



# Catawba Umpires Association

Dec 8, 2024

## 2025 High School Baseball Umpire Kick Off Meeting

- Welcome - Please make sure you know how to place yourself on/off mute.
- A copy of today's slide presentation will be available tomorrow on our website under the Documents & Links section.



# Catawba Umpires Association

Dec 8, 2024

- Agenda

- Catawba Umpires Association Leadership Introductions
- Weekend Training Camp – Columbia, SC
- Administration, Reminders and Action Items
- Training – Understanding The Strike Zone
- Next Meeting
- Open Forum - Questions/Comments



# Catawba Umpires Association

Dec 8, 2024

- Introductions
  - Gary Keller
  - Greg Chance



# Catawba Umpires Association

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- **Umpire Training**
  - Columbia Baseball Umpires Association
  - Saturday Jan 11 & Sunday Jan 12, 2025 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM
  - AC Flora High School – 1 Falcon Dr, Columbia, SC
  - Cost is \$60
  - Registration is Saturday 1/11 @ 8:00 AM Right Field Foul Pole
  - Camp Is Focused On 2-Man Umpire System and High School Baseball Rules



# Catawba Umpires Association

Dec 8, 2024

- Website [CatawbaUmpires.com](https://CatawbaUmpires.com)
  - Meeting Notifications
  - Links/Documents
    - Meeting Notes
    - Uniform Requirements
    - Rules & Rule Books
    - How To Docs
  - Training Videos



# Catawba Umpires Association

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- Website [CatawbaUmpires.com](http://CatawbaUmpires.com)
  - Please check the website before sending us questions.
  - Examples:
    - Where do I buy the Catawba hat?
    - When's our next meeting?
    - What's your address?
    - How do I pay my booking fees?



# Catawba Umpires Association

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- Important Dates - SCHSL Baseball
  - First Scrimmage - February 10, 2025
  - First Preseason Game - February 28, 2025
  - First Regular Season Game – March 10, 2025
  - Playoffs Start – May 6, 2025



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- SCHSL Umpire Registration

- New Officials - If you are new to SCHSL, please use the following link to begin the registration process:

- <https://app.arbitersports.com/registration/official?org=455&role=3&GroupID=101800>

- Returning SCHSL Officials

- Log Into Arbiter
- Choose SCHSL Central Hub
- Click On Registration Near Top In Black Ribbon
- Follow Steps [How To Doc](#)





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- SCHSL Umpire Registration
  - Returning and New Officials
    - No SCHSL Games can be assigned until registration is complete
    - How to Know if Registration is complete
      - Did you submit a Payment to SCHSL with Credit Card of \$45 for first sport, \$23 for each additional sport?
        - If Yes, you are registered
        - If No, the process is not completed, and you are not registered



# Catawba Umpires Association

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- Independent Contractor Agreement
  - Form Can Be Downloaded at:  
<https://www.catawbaumpires.com/documents>
  - Submission Of Signed Form
    - Email To: [Catawba.Umpires@gmail.com](mailto:Catawba.Umpires@gmail.com)
    - USPS Mail To:  
Catawba Umpires Association  
Attn: Gary Keller  
2536 Sturgis Road  
Rock Hill, SC 29730
    - Bring To In Person Meeting – January 5, 2025
    - Do Not Text A Picture Of The Signed Document



# Catawba Umpires Association

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- **Umpire Uniform Requirements**
  - [www.catawbaumpires.com/documents](http://www.catawbaumpires.com/documents)
  - CUA Hat – Purchase Officials
  - Jersey Options
  - Jacket Options
  - Charcoal Gray Pants – No Heather Gray
  - Plate And Base Shoes
  - Black Belt And Black Socks
  - 10% Discount at [www.PurchaseOfficials.com](http://www.PurchaseOfficials.com)



