



## Greater Lawrence Baseball Umpires Association



### GLBUA Newsletter – Dec 2021

Hello everyone! I hope you are all well and starting to get excited for yet another amazing season umpiring baseball! Next season will be incredible for players and officials. I suspect we will be getting back to a more normal season and routine after a couple of tough seasons due to covid. It is now time to start planning, and getting ready to work at our craft and serve the game we love. Please make every attempt to attend the clinics as outlined below. We have an obligation to the leagues and our organization to be the best we can possibly be.

This email update is to all members of the Greater Lawrence Baseball Umpires Association Please read the entire newsletter, as there is important information enclosed.  
Thanks.

- **Annual dues** – the executive board recently voted to set dues at the same rates as they were in 2019! \$50 if paid by January 1, 2022, \$60 if paid by February 1, 2022 and \$70 if paid anytime after February 1, 2022. The deadline for paying in full is March 3rd, the night before the annual business meeting. You can mail your check to the GLBUA at PO Box 701 Methuen, MA 01844, OR another option is to pay online by credit card or your Paypal account, which you can access on the GLBUA website by clicking on the PayPal link on the Member page at glbua.org. See item #4 for the password. **You can also mail directly to Ken Gabriel at 20 Tammy Street, Salem, NH, 03079.** If you do not pay your dues by March 3rd, you risk having your name removed from the GLBUA roster.
- **Business meeting** – March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

We are back! Our Business meeting will be held in person this year on Thursday, March 4th, beginning at 7pm at the Firefighter's Relief-In on Market Street in Lawrence. This is an important meeting for us to reconnect as an association and see many of our fellow umpires that we have not seen in a few years! As the date approaches, watch your email for updates on equipment vendors as well as an updated agenda.

- **REMINDER:** per the GLBUA constitution, each member is required to attend the business meeting to be a member in good standing. If you are **unable** to attend, you **MUST** contact the GLBUA president by email at [rpru54357@aol.com](mailto:rpru54357@aol.com), and state the reason you cannot attend. Since this is a mandatory meeting, please try to block this night off on your calendar today..
- **The Arbiter** – The Association continues to be the only board in the state to sponsor an Arbiter account in an effort to bring more games to our members. The GLBUA will once again be paying the fee for all association members to be on the GLBUA Arbiter site. This site will be for assignments from Fred Simm, John Shaheen, Tony Barbaro, and Jack Gilhooly only.
- Once again, we expect to have a LOT of games next year! Please begin updating your Arbiter calendar with dates you are unavailable. This is a good time to block off the dates of those

weddings and graduations your wife or significant other has scheduled for you this spring and summer. If your work schedule has changed, block off dates and times you cannot umpire. This is also a good time to verify your personal information, especially if you have a new phone number or home address. Don't forget to update your travel limits and the city you leave from each day. We also encourage you to use the member roster to add phone numbers of fellow umpires to your cell phones.

If you have questions or want to know more about how the Arbiter works, contact one of the assigners.

- **Greater Lawrence Baseball Umpires Association website** – the address for our website was changed in 2018 and is now [www.glbua.org](http://www.glbua.org). Check out the new look put in by our webmaster David Toto! Same great stuff, just a more modern look. You can also pay your dues from the Member section. The generic username and password is *umpire/umpire123*. Please write that down somewhere.
- **Pre-season exam** – all GLBUA members will be required to take the 50-question preseason exam that will be posted on the GLBUA website sometime in February. Look for a separate email soon announcing that. Due date for completion will be APRIL 15th, when the exam will be discussed at our rules meeting (see #7 below).
- **New Umpire Class** – do you know anyone that wants to be an umpire? We will once again co-sponsor the class with the Merrimack Valley Umpires Association. The new umpire class begins January 24, and continues every Monday until February 21st. This will be held in person at St. Michael's School in North Andover. The exam is February 28th. Ron Annand and Scott Young are the instructors. Please have interested candidates reach out to Scott at [coach.scott.young@gmail.com](mailto:coach.scott.young@gmail.com) or 978 590 3262. As always, all association members are invited to sit in and refresh themselves on the rules during any class session- It is very valuable to both the candidates and our veteran members to have experienced umpires in the room to help bring the rules to life!
- **Meetings and Clinics** – we have a very busy slate of meetings and clinics coming up in March and April. The GLBUA constitution states that each member must attend the Business Meeting and at least one clinic annually, but we encourage you to come to as many as you can. The schedule will be posted on the Meetings & Clinics page on our website as soon as possible.
  - MARCH 3rd 7:00 PM, GLBUA business meeting will be at Relief's In
  - TBA- FED Rules Clinic – with Joe Peters from the MBUA. Details to follow. All umpires taking High School Assignments SHOULD attend.
  - March 24th- GLBUA 1st Rules clinic at Greater Lawrence Tech
  - APRIL 4<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm at Greater Lawrence Tech, Small Diamond Clinic, hosted by Tom Torrisi. Will be conducted virtually. Instructions to follow. **(Highly recommended for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year umpires and veterans that work on the small diamond)**
  - APRIL 8<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm, GLBUA Two Man Mechanics Clinic. Details to follow.
  - **APRIL 7<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm at Greater Lawrence Tech, GLBUA members take home test review and 2nd Rules Clinic. (NOTE 1: In addition to the mandatory business meeting, all members (except those have declared themselves inactive) are required to attend at least one meeting between c, d, and e listed above. We encourage you to attend as many as you can. You can never learn enough!**

- **Want to sell some of your old equipment or shirts?** The new candidates are taking their final exam on February 28, 2022, and they are usually interested in picking up some equipment at a discounted price. Send an email to the GLBUA secretary so that your equipment can be listed online for all members.

**If you have any questions, suggestions, or concerns, please feel free to contact me or any e-board member.**

**We will look forward to seeing you at our annual meeting, clinics, and of course on the field.**

**Regards,**

Rob Prunier, President, and the GLBUA Executive Board