THIS WEEK IN BASEBALL



Issue 2 | March 17, 2022

CONTESTS BEGIN ON SATURDAY, MARCH 26

Contests may begin on Saturday, March 26! While looking ahead to your season, please know that the last date of the OHSAA baseball season is June 18, 2022—contests may be scheduled any time prior to this date, even during and/or after your team's participation in the OHSAA postseason tournament. This can be any regular scheduled contest, make-up contest or scrimmage.

2022 STATE BASEBALL RULES MEETING REMINDER

A reminder that the deadline to view the Baseball Rules Meeting without penalty, is in 10 days on **Sunday**, **March 27 at 11:59 pm**. On Monday, March 28 at 12:00 am, there will be a \$50 late fee applied to view the rules meeting. The final deadline will be Monday, May 2 at 11:59 pm. On May 3 at 12:00 am, the Baseball Rules Meeting will no longer be available—the penalty for not completing the Baseball Rules Meeting by this deadline is ineligibility for the OHSAA Tournament.

Note: if you have completed the Baseball Rules Meeting, please make sure that you and your school have received credit on your myOHSAA profile. Our Membership Services Department will be sending out Rules Meeting reminders soon for any discrepancies early next week, so might be better to figure those out now!

10-DAY SUMMER RULE REVIEW

As detailed in the communication on February 17, the Board of Directors approved to reinstate the 10-day rule for team sport coaches (*General Sport Regulation 7.5.1*) beginning on June 1, 2022. Prior to the summer of 2020, a baseball coaching staff was limited to a maximum of 10 days to work with more than 4 of their own baseball players, from June 1 – July 31. During COVID, this Regulation was suspended. The BOD has lifted this suspension and school coaches are limited to a maximum of 10 coaching days, if working with more than 4 members of their school team.

Note: the 10-day allotment counts towards the entire coaching staff—each coach is not allotted their own 10 days.

EXCEPTION: keep in mind that individual instruction (*General Sport Regulation 8*) may still occur during the summer months. In the sport of baseball, a school coach permitted to provide individual skill instruction for up to 6 school players at one time. The main components of individual instruction:

- Only individual skill instruction is being provided—no type of team play or full practice
- Examples would be hitting instruction, pitching instruction, etc.
- There may be no more than 6 players present at one time at all school facilities

The following Q & A's may better define working with your own athletes during the summer: Q: How is a school coach coaching a non-school team with a maximum of 4 players, different from providing individual skill instruction to a maximum of 6 players from June 1 - July 31?

A: If you are providing individual skill instruction only, you would be permitted to work with a maximum of 6 athletes at one time (*GSR 8*) and it would not count towards 1 of your 10 days. If you are coaching a non-school team (*GSR 7*) and holding practices involving team play, playing in games, etc., with *more* than 4 of your athletes would count towards 1 of your 10 days. If you are coaching a non-school team with 4 or *less* of your athletes, this would not count towards 1 of your 10 days. The main difference depends on if you are providing individual skill instruction only.

Q: I want to provide hitting instruction to 6 of my school players during July. Does this have to count as 1 of my 10 days?

A: No, as long as you are only providing individual skill instruction.

Q: I am coaching 5 of my high school student-athletes on a summer travel ball team. Do I have to count those practices and games into my 10-day allotment?

A: Yes—if you have 5 of your student-athletes on the summer team, any practice or game where all 5 are present, must count towards 1 of your 10 days.

Q: I am coaching 3 of my high school student-athletes on a summer travel ball team. Do I have to count those practices and games into my 10-day allotment?

A: No—you only have to use 1 of your 10 days if there are *more* than 4 of your own student-athletes participating. In this scenario, you have less than 4.

Q: I am the high school coach but plan to coach a summer team that has 6 players from the middle school in my same school district. Do the practices and games have to count as 1 of my 10 days?

A: No—it would only have to count if you were working with your own (high school) athletes in excess of 4. In this scenario, you would be able to work with the middle school baseball players for an unlimited amount of days from June 1 – July 31.

Traveling Out of State

If your baseball team is traveling to a non-bordering state for a scrimmage or contest, please fill out the *Travel to a Non-Bordering State Form* on the Baseball webpage, <u>HERE</u> and submit it to me at <u>emason@ohsaa.org</u>.

Baseball Coaches Manual

The 2022 Baseball Coaches Manual is now available on the Baseball page on our website. This manual is a great reference for all coaches and administrators, with information on the NFHS rules, explanation and reminders on OHSAA administrative rules, FAQ's, etc.! The manual can be found <u>HERE</u>.

2022 Season Dates

March 26 First Contest Permitted March 28 **Rules Meeting Deadline** March 28 Rules Meeting \$50 Late Fee May 2 Final Rules Meeting Deadline May 8 Tournament Seed/Draw Date May 14 – 21 Sectional Tournament May 21 - 28 District Tournament June 2 – 3 **Regional Tournament** June 9 – 11 State Tournament June 18 Season Ends

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