



Ohio High School Athletic Association

Jerry Fick

Softball Bulletin

Director of Officials Development – Softball

February 1, 2026

Bulletin 26 -3

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In this issue –

RULE BOOK MAILING INFORMATION UPDATE – All books have been mailed – see details below

MECHANICS CLINIC SCHEDULE - REGISTRATION INFORMATION – FIRST CLINIC IS THIS SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7 IN NEW CONCORD – EAST MUSKINGUM MIDDLE SCHOOL

THE OHSAA HAS ANOTHER EASY OPTION TO REGISTER ONLINE THROUGH THE OHSAA TICKETING SOFTWARE – DIRECT LINKS TO REGISTER FOR THE CLINICS AT THE VARIOUS SITES –

[East/Southeast Softball Clinic - New Concord](#)

[Northwest Softball Clinic - Findlay](#)

[Northeast Softball Clinic - Berea](#)

[Southwest Softball Clinic - Westchester](#)

[Central Softball Clinic - Columbus](#)

STATE MEETINGS CONTINUE – THIS WEEK IN WESTCHESTER AND BEREA

COLUMBUS MEETING HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED – FEBRUARY 24 - UPDATE BELOW

- Preseason packets have been mailed from the Columbus office. Thanks to our production team in the office for getting these mailings out earlier this year! **REMINDER** – not all book mailings are sent at the same time and these are **not** sent by First Class Mail so they may be delivered at various times to umpires. Look for these to arrive in late January or the first half of February. If an umpire does not receive a packet the first thing to do is check and make sure that they have renewed their permit for this year!
- Our Mechanics Clinics get underway this week - February 7 at New Concord – East Muskingum MS. **The improved registration process is listed below. We encourage early registration for the clinics as that allows us to have proper staffing with plenty of individual instruction, enough pitchers and catchers for our plate stations, adequate supplies, and enough lunches.** The clinics are designed to help umpires improve their skills and attain their advancement goals. Staff will be from the OHSAA Softball Umpire Instructional Team and will include OHSAA softball tournament observers. Umpires attending will receive one local rules meeting credit and **also receive SIX points added to their TOURNAMENT SELECTION SCORE.** The cost is still only \$60 which includes all instruction, lunch, and a registration gift. This clinic will be a working clinic – attendees should come prepared for both plate and base drills in an indoor setting. Please bring your plate equipment - OHSAA umpire uniform is recommended. Please also bring gym shoes as the weather will likely require that these be indoor events. We have learned that many of our newer umpires were as anxious as our veterans to take advantage of our Mechanics Clinics. These clinics provide a great supplement to the online RefPreps classes offered to our newest umpires. **CLINICS GROUPS WILL BE DIVIDED BASED ON EXPERIENCE LEVEL – THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR BOTH NEWER AND VETERAN UMPIRES TO WORK ON IMPROVING THEIR MECHANICS IN A SETTING BASED ON THEIR EXPERIENCE LEVEL.**

Questions should be directed to Clinic Director Jerry Fick, OHSAA Director of Officials Development – Softball, at jfick@ohsaa.org.

2026 SOFTBALL UMPIRE MECHANICS CLINICS SCHEDULE

All sessions are from 9 AM to 4PM

___ **Saturday, February 7 – East/Southeast – New Concord – East Muskingum Middle School - 13120 John Glenn School Rd. – across street from John Glenn High School – Enter Main Entrance**

___ **Saturday, February 14 – Northwest – Findlay – Liberty-Benton Middle School Middle School – 9190 County Road 9. – Enter MIDDLE SCHOOL – Main entrance**

___ **Sunday, February 22 – Northeast – Berea – Midpark High School – 165 E. Bagley Rd. - Enter at side gym doors in back of school off Eastland Rd.**

___ **Saturday, February 28 – Southwest – Westchester – Lakota West Freshman School – 5050 Tylersville Road – Enter at West Side of Building near Athletic Fields**

