

ELIGIBILITY

The following are required to become a DYA Youth Umpire:

Grades:	7th-12th grade
Residency:	Must be a City of Dublin resident or Dublin City School District resident
Pass test:	New applicants must pass a rules test
Sign-up:	New applicants sign up through the DYA website
Returning umpires:	Automatically eligible to umpire during the upcoming season if worked at least 4 games the previous year; otherwise, the Umpire Test must be re-taken and passed

UMPIRE QUALIFICATION TEST

New applicants must pass a written test to become a DYA Youth Umpire. The test is administered in April. Study material (DYA Baseball & Softball Rule Books, Umpiring Basics, and Guide on Fair/Foul Balls) is available on the DYA website under the Officials/Umpires tab. Umpires scoring 75% or higher will pass the test. Umpires scoring below 75% may be offered a retake opportunity at a later date depending on the number of passing umpires.

Passing the DYA Umpire Rules Test is required. (Study the available material, the test is not easy!)

TRAINING SESSIONS

All Umpires are required to attend preseason training sessions to prepare for the upcoming season.

- Outdoor Technique Clinics at Avery Park - provides umpires with on field training and practice making calls, the strike zone, and many other tips of the trade to help new umpires be successful.
- Informational Clinic at the DYA Office – for the Umpire and at least one Parent; covers using Arbiter.com (our scheduling tool).

2nd-6th Year Umpires are required to attend a short clinic to review rule changes and information necessary to help working games in the older leagues (i.e., Junior Pony and Softball Senior rules have some considerable differences than the younger leagues). This clinic is held when picking up your umpire gear. Attendance is mandatory to get promoted to the older leagues.

Clinic sessions are MANDATORY for ALL Youth Officials.

EQUIPMENT PICK-UP

DYA provides Umpire Equipment (Face Mask, Chest Protector, Shin Guards, Brush and Indicator). Equipment is distributed following a training session at Avery Park.

To receive umpire equipment, a \$150 Equipment Deposit Check is required (payable to DYA, postdate for 7/31/2025); Deposit checks will be returned upon receipt of borrowed equipment at the end of the season and will not be cashed unless equipment is not returned.

CONCUSSION CERTIFICATION

Ohio Law requires all umpires to be certified in concussion recognition. The free online certification course takes about 30 minutes to complete and is found at <http://nfhslearn.com/courses/concussion-in-sports-2>. Upon completion of the course, a certificate is issued. Concussion certification is good for three years.

GAME SCHEDULING

It is the goal of the program that all umpires work 10+ games each year and can work the required number of games for promotion to the next Classification Level.

- Umpires (or their parents) predominately schedule their own games online using Arbiter.com (the website is also used to manage the umpire's availability).
- Umpire Commissioner reserved the right to schedule available umpires when necessary.
- Umpire Commissioner schedules all Tournament games.

The number of games worked is only limited by an individual's availability and aggressiveness in self-assigning games.

UMPIRE PAY

Pay is based on the league and position (plate or bases) being umpired as shown in the table below.

Umpire Class (experience) will determine what games umpires are allowed to work.

League		Regular Season Pay		Tournament Pay		Minimum Class	
Baseball	Softball	Plate	Bases	Plate	Bases	Plate	Bases
AA	Minor	\$30	\$25	\$35	\$30	1	1
AAA	Major	\$35	\$30	\$40	\$35	2	2/1*
Junior Pony		\$40	\$35	\$45	\$40	3	3
	Senior	\$45	\$35			3	3
Pony ^①		\$50	\$40	\$55	\$45	4	4
Senior Pony ^①		\$60	\$50	\$65	\$55	5	5

Notes:

* Class 1 Umpires may work AAA/Major Bases only after working the required number of games listed in the Umpire Classification table on the following page (in-season promotion).

① Pony & Senior Pony Umpires are by invitation only (i.e., no automatic promotion based on experience).

UMPIRE CLASSIFICATIONS

Umpire Classification is used to define the Leagues (Baseball: AA, AAA, Junior Pony, Pony, Senior Pony; Softball: Minor, Major, Senior) and Positions (Plate or Bases) an umpire is eligible to work. The table below is the typical guideline used to determine promotions based on years of experience and number of games required to umpire any given League and Position. Following the table, some examples are provided. Note that Classifications are set prior to each season based on the previous year(s) games worked. In other words, promotions to the next Class are not made during the season, except Class 1 Umpires (Rookies) can be promoted to Class 2 Bases.

Class	Typical Years of Experience and Number of Games Umpired for Promotion*	
	Plate	Bases
1	N/A	N/A
2	1 Year Complete AND 8 Total Games (All Leagues & Positions) AND 6 Plate in AA + Minor AND 4 Plate in AA for promotion to AAA 4 Plate in Minor for promotion to Major	No Requirement for Years of Experience 6 Total Games (All Leagues & Positions) AND 4 Bases in AA + Minors AND 2 Bases in AA for promotion to AAA 2 Bases in Minor for promotion to Major
3	2 Years Complete AND 16 Total Games (All Leagues & Positions) AND 8 Plate in AAA + Majors AND 6 Plate in AAA for promotion to Junior Pony 6 Plate in Major for promotion to Senior	2 Years Complete AND 16 Total Games (All Leagues & Positions) AND 6 Bases in AAA + Majors AND 4 Bases in AAA for promotion to Junior Pony 4 Bases in Major for promotion to Senior
4	Invitation Only - HS Junior or Senior with 5 Years of Experience and 50+ games worked	
5	Invitation Only - HS Graduate and 5 Years of Experience, OR OHSAA Licensed Umpire	

* DYA may make exceptions to the requirements above depending on the number of returning and new umpires available for the upcoming season.

Classification Promotion Examples:

a) Chris is a rookie umpire (Class 1) and after 3 weeks into the season has worked 3 AA Bases, 2 Minor Plate and 1 Minor Bases. Chris is now eligible to umpire AAA Bases (in-season promotion) but cannot umpire Major Bases until umpiring 1 more Minor Bases game.

b) After 1 season, Max had worked a total of the following games: 6 AA Plate, 3 AA Bases, 8 AAA Bases, 6 Minor Plate, 4 Minor Bases, and 5 Major Bases. Max will be promoted to Class 2 for Baseball Plate, Baseball Bases, Softball Plate and Softball Bases. Max cannot be promoted to Class 3 for any league or positions since Max has only 1 year of experience.

c) After 2 seasons, Kelsey had worked a total of the following games: 4 Minor Plate, 4 Minor Bases, 8 Major Plate, 5 Major Bases, 4 AA Plate, 4 AA Bases, 5 AAA Plate, and 12 AAA Bases. Kelsey will be promoted to Class 3 for Softball Plate, Softball Bases, Baseball Bases, but remain Class 2 for Baseball Plate (since Kelsey had not worked at least 6 AAA Plate games).

d) Jake is now a Senior in high school and has been umpiring since 7th Grade (some years Jake worked over 15 games and some years Jake only worked 3 or 4). Over the years, the Umpire Commissioner watched Jake work several games and noticed that his knowledge of the rules wasn't great, and he didn't have a strong presence on the field. Given these factors, it is unlikely that Jake would be invited to be a Class 4 Umpire to work Pony games.

QUESTIONS?: Email office@dya.com