# Catawba Umpires Association

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- 2025 Game Fees
  - SCHSL Games
    - Varsity \$80 Plus Mileage (\$91 Minimum)
    - Sub-Varsity \$65 Plus Mileage (\$76 Minimum)
    - Mileage Rates are \$0.55 per mile with an \$11 minimum
  - Clover Rec League Games
    - Minors and O-Zone
      - \$xx Game
      - Most Games are Double Headers
      - Single Game \$xx
      - 80 Minute Time Limit or 6 Innings
    - Dixie
      - \$xx game
      - Most Games are Single Games
      - 85 Minutes Time Limit



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- Payment For Games Worked
  - SCHSL Games
    - Schools Pay the Umpires
    - Majority Use Arbiter Pay
    - Payment Frequency Varies – Most are Within 2 Weeks
  - Clover Rec League Games
    - Arbiter Pay – Every Two Weeks
    - No Deductions for Arbiter Pay Fees



# Catawba Umpires Association

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- 2025 Catawba Umpires Spring Booking Fees
  - \$90 – Covers all Games for Spring 2025
  - Fee Is Due On Or Before 2/15/2025
  - \$10 Late Fee Applies if Received After 2/15/2025
  - CUA T-Shirt With Payment, While Supplies Last



# Catawba Umpires Association

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- 2025 Catawba Umpires Booking Fee
  - How to Pay CUA Booking Fee
    - USPS Mail To:
      - Catawba Umpires Association
      - Attn: Gary Keller
      - 2536 Sturgis Road
      - Rock Hill, SC 29730
      - (Send check or money order - DO NOT SEND CASH)
    - In Person Meeting: Sunday Jan 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024
    - Venmo: Gary-keller-9
    - Apple Pay: 704-506-9520
    - Cash App: \$JGaryKeller
    - PayPal: [jgarykeller@icloud.com](mailto:jgarykeller@icloud.com)
      - Select “Sending to a Friend” to avoid PayPal fees
      - If Above Is Not Selected, You Are Not Fully Paid
      - Additional Invoice Will Be Sent



# Catawba Umpires Association

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- **Umpire Checklist - Items To Be Completed**
  - SCHSL Registration And Credit Card Payment
  - Catawba Booking Fee
  - Independent Contract Form Completed And Submitted
  - Buy Needed Uniform Items
  - Take Online Test – February 1-28, 2025 (More Info Later)





# Catawba Umpires Association

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- **Strike Zone**

- Rule 2:35 – The strike zone is that space over home plate, the top of which is halfway between the batter's shoulders and the waistline, and the bottom being the knees, when he assumes his natural batting stance. The height of the strike zone is determined by the batter's normal batting stance. If he crouches or leans over to make the shoulder line lower, the umpire determines height by what would be the batter's normal stance.

- **Ball**

- The ball is a sphere weighing not less than 5 nor more than 5¼ ounces and measuring not less than 9 inches nor more than 9½ inches in circumference. It shall be formed by yarn wound around a small core of rubber, cork or combination of both and covered by two pieces of white horsehide or cowhide tightly stitched together.

