

## Plate Meeting

- Ten (10) minutes before the game's scheduled start time, call the head coaches to home plate for the pre-game conference.
- The plate meeting must be attended by the head coaches. (3-2-4)
- The plate meeting should be short, business like and to the point.
- Do not discuss prior games or past situations
- You should cover the following:
  - Umpires' introduction
    - Plate umpire is at the point of the plate
    - Base Umpire is at the front of the plate
  - Review each team's lineup,
    - Take the home team first, then visiting team
    - Verify straight 9, DH or Player/DH
    - Verify positions and numbers
    - Confirm there are no final changes
    - Ensure that lineups from respective coaches are exchanged
    - At this point the lineups are official. (4-1-3)
  - Coaches shall confirm that all their players are properly equipped, and that all their equipment is legal. (4-1-3b)
  - Cover the ground rules for the field. Typically, you'll ask the home team head coach to go over the ground rules.
    - If there is a concern or question, address at the time. Do not wait until the end to go back over it.
    - Ground rules cannot supersede the rule (4-1-2)
  - Cover any special rules or time limits. Clarify conference rules, mercy/run rules, game ending procedures, etc., if any apply. (4-2-4)
  - Identify who is serving as Game Management for the game.
- Emphasize the expectation for good sporting behavior to both coaches. (4-3-3a)

- Player Introductions
  - Observe for illegal equipment (catcher's helmet, pitchers sleeve color or glove)
  - Observe for eye black—"clean it up"
- National Anthem
  - Stand behind the plate
    - Plate Umpire's right foot in line with the inside line of the RH batter's box
    - Base Umpire's Left foot in line with the inside line of the LH batter's box.
    - Remove your hat on the first note and hold that position until the last note.