



SOFTBALL MANITOBA UMPIRE COMMUNICATION CARDS



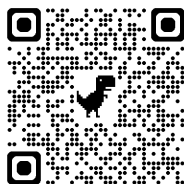
Softball Manitoba is committed to finding effective ways to help new umpires build confidence as they begin their journey in officiating. Recognizing that the early stages of umpiring can be challenging, the UDC seeks to create an environment where new officials feel supported and equipped with the tools they need to succeed and grow in their roles. With this, the UDC has introduced a communication card system to assist new umpires in managing challenging situations during games. These cards serve several important purposes:

- ♦ **Pre-Game Plate Conference:** The card provides a generic script to guide umpires during the pre-game plate conference with coaches, ensuring consistency and professionalism in communication.
- ♦ **Addressing Disrespectful Behavior:** The card also outlines what to say if a player, coach, or fan displays disrespectful behavior, helping umpires address these issues calmly and effectively.
- ♦ **Non-Verbal Signaling:** In situations where an umpire feels uncomfortable, they can pull out the card and hold it in the air. This non-verbal cue signals that the umpire is uncomfortable and would like the behavior or action to stop.

It's important to note that not all new umpires will have the confidence or courage to directly confront a player or adult. Therefore, as a coach, it's crucial that you inform your players and parents about the significance of the card and its purpose.

Should a red card be used during a game, it may be followed by a formal report written by the umpire and the Zone Umpire in Chief (UIC). Depending on the severity of the situation, Softball Manitoba may take disciplinary action against the offenders.

Recruiting new umpires can be challenging, and retaining them is often even more difficult. It's essential that, as umpires, coaches, players, and fans, we all play a part in fostering a positive, respectful environment for everyone involved in the game. By maintaining the integrity of the sport and treating all participants with respect, we can help ensure that future generations of umpires feel valued and motivated to continue their involvement. Together, we can preserve the beauty of the game for all to enjoy.



Contact Info:

UDC & Zone UIC's



Zero Tolerance Policy

Abuse of Officials



Umpire Resources

