



San Diego, CA –For the third time in four years, 40 of the nation's top high school baseball players will descend upon San Diego to play in the Aflac All-American High School Baseball Classic, the country's premier high school baseball showcase. This year's game will be played on Aug. 16 at 5 p.m. PDT in PETCO Park, home of the San Diego Padres, and will once again be televised live nationally on FOX Sports Net. Read More Not only will some of nations top players be at this years game... but this year Aflac welcomes 4 of the nations top Umpires- all from the National Umpires Association (based out of Atlanta, Ga.) directed by Jim Stros who was the homeplate umpire at last years Aflac game at Dodger Stadium.

Gary Maxwell- Kingsport Tennessee: Home Plate Umpire

Gary Maxwell brings more than 30 years of umpire experience to Aflac. A graduate of Alabama A&M University, where he was a four year starter for the Bulldogs. Gary played two seasons of professional baseball. To continue his love for baseball, Gary has attended endless umpiring schools over the years and has graduated near the top of his class at everyone. During the season Gary also works as a fill in umpire in the short-season Appalachian League. Gary has worked several Perfect Game USA national championships, college and high school championships over the years. Gary, is considered one of the nations top High School and NCAA College umpires. Gary will be working his first Aflac game.

Jim Stros- Woodstock, Georgia: 1st Base Umpire

Jim Stros, originally from Detroit, Michigan. Jim is a 1990 graduate of Michigan State University. At Michigan State, Jim was a relief pitcher from 1987-1990. He currently holds three single season Big Ten appearance records as one of the all-time leaders in career appearances at Michigan State. After graduation, Jim had the opportunity to pursue baseball professionally for three seasons in the spring of 91-93, then found another love for the game after becoming an umpire 20 years ago. For the past 20 years Jim has umpired at all levels working several Perfect Game National Championship games over the years. In 1993, at the Major League Umpires International Camp, professional umpires Mike Reilly, Joe Brinkman, Paul Nauert and Gerry Davis selected Jim as the #1 umpire in his class. Jim was also voted Most Outstanding Umpire in his class at the 1993 NCAA Southern Umpires School. Jim went on to umpire four full NCAA college seasons before becoming the National Director for National Umpires Association. www.nuaumpiresusa.org ; Jim was selected to work the plate at the 2008 Aflac All-American High School Baseball Game played last year at Dodger stadium. Jim will be working his second Aflac game.

James Gorden- Carrollton, Georgia: 3rd Base Umpire

James Gorden, is a native of Atlanta, Georgia and currently resides in Carrollton, Georgia. James brings close to 40 years of umpire experience to this years Aflac game. He is one of the top umpires in the country having worked at every level including 4 years professionally. After a solid professional career, James has umpired with the NCAA for more than 25 years working in several top Division I and II conferences. James umpired several regional and super regional series over the years and was selected to umpire a Division II National Championship as well as several WWBA Perfect Game Championships. At the High School level, James has worked more than 14 State Championships. In the spring of 2008, James was elected by GHSA for the GHSA state evaluation team. James will be working his first Aflac game.

Rick Phillips- Kennesaw, Georgia 2nd Base Umpire

Rick Phillips, A native of Georgia with over 15 years of experience, Rick is considered to be one of the top amateur umpires in the country. Rick has worked several national championship games over the years including four WWBA Perfect Game USA Championships, Triple Crown Championships, and USSSA Championships. Rick's professionalism, game management, and communication skills have earned him the respect of his peers and coaches alike. Rick will be working his first Aflac game.