

Summary of January 18, 2021 Umpire Advisory Team Meeting

On January 18, 2021, the Umpire Advisory Team (UAT) held a periodic meeting. UAT members in attendance were Bryan Richter, Rick Morris, and Joe Holonich.

SUM training was the main topic of discussion. Rick Morris explained that, due to the loss of the space at Catonsville, training was moved to the Arbutus Community Association building. This was also reported in the January 18, 2021, SUMmary.

Rick further explained that mechanics training was limited because of the loss of the indoor games and ancillary activities like pitching. He also stated that training had started on Saturday, January 16, 2021, with fewer umpires in attendance than previous years. One of the new recruits determined the time commitment was too much and decided to not pursue umpiring.

Rick was anticipating that, because a reminder has been sent, additional recruits would be attending future sessions. A suggestion was made to issue a training schedule showing what chapters of the rulebook would be covered on what date. The expectation was people who wanted to refresh their knowledge of a particular rule might also choose to attend that session. Rick agreed to consider this.

Next, a review of the actions from the November 11, 2020, UAT meeting was done. It was noted that the summary from that meeting had been distributed so the action was considered closed. With respect to direct deposit, it was decided the issue had been previously raised and John Dye had investigated using it. Based on what John found, it was not practical costs and implementation-wise to use direct deposit. Thus, the action was considered closed.

March 15, 2021 was selected as the next meeting date. It was agreed that this date would allow input from the annual SUM meeting, hopefully held in early March, to be considered plus any items that needed discussion before the tournament season started on March 27, 2021. Bryan Richter agreed that agenda and a request for additional agenda would be sent to UAT members a week before the meeting. This would give members an opportunity to provide any topics of interest plus serve as a convenient reminder for the meeting.

Actions from the meeting were:

1. Bryan would investigate with John Dye if direct deposit for pay was an option; and
2. Bryan would discuss with John the need to keep the UAT summary on the SUM website current and ensuring distribution of the summary to all SUM members following a UAT meeting.

If you have a topic for the UAT to consider, please feel free to contact any of the UAT members using their contact information in Arbiter. They are:

John Calamari
Bill Chatterton
Mark Habighurst
Joe Holonich
Rick Morris
Bryan Richter
Damon Williams