1. Call to order

Brad Sanchez called to order the USA Softball of Connecticut Umpire’s Leadership meeting at 10:09am on February 15, 2025 held at Rail 99 Tavern, 1 Wall Street, Cromwell 06416.

Pledge of Allegiance Honor Our Military, First responders, current members lost in 2024 and Moment of silence

1. Roll call

The following people were present: Lisa Bull Dilullo, Lou Urso, Jeff Davis, Ryan Roark, Robert Signor, Rich Fowler, Mark Albert, Steve Adduci, Earle Frances, Rich Wilkison, John Jagielski, Kerry Rutledge, Susan Baird, Gary Hester, Dennis Mauro, Pete Miller, Joe Languell, Jim Santomassimo, Wayne Legere, (Officer’s attendance attached) …

Absent: Patricia Patusky, Bob Sobolisky, Zach Garr, Carl Pignone, Don Mohr (Proxy Susan Baird)

1. Special Olympics: (Craig Malan) Special Olympics of CT: Craig Malan, Special Olympics Coordinator spoke how teams compete in state with over 500 Olympians participating. He thanks all USA Softball umpires who have participated in the past and encourages continued umpire participation.
2. Awards Presentation: (Cliff LaRose): presented the Tony Roberto Award to Patrick Elias and the National Indicator award to Kevin Caffrey.
3. Umpires Nomination for H of F & Tony Roberto Award: (Brad Sanchez): We have a new HOF umpire application form (see Attachment) need all nominees to be sent to Ct. UIC and/or Deputies.
4. 2025 New rules and code changes: (Steve Kolitz): New Rules
	1. 2-1 Adult Slow Pitch Changes base distance for Boys 14U, 16U, and 18U to match Adult Slow Pitch. 4-7C The Playing Field [1&5] Coach Allows the use of one-way electronic communication to all players on both offense and defense. 5-1 Home Team The undefeated team shall determine the home team in the Championship game. 6C-1 Preliminaries Allows pitchers in Men’s, Women’s, and Coed Class C, D, and E/REC to position themselves up to 6 feet behind the pitching plate to start their pitch. 8-9A [2] Allows the same player to be a courtesy runner for the pitcher and a position player in the same half inning.
	2. JO and Adult tournaments are posted on USAsoftballNE.com use this website to see dates and locations.
5. Registration (Stan Capp):
6. Send registration and payment with Association information on the check. Do NOT make out checks to Stan Capp or ASA. The check should be made out to USA Softball of CT. Venmo Account info: venmo is @usasoftball-CT. Mail to: Stan Capp 45 Morning Side Terrace Wallingford, CT 06457. Yearly umpires dues remain $45
7. Can add umpires all year long with no penalty. Registration is only good for that calendar year, FP September 1st SP January 1st. All new umpires in 2025 will get a starter package (SP) or a shirt hat and ball bag, (FP) Mask, Chest protector, and shin guards.
8. Any umpire who registers, gets background check and safe sport will be reimbursed $22
9. 2024 registered 285 umpires. Stan’s EMAIL: ctusaumpire@gmail.com
10. Commissioner’s Report: (Hank Koritkoski)
11. Constant contact lists are used for Ct. USA newsletter which we send out monthly. Please contact Hank if you are not receiving the Newsletter. Please submit news articles when you have them.
12. Test and answer key will be emailed to all board leaders after the meeting.
13. I can get Dudley softballs for $80 FP 375/.44 & $65 SP 300/.52 per dozen, if you can get them cheaper, please let me know.
14. To assign umpires for tournaments, the website that will be used is usasoftballne.com at no cost to us.
15. State website is: usasoftballct.com, tournament website is: usasoftballne.com, National website is: usasoftball.com please check out the latest using these websites.
16. A Bill has been created to protect CT officials from abuse, will keep you updated on its progress.
17. Looking for District Commissioners for the following areas Norwalk, East of the river (Connecticut). Welcome to Tom Reily new District Commissioner out of Fairfield.
18. Free Liability insurance when you register, Players, coaches, teams and field owners. For more info contact Hank…
19. JO Commissioner’s Report: (Hank Koritkoski)
20. At the moment we still do not have a JO Commissioner
21. Pay at the plate JO Umpire $75, Assigners fee $10 per game. Show up fee $50 if you did not officiate a game that day (Paid by T.D.), and please be careful discussing game fees in public. We don’t want to out price ourselves.
22. For Timed Games $85
23. Adult Commissioner: (Dave Reno)
24. Clinic dates for SP umpires March 4,10,11 6pm at the Sports Plex in North Branford. Cost is $50 and you must attend all three nights. We will discuss Mechanics, Rules, and watch USA videos in game situations. After attending all three dates all new umpires that register will receive a USA hat, shirt, and ball bag for attending.
25. Team Registration questions contact Dave Reno, registered 695 teams in 2024.
26. Dave Reno’s Email: dtreno33@aol.com Cell# 203-305-3902
27. Steve Kolitz will help run a FP clinic anytime any place so please reach out to Steve His Email: sbkolitz@sbcglobal.net Cell#203-417-9670
28. Tournament Director’s Report: (Randy Taylor)
29. Tournament dates are as follows: 4/19 Nessing Park, Meriden 5/03 Carrigan West Haven, USA states will be held in July still searching for a location.
30. Wood Bat states will be held in September and will be run by Tyrone Maynard.
31. Special Olympics tournaments: Qualifier August 9-10, States September 13-14 all games will be played at Pratt & Whitney fields.
32. Special Olympics Virginia games June 18-21 Lynchburg, Va. National Oklahoma City, Oklahoma September 18-21
33. New Hampshire is holding their state tournament June 20-22 U10-U16 looking for umpires to help out from Connecticut.
34. Dave Reno coordinates all the states slow pitch tournaments. Have umpires contact him if interested in doing any tournament at dtreno33@aol.com or 203-305-3902
35. At this time, we are not hosting a National in CT this year.
36. Maryland, DC, Delaware is looking for umpires in Loudon, VA. JO U10- U16 July 16-20

XII. Player Representative: (Brad Sanchez) We have a candidate (Michael Aquilino) so

let’s support him anyway possible.

XIII. Umpires on the move: (Brad Sanchez)

1. Congratulations to Walt Faulkner & Mark Albert who have been assigned to the MSP C’s in Salem, VA. Tom Oliver being selected to JO Cup in OKC, OK.
2. Brad Sanchez Selected to do Armed Forces in OKC, OK. We’ll have opportunities for host exchange umps in FP thru July New Hampshire, Maryland, Virginia.
3. SP Labor Day weekend Salem, Virginia

XIV. Uniforms: (Hank Koritkoski):

1. Hank is an official gear dealer for USA softball gear, shipping is free. Send your orders to Hank to save money. Send your order through email: hank.donnak@comcast.net once he receives your order, he will get it to you.
2. Charcoal grey Pants are on sale now, which next year charcoal (2026) will be used at Nationals, in state 2025 no change from Heather pants in (2026) please match your partner.

XV. Ejections: (Brad Sanchez):

1. When we eject a person(s) they are to sit another game, only the tournament Director or designee can overrule on an ejection for them to play the next game. (Minimum 1 game suspension)
2. FP when we eject a JO player, we need to have measures in place so that the player will be with a responsible adult while they are removed from the field. We do not start a tournament or game without a plan in place.

XIV: Adjournment: we adjourned at 11:31

Minutes submitted by: Bradley Sanchez (Secretary)