

**OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT
2017 SECTIONAL-DISTRICT BASEBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS**

1. A meeting for all participating coaches will be conducted on Sunday, April 30, 2017, 2:00 p.m., at a pre-determined site. Coaches are expected to attend the meeting. Mailings to all participating schools will take place no later than April 13, 2017. Rules, regulations, and the online seeding process will be explained in the mailing.
2. All teams in the sectional tournament will be seeded. This seeding will determine the team's entry onto the bracket.

Seeding process. Per direction of the State Board of Control, all teams competing in a bracketed tournament will be seeded. The manager will distribute voting procedures and materials. This will enable each coach to vote and have the votes back to the tournament manager by Saturday, April 29, 2017, 12:00 p.m., before the tournament manager's meeting on Sunday, April 30, 2017. The tournament manager will distribute in written form the seed voting when the coach has checked in and submitted all paperwork. All ties will be broken prior to the placement of teams on the bracket.

By board action, starting with the 2011-2012 tournaments, the coach cannot vote for his school in the seeding process, and the highest and lowest votes for each school will be dropped in the final tabulation.

By board action, starting with the 2013 spring tournaments, a coach that does not vote in a bracketed tournament loses his highest score, second highest score, and lowest score prior to final calculation.

By board action, starting with the 2017 tournaments, schools that fail to have their coach participate in the seeding process (record records, voting, etc., or fail to attend draw meeting) will be fined \$150.00. An appeal process will be in place until the Southwest District Athletic Board meeting, June 19, 2017.

Once seeds have been determined for each team in the tournament, the seeds will go onto the bracket in order of seed. The first seeded team will go on followed by the second seeded team. Any seeded team may choose to pass, and if does so, the next seeded team will be given a choice to go on the bracket. After a seeded team goes on the bracket, the seeded team that passed will again be given an opportunity to go on the bracket. This process will continue until the bracket is filled.

Any team that does not show up at the tournament manager's meeting will go on the bracket last. Any school that does not get seed voting to the manager by Saturday, April 29, 12:00 noon, will not be permitted to vote at a later time. Any school that does not meet voting requirements but does attend the placement meeting, will receive the votes that the school received for seeding purposes and will be seeded accordingly. If a coach is late for the seed meeting, and has missed his opportunity to go on the bracket, his absence will be determined as a pass, and he will be given an opportunity to go on once he is in attendance.

Throughout the first two rounds of the sectional tournament games will be played at the higher seeded team's home field, the home team will occupy their usual dugout. In the sectional finals or when a neutral field is used, the higher seeded team will be the home team and occupy the dugout along the first baseline. Throughout the sectional tournament, the higher seeded team will be the home team. In the District Tournament, the team occupying the top line on the bracket will be the home team.

3. Twenty-two (22) players are eligible. The coaching box may be occupied by one (1) coach and one (1) member of the team, two (2) members of the team, or two (2) coaches, and **ALL MUST BE IN UNIFORM. NATIONAL FEDERATION BASEBALL RULE 3-2-1 STATES "COACH SHALL BE IN BASEBALL UNIFORM OF HIS TEAM". COACHES NOT PROPERLY DRESSED SHALL NOT BE PERMITTED IN THE COACH'S BOX.**
4. The wearing of a head protector is compulsory, both for the batter, runner, catcher, on-deck circle, and any student coaching in the coach's box. It is the duty of the Tournament Manager to see that no team dresses more than twenty-two (22) team members. Each time a team plays, the coaches are responsible to not only turn in the list of players starting, but also a list of team members on the bench. This list is to be given to the umpire in charge, ten (10) minutes prior to game time.
5. **With the adoption of the pitch count regulation by the State Board, it is mandatory that the regulation be followed starting with the 2017 season.**
6. Time of games: School days all games will begin at 5:00 p.m. Non-school days, no starting restrictions.

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7. District Board Motion - All baseball teams adhere to the **twenty (20) minutes practice rule** for Sectional and District Tournament games. The motion states that no baseball team can practice (warm-up) on any tournament baseball field until forty (40) minutes prior to starting time of game. This also applies to double-headers. During the first two rounds of the tournament, the home team will take their state approved twenty minute field warm-up first.
8. The Southwest District Athletic Board hired individuals who will assign all Sectional and District umpires. Officials pay for Sectionals will be \$65.00 and \$80.00 for districts. Mileage will be \$1.00 per mile in excess of 50 miles for the contest (one way).
9. The decisions of the umpires are final and protests arising from the decisions of the umpires will **NOT** be considered.
10. Changes in schedule after drawing will be done at the discretion of the Tournament Manager or by the District Board.
11. Admission for all sectional tournaments is \$5.00 for school age children and older.
12. Admission to District Tournament games will be **\$6.00** per session.
13. If a team fails to appear and is not ready to play within thirty (30) minutes of scheduled starting time of tournament games, the space on the bracket shall be declared vacant. The opposing team will then be awarded a bye into the next round of competition.
14. Per recommendation by the Coaches' Association and adoption by the District Board, the first two rounds of the sectional tournament will be played on the field of the highest seeded team. The home team must have a regulation field and be able to charge admission to the game. If the aforementioned expectations can not be met, then the team must forfeit its right to host the game and the opponent will host. If the hosting team cannot play on its field because of inclement weather, it retains the right to host on the makeup day. If it cannot play on its field on the makeup day but the visiting school can play, the contest will be held on the visitor's field. Sectional finals will be held on a neutral field, and the highest seeded team will still be the home team.
15. Per a recommendation of the Baseball Coaches' Association and adoption by the District Board, the sectional tournament will open on Monday, May 8, 2017, and District finals will be held on Friday - Saturday, May 19 - 20, 2017. The first two rounds of the sectional tournament will be as follows: Divisions III and IV will play on May 8 and 10, while Divisions I and II will play on May 9 and 11, 2017. Sectional finals will be as follows: Divisions III and IV will play on Wednesday, May 17, and Divisions I and II will play on Thursday, May 18. Schedule for District Finals: Divisions III and IV will play on Friday, May 19, 2017, and Divisions I and II will play on Saturday, May 20, 2017. Games can not start before 5:00 p.m. on Friday and games on Saturday will be scheduled at 11:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m..

A flat fee of \$250.00 will be paid to the hosting school for each of the first two rounds. The hosting school for sectional finals will be paid \$290.00 while the hosting school for district finals will be paid \$315.00.

16. District Tournaments will be managed by the following individuals and at the listed spots:

Division	Sites – High Schools	Managers	Game Date
Div. I	Centerville, Western Hills	Bill Stewart	Sat., May 21, 2016
Div. II	Mason, Carlisle, Miamisburg	Scott Stemple	Sat., May 21, 2016
Div. III	Hamilton, Kenton Ridge, Kings	Kregg Creamer	Fri., May 19, 2017
Div. IV	Lebanon, Newton, Springboro	Bob Huelsman	Fri., May 19, 2017

17. The District Board will furnish three balls per game and each participating school will provide one ball.
18. ALL SITE REPORTS MUST BE SUBMITTED FIVE (5) DAYS AFTER THEIR GAME IS COMPLETED.

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All short form financial reports should be emailed to the tournament manager as well as to Bob Huelsman, to be checked for accuracy. If approved, a check should be sent directly to Bob Huelsman, Treasurer, Southwest District Athletic Board at 2803 Silver Maple Lane, Beavercreek, 45431. If the tournament lost money, Mr. Huelsman will send a check to the school for the loss. Tickets should be returned to the tournament manager or to Bob Huelsman.

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