

Ohio High School Athletic Association

TO: Softball Coaches and Directors of Athletics

FROM: Kate Barnett, Sport Administrator

DATE: April 19, 2023

SUBJECT: OHSAA Softball Tournament Information

OHSAA TOURNAMENT UPDATES AND REMINDERS

Important Dates

April 30 Tournament Draw Meeting

May 6-13 Sectional May 15-20 District

May 24 Regional Semi-Final
May 26-27 Regional Final
June 1-3 State Finals
June 10 Season Ends

Tournament Regulations and Forms

This formation can be found on the Softball page **HERE**.

- Tournament Regulations
- Tournament Draw
- Required forms *Travel Party / Bench List (required at ALL levels of the Tournament)
- Bat Information
- <u>DP/Flex Information</u>

<u>Sectional and District Tournament Information</u>

District Athletic Boards are tasked with overseeing the sectional and district levels of the OHSAA Tournament, while the OHSAA Sport Administrator is tasked with managing the regional and state levels of the OHSAA Tournament. Sectional and district tournament information is posted on each of the respective district webpages linked below for your reference.

- Central District
- East District
- Northeast District
- Northwest District
- Southeast District
- Southwest District

Regional and State Draw

Regional sites have been pre-determined and can be viewed in the tournament draw information. Regional semifinals are scheduled for Wednesday May 24 at 2pm/5pm and regional finals on either Friday May 26 at 5pm or Saturday May 27 at 12pm depending on the host. Brackets will be posted after the draw meetings. For regionals through state, the home team will be the team listed on the top of the bracket.

NOTE: Preference was given to host sites with turf fields, however not every site will be a turf field. Please be sure to bring the appropriate shoes and equipment for the venue in which you are scheduled to compete.

State Finals Information

The State Finals will be held at Firestone Stadium in Akron, OH June 1-3, 2023.

- State Finals Coaches Meeting. A mandatory state finals meeting for teams advancing to the state semifinal will
 be held virtually on <u>Tuesday May 30, 2023, at 10:00AM ET</u>. Those advancing to the state semifinals will receive
 the meeting information after regional finals have concluded.
- **Team Hotel Information.** The OHSAA in collaboration with the Akron/Summit Convention & Visitors Bureau has secured a small number of room blocks for teams to use on a first come first serve basis. Schools/coaches will be contacted separately with more information regarding hotel links and directions for booking rooms.
- Firestone Stadium Update. Firestone Stadium and the surrounding area have undergone renovations. The
 stadium field and the adjacent practice field will be completely turf. Teams are reminded that <u>NO metal cleats</u>,
 gum, seeds, or dumping of liquids are permitted in the dugouts or on the fields.
- State Game Schedule:
 - Thursday June 1

Division III Semifinals – 10:00AM and 12:30PM Division II Semifinals – 3:00PM and 5:30PM

Friday June 2

Division I Semifinals – 10:00AM and 12:30PM Division IV Semifinals – 3:00PM and 5:30PM

Saturday June 3

Division III Finals – 10:00AM Division II Finals – 12:30PM Division I Finals – 3:00PM Division IV Finals – 5:30PM

Ticket Information

All tickets shall be electronic through HomeTown Ticketing. **No cash will be accepted**. Passes of any kind are not permitted at any level of the OHSAA Tournament. School administrators are provided eight (8) complementary tickets to use as their team advances. These tickets may be used throughout the tournament, including the state semifinals and finals if the school team is participating.

Below are the designated ticket prices for each level of the tournament. Tickets may be purchased here.

	Sect. Student	Sect. Adult	Dist. Student	Dist. Adult	Reg. Student	Reg. Adult	State Semi	State Semi	State Final	State Final
							Student	Adult	Student	Adult
Ī	\$6.00	\$8.00	\$6.00	\$8.00	\$8.00	\$10.00	\$12.00	\$15.00	\$12.00	\$15.00

^{*}Age 5 and under are free

High School Scouting Tickets

High School coaches may attend tournament events to scout their opponents. High School coaches wishing to scout may request up to two (2) complimentary tickets through the following procedure:

- 1. Email Claire Duesdieker Keohane (claired@ohsaa.org) no later than 24-hours prior to the event;
- 2. Use the subject line "Softball Scout Request"
- 3. Indicate the game you wish to attend (include team names, division, district and host site)

Note: The regional semifinal sites will not be clearing the stands between games.

Suspended Games

All tournament games are to be played to completion. Suspended games will be resumed from the point of suspension.

EXCEPTION 1: By mutual agreement of the opposing coaches and the plate umpire, any remaining play may be shortened at any time or the game terminated. (See NFHS Rule 4.2.3 which is the same protocol for the regular season). For example, this could take place after the 2nd inning.

EXCEPTION 2: All softball games shall end any time after 5 innings or 4 1/2 innings when a team is 10 or more runs behind and has completed its term at bat. This is a completed game.

If games are postponed or suspended, they will be rescheduled in the original order. If the regional semifinal games are not completed on Wednesday, they will be played on Thursday or the next playable day, with the finals on Saturday or Sunday. If the semifinals are played on Saturday, the final may be played on Sunday.

Per GSR 16.4, teams and competitors shall be expected to play tournament contests at the scheduled time, date and location. Therefore, if there are changes to the schedule due to inclement weather, teams are expected to compete at the new designated time, date and location.

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