

Neobaseball & Softball: UMPIRE'S GUIDE TO SEASON

LEAGUE INFORMATION

- Register online [Become an Umpire www.neobaseball.org/umpire-registration](http://www.neobaseball.org/umpire-registration)
- Review the current Neobaseball and Softball League rules:
 - [NeoBaseball Rules www.neobaseball.org/rules](http://www.neobaseball.org/rules)
 - [NeoSoftball Rules www.neobaseball.org/softball-rules](http://www.neobaseball.org/softball-rules)
- We have around 2500 youth baseball and softball games each spring and 700 each fall throughout the region (all of Portage County and parts of Summit, Stark, Mahoning, and Trumbull Counties).

FREE COURSES REQUIRED

- [Concussion in Sports Course: https://nfhslearn.com/courses/concussion-in-sports-2](https://nfhslearn.com/courses/concussion-in-sports-2)
- [Lindsay's Law | Ohio Department of Health: https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/lindsays-law/lindsays-law](https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/lindsays-law/lindsays-law)
- Attend umpire training clinic (several dates available)
 - Primarily to address rules, mechanics, and expectations
 - “Shadowing” (mentoring) is also available for new umpires
 - **Contact LeeAnn Ferguson 330-281-6105 babferg@aol.com**

CLOTHING/GEAR NEEDED

- Pants: grey umpire pants
- Shirts: navy blue, light (powder) blue, pink, or black umpire shirts
- Shoes: black (protective plate umpire shoes are available)
- Protective Equipment: chest protector, face mask, shin guards (worn under pants)
- Other: black belt, ball bag, plate brush, indicator (“clicker” with balls, strikes, outs, innings)

SEASON INFORMATION

- Baseball (8U-14U) and softball (9U-14U) spring season runs from late April through early July. Spring games are mostly Mondays through Fridays (6-6:15pm) and Saturday 10am-12pm (but can be anytime).
- Fall season runs from August through early October. Fall games are mostly on Saturdays and Sundays (all day).
- The Schedule of Events for the year can be found online at:
 - [BASEBALL: Schedule of Events for the year www.neobaseball.org/schedule-of-events](http://www.neobaseball.org/schedule-of-events)
 - [SOFTBALL: Schedule of Events for the year www.neobaseball.org/softball-schedule-of-events](http://www.neobaseball.org/softball-schedule-of-events)

BASIC DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

The umpires are responsible for officiating the game, including beginning and ending the game, enforcing the rules of the game and grounds, making judgment calls in plays, and handling disciplinary actions.

Umpires are expected to look and act professional (dress the part, know the rules, be organized, punctual, and impartial). Arrival should be at least 10-15 minutes prior to the game so ground rules can occur 5 minutes prior to the scheduled game start time. It is imperative to know and understand the rules specific to each age group you officiate, since there are nuances for each division. There are time limits which will vary from spring to fall. Umpires and Team Managers should work together to keep games moving quickly so players can complete as many innings as possible.

UMPIRE FEES

Depending on age group, most umpires will earn \$50-60 per 9U-14U game, \$30 for coach-pitch, and \$40 for 8u baseball. Umpires are paid at the plate prior to each game during the spring season. Umpires are paid each weekend for fall games (potential for multiple games daily).