



REGION ROUNDTABLE

FUTURE OF UMPIRE DEVELOPMENT

Nick Caringi

Objectives

- To introduce the Umpire Advisory Committee (U.A.C.) concept
- To provide an update on the U.A.C. Initiatives
- To review grass roots growth and development plans
- To review plans for umpire pathways to high performance for Region and World Series Tournaments



Gerry Davis

Senior Umpire Consultant

- 40-Year MLB Umpire Career
- 5,000 games served
- 4 MLB All-Star Games
- 11 League Championship Series
- 6 World Series
- 2013 World Baseball Classic
- 2017 Little League MLB Classic



Umpire Advisory Committee

- What is it?
- Who are they?
- What are their Goals and what have they done?



Umpire Advisory Committee

- **Gerry Davis** – Senior Umpire Consultant
- **Dennis Williams** – West Region UIC
- **Mark Bernstein** – At Large – West Region
- **Ricci Hall** – East Region Assistant UIC
- **Phil King** – Central Region UIC
- **Rich Ealy** – Southeast Region UIC
- **Mike Lantiere** – East UIC
- **Jim Smith** – At Large – East Region
- **Mike Legge** – At Large – Southeast Region
- **Michelle De Rosa** – Central Region
- **William “Bubba” Von Tungeln** – UIC - Southwest Region
- **Brian Henry** – Southeast Region
- **Doug Perret** - West Region



What are their Goals?

- Grow and develop umpires at the local league - grass roots level by leveraging technology and available resources.
- Enhance the tournament experience for all participants (Coaches, players and umpires) by selecting and evaluating qualified umpires while providing a development pathway to those aspiring to be to be tournament umpires.



Grow and Develop Umpires at Local League Level

- Umpire Registry –
 - Online in 2018 with 4,600 members
 - Currently approaching 20,000 members
 - In 2023, 2,000 Background Checks completed through the Registry
 - 3,000 Umpires opted in for Umpire Search
 - 4,830 leagues selected by Umpires
 - Leagues using the search: 1,065

The screenshot shows the Little League Umpire Registry website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the logo, "Little League® Umpire Registry", and links for "Home", "Umpire Essentials", and "Education". A user greeting "Welcome, Nick Caringi" is visible on the right. A green notification bar at the top states "Umpire Information has been updated." Below this is the "Umpire Resources" section, which includes:

- Videos**: Touching Bases, Time Called Chats, and Webinars
- Umpire Essentials**: Rulebooks, Rule Interpretations and Gear
- Education**: Mechanics Training Videos and Casebook Explanations
- Registry Certificate**: View your current Umpire Registry Certificate (Not compatible with Microsoft Edge)
- Background Check Request**: Request Background Check
- Umpire Search Preferences**: Choose the leagues you would like to umpire—update as often as you'd like!
- Tournament Application**: Apply for Regional or World Series Tournaments (Application closed end of day on December 31, 2023)
- FairBall Newsletter**: Check your email for the latest e-newsletter

 On the right side, there are two promotional boxes:

- Seasonal Background Check**: Seasonal Background Check Request Can Now Be Submitted for 2024. Includes a "Complete Process" button.
- 2023 Little League® Rules Instruction Manual**: Little League® Baseball and Softball Rules Instruction Manual prepared for the 2023 Little League Umpire Schools. Includes a "Download 2023 RIM" button.

 At the bottom right, the "Upcoming Training & Clinics" section lists:

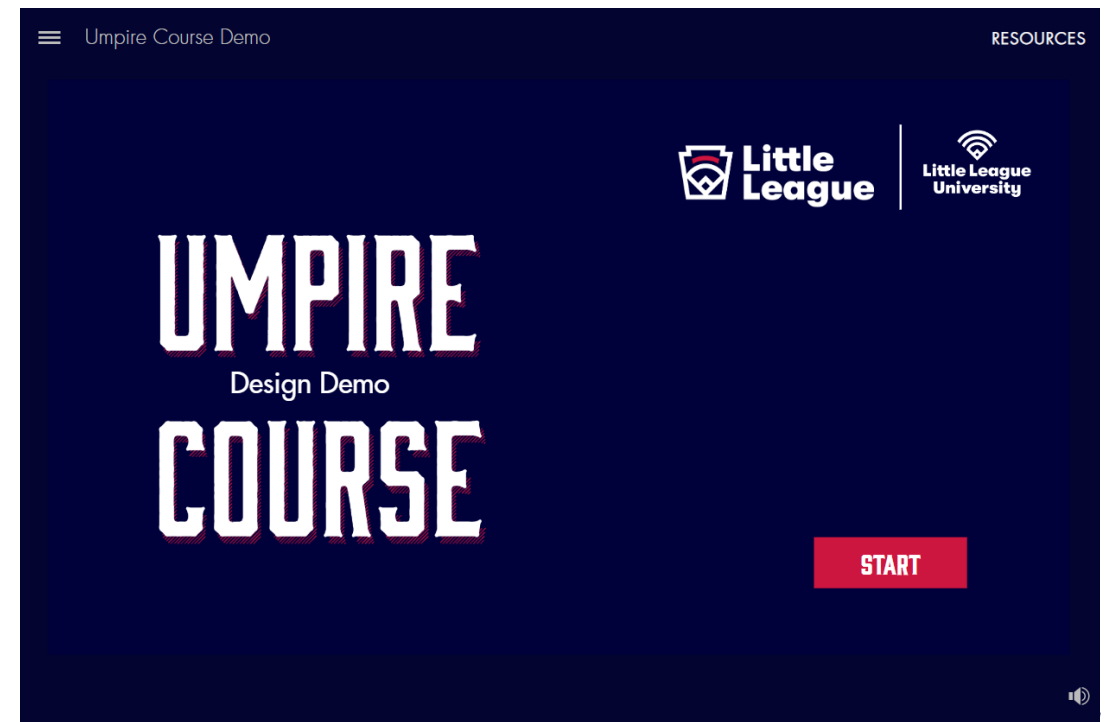
- Feb 10, 2024 8:00 AM ET**: Umpire Mechanics Clinic (East Region) - East Region - Headquarters - Cost: \$60.00. Includes a "Register" button.
- Feb 17, 2024 8:00 AM ET**: Umpire Mechanics Clinic (East Region) - East Region - Headquarters - Cost: \$60.00. Includes a "Register" button.



Grow and Develop Umpires at Local League Level

- Umpire Education
 - Standardization + Consistency = Scalability
 - Standard Curriculum Built
 - Online Course being Created
 - “Umpire 101” – March 1
 - Junior Umpire Clinics – 1 in each Region
 - Outreach Clinics – 2 in each Region
 - Virtual U.I.C. Clinics
 - Recruit / Retention

Little League Umpire Academy *In San Bernardino, CA*



Enhance the Tournament Experience

Umpire Selection

- Streamlined the application process through the Umpire Registry
- Moratorium removed

Collaborative Approach to Selections

- Regional Umpire Instruction Staffs with Selection Committee made up of select members of the Umpire Advisory Committee



Enhance the Tournament Experience

Umpire Identification Camps (I.D. Camps)

- What are they and what is their purpose?

Umpire Evaluations

- Online System integrated into the Umpire Registry
- Evaluator Training is imperative



"Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. The ability to direct individual accomplishments toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results." – Andrew Carnegie