___ **Sunday, March 1 – Central – Hilliard – Bradley High School – 2800 Walker Rd.**

To register for these events please follow the instructions -

REGISTRATION FORM

Select Location:

___ **Saturday, February 7 – East/Southeast – New Concord – East Muskingum Middle School - 13120 John Glenn School Rd. – across street from John Glenn High School – Enter Main Entrance**

____ Saturday, February 14 – Northwest – Findlay – Liberty-Benton Middle School Middle School – 9190 County Road 9. – Enter MIDDLE SCHOOL – Main entrance

____ Sunday, February 22 – Northeast – Berea – Midpark High School – 165 E. Bagley Rd. - Enter at side gym doors in back of school off Eastland Rd.

____ Saturday, February 28 – Southwest – Westchester – Lakota West Freshman School – 5050 Tylersville Road – Enter at West Side of Building near Athletic Fields

____ Sunday, March 1 – Central – Hilliard – Bradley High School – 2800 Walker Rd.

Name: _____

DragonFly # _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

Primary Phone Number _____

Years Registered as an OHSA Softball Umpire _____

Attendees will also receive SIX points added to their TOURNAMENT SELECTION SCORE.

Payment of \$60 may be by our online registration/ticketing system or by check. We have a new simplified online registration process - to register online use the links listed below for each clinic – **IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO USE THE CTRL BUTTON WHEN CLICKING ON THE APPROPRIATE LINK.**

[East/Southeast Softball Clinic - New Concord](#)

[Northwest Softball Clinic - Findlay](#)

[Northeast Softball Clinic - Berea](#)

[Southwest Softball Clinic - Westchester](#)

[Central Softball Clinic - Columbus](#)

If you chose to register using the paper form above checks are made payable to OHSA and mailed with registration form to: OHSA, Attn: Accounting, 4080 Roselea Place, Columbus, OH 43214.

There is also a QR code on page 33 of the White Book – you can use your phone to click on that and register directly from your phone.

- **STATE MEETING INFORMATION – THE COLUMBS MEETING AT FRANKLIN HEIGHTS HS HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24.** - As in the past, all softball umpires must complete four education credits (local meetings, etc.) and one state rules meeting. The state meeting will be available both online and in person. The **BEST WAY** to start your preparation for the coming season is to attend a “face-to-face” State Rules Interpretation Meeting. There will be seven in person meetings. **Each meeting will feature sessions of about two hours and in addition to the state meeting will review the most important items that we want to cover prior to the season. By attending the entire session, you will receive credit for a local meeting in addition to the state softball meeting.** There is no need to “pre-register” for face-to-face State meetings. The REMAINING schedule is listed below with all meetings starting at 6PM.

Tuesday, February 3 – **West Chester - Lakota West High School, 8940 Union Centre Blvd. - Cafeteria - Enter through cafeteria doors east end of building – Door #24**

Thursday, February 5 – Cleveland - Berea-Midpark High School - 165 E Bagley Rd. - **Enter at side gym doors in back of school off of Eastland Rd.**

Thursday, February 12 – Findlay – Donnell Middle School – 301 Baldwin Ave.

Tuesday, February 17 – Piqua – Upper Valley Career Center – 8811 Career Dr.

Thursday, February 19 – Canton – Stark County Educational Service Ctr., 6057 Strip Ave NW

Tuesday, February 24 – Columbus – Franklin Heights HS – 1001 Demorest Rd. RESCHEDULED

The online state meeting for softball will be available by the weekend of February 6. Details will be emailed to all officials and will include both login instructions and the deadlines for completing the meeting.

- As in past years each association may hold one combined meeting for baseball and softball. The powerpoint for this meeting is available on the OHSAA website – Officiating – DOD page – both baseball and softball.
- Recruiting – In recent years our total number of umpires has declined each year. Our best recruiters are those who are current umpires. I encourage each of you to talk about the benefits of umpiring with your friends, neighbors, or whomever you think may enjoy it. A prospect just needs to go to the Officiating page of the ohsaa.org website and click on Officiating/Become An Official. It has never been easier to get started!