



LET'S TALK UMPIRES

Did You Know?

The BLSA has a rule regarding interactions with umpires.

Rule 3.22 – Umpires:

“There shall be no appeal from any decision of any umpire on the grounds that they were not correct in their conclusions as to whether a batted ball was fair or foul, a runner safe or out, a pitched ball a strike or ball, or on any play involving accuracy of judgment.”

In other words, judgment calls are final!

A Little Perspective...

In Major League Baseball, they have FOUR umpires per game:

1 behind the plate (calls balls, strikes, and plays at home) 1 at each base to monitor field plays and base running

That's many eyes on the field — and guess what? Even with four trained officials, calls still get missed sometimes.

Now imagine our league... with just ONE umpire doing it all — and crushing it most of the time!

Here's a taste of what goes through an umpire's mind in just one pitch:

“Alright, runner on first, right-handed batter. Set up on this side. Is she in the box? Bat checked? Catcher in position—will she be safe from the swing? Will I be? Okay, get low, eye on the strike zone. Watch the pitcher... WAIT, someone's walking across the field again?? ‘TIME!OFF THE FIELD!’ ...Okay, reset. Runner still on base? Yes. Is the pitcher standing where they are supposed to watch the pitcher's arm, watch the release, watch that the runners on base don't lead before it crosses the plate ... was that a strike? A ball? A swing? She hit it! Where'd it go? Fair or foul? Did it hit anyone? Who's covering? Is anyone blocking the runner? Where do I move? ...Okay, next batter.”...and that's just one play.