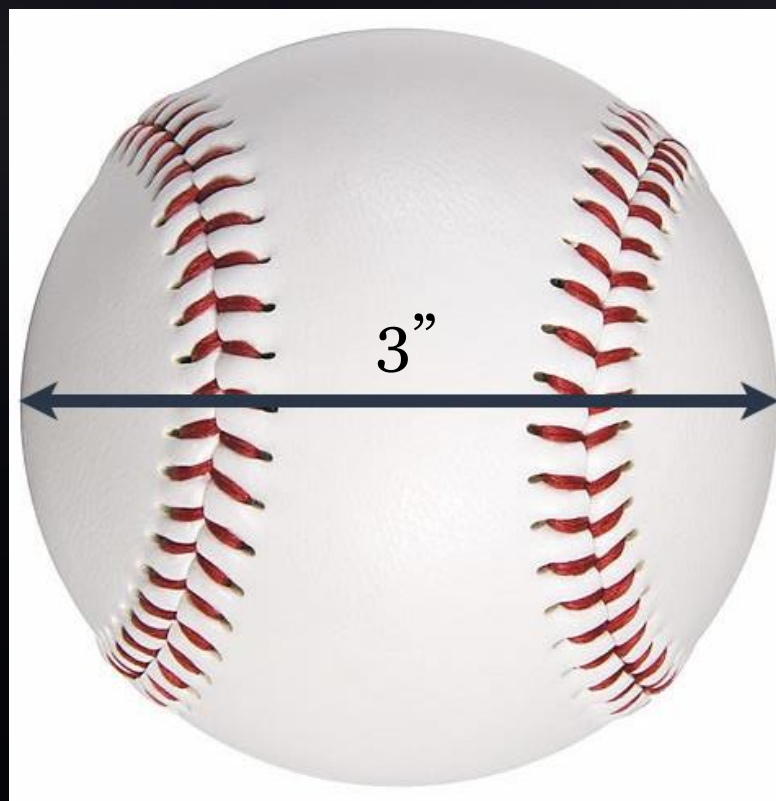


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- Width/Diameter Of The Baseball

- Diameter = Circumference /  $\pi$
- Diameter = 9.25 or 9.5 divided by 3.14159
- 2.94 to 3.02 inches

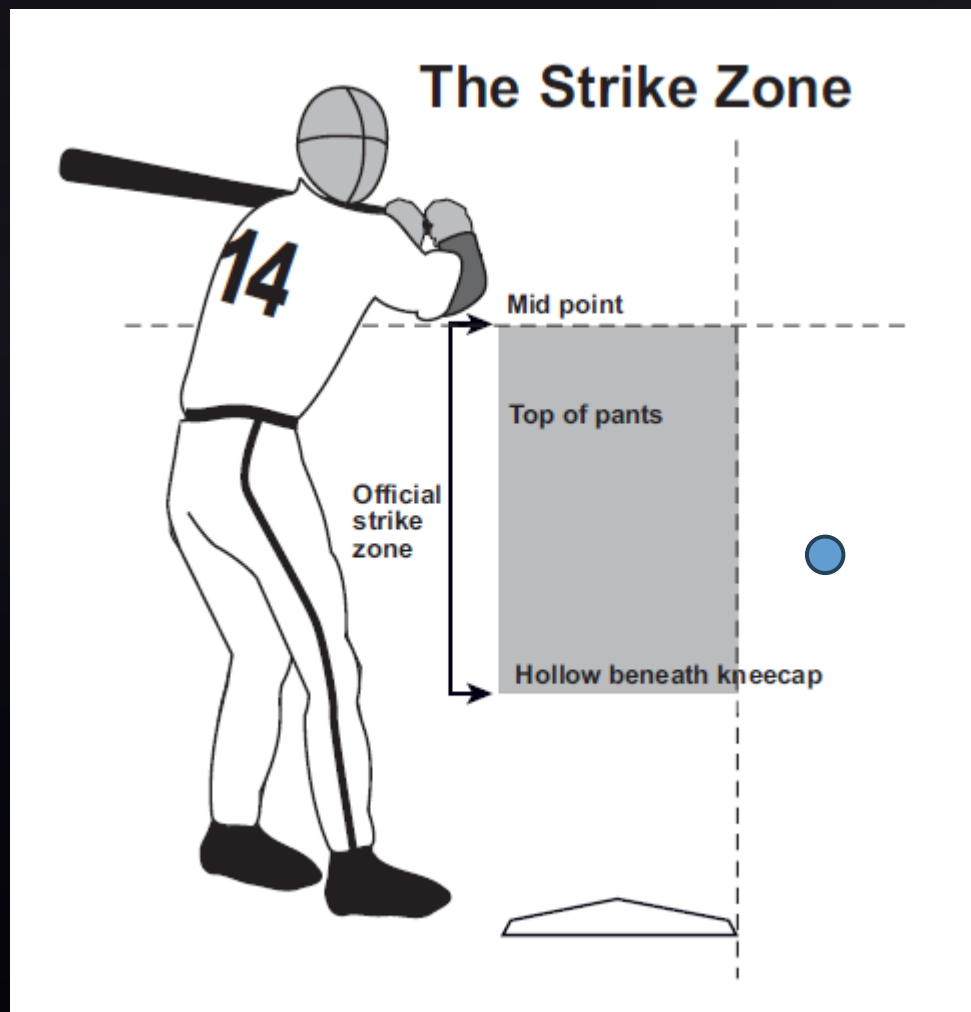




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## Rule Book Graphic Strike Zone

