

Baseball PEI – 2025 Non-Confrontation Rule for 11UA

For 11U “A” Games – Umpire Instruction Sheet

Why This Rule Exists:

This rule was created to:

- **Protect umpires** (like you!) from unnecessary arguments or stress.
- **Encourage positive behaviour** from coaches, players, and spectators.
- **Help you feel safe and supported** as you learn to umpire.
- Reduce conflict so the game stays fun and focused on the players.

Umpires are a vital part of the game, and Baseball PEI is taking action to **make sure no one is mistreated or intimidated** on the field—especially at youth levels like 11U “A”.

What Is NOT Allowed:

The **Non-Confrontation Rule** means:

No Arguing Judgement Calls

- **No warnings are given—ejection happens immediately** if a coach, player, or manager argues a judgement call.
- Judgement calls include:
 - Safe or out
 - Ball or strike
 - Fair or foul
- Even if the person **doesn’t leave the dugout**, they can still be ejected for arguing.

Example: A coach in the dugout loudly disagrees with a strike call—this is still arguing and must result in ejection.

What A Coach Can Do:

A Head Coach (and only them) may:

- Ask for a **rule interpretation** (not a judgement call)
- Talk to you about:

- Substitutions or lineup questions
 - Safety or injuries
 - Timeouts
 - Appeals on a **half-swing** (*once you make a final decision, no further discussion is allowed*)
 - Offering support or saying thanks
-

How a Manager Must Approach You:

***NOTE:** In this division one of the coaches will either stand behind the mound, or standing in foul territory waiting for the pitcher to reach the 5-pitch max. At this time, they will “assume” the role of the pitcher to complete the at-bat. This is **ALLOWED** and is not part of the non-confrontation rule. They should not be discussing calls with you – they are just there to assist the pitchers.

To ask a rule question:

1. They must walk to the **halfway point on their own foul line** (on their side of the field).
2. **They must stop there** and **may NOT cross the foul line**.
3. They **must wait for you** to decide whether or not you want to go speak with them.
 - You do **not** have to approach if you don’t feel it’s needed or comfortable.
4. They **may NOT** approach to home plate after the coaches meeting is over to question an umpire.
5. If you don’t approach them at the foul line, they must return to the dugout.

Tip: If you’re unsure whether to go talk to them—**only do it if it’s clearly about a rule, or player issue (injury, time, pitching change etc)**, not a judgement call!

Spectator Issues

You must **not** deal with fans directly—but you **do not have to take abuse either**.

If a spectator is being negative or disrespectful:

1. **CALL TIME** and go to the **Manager/Head Coach** of that team.
2. Tell them you’re having a problem with a fan.
3. The coach must speak to the spectator (or assign another coach to do it).
4. If it happens a **second time**, that person must **leave the field area** (parking lot is fine).
5. **The game does not resume until they leave.**



Important Notes for Pre-Game:

- **Only ONE person per team** (the *HEAD COACH*) is allowed to request a conference.
- At the plate meeting, make sure both teams:
 - **Clearly mark the Head Coach** on the lineup card with a * beside their name.
 - **Only that person** is allowed to ask you for a discussion from the foul line.



Summary for You as an Umpire:

- **You are in charge** of enforcing this rule.
- **Do not warn**—eject immediately if anyone argues a judgement call.
- **Only talk to the Manager** if:
 - They stand halfway down their foul line, AND
 - It's a question about a rule (not judgement), AND
 - You want to go talk to them.
- **Do not let anyone approach home plate to argue.**
- **Never engage with fans directly**—go to the coach.



Your Job:

Keep the game safe, fair, and respectful. This rule is here to protect you and make umpiring a good experience. If you're unsure—stick to this sheet and trust your instincts.
