

# Carolinas Umpire Association



Uniform Guide-2026



# Hats

- Black NCHSAA are required for both base and plate umpires. Hats are ONLY available at LB [LB Officials Apparel](#)
  - 8 stich (2.75" visor) hats are mainly for bases
  - 6 stich (2.50" visor) hats are a combo
  - 4 stich (2.25" visor) hats are for the plate only.
- Safety Tip-Ensure there is “standoff distance” between the mask frame and the visor.
- Pro Tip-Creasing your hats adds a professional touch
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7jOpELnY7UQ&t=3s>



# Shirts

- MLB 2023 version is the default shirt
  - Black w/gray side panels
- Brands
  - Smitty
  - Gerry Davis
- Shirts and Jackets are sized for the plate.
  - Example:  
If you typically wear a large, size down to a medium for the bases

# Shirts

- Optional shirts include;
  - MLB Sky Blue (2022 version- sky blue w/ black side panel)
  - MLB Black and Blue w/the contrasting placket (2023)
- CUA does not wear navy or powder blue shirts.
- Other shirts are allowed as long as partners match.



# Shirts

- Long sleeved shirts are acceptable for only the plate umpire.
- Long sleeves are not be worn under a short sleeve shirt.
- Shirts **must** match between all partners.
- If the Plate umpire is wearing long sleeves, the base umpire will wear a jacket.
- Undershirts should be the color of the shirt or the color of the trim (black).

# Jackets

- Black w/gray shoulders is the default jacket for 2024.
  - Optional Jackets are:
    - Solid black convertible
- Jackets are permitted for the plate umpire.
- Uniform shirts are not to be worn under a jacket.
- Pro Tip-If a jacket has an open bottom, it should be tucked in.
- Brands
  - Smitty
  - Gerry Davis





# Pants

- Charcoal (dark) gray is the only acceptable color.
  - Plate Pants are only worn on the plate
  - Base pants are only worn on the bases
  - Combination pants are discouraged
- Brands
  - Smitty
  - Gerry Davis
  - Mizuno
- Pro tip-When getting plate pants hemmed, wear your shin guards and plate shoes to get the correct length.



# Shoes

- All black or Black with white midsoles and trim are acceptable.
- Plate Shoes-Low or mid height
  - Brands
    - New Balance
    - Smitty
    - 3N2
    - Mizuno
  - Base Shoes-Any turf type athletic shoe that is cleanable.
    - Brands
      - New Balance
      - Under Armor
      - Mizuno
      - Adidas
- Pro tip-Clean and polished shoes creates a professional image and makes great first impression.

# Other Items

- Personal Protector
  - Find something that works for you.
  - Jock vs shorts vs tights
  - Brands
    - Nutty Buddy
    - Diamond
    - Shock Doctor
- Tights
  - Prevents gear from chaffing
  - Warmer in the spring, cooler in the summer
  - Cup pocket ?
  - Brands
    - Under Armor
    - Smitty
    - Nike
    - Academy/BCG



# Other Items



- Belt
  - Black leather or patent leather-“garrison” type
  - 1-1/2” or 1-3/4” width.
  - Baseball belts are not permitted
    - Boston Leather (worn by MLB umpires) (go up by 2 sizes from your waist)
- Ball Bags
  - Black is the only approved color
  - 2 shall be worn to maintain pace of play
    - Smittys
    - Honigs
    - Force 3



# Stopwatch/Timer

- Used to track time between innings.
  - 1 min or 5 pitches
- Cell phones and wrist watches are not permitted.
- Water resistant or waterproof

# Suppliers

- Players Sports (Local in Charlotte)
- Ump Attire (Free Shipping >\$129, free returns)
- Purchase Officials (10% discount code NC2026, Free shipping >\$99)
- Gerry Davis
- Honigs
- LB Officials Apparel (NCHSAA Hats)