**Fox Cities Officials Association** will be hosting a WIAA approved Baseball clinic.

Date:

Place:

Time:

The clinic will be conducted by Master Umpires,

Guest speakers planned,

Varsity Head Coach,

Athletic Director,

Officials who attend the entire clinic and complete the exam and rules meeting requirements successfully, will be given credit for 1 varsity contest if he/she is a L4, L5, or Master official, or will be allowed to advance two levels in classification if he/she is a L0, L1, L2, or L3 official. The officials must meet all the requirements of the advanced classification level. These privileges apply only to their classification in baseball. Advancement or game credit will be given when the official renews their license for the next school year.

Please remember that clinic attendance DOES NOT exempt you from watching the WIAA rules meeting video.

Our main goal is to give the tools to all the students, so that they may become better umpires, on and off the field.

We will be going over the meeting folder along with a classroom presentation of base and plate protocol and mechanics. We will also be working in the gym at stations set up for game situations in the morning, along with live work in the afternoon with the JV and Varsity Baseball squad. We will conclude the day with evaluations of all attendees.

I thank you for your consideration in this matter as we are striving to make more confident and skillful WIAA Umpires for the game of Baseball.

Cost of the clinic.

For registration form, please see attachment or email.

WIAA Baseball Umpires Clinic Outline:

Registration - 7:30am.

8:00am - Welcome and Introductions of officers and clinicians.

8:15am - Presentations from guest speakers.

8:45am - Classroom Presentation of the following:

Generals – Mechanics/Professionalism.

Uniform (Navy Blue Shirt, Charcoal Grey Pants, Navy Blue Hat, Black Belt, Ball Bag, Black Shoes)

Additional Equipment (Umpires Mask, Indicator, Chest Protector, Shin Guards, Protective Cup, Plate

Brush.)

Rules Knowledge Review “The NFHS Rules Book, Case· Book, Umpire Manual.”

Learn the phrase “In my opinion.”

Mechanics

Out/Strike (3 levels.)

Non-Verbal - Everyone knows the call, you just confirm.

Verbal/Signal – Your judgment (used 75% of the time.)

Sell – Loudly verbally call/sell (In the field, briefly pause, quick replay, then SELL.)

Safe (3 levels.)

Same as out/strike.

Plate Mechanics:

What is the Strike Zone (Strike zone for different levels of play, although technically the same

realistically different.)

Be methodical (Same repetitive movements.)

Slot position (Get in the slot – best view.)

Stance The key is to have a “locked” position.

Head Height.

Align on the plate.

Athletic Stance (Back Straight, Hand Position, etc.…)

Ball Tracking (Follow with eyes, not your head – then make the call wait till it hits the glove, then call.)

Consistency...

Strike (When to use verbal “strike” when to just signal, how to sell the strike and how often to sell.)

The Count – Give every other pitch. The higher the level, the less you need to give the count.

Stop Signal.

Play Ball Signal.

Dead Ball/Foul Ball.

Close play @ Plate positioning.

Infield Fly Signal (On/Off.)

Base Mechanics: A, B, C.

Move to improve (Angle over Distance. Go for the angle over getting closer to the play.)

Stop moving while making the call.

A – Inside/Out (Fly ball coverage.)

B/C – Allow players to get their spot 1st, then get yours (Talk with players.)

Safe on pulled foot (Signal Safe, then signal “Side Swipe.”)

How to cover the pickle.

Umpire Etiquette:

Punctuality – 30 Minutes is preferred and standard protocol.

Never disagree publicly with your partner (you are the only 2 people on YOUR team! Stick Together.)

Pre-Game Discussion with Partners.

Responsibilities (3rd base, fair/foul, fly balls.)

Communication/Signals.

Special Plays you’ve seen.

Pick something you want to get better @ each game.

Verbally communicate/point during plays.

How to get count from partner (Base Ump.)

How to get help on a check swing (Base ump, do not offer help until asked.)

If umpires need help or disagree, call a conference – give all available information, let the umpire who made the call change the call. Otherwise, the call stands, and the umpires stand together with the call!

Plate conference and score card.

10:30am - Finish Classroom Presentation and Gymnasium Workstations.

11:00am - Live Field Work. Break into 2 groups. One group working plate umpire (Have Live pitching from JV and Varsity players) and other field work (covering ABC positions and responsibilities with live runners).

12:15 Lunch while live work is in progress. Watch video of balks and questions.

12:45 reverse group for live field work

3:00pm Evaluations and questions of clinic participants.

4:00pm - Clinic concluded