

2nd Year Mechanics Class Welcome Letter

Hello, my name is Joe Johnson; Jr. and I would like to welcome you to the 2nd Year Mechanics Class link for our website. Obviously, at some point, your interest in becoming an umpire has led you here. I say congratulations...you've come to the right place... the I.U.A. is the best NJ Chapter Association in the State. The I.U.A. welcomes everyone regardless of their experience and training levels, and I have no doubt that a decision to join our group would lead you to years of enjoying umpiring.

Every umpire has a story to how and why he or she began to umpire. In my case, I became an umpire by watching my Dad (also an I.U.A. member) working Little League games. I started doing games with him, and we eventually found ourselves wanting to do higher levels of ball. We were then given information about the I.U.A. After joining the I.U.A., I continued my education by attending Jim Evan's Academy of Professional Umpiring. After graduating with honors, I then went onto umpire at the professional level for 4 years. During my tenure, I returned to the Academy to instruct. Eventually, I got married, had children, and returned home. I have since returned to the I.U.A. (2007), and was asked to teach the 2nd Year Mechanics Class.

I have always credited my father and the I.U.A. for giving me the roots I needed to make it to the minor leagues. It was the I.U.A. that taught me proper umpiring techniques within a positive learning atmosphere. It is this atmosphere that makes the association unique. With that being said, please browse through the 2nd Year Mechanics Class presentation, photo album, and current 2-man mechanic being reviewed by our members. I welcome you and invite you to contact me at my website at any time with any questions that you have...any questions, not just mechanics. In your question, please give me your story on how you became interested in umpiring. Reference your e-mail "iuaumpires" and send it. Your e-mail will be answered within 48 hours. The camaraderie among our association members is strong, and I'd like to extend a warm invitation for you to become apart of it.

Joe Johnson, Jr.