



Ohio High School Athletic Association

Daniel B. Ross, Ph.D., Commissioner

To: All Regional Champion/State Qualifier Softball Teams

Congratulations on your Regional Championship! Ohio's State Championships at Akron's Firestone Park continue to be among the best in the nation. We all look forward to this year's state championships and the excitement that comes with playing at one of the nation's premier softball parks and the home of the Akron Racers.

You were provided instructions after your District Championship to download and submit the required paperwork for **both** the Regional and State tournaments. Doing this allows us to be more efficient, eliminating the need to duplicate any of this material. Since some schools may have updated/changed items from the Regional level, we are asking all state tournament participating schools **to bring hard copies of your submitted forms to the state meeting.**

This is also an important reminder that the **STATE FINALISTS MEETING** will be held **TUESDAY, MAY 31 at 12:15 p.m.** at the OHSAA Offices. For 'MapQuest' and other locators, the address is:

**Ohio High School Athletic Association
4080 Roselea Place
Columbus, OH 43214**

Two (2) representatives are welcome from your school and there will be lunch provided at the beginning of the meeting. We will review several important items at this meeting with the game manager (Melvin Blake) present to review items as well. Please review your attached tournament instructions prior to your arrival at the finalists meeting.

Again, congratulations and we look forward to an exciting week of softball at Firestone Park!

Sincerely,

Jerry Snodgrass
Assistant Commissioner

State Softball Tournament Instructions & Information

Regulations: Please review all Softball Tournament Regulations from the softball website at <http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/sb/girls/sbrqlts.pdf>

State Finalists Meeting: The OHSAA invites the Athletic Director and a guest (head coach or Principal) of all participating schools to attend the State Finalists' Meeting at the OHSAA Offices at 4080 Roselea Place, Columbus, Ohio on Tuesday, May 31, 2016 at 12:15 p.m. – directly after the Finalists' meeting for Baseball State Tournament participants.

Coach Certification/Eligibility: ONLY coaches with valid Pupil Activity Permits through the Ohio Department of Education **and in NFHS required attire** will be eligible to be in the dugout/on the field before during and after the game. All approved and 'licensed' coaches were submitted at the Sectional level on your OHSAA Tournament Entry Form.

Eligibility Lists: Though you have handed this in at the various levels of tournament play, all schools must hand in the Official OHSAA Eligibility List at the State Finalists meeting. This will certify all players on the list as eligible for the state tournament.

Size of Squad Permitted in Dugout/On Field: In addition to the eligible coaches mentioned above, each team is limited to the following:

- Twenty-two (22) players in uniform.
- Coaches in NFHS Required attire that have valid Pupil Activity Coaching Permits

23 Medals will be provided at the Championship Ceremony at the Conclusion of the Championship game.

Postponed Games/Graduation Conflicts: In the event of postponements, the postponed games are scheduled in their original order. This will be reviewed at the Finalists' Meeting. **Though not every situation can be accommodated, the Commissioner reserves the right to alter game schedules to accommodate graduation conflicts.** This is approved per the Board of Directors adopted Tournament Regulations. Please make certain to complete the school information sheet that requests you to submit your graduation date/time.

Practice: Pre-game practices are permitted on adjacent fields that will be assigned and covered/reviewed at the Finalists Meeting.

Tournament Draw/Home Team Designation: Tournament draws were approved by the Board of Directors at their March 2016 meeting. The **HOME team in all Semi-Final and Final games has been pre-drawn and will be the TOP team on the bracket.**

Officials/Umpires: Game umpires for the State Tournament are selected from guidelines established by the Board of Directors and assigned by the Commissioner's office. Per OHSAA rules, any protest arising from the decision and interpretation of the rules by the officials during the game will not be considered. The decisions and interpretations are final per OHSAA Bylaw 8, Section 3.

Admission: All tickets are \$8.00 for State Semi-final and Final games at Firestone Park.

State Tournament Statistical Form: The last page of this packet includes a Statistical and Team Information Form that needs to be completed and faxed to our office (preferred) or brought to the Finalists' Meeting on Monday. This is important for our media and news releases from our Information staff.

