



UMPIRE TRAINING

Local Rules

*Updated April
2024*



WHO WE ARE

- **Umpire in Chief for House League – Russell Kline**

Umpire Captains – allocate games to umps and provide feedback and support

- 7U Josh Gelman
- 8U Adam Miller
- 9U Avi Green
- 10U Hudson Ivers
- 11U Nathan Wolle
- 12U Jacob Cloth
- 13U Joe Kline
- 15U Gelman
- 18U/6U Liam Robertson

- **NTBA Umpire in Chief for Rep – Jonny Whittaker**

- **Senior Umpire & Ump Committee – Jono Freedman**

- **Ump Committee – Rob Storm**

The UIC and the Ump Captains are here to support you



HOUSE LEAGUE

Umpire Responsibilities & Commitments

ARRIVE 15 MINUTES PRIOR TO FIRST PITCH

- ★ *Arrive **ON TIME** for any game you have committed to*
 - ★ *f you are unable to attend, call, text or email the umpire captain immediately so a replacement can be found.*
 - ★ *If the House League Ump Captain is not available, then **call, text or email** the division convener.*
-
- Ask your parents if they can support your commitments, as required.
 - Review & keep up to date on the local rulebook and umpire bulletins that come out via email.
<http://www.ntbaseball.com/umpires/>
 - **Focus on constant learning and improvement.**

You're representing the NTBA – PLEASE PRESENT YOURSELF IN A PROFESSIONAL MANNER



REP & SELECT

Umpire Responsibilities & Commitments

ARRIVE 15 MINUTES PRIOR TO FIRST PITCH

- ★ *Arrive **ON TIME** for any game you have committed to*
- ★ *If you are unable to attend, call, text or email the umpire captain immediately so a replacement can be found.*
- ★ *If the House League Ump Captain is not available, then **call, text or email** the division convener.*
- Ask your parents if they can support your commitments, as required.
- Review the local NTBA Rulebook & OBA Rulebook, plus any umpire bulletins that come out via email.
<http://www.ntbaseball.com/umpires/>
<https://www.playoba.ca/rules-of-baseball>
- **Focus on constant learning and improvement.**

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The 8 Keys to being a “GREAT UMP”

- **Be On Time**

*Umpires should arrive at least **15 minutes** before game time.*

- **Have Field Presence**

Appear composed; communicate well with players, coaches, parents & other umpires.

- **Use Good Judgment**

Shows very good knowledge and application of the rules.

- **Be CONSISTENT!**

Work hard to call balls and strikes within a strike zone that is consistent.

- **Be Positioned Properly**

Know where you need to be positioned before each at bat in order to call plays accurately.

- **Manage Control of the Participants**

Players, Coaches & Parents

- **Manage the GAME**

The start & end time

- **Be Decisive**

Make calls in a confident and firm manner.

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UMP Demeanor

DEMEANOR – **DEFINITION:** *The way in which a person behaves; Personal conduct*

- Remember, **YOU** are in charge of the game.
- Always be polite, but firm.
- Don't lose your cool. Don't swear!
- Hold your temper when others are angry.
 - Old umpire saying: *"If there are two people on the field yelling you don't want to be one of them."*
- **Stick with your decision!**
 - *At times, providing a brief, knowledgeable explanation will create respect and understanding.*
- **Player & Coach Ejections;** Removed from the game & the spectator area.
 - *Spectators can be warned and if needed, asked to leave but work with the Coach from the respective team*
 - *If any player or coach is ejected from the game, you must send a report to your ump captain and admin@ntbaseball.com*
- The UMPIRE is there to control the **FLOW & SAFETY OF THE GAME**

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UMP Demeanor

The UMPIRE is there to control the FLOW & SAFETY OF THE GAME

CONFIDENCE vs. ARROGANCE

*"DON'T BE THAT UMPIRE WHO THINKS THEY ARE **BIGGER** THAN THE GAME"*

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SAFETY

- Ensure **playing conditions** are safe (weather, lighting, hazards, etc.)
- Check that **catcher's equipment** is complete. (Don't forget throat guard)
- **Chin Straps** are mandatory for the younger teams. Chin Straps must be done up on batting helmet.
- **Protective Cups are mandatory:** Coach's responsibility; Check with Catcher when they are positioned at the plate
- No **metal cleats** allowed (Allowed for U15+)
- **No jewelry**, except a medic alert bracelet may be worn.
- Players must **stand behind fences**. (enlist coaches support).
- All **gear must be in the batting cage** with the exception of any gear being used by the on-deck batter
- No **baseball caps** under helmets.
- Players coaching at the bases **must wear helmets**. (Coaches are advised to wear helmets)

