



Ohio High School Athletic Association

Jerry Fick

Softball Bulletin

Director of Officials Development – Softball

January 9, 2026

Bulletin 26 -1

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- Our first softball bulletin comes early again this year as we have information that we would like to get to our umpires. Our bulletins again come to you from the OHSAA office through the DragonFly system.
- **OUR TOPICS FOR THIS MAILING INCLUDE –**

#### **RULE BOOK MAILING INFORMATION AND WHITE BOOK AVAILABILITY ONLINE**

#### **IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

#### **MECHANICS CLINIC SCHEDULE AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

#### **STATE MEETING INFORMATION**

#### **REMINDER FOR LOCAL INTERPRETERS AND SECRETARIES**

- Preseason packets will be mailed from the Columbus office and are currently scheduled to be sent during the last half of January. Remember these are **not** all sent at the same time and **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! This can be checked on DragonFly. Also, these mailings are not forwarded by the postal service. Umpires need to update their DragonFly profile and address when they move or have other updates. For those wishing to access the 2026 White Book prior to receiving the mailing please visit the OHSAA website at this link - <https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Officiating/dod/Softball/2026OHSAAWhiteBook.pdf> The Mechanics Clinic registration information can be found on page 33 of the White Book.
- **Reminder – the late renewal deadline with extra fee for spring sports is January 31 and renewals are done only on DragonFly. After this time it will be necessary to pay not only an extra fee but also to test and complete the reinstatement process.**
- **Reminder – The 2026 Tournament Application was emailed to all Class One officials on January 5. The deadline for completing the application is January 31. If you are eligible, please complete the application as otherwise we must assume that you are not wanting to work the tournament at any level.**

- The OHSAA will sponsor five Softball Mechanics Clinics in 2026. These clinics, designed to help umpires improve their skills and attain their advancement goals, will emphasize plate and base mechanics. Staff will be from the OHSAA Softball Umpire Instructional Team and will include OHSAA softball tournament observers. Umpires attending will receive one educational credit (local rules meeting). **Attendees will also receive SIX points added to their TOURNAMENT SELECTION SCORE.** The cost of each clinic will be \$60 which includes all instruction, lunch, and a registration gift. Immediate registration is encouraged as the number of attendees at each location will be limited.

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. Stations will be rotated in order that attendees can work with each instructor. 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 THAT HELPS THEM BASED ON THEIR AMOUNT OF EXPERIENCE.**

Questions should be directed to Clinic Director Jerry Fick, OHSAA Director of Officials Development – Softball, at [jfick@ohsaa.org](mailto:jfick@ohsaa.org).

## OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

### 2026 SOFTBALL UMPIRE MECHANICS CLINICS

**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 OHSAA 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. 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 checks must be made payable to OHSAA and mailed with registration form to: OHSAA, Attn: Accounting, 4080 Roselea Place, Columbus, OH 43214.

- **STATE MEETING INFORMATION – FIRST MEETING IS JANUARY 26** - 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 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.** These meetings are also listed online on the DragonFly calendar. There is no need to “pre-register” for any face-to-face State meetings. The schedule is listed below with all meetings starting at 6PM.

Monday, January 26 – Columbus – Franklin Heights High School – 1001 Demorest Rd.

Wednesday, January 28 - New Concord – John Glenn High School - 13115 John Glenn School Rd.

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

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

- Reminder to Local Interpreters and Secretaries – On November 19, Amanda Harding in the OHSAA office sent an email invitation to the online state interpreters meeting being held on January 29 – 6PM. Please be sure that you have accepted the invitation and have this meeting on your calendar.