Team Admittance and Passes: Each team will be provided Commemorative Participant "Hang Tags" to be used for admission to Firestone Park for any game of the OHSAA State Tournament –including the game they will participate in. The Commemorative Hang Tags will be picked up prior to your entry to Firestone Park. Additionally, 8 passes are provided for the Principal (2), Superintendent (2) Athletic Administrator (2) and Bus Driver/Other (2). Should you or your school elect to use the 8 passes in a different method, those NOT with a pass will be required to pay for admission. **There is NO PASS LIST that will be utilized. All admission will be by actual pass.**

Team Expenses: The State baseball expense allowances are as follows:

- Travel allowance: \$5.00 per mile-one way per day for each day of participation
- Participation Allowance: \$400.00 per day for each day of participation
- Teams are asked to file the mileage report at the Finalists meeting. This report is available online under "Spring Sports" – State – Softball at: <http://www.ohsaa.org/financial/reports.htm>

2016 OHSAA State Softball Tournament

Firestone Park, Akron

Finalists Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, May 31, 2016 – 12:15 PM

- I. **WELCOME & CONGRATULATIONS & COLLECTION OF FORMS**
 - a. Jerry Snodgrass and OHSAA Staff, Melvin Blake (State Softball Manager), Brittany Wigman (Sports Alliance of Greater Akron), Jerry Fick (OHSAA Director of Development SB Umpires)
- II. **INTRODUCTIONS & REMINDERS**
- III. **TEAM INFORMATION: Lauren Prochaska, Jerry Snodgrass**
 - a. Media Requests/Interest
 - b. Hotel Information/Akron Area Information – Brittany Wigman
 - c. State Softball Tournament Instructions & Paperwork
 - d. State Tournament Participant Passes
 - e. Team Expenses
 - f. Administrators Passes & Participation Certificates
 - g. Review/Reminder of Non-Interscholastic Participation
 - h. Complimentary Game Programs & Team Photos
 - i. School Logos
 - j. Statistic Sheets
- IV. **COMPETITION INFORMATION**
 - a. Pre-Game Practice Schedule
 - b. Ceremonial First Pitches
 - c. Umpires – Jerry Fick
 - d. Game Balls
 - e. Weather Issues
 - f. Graduation “Issues”
 - g. Sportsmanship
 - h. Championship Game Preparation after winning Semi-Finals
- V. **REVIEW OF TICKETS, PARKING, ENTRY INFO: Melvin Blake**
- VI. **MEDIA INFO: Tim Stried**
- VII. **REVIEW OF ALL SITE INFORMATION – Melvin Blake**
 - a. Maps
 - b. Important Locations – Pass Gate & Media Area
 - c. Buses/Parking
 - d. Entrances
 - e. Practice Field Review
- VIII. **OTHER**
 - a. Awards Presentation Procedures – School Administrator – 23 Total Medals provided
 - b. Awards Contact – Croton Craft – 1-800-947-5521
 - c. Graduations/Conflicts
 - d. Non-Interscholastic Reminder
 - e. Physicians/Trainers
- IX. **Q and A's**



Ohio High School Athletic Association Important State Tournament Information

Submit via Fax (614-267-1677) or email to lprochaska@ohsaa.org
Please bring a copy to the Finalists Meeting

School Name: _____

Head Coach's Name: _____

Head Coach's Cell Phone Number: _____

Athletic Director's Name: _____

Athletic Director's Cell Phone Number: _____

Number of Players in Uniform (Max 22): _____

Number of Coaches w/ Pupil Activity Coaching Permits (Including Head Coach): _____

Name of School Administrator(s) assisting with Awards Ceremony:

Name

Title

Date of High School Graduation: _____ Time: _____

Respect
THE
GAME

2016 OHSAA State Softball Statistics and Team Information Request

Please Bring to State Qualifiers Meeting on Tuesday, May 31, 2016

Or Fax to OHSAA at 614-267-1677, Attention Tim Stried

Team Statistics Request: In addition to completing the form below, the OHSAA asks each school to submit (in any format) complete season statistics (through regionals, if possible) to Tim Stried via email (tstried@ohsaa.org) or fax. Statistics may also be submitted at Finalists' Meeting on Tuesday, May 31.

School _____ Division _____

Overall Record _____ Conference Name, Record, Finish _____

Head Coach and Pronunciation (if needed) _____

Team Notes (strengths, school records set, key wins, consecutive conference titles, etc.)

Top Players

Pitcher

Name _____

RH or LH No. _____ Position P/ _____ Year _____

W-L _____ ERA _____ K _____ BB _____

Other Key Stats and Notes (including offensive stats):

Pitcher

Name _____

RH or LH No. _____ Position P/ _____ Year _____

W-L _____ ERA _____ K _____ BB _____

Other Key Stats and Notes (including offensive stats):

Name _____

No. _____ Position _____ Year _____ Avg. _____

Key Stats and Notes:

Name _____

No. _____ Position _____ Year _____ Avg. _____

Key Stats and Notes:

Name _____

No. _____ Position _____ Year _____ Avg. _____

Key Stats and Notes:

Possible Starters

No. Pos. Yr. Name

P

P

C

1B

2B

3B

SS

LF

CF

RF

Key Reserves

No. Pos. Yr. Name

Notable Softball Alumni (Explain)