ALWAYS ENSURE THAT THE SAFETY OF THE PLAYERS, COACHES & Umps REMAIN YOUR FIRST PRIORITY



IMPORTANT DETAILS

House League & Rep

- **Players and coaches** are not permitted to harass officials or any member of the opposing team.
- **Uniformed Umpires** observing abusive language or abusive behaviour by anyone wearing a NT uniform will automatically be issued a warning that must be reported to the league.
 - *A second warning at any point during the season will result in an automatic game ejection and review by the league.*
- **Rulebooks** are **NOT** permitted on the playing field.
- **Games** are 'official' after 3 1/2 innings (if home team is ahead) or 4 inning (if visiting team is ahead) have been completed.
- **Ground Rules:** Know the ground rules for **each park**.
- **If there is only 1 ump at a game**, call the game from behind the plate so that balls and strikes are called accurately. Run into the field to get a better angle to call plays, ensuring that you do not interfere with the play.

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MORE IMPORTANT DETAILS

House League & Rep

HOUSE LEAGUE:

- All players on both teams have access to any bat introduced into the game. Only **wood bats** are allowed in 18U (MIDGET) games
- No new inning (NNI) shall start one & three quarter (1 3/4) hours after the scheduled start time, **regardless of start time**.
- When assigned to a game, and in the event a team forfeits, for any reason (e.g. not enough players), the Coaches may decide to play a game anyway, or even share players, then **you must** umpire the game. **If you leave early, you will not get paid**.

SELECT & REP

- 2:00 for **no new inning** for 8U to 13U; 2:30 for **no new inning** for 14U & Above

ALWAYS ENSURE THAT THE SAFETY OF THE PLAYERS, COACHES & UMPS REMAIN YOUR FIRST PRIORITY



HOUSE LEAGUE

Rules for 7U (Senior T-Ball), 8U and 9U

- TIME LIMIT must be enforced as some parks do not have lights. (Davisville has multiple city permits)
- NO LEAD OFFS. A LEAD-OFF occurs when a runner is off his/her base before the batter hits the ball. A runner who leads off is OUT. You can issue a warning to the team for the first infraction.
- PITCHING MACHINE
- 5-run mercy rule.
- 8U and 9U (ROOKIE): 5 strikes max (The pitch doesn't count if the pitching machine is throwing balls.)
- 7U (SENIOR T-BALL): player may elect to have coach pitch to them, in which case they can have 2 pitches and then have 1 swing off a T; failure to put the ball in play within the 3 pitches results in an out players

ALWAYS ENSURE THAT THE SAFETY OF THE PLAYERS, COACHES & UMPS REMAIN YOUR FIRST PRIORITY



HOUSE LEAGUE

Rules for 7U (Senior T-Ball), 8U and 9U

- Electing to hit off the T allows the player to have unlimited swings to put the ball in play.
- **No Infield Fly Rule.**
- Player is out if the player runs to first and makes a CLEAR attempt to TURN to 2nd Base
- The pitcher is the only player who may assist the catcher.
- If any other defensive player crosses into the Home Plate Area, the Umpire will call "Time" and any runs will score.
(Deemed INTERFERENCE: Safety First, plus backstops are very small)

ALWAYS ENSURE THAT THE SAFETY OF THE PLAYERS, COACHES & UMPS REMAIN YOUR FIRST PRIORITY



HOUSE LEAGUE

Rules for 10U, 11U, 12U, 13U , 15U and 18U

- In 15U (BANTAM) and 18U (MIDGET) **only**, a batter may run on a dropped third strike.
- In 10U & 11U & 12U & 13U ONLY, **no lead-offs** and runners can steal only after the ball has crossed home plate. The umpire shall give a team warning for the first infraction.
 - *For subsequent infractions by any member of the warned team, the runner shall be called out.*
- A 10U and 11U runner **may not** reach home plate by stealing.
- A 12U and 13U (PEEWEE) runner may steal home plate.
- **Intentional walks** are not permitted.

