



OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION  
4080 Roselea Place ~ Columbus, OH 43214  
(614) 267-2502 ~ (614) 267-1677 (fax)  
[www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org)

TO: Field Hockey Coaches & Officials  
FROM: Deborah B. Moore, Associate Commissioner  
DATE: June, 2009  
RE: Information for the 2009 Field Hockey Season

Please find enclosed in this mailing information that will help you to prepare for the upcoming field hockey season. I hope that you find the *Field Hockey Preseason Manual* useful in explaining those items that you will need to review prior to beginning the season. This manual may also serve as a reference throughout the season, so please keep it accessible. The manual will be posted to the field hockey page on the OHSAA web site at [www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org) by the end of June.

**Please note that the state rules interpretation meeting IS MANDATORY for high school coaches and all officials. The details and information about these meetings can be found on page 2 of the manual.**

We appreciate your taking the time to carefully review this information. Page 1 lists the table of contents which includes information about competition rules for 2009, information for both coaches and officials and many other resources.

Wishing you a terrific field hockey season!



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### Enclosures

#### For Coaches & Officials

2009-10 NFHS Field Hockey Rule Book  
 "Your Athletic Eligibility" Brochure

## OHSAA MISSION STATEMENT

The Ohio High School Athletic Association's mission is to regulate and administer interscholastic athletic competition in a fair and equitable manner while promoting the values of participation in interscholastic athletics as an integral part of a student's educational experience. The OHSAA represents its member schools by recognizing and promoting academics, the safety of participants, good citizenship and lifelong values as the foundation of interscholastic athletics.

By OHSAA Board of Directors regulation, any school sponsoring interscholastic contests in high school volleyball must have the head girls volleyball coach, assistant girls volleyball coach or athletic administrator attend one of the meetings listed below. Any school failing to meet this requirement will be ineligible for any OHSAA sponsored tournament competition.

## 2009 FIELD HOCKEY RULES INTERPRETATION MEETINGS

By OHSAA Board of Directors regulation, any school sponsoring interscholastic contests in high school girls field hockey must have the head girls field hockey coach, assistant girls field hockey coach or athletic administrator attend one of the meetings listed below. Any school failing to meet this requirement will be ineligible for any OHSAA sponsored tournament competition.

Officials who fail to attend one of these meetings will be suspended the following year. Attendance is also required in order to be eligible for state tournament assignments in the current year.

It will be the responsibility of the head girls field hockey coach, assistant girls field hockey coach or athletic administrator of each school and officials to be in attendance within 10 minutes of the start of the meeting and stay until the conclusion of the meeting in order to receive credit for attendance.

INTERPRETERS	PHONE	E-MAIL
William Gardiner	614-861-3228	<a href="mailto:wgard4121@sbcglobal.net">wgard4121@sbcglobal.net</a>
Deborah Moore	614-267-2502 Ext. 115	<a href="mailto:dmoore@ohsaa.org">dmoore@ohsaa.org</a>

<u>SITE #</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>COORDINATOR</u>
11	Mon., Aug. 10	Shaker Hts.	Shaker Heights High School 15911 Aldersyde Dr., 44120 Small Auditorium	7:15 p.m.	Don Readance
12	Tues., Aug. 11	Kettering	Kettering Fairmont High School 3301 Shroyer Rd., 45429 Trent Arena - Hospitality Room	7:15 p.m.	Joy Manning
13	Wed., Aug. 12	Columbus	Bexley High School 326 S. Cassingham Rd., 43209 Community Room	7:15 p.m.	Kara Hardesty
14	<b>SCHEDULED MAKE-UP MEETING FOR COACHES AND OFFICIALS: Site and date will be determined as needed. \$50.00 REGISTRATION FEE REQUIRED FOR THIS MEETING ONLY.</b> To schedule a special make-up meeting: Contact William Gardiner at the information listed above.				

## 2009 OHSAA FIELD HOCKEY CALENDAR

August 10	First Day of Coaching and Instruction
September 28-October 5	Last Period for Entering or Withdrawing from the OHSAA Tournament Without Penalty
August 29	First Contest
September 21	Non-Interscholastic Competition No Longer Permitted
October 6	Penalty (\$150) required for entering or withdrawing from OHSAA tournament
October 11	Draw Meeting (Seeding to be done on-line)
October 19-31	State Qualifying Tournaments
November 6-7	State Tournament – Upper Arlington High School, Columbus

## OHSAA CONTACT INFORMATION

OHSAA Office – 4080 Roselea Place, Columbus, OH 43214 ~ 614-267-2502 ~ 614-267-1677 (fax)

Name	Title	Responsibilities	E-Mail/Phone
Deborah Moore	Assistant Commissioner	Oversees the sport & coordinates the tournaments; Rules Interpreter	<a href="mailto:dmoore@ohsaa.org">dmoore@ohsaa.org</a>
Henry Zaborniak	Assistant Commissioner	Oversees officials programs & tournament assignments	<a href="mailto:hزابorniak@ohsaa.org">hزابorniak@ohsaa.org</a>
Reneé Moore	Administrative Assistant	Assists in the coordination of the sport & tournaments	<a href="mailto:rmoore@ohsaa.org">rmoore@ohsaa.org</a>
William Gardiner	State Rules Interpreter	Interprets rules, conducts state rules meetings	<a href="mailto:wgard4121@sbcglobal.net">wgard4121@sbcglobal.net</a>

