NCAA Regional Baseball Advisors’ Observations

GAME MANAGEMENT

- Some umpires not following protocol in dealing with ejections or suspension situations
- Overall, good job of handling conferences
- Very good clock management
- Plate umpires doing much better job of putting ball in play ending the 2 minute time limit
- Some coach/umpire confrontations are going too long
- Umpires must use their skills to end exchanges quicker after respectfully allowing the coach to have his say
- Some umpires need to be more pro-active in getting the next hitter up to the plate

APPEARANCE

- Be careful not to give less effort to mid-week or “lesser” games assigned for you to officiate
- Giving less effort in less competitive games: shows a lack of effort
- Some umpires lose focus in the middle innings of a game

TECHNICAL MECHANICS

- Need to have better communication in some situations
- Timing communication needs to be better in some situations
- Good evidence of good communication during plays
- Evidence of umpires moving ahead of the play and being proactive with their movements
- Make sure not to be moving as the second base umpire on a double play situation

BALL AND STRIKE PERFORMANCE

- Be careful to not be blocked out so as not to see the ball all the way into the mitt
- Good strike zones with very few issues noted
- Very good, consistent strike zones
- Overall, very strong performances