ALWAYS ENSURE THAT THE SAFETY OF THE PLAYERS, COACHES & UMPS REMAIN YOUR FIRST PRIORITY



HOUSE LEAGUE

Rules for 10U, 11U, 12U, 13U , 15U and 18U

- **No bunting** in 10U and 11U. If there is an attempt to bunt the **ball is called dead ball**, and it is a strike.
- The **Infield Fly Rule applies to all Divisions**. An INFIELD FLY is a fair ball (not including a line drive or an attempted bunt), which can be caught by an infielder with ordinary effort, when first and second, or first, second and third bases are occupied, with LESS THAN 2 OUTS.
- **MERCY RULE:** Maximum 5 runs per ½ inning: A team may only score a **maximum of 5 runs per any 1/2 inning**. The 1/2 inning is over as soon as the 5th run crosses home plate regardless of how many players were left on base and the number of batters out.
- The next 1/2 inning commences with the batter following the last batter appearing at the plate the preceding inning.
- See umpire bulletin for FAQs.

ALWAYS ENSURE THAT THE SAFETY OF THE PLAYERS, COACHES & UMPS REMAIN YOUR FIRST PRIORITY



HOUSE LEAGUE - Game Lengths

Regular Season Games

- All games are **7 innings**
- No New Inning ("NNI") after **1hr 45 mins** from the Scheduled Start Time ("SST").
- Umps may start the game later than the SST if there was an unforeseen delay (e.g. rain), but this does not change the time after which there can be NNI.
- If an inning is underway and the clock hits 1hr 45 mins from the SST, then:
 - i) The inning should be completed to get an official score (Home Team either walks-off or loses after 3 outs).
 - ii) If the inning underway can't be completed due to, a field conflict or safety, then the final score is the score of the last completed inning.
 - *e.g. Home Team is winning 5-4 after 6 and losing 7-5 when the game is called in the 7th before the Home Team completes their at bats, HomeTeam wins 5-4.*

Playoff Games (semi-finals and finals)

- Shall be played to completion (7 innings)
- If tied after 7 innings, play continues until a winner is determined, subject to item # ii) mentioned above.

ALWAYS ENSURE THAT THE SAFETY OF THE PLAYERS, COACHES & UMPS REMAIN YOUR FIRST PRIORITY



Game Lengths – Other Considerations

- The **final score** will be the score at the end of the game.
- Games are “**official**” **after 4 complete innings**, or if the **home team is winning after 3 1/2 innings**.
(HOUSE LEAGUE: Applies to rainouts only)

HOUSE LEAGUE

- In the event the score is tied at the end of 7 innings or at the end of the scheduled playing time:
 - *The score is recorded as a tie for regular season games or a round robin playoff games.*
 - *If the game is a Semi-final or Championship Final game, play shall continue until a winner has been determined.*

SELECT & REP

- In the event the score is tied at the end of 7 innings or at the end of the scheduled playing time:
 - *The score is recorded as a **tie** for regular season games*
 - *If the game is a Tournament Semi-final or Championship Final game, play shall continue under the OBA extra inning rule until a winner has been determined.*

ALWAYS ENSURE THAT THE SAFETY OF THE PLAYERS, COACHES & UMPS REMAIN YOUR FIRST PRIORITY

UMP Equipment & Uniform

All Umps MUST wear the approved uniform on the field:

- Umpire shirt (Black or Blue)
- Umpire Cap
- Grey or Black Pants
- BLACK Running shoes



Plate Umps:

- Chest protector
- Leg guards
- Facemask
- Count indicator
- Plate Brush
- Ball Bag
- **Protective Cup**

Field Umps should have:

- Count indicator
- **Protective cup (*Recommended*)**

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WHAT IS A STRIKE?

- A ball that hits a clear & consistent strike zone
- A hittable ball in your judgement...again, be CONSISTENT!
- **HOUSE LEAGUE:** Your strike zone should take into account the age group
 - It's ok to have a larger strike zone, especially for younger players.
 - Just be consistent!

