



# The Indicator

The Newsletter of the MBUA

Game, Partners,



Myself.

This "Indicator" is dedicated to *Mr. Dennis Walsh*. Dennis was a good friend of mine. We played baseball together in the MCBA "Majors" Division in the 70s. Dennis was a true student of the game and worked every game like it was his "last" game. Dennis was one of the "best" "rule" umpires in the D.C. area. He would even correct the NATs announcers when they misinterpreted a rule. Dennis was an avid Frank Howard fan as well as a NATs fan. I will miss Dennis' baseball stories, his rules questions; but most of all his strike "call". Right now, Dennis is probably working a game in "the field of dreams." I will miss Dennis very much. This 2010, MBUA will be dedicate it to Mr. Dennis Walsh. — *Al Battista*

## Commissioner Updates:

- ◆ *Keep the Arbiter calendar updated.*
- ◆ *Call partners or e-mail partners 48 hours before the game.*
- ◆ *Send in game reports and self evaluations after each game.*

## Commissioner's Corner

Tips on *Working* the Plate.

By: Al Battista

1. Get in the Slot.
2. Avoid working over the top of the catcher.
3. By working in the Slot, you can see both corners and the "knee" pitch.
4. If the catcher "pinches" you , get a wider base.
5. If the catcher shifts before the pitch, you shift.
6. Check the corners with your eyes and don't drop your head.
7. Remember "Drop, Set and Lock."
8. See the whole pitch into the glove and make the call.



Maryland's Elite Umpire Association

*If you would like to be considered to be a Crew Chief in the fall and next season, please e-mail me ASAP.*

Different Managers or Coaches  
By Al Battista

*Each Manager or Head Coach has a different method of “working” us. Be aware and don’t fall for traps.*

*As an organization we have to do a better job of handling managers and Head Coaches.*

Here is a list of different types of Managers and Head Coaches:

1. **“The Praiser”**- He will tell you how great you are until the point of absurdity; when he perceives you to miss a call, he will say, “You are a better umpire than that.”
2. **“The Intimidator”**- He will use his voice, size, histrionics, success, social status, job and friends to intimidate you. You have to be very professional and tactful with him. Once he goes over the line, don’t restrict; but eject him. He will not like you, he will call me up; but he will respect when you do his game again.
3. **“The Divider”**- He will tell the base umpire your strike zone is too tight. Then he will tell the plate umpire that the base umpire missed “2” plays. Walk away from him and remember we are a team.
4. **“The Inciter”**- He rides game officials and he riles up spectators. He is very dangerous to H.S. Athletics. Eject this type of individual.
5. **“The Bookworm”**- He will say that is not in the rule book. He “reads into the rules to his advantage. To handle him, you must master the rules.
6. **“The Inquisitor”**- He will ask you bizarre questions that he already knows the answer to. Don’t fall for his trap. Listen, be polite and move on.
7. **“The Polite Coach”**- Again don’t get fooled! He will start out with “sir” and then he will be nasty, confrontational and disrespectful. When dealing with him, create “space.”

*The bottom line is when dealing with Head Coaches be professional, communicate in rule book language and don’t start conversations. Keep the Game Moving.*

Equipment:

Dave Gould- TD Sports, 703-631-1786.

[dbgould@erols.com](mailto:dbgould@erols.com)

Chris Coccagna- POS- 443-655-5853.

Catcher Skull Cap- Mask Combination:

Illegal- NF- Casebook- 1.5.4.

Legal- MLB- 1-16d.

## Camps

### Coastal Umpire Camp

December 11- 13

Myrtle Beach, SC

843-902-5264

### Florida Classic Clinic

December 27 - 31

303-290-7411



# Maryland’s Elite Umpire Association



The Metropolitan  
Baseball Umpires  
Association

The Newsletter of the MBUA

November 2009

We're on the web!  
[www.mbu.org](http://www.mbu.org)

## Officials

We proudly provide top quality umpires throughout the greater Washington DC metropolitan area.

Our services have been utilized by area baseball leagues since 1920. We service all ages and levels of baseball from Little League to High School to Adult leagues, primarily from March to November.

Editor / Commissioner:  
Al Battista

Treasurer:  
Thomas Kneeland Jr

Rules Interpreter:  
Jay O'Hare



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