



Hong Kong Baseball Association



Umpire Academy

Baseball Umpire's Code of Ethics

With effective from 1 April 2016

(Post on Website)

The Hong Kong Baseball Association (HKBA) Baseball Umpires Code of Ethics has been developed for all umpires to abide by whilst participating in an official capacity at any baseball game. It is recognized that umpires play an integral role in our sport and their performance and professionalism is observed by all in the baseball community in their capacity as an umpire.

Hong Kong Umpire Academy (HKUA) is one of the functional committees under the management of HKBA. HKUA is responsible for the hiring, training, and supervision of the HKBA registered umpires and scorers. We are proud to promote baseball umpiring and scoring in Hong Kong. Please take time to read the Baseball Umpires' Code of Ethics below.

1. Study and understand the rules of the game, watch the work of other umpires and make an attempt to improve at all times.
2. Know and master the mechanics of umpiring.
3. Prepare yourself both physically and mentally to administer the game of baseball in a professional manner at all times.
4. Dress and maintain your appearance in a manner befitting the dignity of the HKBA.
5. Honor all umpiring contracts and assignments.
6. Enforce the rules of the game being fair and unbiased in all your decisions. Render the rules without regard to the score or to a particular incident that may have arisen during the game.
7. Remember that while you work as an umpire, that you conduct yourself in a manner that keeps the game, players and yourself under control.
8. Exhibit proper and ethical behavior while interacting with players, coaches and spectators at games.
9. Always be firm but never overbearing, courteous but not ungrateful, positive but never rude, dignified but never cocky, friendly but not companionable, and most importantly being calm by always being alert.
10. Cooperate and be professional in your association with your fellow umpires, doing nothing to cause them public embarrassment.
11. Make sure that all the plays that occur are covered properly by you and your partner(s).
12. Do not smoke or use foul or abusive language in the vicinity of the playing field, nor drink any alcoholic beverages on the day you are scheduled to work.
13. Use your knowledge and judgment to become the most consistent umpire that you can be.
14. Always supports, making sure you backup your partner(s) and always leave the field together.



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Part A: DO'S of Baseball Umpiring

- 1 Be neat and clean in your appearance
- 2 Accept assignment and be on time
- 3 Hustle and be alert on every play
- 4 Meet your partner/go over everything that you feel needs to be covered
- 5 Have a pre-game conference with the coaches/introducing yourself and your partner(s)
- 6 Keep the game, players and yourself under control. Keep the game moving
- 7 Cooperate and be professional with your partner(s), do nothing to cause them embarrassment
- 8 Be fair and unbiased in your decisions
- 9 Leave the field together and have a post-game conference

Part B: DON'T of Baseball Umpiring

- 1 Try to be the center of attention
- 2 Joke around with players or coaches. DO NOT LOOK FOR TROUBLE
- 3 Get in a shouting match with anyone on the field, dugout or the stands
- 4 Be overbearing, uncourteous, rude, undignified, cocky, bait or intimidate the players
- 5 Use mobile telephone whilst umpiring
- 6 Smoke or drink alcohol whilst umpiring
- 7 Make comment to the media unless authorized by the appropriate personnel
- 8 Ever leave your partner(s) unprotected in any situation

Updated: 21 April 2016