

Ohio High School Athletic Association

Jerry Fick

Softball Bulletin

Director of Officials Development – Softball

February 20, 2023 Bulletin 23 -4

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As you may have heard the OHSAA BASEBALL Mechanics Clinics have been cancelled. This does not apply to our SOFTBALL Mechanics Clinics where registrations continue to come in on a daily basis. We are about halfway through our "clinic season" and have had well attended, successful events. There are three clinics remaining and we are currently still able to accept registrations for all of those. To register please go to the form at the end of this bulletin. Remember – this year we are accepting email registrations with the option to pay by credit card. Details are on the registration form.

\_\_\_\_Saturday, February 25 – Northwest – Glenwood Middle School – 1715 N. Main St. Findlay

\_\_\_\_Sunday, February 26 – Northeast – Walsh Jesuit HS – 4550 Wyoga Lake Rd. Cuyahoga Falls

\_\_\_\_\_Sunday, March 5 – Central - Reynoldsburg HS SUMMIT CAMPUS – 8579 Summit Rd. Reynoldsburg

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.

I'm often asked why these clinics are so important – the simple answer is that solid mechanics are tremendous part of being a successful umpire and this is the place that many of our umpires come back year after year in a desire to be the best they can be and advance. Our Softball Umpire Improvement Team serves as instructional staff and many state and regional tournament umpires have been first "seen" at these events. I'm also asked why pre-registration is so important. We need to order registration gifts and lunches plus arrange for adequate facilities and a sufficient number of instructional staff to keep a low participant to instructor ratio at each location.

The cost of each clinic is still only \$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. 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.

**STATE MEETINGS** - As in the past, all softball umpires must attend four local rules meeting 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 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 meeting locations and dates are listed below with all meetings starting at 6PM.

Tuesday, February 21 – Piqua – Upper Valley Career Center – 8811 Career Dr.

Thursday, February 23 – Findlay – Glenwood Middle School – 1715 N. Main St.

The online state meeting for softball is now available. 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. The deadline for completing the state meeting is March 25.

USA Softball of Ohio will be hosting a National Umpire School in Dublin March 11 and 12 with an opening session on Friday night, March 10. This event is provided by one of our education partners and is a great opportunity for umpires who truly aspire to advance and be the best they can be. The registration timeframe has been extended but registration is limited! Details concerning registration can be found at –

http://www.usasoftballohio.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/2023 Ohio-Umpire-School.pdf

# OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

## 2023 SOFTBALL UMPIRES MECHANICS CLINICS

### **REGISTRATION FORM – SELECT LOCATION:**

Saturday, February 25 – Northwest – Glenwood Middle School – 1715 N. Main St. Findlay		
Sunday, February 26 – Northeast – Walsh Jesuit HS – 4550 Wyoga Lake Rd. Cuyahoga Falls		
Sunday, March 5 – Central - Reynoldsburg HS SUMMIT CAMPUS – 8579 Summit Rd. Reynoldsburg		
Name:		
OHSAA Permit #EMAIL ADDRESS		
Primary Phone		
Years as an OHSAA Softball Umpire		

Attendees will also receive three points added to their TOURNAMENT SELECTION SCORE. Payment of \$60 may be made via check or credit card. Checks must be made payable to OHSAA. If paying by credit card scan and email completed form to <u>ifick@ohsaa.org</u> or mail to OHSAA as indicated below. If paying by check mail to: OHSAA, Attn: Accounting, 4080 Roselea Place, Columbus, OH 43214

### **CREDIT CARD INFORMATION**

Full Name on Card	Billing Street Address
Card Number	Billing City
Expiration Date CVV Code (3-4	
(MM/YY) digits)	Billing State Billing Zip Code
Amount to be charged	Phone Number
\$	
Product Description	Email Address