## FIELD HOCKEY LINKS

National Federation of State High School Associations  
USA Field Hockey

[www.nfhs.org](http://www.nfhs.org)  
[www.usfieldhockey.com](http://www.usfieldhockey.com)

## COACHES

### OHIO HIGH SCHOOL FIELD HOCKEY COACHES ASSOCIATION

#### 2009 OHSFHA Officers Directory

Yvette Pedersen	President	614-234-0224	fieldhockeybrit@msn.com
Anne Horton	Secretary	614-509-2272	anne_horton@columbusacademy.org

## FIELD HOCKEY MODIFICATIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS

The rules as printed in the National Federation (NFHS) Edition 2009-2010 Field Hockey Rules Book will apply in all games involving OHSAA member schools. Exceptions are those noted below or by interpretation in future bulletins.

### 1. NATIONAL FEDERATION FIELD HOCKEY RULE 1-5 AND 1-7-PLAYERS UNIFORMS

The uniform top shall have clearly visible numbers on the front and back. The numbers shall be of a solid color contrasting to any surrounding colors. It is **required that numbers on the front be 3 to 6 inches in height, and 6 to 8 inches height on the back.** Any number from 00 through 99 is legal. Three digit numbers are illegal, and a team may not use both 0 and 00. The home team shall wear predominantly light-colored uniform tops, and the visiting team shall wear predominantly dark-colored uniform tops. Note: Some shirts may need the numbers superimposed on a solid-color block background or outlined with a contrasting color in order for the numbers to be clearly visible. The goalkeeper's uniform top shall be of a color that contrasts with the color of the uniform **tops** of both teams, and have a visible number. The goalkeeper shall wear a full face/cage mask-helmet, which covers the entire head including the back of the head (cage must be rounded at all points), and a chest protector specifically manufactured for field hockey, under the shirt. The home team shall wear white or light-colored socks and the visiting team shall wear contrasting dark-colored socks. Socks/sock guards shall be a solid color. **Please see the rules book for the complete text of these uniform and equipment rules.**

The following OHSAA sports regulation is in effect: Uniforms worn by participants in high school athletic contests must conform to the playing rules adopted by the OHSAA for that sport. Any lettering or emblems on uniforms must pertain to the school name, team nickname, individual's name, the sport, drug use prevention or sportsmanship. The Field Hockey rules stipulate that one partial/whole manufacturer's logo/trademark (no more than 2 ¼ square inches in size with no dimension exceeding 2 ¼ inches) and/or an American flag (no more than 2" x 3") may be worn on each piece of the uniform (top, bottom and socks) provided their placement does not interfere with the visibility of the numbers. All players shall wear the same color compression shorts, undershirts and/or warm-up pants. 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade - Numbers are required on uniform tops.

### 2. NATIONAL FEDERATION FIELD HOCKEY RULES 1-2-4, 1-4-4

The rules establish a team line five yards from the sideline and require that the officials' table and team benches be placed slightly in front of the team line. If not seated on the bench, all team personnel must remain behind the team line.

### 3. NATIONAL FEDERATION FIELD HOCKEY RULE 1-5-5 specifies, "Jewelry shall not be worn." This means that players in 7-8<sup>th</sup> grade and high school field hockey may not wear any type earrings, body piercing jewelry, barrettes, bobby pins or necklaces.

Religious and medical medals are permitted if they are removed from the chain and taped to the body. Medical medals shall be taped where visible. "Friendship" bracelets are considered jewelry.

### 4. EJECTION FROM GAME - Officials shall file a written report with the school and the OHSAA office whenever a coach or a student-athlete is ejected from a game or match. Use the "Special Report Form" which may be obtained by contacting the officiating department at the Association office. The offending school (coach, athletic administrator or principal) must file a written report with the OHSAA anytime a coach or student-athlete is ejected from a contest, home or away. Please refer to the reprint of the OHSAA Sports Regulations for the revised rules that govern player and coach ejections from field hockey contests. Any coach ejected from a contest shall pay a \$100 fine and be required to complete the NFHS Fundamentals of Coaching Course on-line within 30 days of the ejection. Go to [www.nfhslearn.com](http://www.nfhslearn.com) to take the course.

### 5. BYLAW 8-3-1 of the OHSAA Handbook reads in part, "Protests arising from the decisions and interpretations of the rules by officials during the game will not be considered. Their decisions and interpretations are final." This means that correctable errors must be corrected during the game. Officials and coaches must "keep their cool" during the game so that both teams have an equal opportunity to win under the rules. It must be remembered at all times that the game is being conducted for the players. Neither officials nor coaches would be involved except for the players. A rule book and interpretations should be available at the field for use if needed.

