

THREE PART PRE-GAME CONFERENCE

PART 1 – Pre Planning

- Ensure all equipment and uniforms are ready for the next day /weekend.
- Make sure you have good directions to the park you are assigned to.
- Know your Site UIC and contact information.
- Arrive no later than 30 minutes prior to game time!

PART 2 – Arrival at Park

When you arrive at park, Find the umpire camp parking and contact the UIC.

- Schedule Changes
- Need a winner?
- Time Limits?
- Age groups ... 10C Rules

Find your partners and discuss how you are going to “work the game.”

- Fair/Foul Coverage
- Tag-Up/Touches
- Fly Ball to the outfield.
- Coverage of Third Base
- Uncaught Third Strike
- Batted Balls that hit batter while in box.
- Umpire to Umpire Communication

Find game balls and be on the field at home plate at least 10 minutes before game time.

Leave jewelry and cell phones in your vehicle.

PART 3 – Pre game conference

The home plate Umpire Conducts the pre-game conference, and both umpires should be at the conference.

Base umpire stands at the front of plate / Plate umpire stands at the back of plate.

Have coaches and team captains (if they have them) introduce themselves.

Home plate Umpire introduce base umpire(s) then them self.

Accept the lineup cards from the coaches. Check to see the following:

- Are the proper number of players listed?
- Are both first and last names listed?
- Are there no duplicate numbers?
- Are substitutes listed below the starters?
- Are there additional player(s) (APs) and/or DP/FLEX being used and are they listed in the correct spot? The Designated Player (DP) is listed in the lineup where they are batting. The FLEX is listed last on the lineup.
- Are they using Roster Batting? If so, ALL players present must be in the batting order. Any late arriving players must be added to the end of the batting order.

If there are any problems, get them resolved now.

Once the lineup card is checked, hand it back to the coach and let him review it one more time, when you get it back then the lineup becomes official.

Ask if all players and equipment are legal and in compliance with USSSA rules. You must get a verbal reply of “yes.”

Briefly cover the following:

Ground Rules for that field.

- Any Unique rules for that field
- Identify all openings in the field area where the ball may leave the field of play.
- Cover the rule for a trapped ball / past a temporary fence, etc.

Optionally Cover the Run Rule/Time limit/Ghost Bats

Determine Home and Away team; USSSA Points/Higher Seed/Coin Flip (make sure you have a coin)

No warnings may be issued at the Pre-game

All of this should take no more than 2 minutes

START YOUR TIMER