

# ALPINE LITTLE LEAGUE

## 2021 Spring Season

### Guide for Umpires



**ALPINE**  
**LITTLE LEAGUE**

# Umpire Deck Contents



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# Part I: Umpire and Rule Basics

## **Charlie Adams**– Umpire in Chief

- Has been involved with Alpine Little League since 1988 as a coach, fields manager, and umpire. Has two sons who grew up in Alpine.
- Charlie is former president of the Peninsula Baseball Umpires Association, working baseball levels from Little League through Pony, Colt, High School, American Legion, Joe DiMaggio League, and Adult Recreational Baseball.
- Retired from United Airlines after a 36-year career; 747-400 type-rated pilot

## **Jeff Jay** – Umpire Coordinator

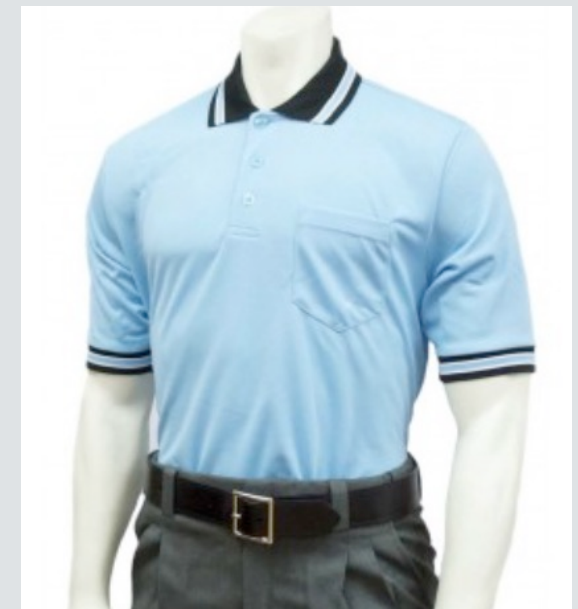
- Head Ump Coordinator for Alpine. Four seasons into the umpire/board role.
- Both sons have played in Alpine – they've played on more than 20 different teams. Coached several Alpine teams from Tee Ball to Juniors.

## **Anthony Remedios** – Asst. Coordinator

- Freshman at ASU's Cronkite School of Journalism; Sports Journalism class of '24
- 9 total years of experience LL through HS Baseball; 4th year as a D52 & NCTB Umpire; 3rd Spring season in Alpine
- Dad umpires all levels of youth baseball 10U to 18U and was former Umpire in Chief in San Mateo

# Before You Start: Be A Fully Equipped Umpire

- Wear your navy blue umpire's shirt tucked into your trousers. They will press an Alpine-labeled one for you at Goetz Brothers in San Carlos for \$15-\$20 each.
- Classic light blue collared umpires shirts also works fine (see pictures). Majors umpires wear these more often.
  - ✓ The light blue shirts are a standard shirt outside of LL.
- Wear your 'four seam' umpire's hat, bill forward both in the field and under the mask.
- Wear long, grey, black, or navy slacks/trousers with a black belt.
- Wear black sports shoes, with no metal cleats.
- Have your ball bag, indicator, and plate brush with you if you are the plate umpire.
  - *Indicator may or may not be used on the bases; personal option*
- Note – you can purchase umpire “kit” at Goetz Brothers (indicator, plate brush, ball bag, etc.)
- Walk-through Umpire Gear – Mask, Chest Protector, Shin Guards; planning on doing plate? A cup is strongly recommended



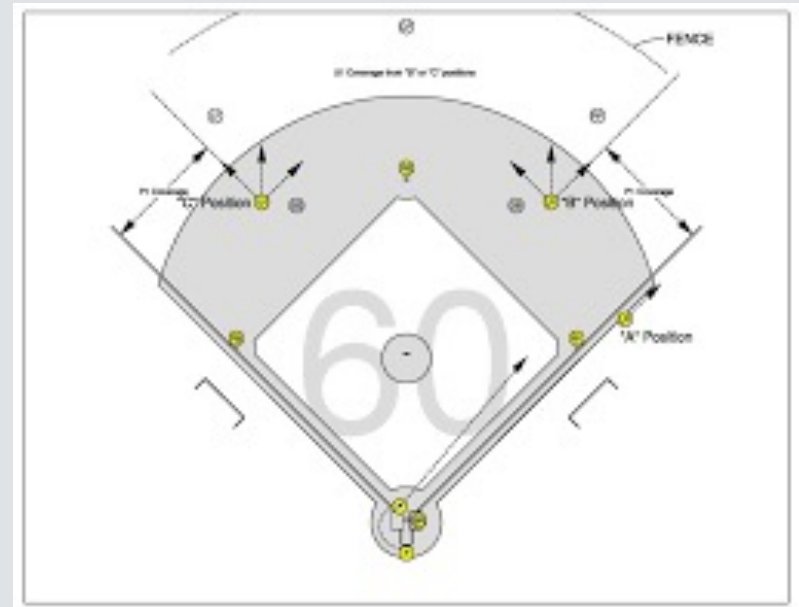


# Positioning Mechanics

In-person, we typically work through positioning DVD called **60' Diamond Mechanics (in-person)**; ask to borrow DVD if you want