6. COACH COMMENTS TO NEWS MEDIA - Each year unpleasant situations arise as a result of comments made to the News Media by coaches. Bylaw 8-2-1 in the OHSAA Handbook reads in part "Great care shall be exercised in the selection of officials, well in advance of the contest and agreed upon by schools involved." Public criticism of officials is a direct reflection upon those who were responsible for assigning the officials to the game. Officials are trained and expected to make no derogatory comments regarding players, coaches or schools. Coaches are expected to follow the same procedure. Coaches violating this rule may be asked to discuss the problem personally with the Commissioner.

7. WON-LOST-TIED STATISTICS

Due to the fact that a school's regular season won-lost-tied statistics are considered when tournament seeding takes place, it is very important that coaches understand how these are determined. Only the results of regular season contests (maximum of 16) may be reported as a school's record. Scrimmages and previews, although considered to be interscholastic contests, do not count in the won—lost-tied statistics for a school. Please be advised that scrimmages may be scheduled at any time during the season.

8. OHSAA POST SEASON TOURNAMENTS

The OHSAA hopes that the change in time and day of tournament games will help to prevent some of the past problems encountered with weather and darkness. However, please be advised that whatever the circumstances, National Federation Rule 2-1-8 always applies. This rule reads "During a game, the officials shall have discretionary power for making decisions on matters which are not specifically covered by the rules. In the event game and/or field conditions are considered hazardous to the safety and welfare of the players, the officials may terminate the game."

The OHSAA has every confidence that the persons who manage tournaments and officiate contests in the sport of field hockey will make decisions that are in the best interests of the student-athletes who participate.

In keeping with the necessity of charging admission to OHSAA tournament contests, schools are advised to consider this requirement before drawing on to the top of any bracket which designates a "host" site. If you as coach, or your administration is unwilling to fulfill this obligation of charging admission, please do not accept home tournament contests during the OHSAA qualifying tournaments.

**NOTE: Orange field hockey balls shall be used for the State Field Hockey Tournament semifinal and final contests. For other qualifying tournament games, any color ball that meets NFHS rules may be used.**

9. STUDENT PARTICIPATION CONDUCT PENALTY - Student participation in athletic contests is a privilege. Each student-athlete is expected to conduct herself in an exemplary manner while competing.

During participation in OHSAA State Qualifying or State Tournaments, each athlete who fails to abide by the decisions of officials, uses profanity, disrespectfully addresses an official, uses obscene gestures, and/or strikes an official or an opponent may be denied further participation in the OHSAA Tournament Series. Athletes responsible for such unsporting conduct will immediately be reported to the OHSAA Commissioner. After an investigation into the circumstances, the Commissioner will disqualify the athlete from further participation in that tournament series in that sport if the situation warrants it. The 'Hearing Procedure Rules' as printed in the OHSAA Handbook apply.

Please note that Field Hockey Rules 12-2-PEN #1-3 establish procedures for dealing with unruly spectators whose team affiliation is not known.

Rule 8-1-PEN 7b provides for a player receiving a yellow card for misconduct to be removed from the game to the team bench area for five minutes of playing time, and the team shall play short during the suspension period.

10. EQUIPMENT

Goalkeepers must wear a full face/cage mask-helmet, throat protectors and field hockey goalie gloves. Field players may wear soft headgear (such as Judo or Taekwondo headgear) and eye protection that meets current ATSM standards for field hockey. **The field hockey game ball shall include the NFHS authenticating mark.**

11. OFFICIALS

OHSAA field hockey officials must have officiated a minimum of six regular-season varsity high school field hockey games during the 2009 Ohio season in order to be eligible for an OHSAA tournament assignment.

The Board of Directors passed the following uniform regulation: In accordance with the provision in Rule 2-1-2, the official's shirt may be of a solid, color contrasting with the color of both team's uniform tops. **The colors chosen for OHSAA field hockey officials are fuchsia or orange. Both officials must wear the fuchsia or orange colored uniform top in the event that they agree it is necessary.**

12. OVERTIME – REGULAR SEASON - Varsity high school teams may play one 10-minute sudden victory tiebreaker during the regular season. Play shall utilize the seven player "reduced play" procedure that is part of the OHSAA tournament tiebreaker procedure. If the game is still tied at the end of the overtime period, the game is recorded as a tie. **No sub varsity contests are authorized to use an overtime procedure. See OT procedures contained within this manual.**

13. CONTEST LIMITATIONS - A high school field hockey player may play in a maximum of two games per day up to a maximum of three halves per common opponent. The total number of contests would remain at 16, and the maximum number of halves is 32 for the season.

14. SELECTION OF TOURNAMENT FIELD HOCKEY OFFICIALS

The Board of Directors has authorized the continuation of the following procedure for selecting tournament officials. All coaches are required to submit a ballot form to the OHSAA at the 2009 seeding and drawing meeting. This ballot will be sent to your athletic administrator in the early fall. **Failure to submit an accurate ballot will result in a \$100 fine being assessed the school.**

15. INQUIRIES

Our OHSAA office is here to help as needed, but depending on the time of the year it can be difficult to reach us. However, there are other sources of assistance. Our website ([www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org)) includes a great deal of information that covers many of the inquiries we often receive. The website provides field hockey regulations, general sport regulations, tournament regulations, uniform regulations, etc. Your OHSFHCA Officers are another great resource for you as well. Their contact information is provided within this manual

**REFER TO WEB SITE FOR ADDITIONAL FIELD HOCKEY REGULATIONS, STATE QUALIFYING AND STATE FIELD HOCKEY TOURNAMENT INFORMATION.**

**FAQ'S (FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS) PERTAINING TO BYLAW 10, NON-INTERSCHOLASTIC TEAMS, INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS, OPEN FIELDS, ETC**

1. Can you define what is meant by "coaching" in terms of Sports Regulation 4.9 as well as Instructional Program regulations?

