



September 2020

Dear Prospective Cadet,

Thank you for expressing an interest in joining the Bergen County Umpires Association. Each year, the BCUA runs a **Cadet Training Program** for individuals, **18 years of age** (by March 1, 2022) or older wishing to become members of our organization and registered NJSIAA interscholastic baseball and/or softball umpires.

In order to accomplish this, we have designed a program to train individuals with a comprehensive knowledge of the rules, in order to prepare our cadets for the **Final State Certification Examination(s)**, as well as the proper **mechanics of umpiring**. Once our cadets have successfully completed our program and received a passing grade on the certification examination(s) they will be entitled to membership in our organization **and will be certified to officiate varsity level baseball and/or softball games within the State of New Jersey**. **PLEASE NOTE THAT PASSING THE STATE EXAMINATIONS DOES NOT GUARANTEE THAT YOU WILL OFFICIATE ANY VARSITY LEVEL GAMES. OUR ASSOCIATION DOES NOT ASSIGN GAMES.**

The requirements for enrolling in and successfully completing our cadet program are detailed in this letter. Please make sure that you read this information carefully. Should you have any questions, please feel free to call or email **BCUA Cadet Supervisor, Peter Zubiaurre; 201-906-5127; pzubi11@verizon.net**

Our 2021 Cadet Program will consist of **eighteen (18) classroom instruction sessions (both baseball & softball)**, each approximately two hours in length. The first session, an **Orientation meeting**, will serve as a general introduction to the program. **All rule books and materials will be distributed at that meeting. In order to be eligible to take the NFHS Exam, you will need to attend three (3) out of five (5) of the 'Rules Classes' in your respective sport.** You may participate in either or both certification programs (baseball and softball). **Application fee for one sport (baseball OR softball) is \$200 and for dual sports (baseball AND softball) is \$270. There will be NO REFUNDS AFTER the 1st INSTRUCTIONAL CLASS for EACH SPORT...January 11; SOFTBALL; and January 13; BASEBALL. All refunds requested BEFORE the 1st INSTRUCTIONAL CLASS will be accessed a 'cost of materials' fee & a \$25 Administrative Fee.**

In addition to your classroom instruction, you will also be **required to participate in our MENTORING PROGRAM** for each sport you are registered. You will be expected to attend mentoring sessions **OBSERVING HIGH SCHOOL GAMES (PREFERABLY SCRIMMAGES)**. You will be assigned a "MENTOR" in each sport and will be **required to observe this official umpiring three (3) times for each sport you register. CADETS WHO DO NOT FULFILL THEIR MENTORING REQUIREMENT WILL REMAIN AS A CADET FOR THE ENTIRE FOLLOWING YEAR and will NOT be eligible to officiate any Varsity level games until all requirements have been completed.**

You must also attend one (1) CLASSROOM/GYM MECHANICS SESSION for each sport, in which you are registered. If you are ABSENT from the CLASSROOM/GYM MECHANICS SESSION, YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND AN ADDITIONAL MENTOR SESSION FOR THAT SPORT.

There will be two (2) 'OUTSIDE' MECHANICS SESSIONS. If you are ABSENT from any of the 'OUTSIDE' MECHANICS SESSIONS, YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND AN ADDITIONAL MENTOR SESSION FOR EACH SESSION MISSED FOR THAT SPORT.

All cadet classes will begin promptly! On the following pages is a listing of the dates, locations and starting times. **Please check the website for scheduling updates.** Classes are held twice a week (one for each sport), beginning in early JANUARY and continuing through MARCH. The State Certifying Examinations are given at the end of each sport session.

All of our cadets are expected to be **properly uniformed** when umpiring interscholastic games at any level. You are responsible for purchasing all equipment and items necessary for the upcoming season. Many sporting goods stores carry the equipment you will need to get started; however, if you wish to wait until our cadet program begins, we will have a vendor at the **orientation meeting** to offer these items.

As much information as possible will be transmitted via our website, www.bcu.info or through email communication. It is required that you provide an email address to receive such communications. In addition, as per the NJSIAA, the cadet **"must provide at least TWO LETTERS OF REFERENCE attesting to his/her character."**

Please complete and submit the **Cadet Application Form** to Peter Zubiaurre with your **enrollment fee** [which includes the fee for the state certifying exam(s)]. **Please make your check or money order payable to BCUA, INC.** Again, applicants must be at least eighteen (18) years of age by March 1, 2022 in order to participate in the cadet program.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE APPLICATION FEE MUST BE RECEIVED BY DECEMBER 15, 2020.