## The Positions

- The Plate
- A, B, C Positions for the Base Ump
- Working Area (between pitcher and second base)



*Basic concept for the base umpire:*

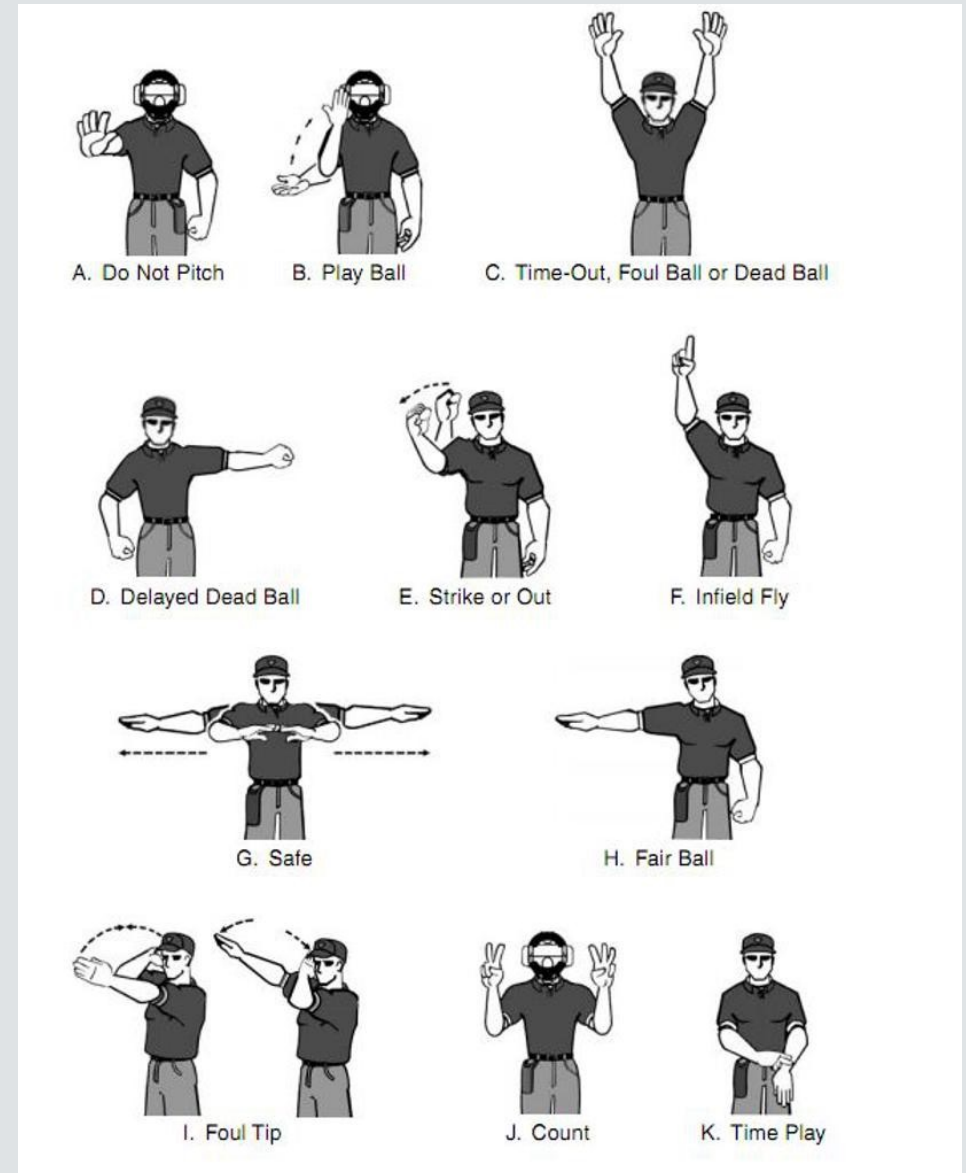
Ball is inside (the infield), you stay out; ball is in the outside (in the outfield), you go in (to the working area)

Please see the **Alpine Umpiring -> Instructional Videos** Web Page for a full walk-through of the umpire plate and field positions.

A full positioning document is available on the **Alpine Umpiring-> Reference Materials** web page.

# Signaling: The Basic 6

- Ball (no signal, but is verbalized)
- Strike
- Safe
- Out
- Time
- Foul
- Also understand fair ball pointing, time/don't pitch/pitch, giving the count, etc.



A full signaling pdf is available on the [Alpine Umpiring-> Reference Materials](#) web page.

