



Greater Lawrence Baseball Umpires Association



GLBUA Newsletter – Fall 2016

Hello everyone! I hope you all had a great season and you are having a great fall. The 2017 season is still quite a ways off, but it's time to do some business. 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 dues for 2017 will remain at \$50.00, and they are due by 12/31/16. If you decide to pay in January, the dues jump to \$60, and after 1/31/17, the dues are \$70. Please remember that you have until the annual business meeting on **March 9th, 2017** to pay your dues for the 2017 season. Mail your check to GLBUA Treasurer Ken Gabriel at 20 Tammy St, Salem, NH 03079 as soon as possible. You may also pay the night of the business meeting/banquet. 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 logo on the “What’s New” page at <http://www.greaterlawrenceumpires.com/>. If you do not pay your dues by March 9th, your name will be removed from the GLBUA roster.
- 2) **Business meeting/banquet** - will be held again this year at the Relief's In, also known as the Lawrence Firefighter's Club, 1 Market St in Lawrence on Thursday March 9th, and beginning at 6 PM. Go to <http://www.reliefsin.com> for directions and more information. Dinner will again be catered by one of our own officials, Nick Comeau. Members of all ages are welcome. In addition, representatives from All Sports East will be onsite beginning at 5:30 PM, offering a discounted rate for GLBUA members, so if you are looking to buy new equipment or uniforms, get there early! Many of the local assigners will be there as well, so this is a great time to introduce yourself. Remember that if you are paying your dues that night, it will cost you \$70 when you check in at the door. See the Photo Gallery section on the GLBUA website for photos from the last 7 years. This IS an election year for the GLBUA, so if you are interested in running for a position on the executive board, please submit your nomination to the secretary prior to the business meeting.

Note: the GLBUA will once again be offering a door prize of free membership for the following year (2018), so make sure you're there to be eligible. We will also be giving each member a very useful gift when you check in, so please be there! We will once again be doing a raffle for our charity partner, the Lawrence Rec Dept, so bring along a few bucks to help support that organization.

- 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 secretary by email at secretary@greaterlawrenceumpires.com and state the reason you cannot attend. Hope to see you there!

- 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, John Colman, Dan Tirone, Tim McGonagle, Tony Barbaro, and Jack Gilhooly only. If you do not intend to take any assignments from these 7 assignors this year, please let us know so that we can take your name off the distribution list.
 - a. We will have a LOT of games again 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. We also encourage you to use the member roster to add phone numbers of fellow umpires to your cell phones. We also encourage signing up for Arbiter Connected, a great tool for your mobile device.
 - b. If you know a fellow umpire that is interested in joining the GLBUA, please forward their information to Jack Gilhooly at jackgilhooly@comcast.net or Fred Simm at fredsimm@comcast.net. We are always looking for good umpires.
 - c. If you have questions or want to know more about how the Arbiter works, contact one of the assignors, or go to the GLBUA website for a document called Arbiter Helpful Hints, which you can find on the “What’s New” page.

- 4) **Greater Lawrence Baseball Umpires Association website** – the address for our website is <http://www.greaterlawrenceumpires.com/>. We ask that you get familiar with the site and add it to your “Favorites”. The “What’s New” section is updated on a regular basis, and is full of great information and links. We also continued to use the Recognition page that shows some of the great work done by our umpires in 2016. Is your name on there? Click on Meetings and Clinics for dates of upcoming events. There is also a Links tab that you may want to check out. We also have a Members section that lists area assignors and also shows the GLBUA roster. 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 in February. Look for a separate email soon announcing that. Due date for completion will be Thursday March 23rd, 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 Monday Jan 30th at 7 PM, and continues every Monday in February at Greater Lawrence Tech, with the exam on 3/6/17. Fred Simm is the instructor and contact for the class, and he can be reached at fredsimm@comcast.net, and 978-807-7103.

- 7) **Meetings and Clinics** – we always have a very busy slate of meetings and clinics coming up in March and April again next year. 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 to date is below, and can also be found on the Meetings & Clinics page on our website.

- a) **Thursday, March 9th** – GLBUA business meeting and banquet, Relief's In, Lawrence, 6 - 9 PM (**mandatory for all members**). Note: All Sports East will be on-site selling uniforms and equipment.
- b) **Tues, March 14th or Thurs March 16th** – 2 man mechanics class, indoor field clinic, Greater Lawrence Tech gym, 7 PM (**mandatory for new members, open to all**)
- c) **Mondays 3/13 and 3/20** – two man mechanics class, Greater Lawrence Tech auditorium, 7 PM (**mandatory for new members, open to all**)
- d) **Thurs, March 23rd** – rules clinic, review of MBUA exam, Greater Lawrence Tech auditorium, 7 PM (**recommended for all members**). This is most attended meeting of the year!
- e) **Saturday, April 1st** – indoor cage clinic, Play Ball, Salem NH, 9-11 AM (**mandatory for new members, open to all**). No cost to umpires, paid for by the GLBUA.
- f) **Tues, April 4th** – Little League and small diamond rules clinic, Greater Lawrence Tech, 7 PM (**recommended for 1st and 2nd year umpires and veterans that are new to LL**)
- g) **Thursday, April 13th** – 2nd rules clinic, Greater Lawrence Tech auditorium, 7 PM (**recommended for all members**)

NOTE: In addition to the mandatory business meeting, all members (except those have declared themselves inactive) are required to attend at least one meeting between b, d, and g 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 Monday March 6th at 7 PM at Greater Lawrence Tech, and many of them may be interested in picking up some equipment at a discounted price. Bring your equipment in that night if interested. Send an email to the GLBUA secretary as well so that your equipment can be listed online for all members.

See you at the business meeting. If you have any questions, suggestions, or concerns, please feel free to contact me or any e-board member.

**Regards,
Mike Lynch and the GLBUA Executive Board**