

To: OHSAA Baseball and Softball Umpires
OHSAA Baseball and Softball Assigners

From: OHSAA Officiating Department

Re: Reminders on BB/SB Assigning Practices

This email is being sent to remind and reinforce the baseball and softball community of what is proper and acceptable assigning practices in the OHSAA baseball and softball setting:

1. Assigners are **NOT** agents of a local officials association. Assigners are hired by schools, they are not hired by associations. Assigners may be officials and thus will be a member of an association, but that does not mean they can only hire officials from that particular association.
2. Umpires cannot be asked to join a specific officials association in order to receive a game assignment from a particular school and / or particular assigner.
3. Assigners are not permitted to assign officials based solely on an officials association membership.
4. Umpires can accept assignments from any number of assigners that they choose. Assigners cannot coerce officials to solely work for them, either explicitly or implicitly.
5. Umpires are independent contractors and have the right to work for as many assigners as they would like to. Umpires are independent assigners may choose to accept / decline contests as they see fit.
6. Assigners do not have to use a specific umpire, regardless of association membership, years of experience, tournament experience, etc.

The system of "association assigning" has not been permitted in OHSAA athletics for about ten years. The baseball and softball communities have seemed to have the hardest time adapting to the current model of OHSAA assigning.

If you are aware of any practices that are not in alignment with the OHSAA assigning model as described above, please email Tyler (tbrooks@ohsaa.org) with specific details so that we can investigate the matter and correct the practice as needed.

Thank you and enjoy your season!



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