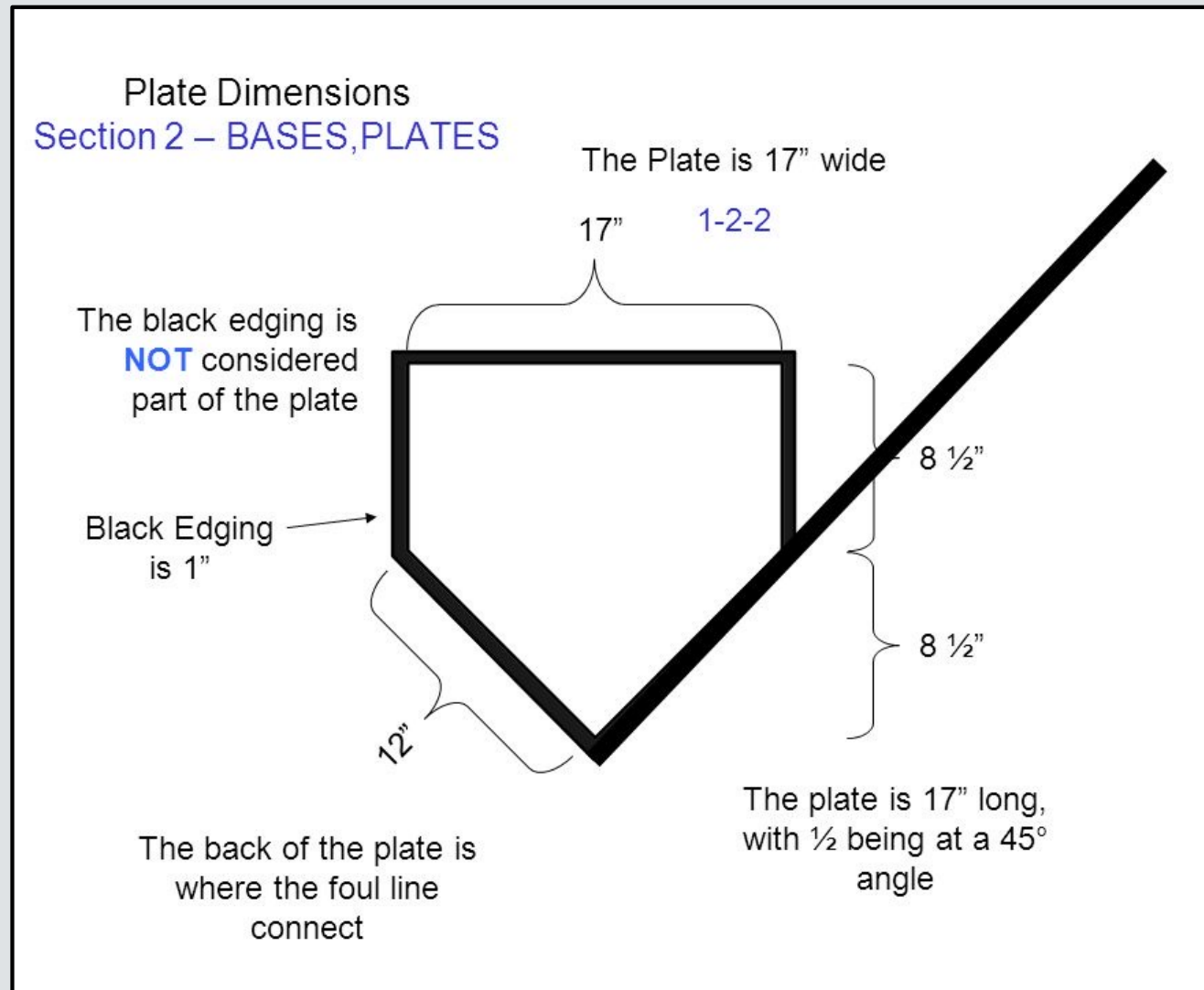
# The Alpine Strike Zone:

- Amongst Umpires – Consistent Product
- Make the Best Call You Can
  - *Be definitive and firm Sell that call -- this works in life too!*
- *When the batter is in a natural stance*
  - *MAJORS : top of knee to armpit*
  - *AAA: bottom of knee to armpit*
  - *AA: Shins to Shoulders (for reference only: currently NO called strikes in AA with pitching machines)*

# The Alpine Strike Zone Continued

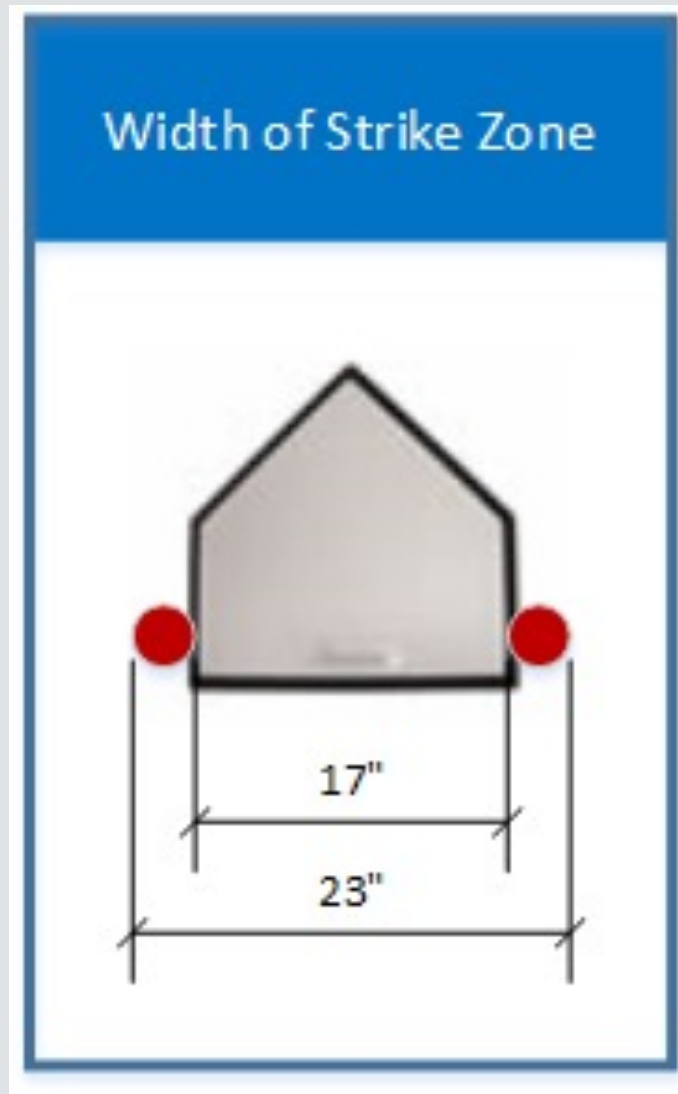
- Both Levels: over the plate (no widening).
  - *In no case should the zone be extended inward or outward.*
  - **But do note:** *we do have more "generous" interpretation of the strike zone at the very beginning of the season; this is especially true in Spring 2021*
- REMEMBER! If any part of a pitched ball touches any part of that strike zone, it is a strike and you are expected to call it as such.
  - *Like breaking a pane of glass*
- General rule of thumb: If it's close with good trajectory, call it a strike, especially on strikes one and two. We all – players, coaches, parents, umps -- want to get the bats swinging

