



## UDC Softball Saskatchewan Umpire News

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### Expectations for New Umpires

Pay heed to the following tips and you will be well on your way to becoming a great Umpire:

- **Dress the part.** All the players come out in their game uniforms. So should you. Walk onto the field looking like the game is important enough to you to dress properly for it. You don't want to appear like you just stopped off to ump the game while on your way to the beach.
- **Read the rule book often.** Then, re-read the rule book often. Look for opportunities to work with and discuss rules and game situations with more experienced umpires.
- **Walk onto and off the field with your partner.** You and your partner are the third team on the field. It looks very professional to arrive onto the field together.
- **Hustle!** Half the battle of winning the respect of coaches, players and spectators is knowing how to apply the rules and having good judgment. The other half is having a good appearance, both in your uniform and in the way you conduct yourself on the field.
- **Show up early.** Gives you time to get into your uniform and be sure your equipment is on right.
- **Be pleasant, but firm.** Keep your presence businesslike and approachable. Answer reasonable questions professionally with a respectful attitude. Appear sure of yourself and your decisions will get more respect and be more readily accepted.

### Illegal Pitches

The most important thing here is to read, know and understand what an Illegal Pitch is. This is covered in Rule 4 of your Rule Book. Second thing – how to call and apply the correct penalties. Always be consistent with your calls – if it was illegal in the 1<sup>st</sup> inning it is still Illegal in the 7<sup>th</sup>.

### **A few rules:**

1. A ball is hit on the ground in foul territory and rolls into fair territory before 1<sup>st</sup> base and then played on by the 1<sup>st</sup> base person. This is a fair ball. True or False?
2. You have runners on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> with 2 out. The "Infield Fly" rule applies. True or False?