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Getting Ump Assignments & Getting Paid

- **Request games in Horizon**

- Await game being assigned to you by the ump captain - you do not have the game until it is assigned to you!
- Once assigned - you must **ACCEPT** the assignment, to confirm you will work the game.
- Immediately after the game, you must fill out the game report in Horizon - to ensure you get paid

In the business world this is called an "invoice" or a "bill" for services rendered

- Keep track of all games that you worked until November, so any discrepancy can be resolved

If there is a dispute, you will be asked to produce proof of work.

Ump Captains will resolve discrepancies between submitted "invoices" and their master assignment lists.

- Without a submitted game report, you will not be paid!

Payment for house leagues games worked in May will be received June 30.

Payment for house league games worked in June will be paid by July 31

Payment for house league games worked in September will be paid by October 31

- Make sure that your personal information is correct in the current season's **HorizonWefRef** system.

If you have not registered, please do so at <https://www.horizonwebref.com>

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HORIZON TUTORIAL

Updated April 2024



REGISTRATION

- **STEP 1** - Check your emails for a message from **Horizon Web Ref.**
- **STEP 2** - Follow the instructions given in the email.
- **STEP 3** - Update your Personal Profile

The screenshot shows the Horizon Web Ref website interface. The main heading is "Horizon Web Ref" with the tagline "Powerful Referee & Umpire Scheduling Software". A banner on the right says "10 YEARS". The user is logged in as "Josh Unger" and is viewing the "Update Personal Profile" page. The page has a sidebar on the left with navigation links: Name / Address, Profile Picture, Phone / Email / Birthday, Text Messaging, Synchronize, Preferences, Other Info, Security Settings, 2 Step Login Authentication, and My Associations. The main content area contains a form with fields for personal information: Name (Josh Unger), Home Address (140 Hedderington Avenue), Home City (Toronto), Home State (Ontario), Home Postal Code (M8M0P9), and Home Country (Canada). There are also optional fields for work information. A "Save Profile" button is at the bottom. The right sidebar shows a "Welcome, Josh Unger" message and a list of links: Members Home, Master Game Schedule, Personal Game Schedule, Availability Calendar, Memos (0), Documents, Video Library, Personal Profile, Members Directory, System Settings, Administrative Forms, Messaging, Get Help, Logout, and a "Jump to game number" field. An advertisement for "Advertise Here!" is also visible.