# Home Plate....*The black edge is not part of home plate*





# Strike Zone Width...*If any part of ball touches the plate it is a strike*



# Alpine Strike Zones Graphic



Majors

Arm pit

Top of knee

AAA

Arm pit

Bottom of  
knee

**AA Zone**  
*(reference only;  
pitching  
machines)*

Shoulders

Shins

# Rules – Across All Divisions

## Adults on the Field:

- Typically, no adult may warm up a pitcher for any reason, either in the bullpen or between innings behind the plate. The league per the commissioner and UIC has made an exception for this at the majors level for 2021; if cleaned and sanitized catcher's equipment is not available for a non-catcher player to warm up the pitcher, a coach may help *this season only*.
  - ✓ Adults are permitted to be the safety spotter, though we generally encourage kids to take on this role

## Players During Warm Up:

- Any player at home plate during warmups (ex: pregame infield) while a coach is hitting must have a catcher's mask on during this time.
- This is for the **safety** of the player and not open to interpretation.

## “10/15 Run Mercy Rule” in Majors, AAA

- Alpine from the Spring 2019 on will utilize the 10/15 run “slaughter” rule in league games – i.e. a team up by 15 at the end (or middle if home team is ahead) of 3 innings or 10 runs by the end of 4 will be the victorious team and the game will end. **In 2021, this will not apply to AA.**

# Majors Rules

- **Minimum Playing Time –**
  - Every player in attendance at a game must play a minimum of three defensive (3) full innings. All players in attendance will bat each time through the lineup (batting the lineup).
- **Forfeit**
  - For a game where a team is unable to field at least (9) nine eligible players, that game shall be recorded as a forfeit and not played. Borrowing players from the opponent is not allowed (Point of emphasis this year). *If there is a situation where a player needs to leave the game after the game has started and this results in the team having less than 9 players than an out shall be recorded in that player's position in the batting order. This also applies if more than one player is missing (for example if there are only 7 players on the field.) No team may play with less than 7 players and the game shall be forfeited at that point.*
- **Pitch Count**
  - The team identified as the “visitor” will be in charge of designating a volunteer as the official “pitch counter” for the game
- **Illegal Pitches (Little League Rule – Clarification of what it is and the penalty)**
  - An 'Illegal pitch' in Little League (and we only apply to the Majors in Alpine) is defined as either 1) a quick pitch or 2) one not thrown from the rubber. The only time a batter would be awarded a ball in Little League Majors is if there's a quick pitch or one thrown while not in contact with the rubber, and the ball is awarded regardless of whether there are men on base or not. Any hesitations that a pitcher makes would simply be either disregarded, or 'time' called and the pitcher and batter reset, with no penalty.

# AAA Rules

- **Minimum Playing Time - Supersedes IV(i):**
  - *Every player in attendance at a game must play a minimum of three defensive (3) full innings if their team plays five (5) innings and four (4) defensive innings if their team plays six (6) innings. All players in attendance will bat each time through the lineup (batting the lineup).*
- **Forfeit**
  - *For a game where a team is unable to field at least (9) nine eligible players, that game shall be recorded as a forfeit and not played. If there is a situation where a player needs to leave the game after the game has started and this results in the team having less than 9 players than an out shall be recorded in that player's position in the batting order. This also applies if more than one player is missing (for example if there are only 7 players on the field.) No team may play with less than 7 players and the game shall be forfeited at that point.*
- **Max Runs Per Inning**
  - *5 runs per inning with no limit in the 6th or final inning as determined by the umpire.*
- **Pitch Count Volunteer**
  - *The team identified as the “visitor” will be in charge of designating a volunteer as the official “pitch counter” for the game*
- **Illegal Pitches**
  - *Alpine/West Menlo Little League does not enforce Rule 8.05 for an illegal pitch at the AAA or AA level*



