be made to accommodate each umpires request.
5. You will not be allowed to umpire any games this season until your dues are paid and umpires test is completed by the dates indicated above. Also, each umpire must wear the proper ASA uniform while umpiring games for the MIUA.

Must See the Next Page ->

Board Member &
ASA Deputy UIC
Donna Shurtz
donnasue11@verizon.net

Board Member &
League Assigner
Don Wright
don@wrightchiro.com

Board Member
John Brittingham
dngfly@msn.com

Board Member
J.C. Collins
jrc.collins@verizon.net

Board Member
Adam Utz
madutaz11@yahoo.com

ASA Umpire Medals Program

Umpires can be rewarded for registering and officiating ASA softball without being assigned to regional or national championships. This rewards the local umpire who supports the ASA program, and can be relied upon for local assignments.

There are four levels for this program - the Blue level for those who have been registered for three (3) years, the Bronze level for those registered for seven (7) years, the Silver level for those registered for fifteen (15) years and the Gold level for those registered for twenty (20) years. Umpires can reach these levels quicker if they have umpired in regional or national championships, or attended National Umpire Schools.

For more information contact Donna Shurtz or visit the ASA Web Site at www.softball.org/umpires/medals.asp



MID-ILLINI UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

www.miu.org

Key Dates for 2010

March 5th (Friday)

7:00pm

- State Umpires Meeting
Holiday Inn, (By Airport)
Bloomington

April 15th (Thursday)

7:00 pm

- Local Rules Meeting at
the Miller Park Pavilion
Rec. Room in
Bloomington.
- ASA/MIUA dues must be
paid by this date.

April 17th (Saturday)

8:00 am

- MIUA Softball
Tournament at
Champion Fields.
- ASA Umpire Exam Due

April 25th (Sunday)

- Normal Summer League
Starts.

April 26th (Monday)

- State Farm Summer
League Starts

May 3rd (Monday)

- Bloomington Summer
League Starts.

Internet Links:

MIUA: www.miu.org

ASA: www.softball.org

Illinois ASA:

www.playsoftballillinois.org

Umpires Equipment:

www.officialgear.com

2010 MIUA “Swing into Spring” Softball Tournament

ATTENTION NEW & VETERAN UMPIRES

This tournament will be held on Saturday, April 17th at Champion Fields in Normal. The MIUA Tourney will be a fundraising tournament for the Mid-Illini Umpires Association. This year we are going to try to limit this tourney to “B” level teams, meaning teams from the weaker Bloomington and Normal leagues.

There are approximately 25 games we need to cover in the tournament. This tourney will employ the one-man and two-man umpiring systems. We strongly encourage you to come out and help. This is an excellent opportunity for our veteran umpires to help out and mentor our newer umpires. And it’s an excellent opportunity for our newer umpires to learn from the “seasoned” veterans so they get started on the right track in 2010. We will work on basic mechanics and positioning. All **NEW** umpires are encouraged to take this opportunity to get some work before they start league games. We are asking MIUA member umpires to donate their time during this event. The greater portion of the MIUA’s proceeds will be used to purchase raffle prizes for the Umpire Appreciation Party at the end of the summer and fall seasons.

Please contact Don Wright if you want to work this tourney. Sign up sheets will also be available at the local meeting.

MIUA Scholarship and 2010 Compensation Information

All MIUA members are eligible to receive scholarships to the ASA National schools. To put our money where our mouth is, we will reimburse you \$75.00 after attending. That is a 100% reimbursement of the cost of the regular National Umpire School. Please pay in full when you register. We will send you a check once we verify you attended the national school. For more information, please contact Donna Shurtz or Don Wright. We would be happy to assist you if you decide that this is something you want to pursue.

These are the 2010 pay rates for Bloomington, Normal, State Farm, and El Paso:

Bloomington: \$19.00 per game / two-umpire system *

Normal: \$21.00 per game

State Farm: \$23.00 per game

El Paso: \$25.00 per game

* All games in Bloomington will use the two-umpire system. If for some unfortunate reason you have to work by yourself, the pay will be \$22.00 per game.

The MIUA looks forward to working with you this summer. We are here for you. If you have any questions, suggestions, or need more information, please contact one of the board members.

Please visit our web site at www.miu.org. A lot of good information can be found there.

The MIUA BOARD