

# This Week In Baseball

May 3, 2010, Issue 5



The Ohio High School Athletic Association

This is the fifth in a series of Weekly Bulletins to keep coaches in Ohio up-to-date with current topics and issues for OHSAA baseball coaches. Previous "TWIB's" are archived on the "Baseball" webpage at <http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/bb/boys/default.asp>

## • "Teams Forming Now....."

**CAUTION!!!** I noticed *several* notices in local newspapers inviting players to summer tryouts. As we enter late in the regular season, please caution players about the following non-interscholastic rules:

1. Players are not permitted to tryout, practice or play non-interscholastic teams (travel, club, Legion, Pony, etc.) until their season is complete.

**Q:** *Must a freshmen player wait until the VARSITY season is complete before he tries out/practices or plays?*

**A:** No, **if** that player has no plans on dressing for the Varsity OHSAA Tournament. He would be ineligible to do so if he were to tryout, practice or play.

2. Once their season ends and they ARE ABLE to tryout, practice or play, remind players they cannot play on a team with more than **4** players from the same school **until June 1.**

**Q:** Do players that did not play on a school team count in this number?

**A:** No. Individuals that were not on the school's Eligibility List/Roster do not count in this number.

3. **Q:** Is there an 'exemption' allowing players to do this over Memorial Day weekend?

**A:** No. There is no such exemption and since there are so many tournaments that weekend, coaches are encouraged to make special note of this to players to protect their eligibility for next year.

While we are on the topic of "Off-Season Rules", the following are relevant to your coaching staff:

1. All Coaches, Paid or Volunteer, are required to be approved by your Board of Education
2. All Coaches, Paid or Volunteer, are required by Administrative Code to possess a "Pupil Activity Validation Certificate"
3. Any coach, paid or volunteer, is prohibited from coaching players from his own school outside the season of play except for 10 days from June 1 – July 31.
4. Members of a school coaching staff may coach players from the school district where employed for a maximum of 10 days from June 1 to July 31. The 10 day limitation applies to the ENTIRE Coaching staff and each individual coach is not entitled to 10 different/separate days.
5. Any team that is comprised of less than 4 players on the roster from the same school may be coached from June 1 – July 31 in team play (games) with those days NOT counting toward the 10 permitted to the coaching staff.

**More Off-Season Q & A's will be posted NEXT week as a Separate Item on the "Baseball" webpage**

• Tournament draws were held in all districts across Ohio on Sunday (May 2). Managers are required to enter information in the "myOHSAA" data system so all pairings should be available by the end of the week.

• Ok...we've ALL seen it. The YouTube video clip of the Fordham University player going airborne to avoid the tag at home. Haven't seen it? Go to [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sg\\_ko9evS4o](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sg_ko9evS4o). It was merely a matter of 24 hours (or less) before this became the newest coaching technique. Problem is....NOT legal in high school, so before all good-minded coaches think this is good strategy, it must be noted that high school treats this different than the NCAA. Here it is in a nutshell:

- Diving, jumping, leaping, or hurdling over a fielder are all legal attempts to avoid a fielder **as long as the fielder is lying on the ground.** If the fielder is not prone on the ground, jumping/leaping/hurdling are not legal and the runner be called out immediately. The ball would remain live unless such action created interference and subsequently caused the ball to become dead. Jumping/leaping/hurdling by themselves are not a cause for an ejection, but if they are done in a malicious manner or with intent to harem, an ejection could occur.
- A head first dive is always an out, regardless of how the fielder is positioned. It also is not an ejection unless other aspects of malicious action are present.