# AA Rules

- **Minimum Playing Time - Supersedes IV(i):**

- *Every player in attendance at a game must play a minimum of three defensive (3) full innings if their team plays five (5) innings and four (4) defensive innings if their team plays six (6) innings. All players in attendance will bat each time through the lineup (batting the lineup).*

- **Forfeit/Less than 10 Players**

- *AA games will be played with 10 players on the field (4 outfielders). Games may start with as few as 8 players. If there are 9 players no outs need to be taken. If there are 8 players one out must be taken in the batting order. If there are 7 players the game must be forfeited and played as a scrimmage.*

- **Max Runs Per Inning**

- *5 runs per inning in all six innings (new for this year)*
- *No Mercy Rule in AA (new for this year)*

- **Conference with the Coaches**

- *After the first two innings, both managers may approach the umpires and have a short conference about how the game is going – rules clarification, players, game management*

- **No stealing bases**

- *The ball is dead on the return throw from catcher to pitcher after a pitch*

- **Play stops on ball returned to mound**

- *Baserunners are free to advance during the course of play - after a batted ball has been put in play - until the ball is returned to the pitcher, or another fielder, on the mound. Runners shall return to the base that he/she last legally reached.*

# AA: *Pitching Machines*

- *Pitching machines will be used for hitting the entire season.*
- The pitching machine will be placed inside a (10) foot radius pitching circle (we will use a green turf circle at each field) and a coach of the hitting team will feed balls into the machine as his/her team is at bat. **After the ball is put into play the play is considered dead once the ball is returned to the 10 foot circle by any player who has control of the ball and has one foot in the circle. Any runner who has advanced more than halfway to the next base may take the next base, any runner who has advanced less than halfway must return to the previous base.**
- The pitcher/coach may not instruct/coach from the pitching circle – the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> base coaches should do that.
- **Each batter shall receive up to 7 pitches** from the pitching machine. A batter is out on the SOONER OF 3 strikes or if the ball is not put in play within 7 pitches (exception being a foul ball on 7th pitch – the batter stays alive). There are no called balls and strikes. **A foul ball does not count as a third strike** – just like in “normal” baseball. Unlike higher levels, umpires are to verbalize swinging strikes.
- There will be **no called strikes. Only swinging strikes.**
- Batted ball that hits the pitching coach or machine is a dead ball/no pitch (it does not count against the 7 pitch limit)
- No bunting (umpires judgement as to whether a bunt or not)

# All Games - if there is only *ONE* Umpire

- If we only have one ump at the game, in a normal game they generally should work the game from BEHIND THE PLATE and get from behind the plate to make calls on the bases.
- However, in the '21 spring season we have made an exception due to COVID – “plate” umpires are also allowed to work behind the pitcher.
- If possible, get a knowledgeable parent, older sibling, or available coach to volunteer to work the bases.
- If not, do the best you can with the bases also – if working behind the plate, get out in the grass ahead of home plate to enhance your view for base calls.
- The upside for in this is umps who work a game solo gets paid an **extra 50%** for that game (text or email Anthony & Jeff after the game)

# Part II: Alpine Season Overview 2021





# The Roles of the UCs (Umpire Coordinators)

- Jeff will be in charge of:
  - ✓ Bigger issues: parents, coaches, players, fans
  - ✓ Umpiring policy and mass communications; year-end compensation
  - ✓ Ejections & incident reports (these are rare in Alpine!)
- Anthony (come May 2021) will mainly be in charge of:
  - ✓ Scheduling
  - ✓ Open Slot Reminders
  - ✓ Last Minute Cancellations
- Both will work on:
  - ✓ Rules Questions
  - ✓ Umpire Performance and Feedback
- If in doubt, contact both of us and the two of us will figure it out:
  - ✓ New contact avenue for 2021: [alpineumpires@gmail.com](mailto:alpineumpires@gmail.com)
  - ✓ Emails go to both of us!
  - ✓ Personal contact information at the end of the presentation



# COVID Procedures and Safety

- **You must sign the waiver(s) for the league and the Portola Valley facilities; see the Alpine Umpiring -> Waivers webpage for more.**
- You should be familiar with the Alpine COVID safety guide: [Alpine COVID Safety Guide](#)

## Key COVID take-aways for umpires:

- Cloth masks must be worn, even under the plate ump's facemask
- Thoroughly sanitize the shared umpire equipment, particularly the facemask, before use; cleaning wipes are available in the sheds.
- When working the plate ump position, keep extra distance from the catcher and hitter, but still be in position to make calls.
- Plate umpires are permitted to position themselves behind the pitcher to call balls and strikes and perform their other duties. *There is no requirement to do so.* However positioned, maintaining extra distance is the key.
- Keep general social distancing from players, coaches, and other umps in making a call, talking over a play, having the plate meeting, etc.
- Having the players follow the COVID guidelines (distancing, no sharing of equipment, masks, dugout use, etc.) is primarily the coaches' responsibility, not yours.

