



# Baseball PEI / PEIBUA Grassroots Umpire Mentorship Program

## What Coaches Need to Know

Baseball PEI and the PEI Baseball Umpires Association are committed to helping new and developing grassroots umpires learn in a supported, safe, and positive environment. As part of that commitment, trained umpire mentors will be assigned to games involving developing officials. These mentors are an important part of the learning process and are there to help young and emerging umpires build confidence, improve decision-making, and continue growing on the field.

A mentor should be viewed much like a coach for players on the field. Just as players need guidance while they learn, developing umpires also benefit from experienced support in real game situations. Mentors observe, teach, encourage, and help umpires work through mechanics, positioning, communication, game management, and application of key policies. Their role is developmental, supportive, and preventative.

Mentors are trained by Baseball PEI / PEIBUA and are authorized to be on the field in that role. They are clearly identifiable and are expected to attend the pre-game process, so coaches understand why they are present. Mentors also have authority to intervene when necessary in conduct or safety situations, particularly when a developing umpire is not yet able to manage the situation independently or where policy enforcement is required.

## What mentors are there to do

- Support and teach grassroots umpires during live game situations
- Help build confidence and reinforce proper mechanics, positioning, and communication
- Provide brief, constructive feedback during and after the game
- Assist with game management and policy application when needed
- Help create a safe, respectful learning environment for developing officials

## What mentors are not there to do

- They are **not** there to umpire the game in place of the assigned official
- They are **not** there to make judgment calls for the umpire
- They are **not** there to overrule decisions because a coach disagrees
- They are **not** there to be used as an appeal option on balls, strikes, safe/out, or other judgment calls
- They are **not** there to interrupt the normal flow of the game unnecessarily



## **What coaches should expect**

The mentor's presence on the field will be calm, professional, and low disruption. You may see them offer instruction during play, in between innings, during natural breaks, or when a young umpire needs help resetting after a situation. They will move around the field as needed. If a conduct issue arises, the mentor may step in to enforce Baseball PEI policy, protect the umpire, or restore order so the game can continue appropriately.

## **What coaches are asked to do**

- Recognize the mentor as an authorized on-field support person
- Respect that the assigned umpires are still the game officials
- Allow the mentor to work with the umpire without trying to involve them in the game itself
- Always Follow Baseball PEI'S Non-Confrontation Policy
- Help create a positive environment where young officials can learn and stay in the game

## **A shared responsibility**

This program exists because developing umpires need support just as developing players do. When coaches understand and respect the role of the mentor, it helps everyone: the umpire feels supported, the game stays orderly, and the overall experience is better for players, coaches, officials, and families. Our goal is not interruption — it is education, confidence-building, and long-term development of quality officials for the game on PEI.

**Thank you for helping us support the next generation of umpires.**