



5. Youth 1st Team Awards Flyer – included in your packet is a two-sided color flyer (8.5x11) for each team. Please provide (1) flyer to each team at registration check in.
6. Team Awards Tracking Sheet – included in your packet is a Team Awards Tracking Sheet for each age group. Please use this sheet to record the umpire votes after each game.

### III. Game Day Process:

1. Registration
  - a. Provide (1) Youth 1st Team Awards Flyer to each team manager/coach at check-in. Remind them to share this information with their parents/fans.
2. Tournament Games
  - a. Provide (2) Conduct 1st Pocket Reminder business cards to the umpire with each score card during all Pool Play games.
  - b. The umpire hands the Pocket Reminder cards to the coach from each team during the pre-game meetings, reminding them of the emphasis on Conduct. (Pool Play rounds only)
  - c. After **EVERY GAME**, make sure the umpire designates his/her vote on the score card for the team or teams that display positive conduct and good sportsmanship. The umpire may select one, none or both for each game **PLAYED DURING THE ENTIRE TOURNAMENT**.
  - d. Record the umpire votes as a “Yes” or “No” on the Team Awards Tracking Sheet for each game played during the tournament.

### IV. Post Tournament Reporting

1. Please take a picture of the completed Team Awards Tracking Sheet and text it to (612) 968-9192 or email it to: [mark.arjes@youth1st.com](mailto:mark.arjes@youth1st.com) within 48 hours of the completion of the tournament.
2. Youth 1st will determine the Team Awards winners and notify the teams via phone & email. The Tournament Director(s) will be copied on the notifications.

Thank you for putting our Youth 1st!  
 Mark Arjes  
 Youth 1st  
 (612) 968-9192



## **Youth 1st Team Awards**

### **Conduct 1st Environment Instructions (UIC)**

To: **Umpire In-Chief**

#### **Process Overview – for umpires**

##### **I. Youth 1st Contact:**

Mark Arjes (612) 968-9192  
[mark.arjes@youth1st.com](mailto:mark.arjes@youth1st.com)

##### **II. Purpose: Why are we doing this?**

According to the National Federation of State High School Associations, only two of every 10 officials return for their third year of officiating, creating a referee drain that has schools struggling to cover games and administrators trying to find ways to keep officials on the job.

We all know there is a shortage of officials, not just in Minnesota, but across the country. There are veteran officials retiring out and not enough new officials coming in to replace them. We believe one solution is to encourage parents, coaches and officials at the youth levels to partner together in an effort to make the environment more positive. New officials most likely get introduced to officiating at the youth levels. It is important that we put them in a position to learn and succeed so they will want to continue to officiate in the future.

Our Youth 1st Team Awards program emphasizes positive conduct and good sportsmanship from players, coaches and parents. It is a simple, but significant way to get everyone to: remember it's about the kids, keep competitive energies in check and always respect officials and opponents. Our goal is to retain the officials we have and help attract new ones by influencing the environments they work in.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!** Please help us create a Conduct 1st Environment this weekend by working with the Tournament Director and implementing these simple steps:

1. Your umpires will receive (2) Pocket Reminder business cards with each score card for the Pool Play rounds of the tournament.
2. The umpire will hand the Pocket Reminder cards to the coach from each team during the pre-game meetings, reminding them of the emphasis on Conduct and Sportsmanship. (**POOL PLAY** rounds only for the cards)
3. After **EVERY GAME**, make sure the umpire designates his/her vote on the score card for the team or teams that display positive conduct and good sportsmanship.
4. The umpire may select one, none or both for each game played **DURING THE ENTIRE TOURNAMENT.**

***Thank you for working this weekend and for your investment  
in our young people!***