All House League, Select & Rep games available on HORIZON



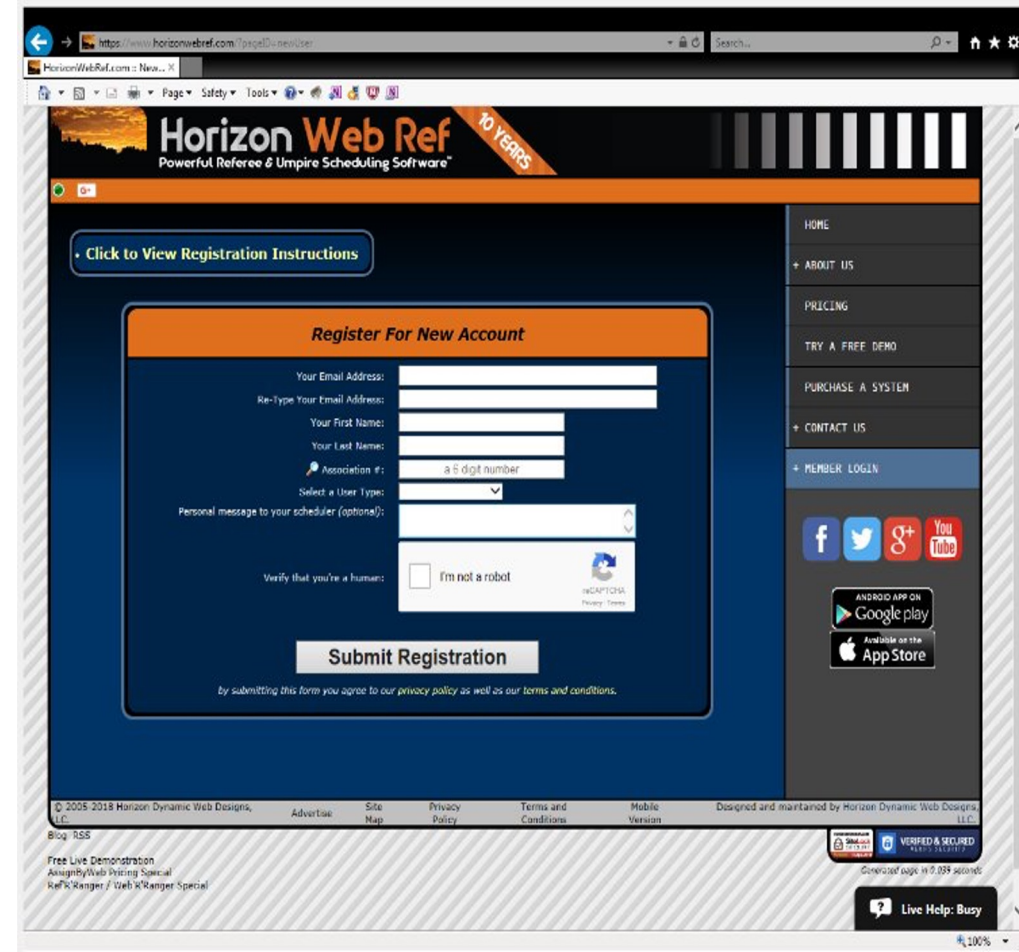
Signing Up for Horizon

6 easy steps...

STEP 1 - Go to <https://www.horizonwebref.com/>

STEP 2 - Click on the "Member Login" button
Right hand side of screen

STEP 3 - Click on "New Users Registrations" button
Bottom of screen



All House League, Select & Rep games available on HORIZON



Signing up for Horizon (cont)

STEP 4 - Submit your:

e-mail address, name and organization code

❖ **NTBA's ORGANIZATION CODE IS 205723**

Select a User Type - is it Official

STEP 5 - Await approval from the system administrator

STEP 6 - Input your registration information.

Make sure to include your OBA umpire number and your level.

A screenshot of the Horizon Web Ref website's registration page. The page has a dark blue background with orange accents. At the top, there's a header with the "Horizon Web Ref" logo and a "10 YEARS" anniversary banner. Below the header, there's a navigation menu on the right with links like "HOME", "ABOUT US", "PRICING", "TRY A FREE DEMO", "PURCHASE A SYSTEM", "CONTACT US", and "MEMBER LOGIN". The main content area is titled "Register For New Account" and contains a registration form. The form fields include: "Your Email Address:", "Re-Type Your Email Address:", "Your First Name:", "Your Last Name:", "Association #:" (with a dropdown menu), "Select a User Type:" (with a dropdown menu), and "Personal message to your scheduler (optional):". There's also a checkbox for "I'm not a robot" and a "Submit Registration" button. At the bottom of the form, there's a small disclaimer: "By submitting this form you agree to our privacy policy as well as our terms and conditions." The footer of the page contains copyright information, links to "Privacy Policy", "Terms and Conditions", and "Mobile Version", and a "Live Help" button.

All House League, Select & Rep games available on HORIZON



SELECTING Games

- **Step 1** - Await an email regarding your TBA (to be assigned) request.
- **Step 2** - Await the assignors approval of the game.
 - ☐ *Please note that this will probably be at least 24 hours from when your TBA was sent out.*

NOTE: Submitting a TBA **DOES NOT** mean that you will be officiating the game.

Please await confirmation from the organization, as there may be more umpires that slot for that game.

You will be notified if you do not receive that game.

- **Step 3** - Follow instructions given in the email to access the TBA request.
 - ☐ *You can see all of your TBA requests in the navigation menu.*
- **Step 4** - Accept the game that is given to you

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CANCELLING YOUR BOOKING

- If you realize you cannot work a game you schedule to appear at, please let your UMP CAPTAIN know **ASAP!**
- Please note that last minute cancellations may lead to the assignor going in another direction the next time this umpire signs up for a game.
- Notify your UMP PARTNER that you will not be coming or if you are running late.

