



GLBUA Newsletter – Dec 2020

Hello everyone! I hope you are all staying safe and healthy. Next season seems so far off, but it's time to start planning, despite the uncertainty we all are facing. 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.

- 1) **Annual dues** – the executive board recently voted to reduce the current dues to \$35 just for the 2021 season. 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.

- 2) **Business meeting** – March 4th, 2021

Our Business meeting will be held virtually this year on Thursday, March 4th, beginning at 7 PM. This IS an election year for the GLBUA and all nominations have been received as of today.

- a. 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 **tjtlaw@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. Remember, this will be a virtual meeting, not IN-PERSON.
- 3) **The Arbiter** – the GLBUA is once again paying the fee for all association members that want access to the GLBUA Arbiter site. This site will be for assignments from Fred Simm, John Shaheen, Tony Barbaro, and Jack Gilhooly only. If you do not intend to take any assignments from these 4 assignors in 2021, please let us know so that we can take your name off the distribution list.
 - a. 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.

- 4) **Greater Lawrence Baseball Umpires Association website** – the address for our website was changed in 2018 and is now 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.
- 5) **Pre-season exam** – all GLBUA members will be required to take the 50-question pre-season 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).
- 6) **New Umpire Class** – do you know anyone that wants to be an umpire? The new umpire class begins January 25, and continues every Monday until February 22nd . This will be held virtually and more information is forthcoming soon. The exam is March 1st. Scott Young is the instructor and the contact for the class is Fred Simm. He can be reached at fredsimm@comcast.net, and 978-807-7103.
- 7) **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 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.
 - a) MARCH 4th 7:00PM, GLBUA business meeting will be conducted virtually. Instructions to follow.
 - b) March 8th and 15th 7:00pm, GLBUA Two Man Mechanics Clinic. Instructor is Tom Clark. This class will be held virtually.
 - c) MARCH 25th 7:00pm, FED Rules Clinic – with Joe Peters from the MBUA. Will be conducted virtually. Instructions to follow. All umpires taking High School Assignments SHOULD attend.
 - d) APRIL 5th 7:00pm, Little League Rules Clinic, hosted by Tom Torrisi. Will be conducted virtually. Instructions to follow. **(recommended for 1st and 2nd year umpires and veterans that are new to LL)**
 - e) **APRIL 15th, 7:00pm, GLBUA member take home test review. (recommended for all members)** Details to follow.

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!

- 8) **Want to sell some of your old equipment or shirts?** The new candidates are taking their final exam on March 1, 2021, 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.

Regards,

Tom Torrisi, President, and the GLBUA Executive Board