# New/Newer Rules to Focus on

- Team are allowed a “courtesy runner” for the catcher and/or pitcher of record when there are two (2) outs. When the continuous batting order is used, the “courtesy runner” may be in the team’s batting order and must be the player in the batting order who made the last out.
- Changes to intentional walks: prior to a pitch being thrown, the defense may elect to “Intentionally Walk” the batter by announcing such decision to the plate umpire. New change: the request may be made prior to *or during the at-bat*.
- Such notification must be made by the defensive manager. The manager must request and be granted “time” by the umpire and then inform the umpire of the defense’s intent to walk the batter. The ball is dead and no other runners may advance unless forced by the batter’s walk. The appropriate number of “balls” needed based on the count on the batter at the time of the manager’s request to complete the Intentional Walk pitches will be added to the pitcher’s current pitch count.

# Equipment Rules to Remember

- Starting in 2018 – bat *has to have* the USA Baseball Logo.
- If an umpire notices a player at bat with a non-conforming bat the batter is out and the bat must be removed from the game. If it is noticed, or a coach questions if the bat is legal, after a hit or then the batter is out and any runners on base return to their previous bases.
- NOTE – Wood bats are still legal and do not need the USA Baseball logo.
- Catcher's mask throat protector
  - **Point of Emphasis: MUST have dangling throat guard!!!**



# Other Safety Points of Emphasis

- **No On Deck Circle/Swinging of Bats Before Reaching Plate**
  - Including the extended areas past the dugout opening and behind the dugout.
- 1 batter outside the dugout between innings. He is allowed to take swings, as long as it is safe to do so.
- Throat guards for catcher's masks, as discussed on last slide
- Watch out for throwing of the bat on batted balls, especially at the lower levels.
  - It is never an out, but you can remove a player from the batting order if it happens repeatedly
- Ultimately, **SAFETY is our top priority!** Do not give a lot of slack on safety rules, please.

# Point of Emphasis: Pace of Play

- Pace of play is highly important, especially in LL.
- Keep the game moving
- **1 minute or 8 pitches between innings (Rule 8.03)**
- "It will be held that **an inning starts the moment the third out is made** completing the preceding inning" (Rule 2.00 "Inning")
- No Majors time limit
- No new inning after 2 hours from first pitch for AA & AAA
- Encourage kid warm up catchers
- Know when sunset is, especially Ford Field. Do not start a new inning after sunset



# Point of Emphasis: Pitching & Catching Restrictions (Reg. VI)

- "A player who played the position of catcher for 3 innings or less, moves to pitch, and delivers 21 pitches or more in the same day may not return to catcher position in the same day." (Reg. VI (a))
- A player who does not catch first, may not throw more than 40 pitches to maintain catcher eligibility
- Any catcher who catches any part of 4 innings is ineligible to pitch
  - Can be as little as 1 pitch or a full inning
  - Warm up pitches do not count
- These are all "soft limits", meaning they can finish the batter if they reach the threshold in the middle of an at bat
- Pitchers cannot return to pitch after being removed from the mound in Majors and below
- It is the **coaches** responsibility to monitor the above, but do know the rules

# Mound Visits (Resets with each pitcher)

- Majors
  - 1 free visit per inning. 2nd in the same inning requires pitching change
  - 3 visits max per game. 3rd visit per game = P change
- AA & AAA
  - 2 free visits per inning. 3rd in the same inning requires pitching change
  - 4 visits max per game. 4th visit per game = P change
- At all levels, only **1 mound visit per at bat**, except for injury or illness.

# Alpine's Expectations of Umpires

- Honor Your Commitments
  - *Show up*
    - Minimize Cancellations/Try very hard not have late cancellations
    - Remember that our umps are really a *central part of the color and enjoyment of the game for the players, parents, and coaches.*
    - Email **alpineumpires@gmail.com** for cancellations less than two days before game time
- Do a Quality Job as an Umpire
  - *"Look the Part"*
  - *Make Good Decisive Calls*
  - *Consistent Strike Zone*
  - *Pay Diligent Attention to the Game during the Game (just like a player "keep your head in the game")*
    - ✓ The Alpine LL Strike Zone
- Potential Rainouts
  - Check email and text throughout the day!
  - Check Alpine LL Website
  - **If you receive a rainout notification two hours or more before game time, you WILL NOT be paid if you show up.**
  - **Assume the game is on until you hear otherwise, but check your email/text/voicemail & the website!!**

# Be Courteous & Professional

- Be respectful and courteous of players and coaches *and they should be to you as well.*
- Remember that Alpine Little League is your customer and you represent the league.
- We have a zero tolerance policy for being non-professional either way
- Contact Jeff immediately with questions or concerns: cell/text: 650-690-0751

# Pre-Game Meetings w/ Coaches

- For 2021, arrive at field around 10 minutes before game time. Notify coaches that you will be ready for an on-time start.
  - *Check plate gear and general field conditions.*
- Five minutes before game time, meet with coaches at home plate to discuss ground rules, *confirm that all players are “legally and properly equipped,”* and any other special circumstances that may apply.
  - *Abiding by COVID safety rules*
  - *LEGS (Lineups, Equipment, Ground Rules, Safety/Sportsmanship/Speed)*
  - *Remind them to get foul balls out of play*

