



Ohio High School Athletic Association

Jerry Fick

Softball Bulletin

Director of Officials Development – Softball

February 7, 2022

Bulletin 22 -2

swdoc@fuse.net

Reminder – our first Mechanics Clinic is coming up this Saturday in the East District. These clinics, designed to help umpires improve their skills and be identified for potential advancement, 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 credit for their required state meeting and one local rules meeting. **Attendees will also receive three 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 – this allows us to have the proper number of instructors, lunches and gifts. **NOW IS THE TIME TO REGISTER FOR ALL CLINICS!**

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. Questions should be directed to Clinic Director Jerry Fick, OHSAA Director of Officials Development – Softball at swdoc@fuse.net.

For Registration - Mail form at the end of this bulletin to: OHSAA, Attention Officiating Department, 4080 Roselea Place, Columbus, OH 43214 Note – Clinic registration will start at 9AM and program will begin at 930AM. In case of inclement weather participants will be notified by email and the clinic will be rescheduled.

- **Dates and Sites for Mechanics Clinics are -**

Saturday, February 12 – East – East Muskingum Middle School – 13120 John Glenn School Road - New Concord

Saturday, February 19 – Northwest – Glenwood Middle School – 1715 N. Main St. - Findlay

Sunday, February 20 – Southwest – Stebbins High School – 1900 Harshman Rd. – Riverside

Saturday, February 26– Southeast – South Webster High School 10529 Main St, South Webster

Sunday, February 27 – Northeast – Walsh Jesuit High School – 4550 Wyoga Lake Rd. - Cuyahoga Falls

Sunday, March 6 – Central - Reynoldsburg HS LIVINGSTON CAMPUS – Columbus - 6699 EAST LIVINGSTON AVE.

- Softball packets have been mailed by the OHSAA to all officials. Remember these are **not** sent First Class so they may be delivered at various times to umpires. 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 myOHSAA. Also, these mailings are not forwarded by the postal service. Umpires need to update their myOHSAA profile and address when they move. Umpires who have not received the packet can email officiating@ohsaa.org.

STATE MEETINGS CONTINUE - As in the past, all softball umpires must attend four local rules meeting and one state rules meeting. The OHSAA requires umpires holding permits in both baseball and softball to attend four local meetings for each sport.

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 eight 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 any face-to-face State meetings. Remaining meetings are listed below with all meetings starting at 6PM.

Tuesday, February 8 – **RELOCATED - OAK HILL** – High School – 500 Vaughn St.

Thursday, February 10 – Cleveland - Garfield Heights High School – 4900 Turney Rd.

Tuesday, February 15 – Findlay – Donnell Middle School – 301 Baldwin Ave.

Thursday, February 17–Canton –Stark County Educational Service Center, 6057 Strip Ave NW

Tuesday, February 22 – Piqua – Upper Valley Career Center – 8811 Career Dr.

The online state meeting for softball will be available by the week of February 7. Details will be emailed to all officials and will include the deadlines for completing the meeting. To access the meeting, log in to your myOHSAA profile and click the “Rules Meetings” icon in the top right, then click “Find a State Meeting” from the left side menu, then select “Softball” from the “Sports” dropdown menu, “Official” from “Meeting Type” dropdown menu, and then click “Search”. This search will display the online meeting option as well as any face-to-face meeting

options. You may view the online meeting on any device except for a Google Chromebook. A Google Chromebook is a type of laptop computer, entirely different from the popular internet browser Google Chrome. You may view the online meetings using the internet browser Google Chrome.

- Here are a couple of play situations that have come up in our early season meetings -

Play - B1 enters the batter's box with a legal bat which has had a bat sensor added to measure swing speed. The defense notes this and calls this to the attention of the umpire. Ruling - When discovered the item must be removed from the game or be made legal and the umpire will issue a team warning, and the next violation of Rule 3-6-1 by that team will result in the offender and the head coach being restricted to the dugout/bench for the remainder of the game. In addition, since the batter entered the batter's box with the illegal bat, Rule 7-4-2 would also apply and the batter would be ruled out. This final portion of this ruling is a new NFHS interpretation for 2022 and supersedes all previous rulings.

Reminder – When an illegal pitch is declared by the umpire, the batter is awarded a ball. Runners are no longer awarded one base. An illegal pitch remains a delayed-dead ball. If there is an illegal pitch and the batter reaches first base safely and each other runner advances at least one base, the illegal pitch is nullified. If the batter does not reach first base safely or any base runner fails to advance at least one base, the coach of the team at bat shall have the option of the result of the play or the penalty of the illegal pitch, which is a ball awarded to the batter. Here are some play situations that relate to the times where a coach may have an option on an illegal pitch.

Play - With the bases loaded and no outs F1 delivers an illegal pitch. The batter hits a 3-2 pitch to the outfield and all runners score. The batter is thrown out at second base. Ruling – Since all runners, including the batter-runner, advanced at least one base there is no option and the play stands. The illegal pitch is ignored.

Play - With no outs and runners on 1st and 3rd bases F1 delivers an illegal pitch. The batter hits the 1-1 pitch into a double play as the lead runner scores. Ruling – The offense may take the result of the play, two outs and one run, or have the runners return while the batter continues with a 2-1 count.

Play - With no outs and a runner on first base F1 delivers an illegal pitch. The batter swings and misses on the 1-1 pitch as the runner steals 2B. Ruling - The offense may accept the result of the play which leaves the runner at 2B and the batter with 1-2 count or the runner can be returned to 1B with the penalty of a ball being enforced. The batter would then have a 2-1 count.

OHSAA 2022 SOFTBALL UMPIRES MECHANICS CLINICS

REGISTRATION FORM

Select Location:

____ Saturday, February 12 – East – East Muskingum Middle School – 13120 John Glenn School Road - New Concord

____ Saturday, February 19 – Northwest – Glenwood Middle School – 1715 N. Main St. - Findlay

____ Sunday, February 20 – Southwest – Stebbins High School – 1900 Harshman Rd. – Riverside

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Name: _____

OHSAA Permit # _____ EMAIL

ADDRESS _____

Primary Phone Number _____

Years Registered as an OHSAA Softball

Umpire _____

Mail with payment of \$60 to: ***OHSAA, Attention Officiating
Department, 4080 Roselea Place, Columbus, OH
43214***

Make checks payable to OHSAA

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