



Ohio High School Athletic Association

Jerry Fick

Softball Bulletin

Director of Officials Development – Softball

February 11, 2025

Bulletin 25 -4

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- Topics in this message –

1) Rule Book Mailings

2) **Update on another registration option for Mechanics Clinics**

3) State Meeting Updates – including weather postponed Berea Meeting

- Preseason packets have all been mailed from the Columbus office. Remember these are **not** sent First Class so they may be delivered at various times to umpires. I'm sure that these will continue to arrive over the next week or two. 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. Please do not contact our office if you have not received – there is no method available to track these documents. Note – I received my rule book mailing today!
- **MECHANICS CLINICS CONTINUE THIS WEEK.** Thanks to all the umpires who attended our clinic in New Concord this past weekend – a record attendance for the East District! Also, thanks to all the umpires who have registered for our series of Mechanics Clinics. **IN ADDITION TO THE REGISTRATION OPTIONS LISTED BELOW (mailing check or credit card info) THE OHSAA NOW HAS ANOTHER EASY OPTION TO REGISTER ONLINE THROUGH THE OHSAA TICKETING SOFTWARE – BELOW ARE DIRECT LINKS TO REGISTER FOR THE CLINICS AT THE VARIOUS SITES –**

[Central Softball Clinic - Reynoldsburg](#)

[Northwest Softball Clinic - Findlay](#)

[Northeast Softball Clinic - Berea](#)

[Southwest Softball Clinic - Westchester](#)

- We are excited to be holding five Mechanics Clinics being offered around the state – and with our additional emphasis on mechanics will be offering all attendees SIX bonus points on your tournament composite score. I think that shows the strong feelings we have on mechanics improvement and the value of these clinics. For the past several years we have seen many umpires advance in tournament play, including to the state level, after attending these clinics, being identified and improving their mechanics. These clinics are also a great tool for our newer umpires who want to jump start their career. We want to encourage everyone to take advantage of this opportunity!

**OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**

*2025 SOFTBALL UMPIRE MECHANICS CLINICS*

All sessions are from 9 AM to 4PM

\_\_\_ Saturday, February 8 – East/Southeast – New Concord – East Muskingum Middle School - 13120 John Glenn School Rd. – across street from John Glenn High School

\_\_\_ Saturday, February 15 – Northwest – Findlay - Glenwood Middle School – 1715 N. Main St.

\_\_\_ Saturday, February 22 – Southwest – Westchester – Lakota West Freshman School – 5050 Tylersville Road.

\_\_\_ Sunday, February 23 – Northeast – Berea – Midpark High School – 165 E. Bagley Rd. - Enter at side gym doors in back of school off of Eastland Rd.

\_\_\_ Sunday, March 2 – Central – Reynoldsburg - Waggoner Rd. Junior HS – 360 South Waggoner Rd.

The OHSAA will sponsor five Softball Mechanics Clinics in 2025. 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. **IN THIS YEAR'S 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).

***For Registration - Send form on the next page to: OHSAA – follow instructions on the form***

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.

## OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

### 2025 SOFTBALL UMPIRES MECHANICS CLINICS

REGISTRATION FORM -- Select Location:

\_\_\_\_ Saturday, February 8 – East/Southeast – New Concord – East Muskingum Middle School - 13120 John Glenn School Rd. – across street from John Glenn High School

\_\_\_\_ Saturday, February 15 – Northwest – Findlay - Glenwood Middle School – 1715 N. Main St.

\_\_\_\_ Saturday, February 22 – Southwest – Westchester – Lakota West Freshman School – 5050 Tylersville Road.

\_\_\_\_ Sunday, February 23 – Northeast – Berea – Midpark High School – 165 E. Bagley Rd. – Enter at side gym doors in back of school off of Eastland Rd.

\_\_\_\_ Sunday, March 2 – Central - Reynoldsburg - Waggoner Rd. Junior HS – 360 South Waggoner Rd.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

OHSAA Permit # \_\_\_\_\_ 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 check or credit card. Checks must be made payable to OHSAA. If paying by credit card scan and email completed form to [jfick@ohsaa.org](mailto:jfick@ohsaa.org) or mail to OHSAA as indicated in next line. 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	
<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>	
Card Number		Billing City	
<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>	
Expiration Date (MM/YY)	CVV Code (3-4 digits)	Billing State	Billing Zip Code
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Amount to be charged		Phone Number	
\$ <input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>	
Product Description		Email Address	
<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>	

- STATE MEETING INFORMATION – THESE ARE UNDERWAY** - 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. The remaining schedule is listed below with all meetings at 6PM.

Thursday, February 6 – Cleveland - Berea-Midpark High School - 165 E Bagley Rd. - **Enter at side gym doors in back of school off of Eastland Rd. NOTE THAT THIS MEETING WAS POSTPONED DUE TO THE 300 WEATHER RELATED SCHOOL CLOSINGS IN NE OHIO LAST THURSDAY. WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF WORKING WITH THE SCHOOL TO RESCHEDULE AND WE WILL SEND AN ANNOUNCEMENT OUT WHEN THIS IS FINALIZED – THE INFORMATION SHOULD BE AVAILABLE THIS WEEK.**

Wednesday, February 12 – West Chester - Lakota West High School, 8940 Union Centre Blvd. - Cafeteria - Enter through cafeteria doors east end of building – Door #24

Thursday, February 13 – Findlay – Donnell Middle School – 301 Baldwin Ave.

Tuesday, February 18 – Piqua – Upper Valley Career Center – 8811 Career Dr.

Thursday, February 20 – Canton – Stark County Educational Service Center, 6057 Strip Ave NW

The online state meeting for softball is now available. Reprinted here are the details that were emailed on February 4 to you concerning access to this meeting –

The state rules meeting is now live **on DragonFly!** To access it, please visit your 2024-25 registration page on DragonFly. This is the same page in which you have paid your renewal fees on. Once there, click on the requirement that is titled “**2025 SRI Meeting OHSAA Points of Emphasis**”. You will be able to watch the video on that screen.

To access this screen, you can click on **your name** on the left side of your DragonFly page, and then select “**My Info**”. From there, you will see a box labeled “**Prep for 2024-25 Official Eligibility**”. That is where you can find the meeting!

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.

This meeting is open **without a \$50 late fee** until **Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 PM.**

The meeting window will be up **with a \$50 late fee** from **Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup> until Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 PM.**

***As a reminder, every official is required to attend at least one state rules meeting per year.***

**Loading Error Note:** 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.

We are working on fixing these errors, and I hope this helps you while the fixes are ongoing!

**For any questions, please contact me at [kjones@ohsaa.org](mailto:kjones@ohsaa.org).**