# Asking for a Second Opinion

- There are only two main reasons a coach should ask the “calling umpire” to ask his partner for help:
  - ✓ *Umpire Positioning/View Blocked*
    - If the coach feels the baseman's foot was not in contact with the base,
    - The ball was dropped out of sight of the umpire, or
    - The coach believes the umpire was in a bad position or somehow blocked out of the play.
  - ✓ Request for a rules interpretation.
- Asking for help in any other situation is simply “asking for another opinion” and not to be considered by the calling umpire. The proper procedure for the coach to follow is to ask for “time” and approach the calling umpire. The coach should then state the reason (one of the three above) for requesting another input from the other umpire. Although reason 1 does allow for a lot of leeway we urge coaches not to utilize it to argue “close plays” but rather utilize it only if the umpire was truly blocked or out of position to make the correct call. The umpire "may ask" for help (Rule 9.02(c)). **Notice the rule book does not say "must"**
- Umpires, however, should always feel they can consult with their partner if they believe the other umpire was in a better position to make the call or if they are unsure of a rule. At the end of the day, we want to get the call right

# Umpire and Coach/Player Interaction

- You are a representative of Alpine Little League and must conduct yourself as such. You are also the only one on the field who is getting paid for their efforts so be professional at all times and **EARN YOUR KEEP!**
- If questioned about a call, either directly or indirectly, keep your temper under control. An aggressive attack or retort to a coach or player will make the situation worse and keep you from maintaining a clear head in deciding a course of action.
- Be aware that even the nicest people can 'lose it' in the heat of competition. Allow for this up to a point, but also be familiar with your rights and responsibilities in handling abusive or inflammatory conduct from coaches, players, or fans.
- You are not perfect – and nobody expects that, especially this year! You are going to make mistakes, just as players and coaches do. Try to learn from these errors, and be open to suggestions from others on possible ways to improve your skills.
- If a controversy develops during a game, give yourself time to contemplate a course of action by consulting (privately) with your partner. Don't let yourself get 'bullied' into something by the coach (or parent) who is closest or yells the loudest.



# Professional Demeanor

- Maintain a professional demeanor at all times
- Don't sit down between innings or 'chat' with your partner unless you have a game-related conversation.
- Field umpire: stay involved in the game by assuming a 'ready' position before each pitch.
  - ✓ *Keep your hands out of your pockets, and don't look like you're hanging out instead of officiating a baseball game.*
- Work hard to get in the best position possible to see a play. Don't call a play from 50' if you can get closer by taking a few extra steps, but remember that angle and stability of stance is always more important than distance.
- Avoid obvious 'chit chat' with players and coaches during game action or any other activity that might be distracting or interpreted as showing a bias to one of the teams.

# General Ump Partner Norms

- Have a short pregame & postgame with your partner to go over rotations, certain situations/mechanics, fair/foul coverage, signals, fly ball coverage, other logistics like that.
- Postgame – talk about situations that came up and do a short debrief
- You and your partner should enter and leave the field at the same time.
- It is not a bad idea to contact your partner a day or two before the game to confirm that they are still working the game and to coordinate a meeting spot & time at the field.
- If you both somehow make the opposite call, get together and talk about it

# Cell Phones

- We do recommend not having your phone with you on the field, but we realize this is a very big ask these days and most everybody will keep their phone on them. But if you can, leave it in your car, bag, at the scorer's table, equipment shed, or other safe spot.
- If it you must have it on your person in the game, never consult it during an active inning
- Even between side and inning changes, absolutely minimize phone use. It creates distraction for the next inning start and can easily be interpreted as disinterest in the game at hand.
- If using it as a timer, do not look at it between innings. Just wait for the vibration.
- We highly advise you to use "Do Not Disturb" if it is in your pocket to minimize distraction
- If you have the Little League Rule Book as an app on your phone and a rules interpretation question comes up, then you can certainly use your phone to look it up.

# Scheduling & Cancellations

- Register as an umpire on the website for Spring 2021
- Schedule and cancel games on the website – except for last minute cancels; within a day of game time, notify the UCs
- Cancellations – we do have low tolerance, though we will try and be flexible as possible this "COVID season"
  - ✓ *Cancel five total games and you are out of the program (this does not include the first few weeks right after initial registrations)*
  - ✓ *Cancel two games with 48 hours or less notice and you may be locked out of the program.*
  - ✓ *General guidance – coordinators always judge cancels/no shows on specific circumstances!*
  - ✓ *You may be asked to help find a sub.*
- **KEEP TRACK OF YOUR SCHEDULE!**

# Weather Guidance

- Field conditions can vary widely within league boundaries, **so don't assume a game is canceled until you receive an automated email notification.** The UCs will do the best they can to alert the umps scheduled, but email from the system is your best bet
- In advance of the games the Alpine Little League Field Coordinator is responsible for determining field playability.
- **Prior to the start of a game the two head coaches are in charge of determining if the field is suitable for the game to begin.** If there are any concerns with weather issues the two head coaches should confer and hopefully mutually agree in this decision. However, if either coach thinks the field is unsafe/unplayable the game should not begin.
- ***Once the game has begun this decision transfers to the umpiring crew.*** If either umpire has concerns about the safety or playability of the field they should confer. The umpires may also request the input of the coaches, however the ultimate decision as to playability shall be made by the Umpire Crew Chief - defined as the more Senior Umpire at the game.