LATE APPLICATIONS WILL BE RETURNED. THE SIZE OF THE CADET CLASS MAY BE LIMITED.

Once you pass the National Federation Exam, you will be required to Register with NJSIAA (\$22/sport) & undergo a 'Background Check' (\$10).

*******ATTENDANCE...Cadets must attend three (3) of five (5) of the Instructional/Rules Classes in order to be eligible to take the NFHS Exam(s).**

PLEASE NOTE NJSIAA POLICY

Registration will not be issued for anyone convicted or adjudicated with a finding of fault, guilt or violation, in regard to an offense against a minor or any sexual offense unless/until such offense has been reversed by proper authority with jurisdiction over the matter; or convicted, or adjudicated with a finding of fault, guilt or violation, in regard to an offense involving any illegal/illicit drug or controlled substance as prescribed by federal or state law or regulation, prior to five (5) years following the completion of any sentence/parole/probation period imposed for the offense.

BERGEN COUNTY UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

2021 CADET SCHEDULE

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| Wednesday, January 6: | ALL SOFTBALL and BASEBALL Cadets Orientation Meeting; 7pm; |
| Monday, January 11: | Softball Rules |
| Wednesday, January 13: | Baseball Rules |
| Monday, January 18: | Softball Rules |
| Wednesday, January 20: | Baseball Rules |
| Monday, January 25: | Softball Rules |
| Wednesday, January 27: | Baseball Rules |
| Monday, February 1: | Softball Rules |
| Wednesday, February 3: | Baseball Rules |
| Monday, February 8: | Softball Rules |
| Wednesday, February 10: | Baseball Rules |
| Wednesday, February 17: | Rules Differences Session; 7pm ('DUAL' Cadets ONLY) |
| Monday, February 22: | Softball Review Preliminary Exam |
| Wednesday, February 24: | Softball: Administer Exam |
| Monday, March 1: | Baseball Review Preliminary Exam |
| Wednesday, March 3: | Baseball: Administer Exam |
| Monday, March 8: | Softball Mechanics |
| Wednesday, March 10: | Baseball Mechanics |
| Saturday, March 13: | On Field Mechanics Clinic; RAMAPO HS, Franklin Lakes (Baseball 10am-11:30am; Softball 12noon-1:30pm) |
| Saturday, March 20: | On Field Mechanics Clinic; INDIAN HILLS HS, Oakland (Softball 10am-11:30am; Baseball 12noon-1:30pm) |

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- **ALL BASEBALL MEETINGS; 7pm; Location TBD**
 - **ALL SOFTBALL MEETINGS; 7pm; Location TBD**

BERGEN COUNTY UMPIRES ASSOCIATION, INC.
2021 CADET APPLICATION

(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY)

NAME: (LAST, FIRST): _____

ADDRESS: _____ APT. # _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE: _____ CELL PHONE: _____

EMAIL: (REQUIRED) _____

AS PER NJSIAA REQUIREMENTS, PLEASE INCLUDE 2 LETTERS OF REFERENCE THAT ATTEST TO YOUR CHARACTER.

How did you find out about the CADET PROGRAM? _____

INSTRUCTION PREFERENCE: BASEBALL ONLY: _____ SOFTBALL ONLY: _____ DUAL: _____

I have read the enclosed cover letter/cadet information web page regarding the Bergen County Umpires Association's Cadet Program. I understand and agree to abide by the rules of this program. I further understand that membership in this association does not guarantee any varsity level assignments.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

Please make your check or money order payable to **BCUA, INC.**

(PLEASE INITIAL) _____ I acknowledge, that as a Cadet I will NOT UMPIRE any VARSITY LEVEL GAMES and/or SCRIMMAGES, unless observing my Mentor during a scrimmage.

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE: FOR B.C.U.A. USE ONLY

AMOUNT RECEIVED: \$ _____ DATE RECEIVED _____ CHECK # _____

MAIL ALL PAPERWORK & CHECK TO:
PETER ZUBIAURRE
607 BEECH STREET
WASHINGTON TWSP, NJ
07676