"Coaching" refers to any organizational or instructional contact with student-athletes in the sport for which a coaching staff member in a member school is responsible. Specific activities include but are not limited to: practice or other instructional situations in which the coach conducts specific drills, teaches skills, supervises game or competition-like activities or in any other way supports the instructional environment; game or competition situations in which the coach sits on the team bench, is in the direct vicinity of the competition in areas reserved for coaches and/or delivers instruction to athletes while they are competing. It is not a violation to be a spectator at a competition and sit in those areas reserved for spectators; however, the coach must be certain not to engage in those behaviors that are specific to the coaching task.

2. What may an interscholastic field hockey coach do with athletes from his or her program during the school year outside the season of the sport?

The coach may supervise open gyms or fields, conduct fitness programs and converse with students regarding non-interscholastic competition/training opportunities. The coach may not state nor imply in any way that attendance at these permissible activities is a prerequisite for trying out for or being selected for the school squad. The coach MAY NOT: provide any type of instruction, either group or individual, coach players in a non-interscholastic program (involvement in tryouts, practices and/or competition) including in indoor field hockey during the school year. This applies to all athletes in one's program including one's own children. Note: May 31 denotes the end of the school year.

3. What may an interscholastic field hockey coach do with athletes from his or her program during the summer from June 1-July 31?

This period of time from June 1-July 31 is considered the "summer" period during which coaches may have contact with student-athletes who participated in their interscholastic programs during the past school year. Members of a school field hockey coaching staff, both paid and volunteer, may have a combined total of 10 days of coaching contact in either instructional programs or non-interscholastic competition programs.

4. What is considered a "contact" day?

***Instructional Programs***

Any camp, clinic, workshop or other instructional format in which one or more field hockey players from the coach's school are participating counts as one day of contact for that school coaching staff. Any instructional or organizational activity affiliated with the instructional program counts.

***Non-Interscholastic Competition***

Any game, tryout or practice in which more than five field hockey players from the coach's school are participating together on the same squad counts as one day of contact for that coaching staff.

5. May the varsity coach have 10 days of contact in addition to the JV, reserve and freshman coaches?

No. The 10-day provision refers to the combined efforts of all coaches for that school. It is not permissible for each coach to have 10 days with his/her athletes separately.

6. Do volunteer coaches need to adhere to this regulation?

Yes. ALL coaches in public as well as non-public schools, whether they receive a salary or are volunteers, must be approved by their respective Boards of Education (or other governing board in a non-public school) and must meet all required coaching standards as stipulated by the State Department of Education. The only way that a person can work with student-athletes in an OHSAA member school during the interscholastic season is to have this approval and meet all standards. Thus, "volunteer" coaches are also accountable to the 10-day restriction as well as all other OHSAA bylaws and regulations governing coaches.

7. Does watching a camp program or a non-interscholastic contest count as one of the 10 contact days?

No. There are no restrictions on being a spectator for these events; however, coaches are cautioned that they must avoid any instructional or organizational contact (or the appearance thereof - see Q #1) during these events. Activities such as shagging balls, assisting with drills, functioning as a "gofer" during camps or clinics are considered to be organizational in nature and thus would count in the 10 day total for coaching staff members.

8. As a high school coaching staff member, am I prohibited from working with athletes who attend a 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade school in the school district where I am employed?

Not necessarily. The answer to this question depends on how the high school coaching staff's contracts are stipulated. If the high school staff has specific responsibilities for the middle school (7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>) field hockey program, i.e., either contractual or de facto responsibilities for oversight, training, working with coaches, etc., then the high school staff would be accountable to the OHSAA regulations in terms of their work with all field hockey players in grades 7-12. If there were no responsibilities or affiliation with any 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade school, then high school coaching staff members would have no restrictions placed on them relative to working with 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade field hockey players either during the school year or during the summer period. Of course Sports Regulation 4.5, which regulates the number of field hockey players on a non-interscholastic squad during the school year (maximum of five), would be in effect.

9. What restrictions are placed on field hockey players regarding what they may do both during the school year as well as during the summer period?

The primary restriction is found in Sports Regulation 4.3. Very simply, while a student is playing for the school field hockey squad (from the time she plays in her first contest until she plays in the last game of the season), she may not tryout with, practice for or play in an actual contest with a non-interscholastic field hockey squad. The MAXIMUM penalty for violation of this bylaw is ineligibility for the remainder of the interscholastic season. Outside the field hockey season, that is prior to playing in the first contest during the school year and after the school season is over, a field hockey player may participate in a non-interscholastic outdoor program *provided that no more than five players from the same school are on the roster (squad) of that non-interscholastic program.* SENIORS OR STUDENTS WHO HAVE COMPLETED THEIR ELIGIBILITY ARE EXEMPT FROM THIS FIVE-PLAYER LIMITATION.

