

Baseball Bulletin 2025-6

April 1, 2025

From: Frank Grubb, Director of Officiating Development

As the season started this past Saturday, I want to wish each of you a healthy season ahead. Work hard, do your best and have a great season!

• Local on-line meetings – We will once again publish two local on-line meetings during the spring. The first of these has been published and will be available until April 7, 2025

To access this screen, you can click on <u>your name</u> on the left side of your DragonFly page, and then select "<u>My Info</u>". From there, you will see a box labeled "<u>Prep for 2024-25 Official</u> <u>Eligibility</u>" underneath the OHSAA. Click on that box (make sure you are selecting the correct athletic year), and in the requirements list you will find the row titled "OHSAA Softball Online Local Meeting #1".

You will select "Fill out form Electronically", and it will take you to a screen where the video is available. After watching the video, you will select "Yes" to the question asking if you have watched the video, as well as signing your name at the bottom.

**Please note**: You **MUST** sign your name and hit "done" on the screen to receive the credit. If you do not sign your name, your credit will not populate. You will know when you have been credited when there is a green "Approved" box where it once said "Start".

<u>Loading Error Note:</u> If you are experiencing a loading error when trying to access the State Rules Meeting, try these steps:

If your page continues to spin without loading anything, and eventually a box with an "Exit Page" and "Wait" option, select the "Exit Page" option. It will take you to a "dead" page with a "reload" button in the middle. Select that button, and the meeting page should appear quickly. For any questions, please contact me at kjones@ohsaa.org.

- Sportsmanship reports/Ejection reports Any sportsmanship issues including coach or player ejections must be reported through Dragonfly. You can also report positive sportsmanship! To file a report:
  - 1. Open the Dragonfly app or website

- 2. Go to the game assignment for game in which the event occurred (you may need to select "past games"
- 3. Scroll to the bottom of the page past the "workers" and "key people" and click "Add Document"
- 4. Select the category of report you need to fill out
- 5. Fill out all fields

## A few notes about ejections:

- If you have multiple ejections, you must fill out a new document for each person who has been ejected.
- Contact the school's Principal/Athletic Director and notify them of the incident. If they are on site, speaking to them after the contest is acceptable.
- Ejection reports should be filled out within 48 hours of the event.
- Include all relative information in the report
- I or someone from OHSAA may reach out for clarification or questions. We are not questioning your judgement, but just making sure we fully understand the ejection.
- **Game management** We talked about game management last year in detail in the points of emphasis during the State Rules Interpretation meeting. As we enter the 2025 season, we need to carry these principles forward:
  - Remind teams to hustle on and off the field, if necessary.
  - Count pitches in-between innings and during pitching changes, limit those warmup pitches to what is allowable by rule. The catcher throws down on the 5<sup>th</sup> warmup pitch in between innings (not an extra warmup pitch).
  - Limit the offensive team to the first batter and the on-deck batter and make sure the first batter of the inning is ready to go once the last warm up pitch is delivered
  - Review rule 7-3-1 which spells out the situations when a batter is allowed to leave the batter's box.
  - Don't allow unnecessary calls of time by the batter which are designed to disrupt the pitcher (this isn't to say that a batter requesting time shouldn't be granted for legitimate reasons).
  - Break up excessive player conferences and unnecessary calls of time when the ball is being returned to the pitcher.
- Malicious contact As a reminder, not all contact is malicious, and we need to evaluate each
  play on its own merits. Sometimes "train wreck" plays happen in baseball as each player is doing
  what they should be doing, and they collide. To judge malicious contact, ask yourself
  - 1. Was there excessive force that could have been avoided?
  - 2. Was there an intent to punish or injure?

The absence of these two conditions does not preclude the presence of malicious contact but would provide a reasonable starting point for proper interpretation. If you have contact that is questionable, get together with your partner and discuss. Unless you are 100% sure the contact constitutes malicious contact, we should not eject.

• Quiz – Quiz # 3 is live and can be accessed <a href="here">here</a>.