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GAME DAY

- Arrive at least 15 minutes before the scheduled start for House League
- Arrive at least 25 minutes before the scheduled start for Rep and Select
- **Rainouts:** When you arrive at the field or during the game, you have the authority to decide if the game is unplayable due to *rain, lightning, field condition etc...*
 - Work with both Coaches on the decision
 - If the game is cancelled while you are at the field, then you will still be paid. (See Local Rules)

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POST GAME

- All House League, Select & Rep Umpires **MUST** submit a report after each game in order to be paid.
- *Select & Rep Umps are **paid cash** before the game*

A screenshot of a web browser displaying a "Game Report" form on the HorizonWebRef.com website. The browser's address bar shows a secure connection to https://www.horizonwebref.com/?pageID=1143. The form is titled "Game Report" and is divided into several sections. The "FINAL SCORE" section includes dropdown menus for "3rd Pool A * (Home)" (set to 8), "Allegheny (Visitor)" (set to 0), "Overtime?" (set to No), "Game Difficulty" (set to Average), and "Verbal Report To League Office?" (set to No). The "3rd Pool A * (Home) Coaches" section has three dropdowns for "Conduct with team", "Conduct with opponent", and "Conduct with officials", all set to "7 - Good". The "3rd Pool A * (Home) Players" section has three dropdowns for "Sportsmanship", "Quality of play", and "Conduct with officials", all set to "7 - Good". The "Allegheny (Visitor) Coaches" section has three dropdowns for "Conduct with team", "Conduct with opponent", and "Conduct with officials", all set to "7 - Good". The "Allegheny (Visitor) Players" section has three dropdowns for "Sportsmanship", "Quality of play", and "Conduct with officials", all set to "7 - Good". The "Spectators" section has a dropdown for "Behavior" set to "7 - Good". The "Location - Blue Cross Arena" section has three dropdowns for "Overall Quality", "Security", and "Officials Room", all set to "7 - Good". The "Minor Officials (scorekeeper, time clock operators, etc.)" section has a dropdown for "Performance" set to "7 - Good". The "Game Officials" section has a dropdown for "Quality of game" set to "7 - Good" and a dropdown for "Would you work the game again?" set to "Yes". At the bottom of the form is a "Comments" text area. A vertical sidebar on the left of the form contains the text "new feature requests". A "Click for Live Help" button is located in the bottom right corner of the form.

Please ensure your GAME REPORTS are ACCURATE



HOW TO FILL OUT A GAME REPORT

- **Score:** Please input a rough estimate of what the score was. It does not need to be perfect.
- **Coaches:** Please rate the coach and players from 1- 10 for conduct with officials.
☐ We do not care about the other subheadings.
- **Spectators:** Please rate the spectators for conduct towards officials.
- **Equipment:** At location, edit the ranking if there is an issue with the equipment, and comment below exactly what is wrong with the equipment so we can get it replaced. ALSO - please send a note to Russ or to our head of equipment, Declan Prendergast (declanaprendergast@gmail.com)

Please ensure your GAME REPORTS are ACCURATE



HOW TO FILL OUT A GAME REPORT

- **Umpire Mentor:** If there is an Umpire Mentor at the game, please indicate by changing the number in the performance for Minor Officials.
- **Umpired the game alone:** Please rate the quality of game as "1", and then comment that there was no other umpire.
- **Comments:** If the game was a rainout or forfeit, please comment.

Please ensure your GAME REPORTS are ACCURATE



INCIDENT REPORT

If there is a player, coach or fan ejection,
you **MUST** submit an incident report on the site.

Please ensure your GAME REPORTS are ACCURATE



MORE INFO

HOUSE LEAGUE UMPs - Please do not hesitate to reach out to Russell Kline with any Questions/Concerns

Phone: 647-991-9511

Email: russellmkline@gmail.com

SELECT or REP UMPS - Please do not hesitate to reach out to Jono Freedman with any Questions/Concerns

Phone: 416 841 4042

Email: jonocnd@gmail.com

Please ensure your GAME REPORTS are ACCURATE

You'll be awesome!!

Good Luck



Updated April 2024