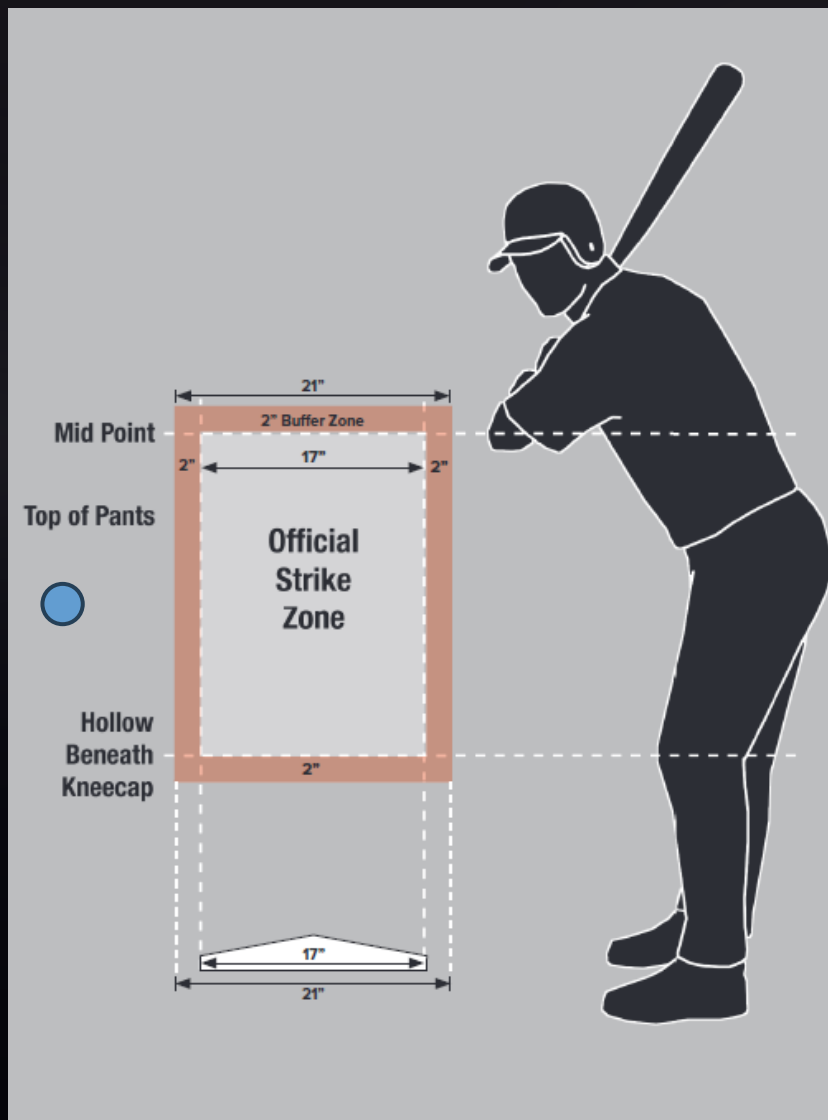




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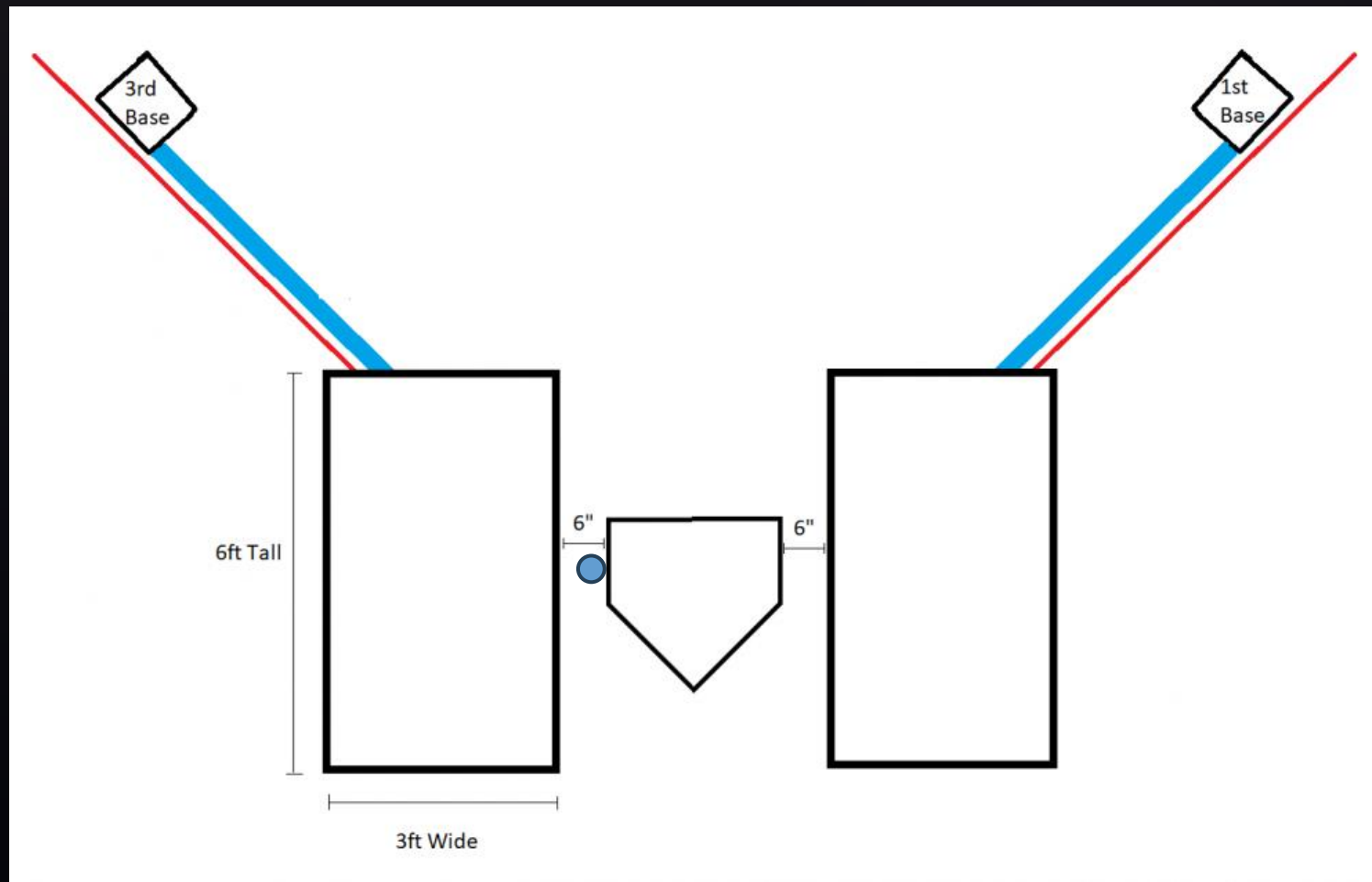
## 2023 NCAA Strike Zone Initiative





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- Next Meeting – In Person
  - Sunday Jan 5, 2025 2:00 PM
  - Rock Hill American Legion Post
    - 524 Heckle Blvd, Rock Hill, SC 29730
  - 2025 Rule Books Will Be Distributed
  - New Umpire Assistance Program - Equipment and Attire
    - Bring Items To Give Away – No Selling Of Items
    - 1st Year Umpires
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Umpires
    - 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Umpires
    - Remaining Staff
- Veterans Equipment Assistance
  - <https://www.battlefields2ballfields.org/>



# Catawba Umpires Association

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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year





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# Questions & Comments