The school year is identified as beginning on August 1 and ending on May 31; however, some spring sports seasons may extend past May 31. Note: There is no limit on the number of players from the same school that may participate together in an indoor program.

From June 1 - July 31 there is no restriction on the number of field hockey players from one school that may compete together in the same non-interscholastic program.

Regarding instruction programs, field hockey players may attend these (camps, clinics, school workshops, other programs not affiliated with a non-interscholastic competitive program or league) ONLY from June 1 - July 31. The exception to this is for *individual instruction* only. A player may receive individual skill instruction from anyone other than her coach at any time during the school year outside the field hockey season. Individual skill instruction is defined as drill structures and activities that do not exceed one player vs. one player. From a practical basis, such instructional programs may not be especially helpful to field hockey athletes except at the developmental level; however, it is permissible to receive this instruction in an individual or group setting provided the individual protocol is observed.

10. What may I do in an open field or in physical fitness programs?

Supervision of open fields and the conducting of physical fitness programs are not considered as organizational or instructional contact. Thus, this type of activity is not governed by the rules that are specified as "Instructional Program" regulations or Sports Regulation #4 - Non-Interscholastic Programs. However, during an open field, either at a member school facility or a non-member facility, coaching staff members may have NO organizational or instructional contact with participants. Likewise, attendance is not mandatory, no scoring or timekeeping is permitted, and the supervisor may not participate in designating who is to play on which teams. The rules governing Physical Fitness Programs do not permit the coaching or instruction of sports techniques and skills, and the equipment used to play the sport may not be utilized. These programs cannot be mandatory or restricted to a select group of students. Note: It is not a violation for the coach or other adult supervisor to participate as a player in an open field as long as the adult does not coach the students.

11. Do seniors who have finished their field hockey eligibility count in the regulations governing both student athletes and coaches?

**No. See Question/Answer #9.**

## MEDICAL & SAFETY

### REFERENCE INFORMATION

The safety of our student-athletes is of utmost concern at all times. Information regarding the following important topics can be found at [www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org) and at [www.nfhs.org](http://www.nfhs.org):

- Heat Stress and Athletic Participation
- Recommendations for Hydration to Prevent Heat Illness
- Suggested Guidelines for Management of Head Trauma in Sports
- Communicable Disease Procedures (can also be found on page 90 of the NFHS 2009-10 Rules Book)
- Disordered Eating
- Information on Nutritional Supplements
- Links to the following sites:
  - ❑ Joint Advisory Committee on Sports Medicine
  - ❑ Ohio Athletic Trainers Association
  - ❑ American Medical Society for Sports Medicine
  - ❑ Ohio Parents for Drug Free Youth
  - ❑ National Athletic Trainers Association (NATA)
  - ❑ Gatorade Sports Science Institute News

#### Statement on Medical Hardware

On the advice of the National Federation of State High School Association's (NFHS) Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (see [www.nfhs.org](http://www.nfhs.org)), the following guidelines are provided.

Unless the specific rules code stipulates otherwise, athletes in sports of a collision/contact nature should not be permitted to wear devices such as insulin pumps, heart monitoring equipment and/or other diagnostic or therapeutic appliances while participating in interscholastic contests. In its deliberations on this issue, the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee of the NFHS could find no medical reason to authorize the wearing of these appliances during competition.

However, in the event that a physician requires a student-athlete to wear a therapeutic device during competition, such medical necessity shall be specified in writing and signed by the prescribing physician, and the device shall be padded and securely attached to the player's body underneath the uniform. The medical statement shall be shown to the head contest official prior to the athlete's being permitted to participate.

## TOURNAMENT SEEDING AND DRAWING PROCEDURES

The OHSAA will utilize a seeding and drawing procedure for the purpose of placement of teams onto the qualifying tournament brackets in the four tournament sites.

The 2009 draw is scheduled for **Sunday, October 11** and will be conducted by each qualifying tournament manager in his or her respective area at a site agreeable to the coaches competing in each tournament. **An on-line seeding procedure will be utilized so that the draw may be conducted as efficiently as possible.** This procedure will require you to utilize the Internet to post records and vote for seeded teams. **Your tournament manager will send more information to you regarding the specific details of this procedure and the draw meeting.** Also information concerning the seeding and drawing procedure will be posted to the OHSAA web site at [www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org).

Due to increasing concerns about financial accountability and in keeping with the OHSAA's procedure of charging admission to OHSAA tournament contests, please consider carefully your school's willingness and capability to charge admission and submit the appropriate financial and tournament reports before you place your school on the top of the bracket during this draw procedure. The top of the bracket is the home site in the qualifying tournaments.

Remember that if you do not complete the seeding and/or attend this meeting, your school will be placed on the bracket.

