

2025-2026 Performance Review Coordinator Report

The primary responsibility of the Performance Review Coordinator is to implement the NHBUA's umpire evaluation process.

Since the fall of 2025 much work has gone into how to best conduct those evaluations, and how to create an evaluation system that provides:

1. a tool for Regional Assignors and the Umpire Supervisor to determine appropriate regular and post season game assignments
2. the opportunity for members to receive feedback they can use to grow, improve, and advance.

The work this fall was done in collaboration with the Umpire Supervisor and the Assigning Chair, as well as with input from the BUD Chairman and the Rules Interpreter, and was then approved by the Executive Board.

Changes to the evaluation process for the 2026 season are detailed in Performance Review Coordinator section of the NHBUA Policies and Procedure Manual found on the NHBUA website.

The highlights of those changes include:

- a. Formal evaluations done from the stands by an NHBUA evaluator will still occur, but the primary evaluation method will be "partner evaluations" – evaluations conducted by experienced umpires trained by the PRC while working the game with the umpire being evaluated.*

Regional Assignors assisted in identifying 25-30 umpires for whom a partner evaluation in 2026 would be appropriate with the goal of conducting at least that number this spring.

- b. A new Evaluation Form to be used for evaluations is now available in the PRC section of the Policies and Procedures Manual, as is a new Evaluation Rubric.*

The Evaluation Form spells out the areas of plate work, base work, game management, and professionalism for which umpires will receive written feedback. The Evaluation Rubric lists specific skills and mechanics which umpires should know and demonstrate in each of those areas.

Many thanks to the Executive Board members who contributed to these during the last few months. And many thanks to the members of the association for

serving the game of baseball so well. Our goal is for the evaluation process to be a foundational element of the NHBUA – a tool that helps us to grow, improve and advance both as individual umpires and as an association.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Ross

Performance Review Coordinator