



# **2026 CBA New Umpire Survival Guide**

# Use this guide to help navigate through the first year of your umpiring journey.

**Task 1** - Register with the OBA by going to: <https://www.playoba.ca/become-an-umpire>

**Task 2** - Start reading the Rules of Baseball found here:

<https://www.playoba.ca/rules-of-baseball>

**Task 3** - On the OBA's ONDeck App, completed the Online Umpire Learning Course. This should take approximately 2 hours.

**Task 4** - Reach out to a local Umpire In Chief to get registered for a Level 1 course. These courses should start to be available on the 24<sup>th</sup> of February.

Level 1 course can be taken at any Centre offering it, however I would prefer that *if you are new to umpiring, that you take the Level 1 in Clarington.*

**Task 5** - Take A Pause - Once 'Certified', determine whether umpiring is for you. Second, determine if you want to umpire both the bases and the plate. This will make a huge difference in your costs first year. Don't make a financial commitment unless you are certain that this is something you want to pursue. Our goal is to equip you with the skills to do both.

**Task 6** - Email Derek: [umpireinchief@claringtonbaseball.ca](mailto:umpireinchief@claringtonbaseball.ca) and request a Sign-In for SportsHeadz - CBA's umpire scheduling software.

**Task 7** - Go to [https://claringtonbaseball.ca/Forms/1078/Umpire\\_Code\\_of\\_Conduct/](https://claringtonbaseball.ca/Forms/1078/Umpire_Code_of_Conduct/) and complete the CBA Umpire Code of Conduct. This is Mandatory.

**Task 8** - Start purchasing gear.

Advice 1 - **Buy Mask New.** Do not buy second hand. You have no guarantee that it is safe unless you buy it directly from the manufacturer.

Advice 2 - **Find deals to reduce your initial expense.** Marketplace, Kijiji etc. are good. Be careful buying protective equipment off Amazon. Trust known brands for protection, while apparel is less important.

Advice 3 - **Don't over commit.** If you buy the "top of the line" piece of equipment right away, and your son/daughter don't like umpiring, you may be putting unnecessary pressure on the child to 'recoup' expenses which could create a 'negative' experience.

Advice 4 - **When choosing apparel, consider purchasing a long and short sleeve version of the same shirt.** When its cool or rainy, being comfortable on the field will go a long way to keeping the experience fun and positive.

Advice 5 - **Hats. My advice is to DON'T buy a full back.** Buy a snap back. If the fullback is not of good quality, it will stretch out and never reform. You can always adjust a snapback.

**Task 9** - Get out there and have some fun!

# New Umpire Checklist: First-Year Essentials

(Bolded items should be considered MANDATORY)

## Equipment

Item	Approx. Cost
<b>Umpire Mask</b> – Lightweight with strong padding and durable bars	
<b>Chest Protector</b> – Proper fit for comfort and protection	
<b>Shin Guards</b> – Full coverage from knee to ankle	
<b>Black Shoes</b> – Comfortable, non-metal cleats for field work	
<b>Indicator (Clicker)</b> – Tracks balls, strikes, outs, and innings	
<b>Plate Brush</b> – For cleaning home plate between plays	
<b>Ball Bag</b> – Holds extra baseballs or softballs	
<b>Hat</b> – Black or navy, depending on league uniform standards	
<b>Uniform Shirts</b> – Typically black, navy or powder blue	
<b>Uniform Pants</b> – Plate and base pants (plate pants are wider for shin guards)	
<b>Belt</b> – Black leather or synthetic preferred. NO WHITE!	
<b>Pen or Pencil</b> - with backup -	
Sunglasses – Non-reflective lenses for sunny days	
Water Bottle – Stay hydrated during long games	
<b>Watch</b> - Analog preferred with hands, or digital - beware of smart watches	

## Optional but Helpful Items

Item	Approx. Cost
Gear Bag – Large enough to carry all equipment	
Extra Indicator and Brush – Backup in case of loss or damage	

# Links/Suggestions for Gear

Facebook Marketplace

As always, buyer beware!

Team Town Sports: <https://www.teamtownsports.com> (Victoria St. in Whitby)

Homerun Sports: <https://homerunsports.com/collections/umpire> (online)

Amazon (confirm deliver dates, duties, shipping costs)

SportChek

Canadian Tire

Walmart

Source for Sports

# Links/Suggestions for Training Videos

Youtube is a great resource. Consider the source and always consult with UiC if unsure.

Positioning Manuals can be found in the ONDeck App. Read them, then read them again!

Rules Explanations - Also found on ONDeck - available to all levels.

# 2026 Approved CBA Umpire Pay\*

Level	HL	Select	Rep
9U	\$38	\$42	\$48
11U	\$40	\$44	\$50
13U	\$42	\$46	\$52
15U	\$50	\$52	\$72
18U	\$52	\$56	\$72
15U Elite			\$75
16U Elite			\$80
18U Elite			\$80

\*\$10 additional Fee is applied to Tournament Games

## CBA First and Second Year Equipment Rebate Program

The CBA understands that attracting and engaging new umpires is a difficult task. We also understand that there are significant financial investments needed in order to properly equip umpires. In order to remove these financial barriers to entry into the umpiring world, umpires who demonstrate a commitment to officiating in Clarington are eligible to apply up to \$150 for the first year and \$150 for the second year for approved umpire equipment. Here's how the program works.

1. All expenses must be pre-approved by the Treasurer with receipts provided after purchase. Receipts can be sent to [treasurer@claringtonbaseball.ca](mailto:treasurer@claringtonbaseball.ca)
2. The umpire will be reimbursed \$10 for each of the first 15 games he/she umpires for the CBA in the year the expense was incurred.
3. You may also apply for the full \$300 upfront, and be reimbursed \$10 for each of the first 30 games.
4. Unused amounts do not carry over to the next year.
5. The program is only open to First and Second Year umpires.
6. The program may be discontinued at any time at the sole discretion of the CBA.

# Umpire Pay Dates

There are generally 12 umpire pay dates from May to October

First pay schedule is determined by the first permitted games of the year, which are usually after May 1, weather permitting.

Payday is the Thursday after that first full pay period, and every other Thursday thereafter. For example, if the first permitted games are on May 4, then the May 4<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> period, would be paid on May 22. Each successive payday would occur every other Thursday after May 22.

## Important Contact Information

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