# OFFICIALS

## OFFICIATING ETHICS & CODE OF CONDUCT

(From [www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org) and the OHSAA Handbook for Officials)

Our member schools have entrusted officials to assist them in the education and development of their youth through athletics. This requires officials to be independent, impartial, and responsible to the people they serve. In recognition of these expectations there is an established **Code of Ethics** and **Code of Conduct** for all officials. The purpose of the code is to establish guidelines for ethical standards of conduct for all officials.

### OFFICIATING CODE OF ETHICS

**An Official** must devote time, thought and study to the rules of the game and the mechanics necessary to carry out these rules so that one may render effective and credible service in a fair and unbiased manner

**An Official** must work with fellow officials and the state association in a spirit of harmony and cooperation in spite of differences of opinion that may arise during debate of points or rules at issue

**An Official** must resist every temptation and outside pressure to use one's position as an official to benefit oneself. Under all circumstances, officials must avoid promoting the special interest of any person or group of persons other than the athletes we serve

**An Official** must constantly uphold the honor and dignity of the avocation in all personal conduct and relations with the student-athletes, coaches, athletic directors, school administrators, colleagues, and the public, to be a worthy example to the athletes under one's jurisdiction

**An Official** will be prepared both physically and mentally, dress accordingly to expectations and maintain a proper appearance that is befitting the importance of the game

**An Official** shall avoid the use of **tobacco** and **related products** at the contest site

**An Official** must remember and recognize that it is important to honor contracts regardless of possible inconvenience or financial loss

Every member of the officiating profession carries a responsibility to act in a manner becoming a professional person. The conduct of any official influences the attitude of the public toward the profession in general as well as toward the official in particular.

Sports officials bear great responsibility for engendering public confidence in sports. They are critical to the health of athletic competitions. Officials ensure games are played fairly, by the rules, within the spirit of the rules and in a safe manner. Officiating takes a great deal of preparation, continuing education and commitment of time.

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### PRE-SEASON PREPARATIONS

We have encouraged coaches to invite local officials to meet with their team during pre-season workouts. It allows the officials to meet the athletes and discuss new rules. It gives athletes an opportunity to ask questions and have a discussion prior to competition days. We also recommended inviting an official(s) to a pre-season meeting with team parents. Again, it provides a forum for healthy discussions and an opportunity for parents to learn more about the sport. Many of you already participate in such activities, but for those that do not, please get involved!

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## ADDRESS CHANGES

**NOTE:** Annual renewal cards are sent to the address the OHSAA has on file, failure to notify the OHSAA will result in your not receiving the renewal card.

Address changes are now to be submitted via [www.myOHSAA.org](http://www.myOHSAA.org) . Please log-on in order to make the appropriate changes.

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## UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

The officiating uniform for field hockey officials is a black and white vertically striped top. All officials in a game shall wear a fuschia **or an orange** shirt if the striped shirt does not contrast with the uniforms of one or both team. Black skirt, culottes, slacks or shorts with a minimum 4" inseam shall be worn with black shoes. No watch or jewelry except a timing device, wedding band, medical I.D. or religious medal may be worn. Emblems and patches are not permitted on the officiating uniform. EXCEPTION: The authorized OHSAA registered official's patch may be worn on the left breast pocket or on the left sleeve with the top of the patch 1" from the seam.

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## WEBSITE RESOURCES

Our website includes a great deal of information specifically geared for officials. Go to [www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org) and click on "officiating" on the left side of the home page. On the officiating page you will find the following information. When you have questions, this may be a great place to start!

### Topics include:

- [OHSAA Officiating FAQ's](#)
  - [OHSAA Rules Meetings](#) - information on local & state meetings, how to maintain your officiating permit
  - [Directory of Officiating Information & Forms](#) - assigners, instructors, local & district secretaries, OHSAA staff
  - [How To Become an OHSAA Official](#) - info for beginning and experienced officials, suspended and retired officials wanting to reinstate
  - [How To Change The Status Of Your Officiating Permit](#) - information on upgrades, retired status, active military duty and address changes
  - [How To Renew Your OHSAA Officiating Permit](#) - information on annual renewal procedures and fees
  - [Game Assignments](#) - regular season and tournament selection processes and voting results
  - [Officials Needed Posting](#)
  - [Coach and Player Game Ejections](#) - ejection forms and procedures
  - [Officiating Uniforms, Equipment and Supplies](#) - uniform regulations, authorized dealers, pins & patches
  - [Officiating Ethics and Code of Conduct](#)
  - [OHSAA Officiating Hall of Fame](#) - members, selection process and banquet information
  - [OHSAA Officiating Clinics](#)
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## TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

Tournament Regulations and the state tournament draw are available at [www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org) (after approval at the June Board meeting). On the website, under "Sports & Tournaments" select field hockey. They are listed under Tournament Information on the left side of the field hockey page.

## OHSAA GENERAL SPORTS REGULATIONS

General Sports Regulations are available at [www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org). Under "Sports & Tournaments" select field hockey. The General Sports Regulations are listed under 2009 Field Hockey Info on left side.