# Be Familiar with the Rules

- The LL rule book is now available as an app on the App Store or Google Play Store
  - *\$1.99 one time payment and auto updates*
- Read the “green book” 15 minutes at a sitting (pages 60-100 are the stuff to read!)
  - ✓ *Know how it is set up so that you can find the answer to a question quickly.*
  - ✓ *The web has a wealth of information not only about rules but about umpire mechanics as well.*
- Disavow perfection!
  - *You don't have to remember all the rules all the time.*
    - No one can. If you aren't sure about a rule, check with your partner or look it up on the spot.

# General Reminders

- Do not worry about making mistakes. It WILL happen. It's part of human nature and part of the game. That's part of what makes baseball fun. When you make a mistake, just keep umpiring. Move on from it and be ready for the next play, just as you would if you were a player.
- That said, take a couple minutes after each game to think about what you missed or messed up on and how you can improve for the next game. If you ever have a question about a situation or play and you want some feedback, ask Anthony or Charlie and we will help you out and offer some tips.
- Be decisive about your calls and always strive to get in the best position you can and get the best angle possible. Angle is always a bigger priority than distance because no matter how close you are to the play, you won't have a good look at it if you don't have a good angle. The general rule of thumb is we want to always be 90 degrees to where the throw is coming from.
- 90% of umpiring is being decisive with your calls and getting in the right position. This will be a lot more convincing to coaches.
- Always keep your chest to the ball. Imagine the ball is attached to a string on your chest and always keep the ball in front of you, even when looking for runners touching a base, obstruction, etc. By always keeping your chest to the ball, you will drastically decrease the odds of getting hit.



# More General Reminders

- Do not be afraid to sign up work games. Just like playing a sport or anything else, practice and experience is the only way you're going to get better.
- You will get out of it what you put into it. If you work hard at getting better and learning all the mechanics and rules, you will benefit more than the person who does two games per season and doesn't put any effort in.
- Remember that this is a job, likely the first job many of you have ever had. You will learn life skills by umpiring: communication skills, working with other people, commitment, responsibility, accountability, just to name a few.

# Game Position Eligibility – *General Rules of Thumb*

- Majors Plate (17+, some experienced 16s)
- Majors Base (15 and up)
- AAA Plate (14 and up)
- AAA Field (12-13)
- AA (12s, focus on 11s)
- The above is general guidance – exceptions are absolutely made in circumstances when having an ump there is better than having none. When reserving games, you should be restricted to appropriate roles.*

# 2021 Compensation & Season Bonus Plan

- \$70 per game for adults age 17 and up.
- \$55 per for Juniors Umps ages 15-16.
- \$45 per game for Youth Umps age 14.
- \$35 per game for Youth Umpires ages 12-13.
- \$25 per game for Rookie Umpires -11 yr olds.
- Age for compensation is actual age as of March 1, 2021.
- Working alone is 50% bonus; that includes if you get a “volunteer” ump
- Make note: except for a special circumstances, pay will be accumulated and paid in lump sum at the END of the season!
- 5 Game Bonus**  
*Umpires will receive a year end bonus of \$50 if they umpire 5 or more games.*

In addition.....

- “10+1”** Incremental game Bonus

10% year-end bonus (10% on of your final “regular” season total) with a 10+1 kicker -- eg. work 12 games, get a 12% year-end bonus

- Additionally, the ump coordinators can award discretionary year-end bonuses for umpires who show dedication and flexibility, especially in last-minute slot coverage.

# Key Dates & Umpire Scheduling

- Opening Day – Saturday, March 20 (weather permitting)
- Game Registration opened on March 12 at 3:00 PM
- Adults umpires and a select # of our most experienced majors Umpires – can register for games for the entire season
- Youth Umpires can initially register for games through Saturday, April 24 (halfway through season); rest of the season released week of April 19.
  - *At this point, select a maximum of 3-5 games for the month.*
  - *Coordinators may contact and ask for game “give back” in some cases where umpires have reserved many, many game ahead.*
- If feasible, expect a field training opportunity in the second half of the season (we may use a live AAA game to do so at some point).

# How to Contact the UCs

- Add Jeff & Anthony to your contacts before you leave!
- Jeff Jay
  - ✓ [alpineumpires@gmail.com](mailto:alpineumpires@gmail.com)
  - ✓ Email above for cell phone #
- Anthony Remedios
  - ✓ Also: [alpineumpires@gmail.com](mailto:alpineumpires@gmail.com)
  - ✓ Personal email [aremedios3@gmail.com](mailto:aremedios3@gmail.com)
  - ✓ Email the above for cell phone #
  - ✓ Leave a voicemail or text/email if I do not answer your call.

# More Training Resources

- [Little League Umpire Registry](#)
  - The LL Umpire Registry is direct through the main Little League Website. It is free to register and has a lot of good resources for umpires, including articles; videos; and a Rules Instructional Manual with instructor comments and rule interpretations.
- This is a unique year with COVID protocols with hard limits on in-person training and communication. Please do rely on Alpine tools such as this training deck and the Umpiring homepage on the Alpine website [Alpine Umpiring Home Page](#) as much as you can to both self-teach and answer questions this year.



# Thank you!

- ❑ For participating in Alpine Little League – the board, coaches, volunteers, parents, and players are all looking forward to a great Spring 2021 season.