### OHSAA Field Hockey Post-Season High School Tournaments - Tie-Break Procedures

**NOTE:** The Board of Directors has approved tie-break procedures only for high school post season play in OHSAA tournaments with one exception: Varsity High School regular season games that are tied at the end of regulation play shall play one 10 minute sudden victory reduced play overtime using the procedure addressed below. **No sub varsity contests (junior varsity, reserve, freshmen or grades 7-8) are authorized to use a tie-break procedure.** If playing a regular season tournament at the sub varsity level, schools may agree on another procedure to advance a team when the game results in a tie. For example, schools may choose to use the number of corners attempted as a means to advance a team into the next round of the tournament.

Tie-Break Procedures: National Federation Field Hockey Rule 6-1-4

**For varsity contests only, during regular season play, if the score is tied at the expiration of playing time, one 10-minute sudden victory overtime shall be played using the applicable regulations listed in this memo through Item #1 on this first page.**

The following complete tie-break procedures shall be followed in **OHSAA tournament competition only**. These procedures have been approved by the Board of Directors and are NOT OPTIONAL. **These procedures shall be used to break all ties in OHSAA tournament play** and should be thoroughly reviewed by all tournament officials and varsity coaches prior to all contests played in the OHSAA tournament.

During all overtime play-

- A. All game rules apply except as specified below.
- B. Unlimited substitution shall be permitted.  
There shall be one team time-out permitted during each 10 SV overtime period.
- C. There shall be a five-minute intermission between the end of the regular game and the start of the overtime. At this time, the contest officials shall insure that the tie-break procedures are available at the scorer's table and shall review them thoroughly prior to the initiation of the overtime.
- D. There shall be a two-minute intermission between each subsequent overtime period. (Not applicable for regular season tie-break procedures). During these intermissions, players may confer with their coaches, and substitutions may be made.
- E. Prior to each overtime procedure, officials shall review with the head coaches the procedures for that session. This shall take place prior to the initiation of each overtime procedure until the game is decided.
- G. Prior to beginning overtime, during the intermission between the end of the regular game and the start of overtime, the officials shall meet with the team captains for a coin toss, the visiting team captain calling the coin in the air. Winner shall have choice of possession.

#### REDUCED PLAYER 10SV-10SV - PS – SVPS

1. Play a **10-minute "Sudden Victory" (SV)** overtime period, with teams not changing goals at the end of the regular game. **Teams shall play with 6 field players and a goalkeeper. THE FIRST TEAM TO SCORE A GOAL SHALL BE THE WINNER.**
2. If a tie still exists, there shall be a **second 10-minute "Sudden Victory" (SV)** overtime period utilizing the reduced player procedure described in "1" above. Teams shall change goals to begin the second overtime period following the two-minute intermission. Players may confer with their coaches and substitutions may be made. **THE FIRST TEAM TO SCORE A GOAL SHALL BE THE WINNER.**  
The team not having possession of the ball to start the first overtime period shall have possession to start the second overtime period.
3. If a tie still exists after the second 10-minute "Sudden Victory" overtime period, **one series of penalty strokes shall be taken** alternating the attackers and goalkeepers at the same goal chosen by the officials. Five different stokers from each team shall be selected **from any eligible player on the team roster**. NOTE: A player taking a penalty stroke within a series of five strokes may not repeat within that set of strokes.

Only the coaches and remaining team members may be on the field and behind the 25-yard line. Prior to the first PS set, the officials shall meet with the team captains for a coin toss. The winner of the coin toss which shall be called by the home team captain may choose to stroke or defend the goal first. Penalty strokes shall be terminated and a game winner declared as soon as one team has more goals than the opponent does after the set of five strokes for each side has been taken or the difference is unable to be overcome by completing the series. **Officials should insure that there are no spectators behind the end line behind the goal where the strokes are being taken. NOTE: This first set of Penalty Strokes is NOT a SUDDEN VICTORY SET.**

4. If a tie still exists after the first set of penalty strokes, there shall be **Sudden Victory (SVPS)** penalty strokes taken. The team not stroking first in the first set shall start the **Sudden Victory** Penalty Stroke procedure. **The stokers and/or order of the stokers may be changed for the Sudden Victory Penalty Stroke procedure.** Penalty strokes shall be terminated as soon as one team has more goals than the opponent does after an equal number of strokes have been taken up to a maximum of five for each team. If a tie still exists, after a total of five strokes for each team, another **Sudden Victory Penalty Stroke** procedure shall be commenced.
5. This **Sudden Victory Penalty Stroke procedure** shall continue until the tie is broken. The stokers and/or order of the stokers may be changed. The order of teams stroking or defending first shall alternate from the previous SVPS procedure.
6. Please note: On all penalty corners during the reduced play overtime, a maximum of four defenders shall be back completely behind the end line. This number includes the goalkeeper. The other three defenders shall be beyond the centerline.
7. If a player is disqualified during the regulation game, the team shall play short into the overtime procedure. The player is not eligible for return to the contest.
8. If a player is suspended during the regulation game (yellow card), the suspension carries over into the overtime period until served completely, and the team shall play short. If the suspension occurs in the overtime period immediately preceding the Penalty Stroke procedure and the player is unable to serve the complete time of the suspension, she is no longer eligible to participate in the remainder of the overtime procedure.

**REMINDER: THESE PROCEDURES APPLY EXCLUSIVELY TO HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY OHSAA POST SEASON TOURNAMENT PLAY WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE REGULAR SEASON PROVISION FOR A 10 MINUTE SV OVERTIME AT THE VARSITY LEVEL ONLY.**

## SPORTING CONDUCT

# Respect<sup>SM</sup> THE GAME

The OHSAA challenges everyone to take positive steps toward positive sporting behavior. It is the responsibility of each of us to serve as a positive role model and set high expectations for others.

### ADMINISTRATORS

Athletic departments are comprehensive, pre-eminent teaching departments with a subject matter all their own: self-confidence, leadership, teamwork, discipline, perseverance, respect for others, strategic thinking, dedication, the importance of rules, and sportsmanship. These are true-life lessons, and participation in athletics provides another forum for learning.

Coaches and Officials are responsible for promoting sportsmanship and positive behavior on the field. Administrators, we need your continued assistance in promoting sportsmanship and controlling fan behavior in the stands! Let the parents and fans know what you expect!

### COACHES

Your athletes will demonstrate the attitudes and behaviors they have learned from you, either through direct instruction or through observation of your actions. ***Never underestimate the influence you have on your players!*** You must:

- Abide by and teach the rules of the game in letter and in spirit.
- Set a good example for players and spectators to follow.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials. Treating them with respect, even if you disagree with their judgment, will serve to create a positive impression of you and your team.
- Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat.
- Develop a program that rewards participants and spectators for displaying proper sportsmanship and enforces penalties on those who do not abide by sportsmanship standards.

It is difficult to develop a great goalkeeper, a great forward or a great defensive player. However, your greatest challenge is to develop mature young adults who will become great citizens and role models in your community.

### OFFICIALS

Your job is not an easy one, but officials must be aware that they are an important component in the educational development of students. To carry out this responsibility, you must:

- Know the rules and mechanics of our sport and the philosophy behind them.
- Get fit and stay fit. An official with all of the rules and mechanics knowledge and people skills in the world does no good if he or she cannot physically keep up with play.
- Maintain professional and ethical relationships with athletic administrators, especially in the area of fulfilling game contracts.
- Work cooperatively with fellow officials during games and within the officials' association to improve members' performances.
- Maintain at all times and when interacting with all participants, an attitude of civility and professionalism.
- Practice effective preventive officiating as much as possible before, during, and after a match. The quiet word, proper signals, timely verbal instructions, a simple thank-you to a player for avoiding an unsporting act, and well-thought-out pre-game conferences with the teams and other game officials will result in an improvement of sporting conduct by eliminating the chance for things to go wrong.

## STUDENT-ATHLETES

You serve as a role model for your younger siblings, young fans in the stands, your teammates, and your classmates. Set high expectations for everyone and help them follow-through! You must:

- Accept and understand the seriousness of your responsibility, and the privilege of representing your school and the community.
- Live up to the standards of sportsmanship established by the school administration and the coaching staff.
- Learn the rules of the game thoroughly and discuss them with others. This will assist everyone in the achievement of a better understanding and appreciation of the game.
- Treat opponents as you would like to be treated.....with respect.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials. Treating them with respect, even if you disagree with their judgment, will serve to create a positive impression of you and your team.

## CONCLUSION

Good sportsmanship is everyone's responsibility. It is the essence of interscholastic athletics. Remember...some may question an official's call or a coach's substitution, but no one can question the value of good sportsmanship.

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**Note from Roxanne Price:**

**Chair of the OHSAA Sportsmanship Ethics, and Integrity Committee:**

As we prepare for the upcoming seasons, the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) wishes to emphasize to each of you the importance of your leadership role in the promotion of sportsmanship, ethics and integrity. The professional manner in which officials and coaches conduct themselves prior to, during and following a contest unquestionably impacts the behavior of others who may be involved.

The OHSAA has joined the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) in its quest to improve sportsmanship, ethics and integrity. We are involved in an ongoing campaign in every sport to do just that. Printed below is the mission statement of the NFHS concerning sportsmanship, ethics, and integrity. Please take the time to read and digest this statement and then carefully consider your impact upon students, officials, coaches, and fans. Thank you and have a great season!

**Speak with Courtesy**  
**Act with Dignity**  
**Play or Observe with Pride**

## NFHS SPORTSMANSHIP MISSION STATEMENT

Good sportsmanship is viewed by the National Federation of State High School Associations as a commitment to fair play, ethical behavior and integrity. In perception and practice, sportsmanship is defined as those qualities which are characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others. The ideals of sportsmanship apply equally to all activity disciplines. Individuals, regardless of their role in activities, are expected to be aware of their influence on the behavior of others and model good sportsmanship.

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### ONLINE RESOURCES

On our website ([www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org) – click on “Respect the Game” on the right side of the screen) you will find **Fair Play Codes** for athletes, coaches, and fans, as well as additional information regarding **parents’ role in interscholastic athletics**. The Respect the Game site also includes information about the Harold A. Meyer Sportsmanship Award and the Archie Griffin Sportsmanship Award. Please feel free to contact us with any additional questions. A direct link can be found by clicking on <http://www.ohsaa.org/RTG/Resources/resources.htm>

Have a great season!