SOFTBALL DISTRICT CHAMPION - REGIONAL QUALIFIER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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First, **CONGRATULATIONS!!** Your win places you in the "Sweet 16" and one step closer to everyone's goal...a trip to the State Championships at Firestone Stadium!

The extremely short turnaround time between your District Championship and the Regional Semi-Final creates a few <u>very important</u> timelines. To make things easier, all regional pairings and site manager information is available on the web at <u>www.ohsaa.org</u> and navigating to Softball through the "Sports" dropdown menu.

Regional site managers have been instructed to provide you with information regarding specific to their Regional site. Many will have provided this to you along with this information at your District Championship game. If they have not done this, you or your Athletic Director should contact the regional manager for any site specific information.

Since preparation must begin now, it is important for you to provide this information to your Athletic Director.

Please note that sites and game times are subject to change at the discretion of the Commissioner's Office.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact me via email at <u>jsnodgrass@ohsaa.org</u> or Lauren Prochaska, at <u>lprochaska@ohsaa.org</u>.

Best of luck as you enter the "Sweet 16" and your assistance in helping make this year's tournament a success is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Jerry Snodgrass

Assistant Commissioner

Lauren Prochaska Program Coordinator

Important Regional Information to be Submitted

With the short time between the Regional and State tournament, all preparations begin during Regionals for the State tournament. As a result, there are several important items you <u>must</u> complete now. Follow the instructions to download the forms to your computer, complete the forms and email them to Tim Stried at tstried@ohsaa.org by the deadlines listed. To download forms:

- 1. Go to http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/sb/girls/default.asp or navigate from www.ohsaa.org and from the "Sports" pull down menu, select 'Softball"
- 2. Under "Sectional/District/Regional Tournaments", click on *Regional Tournament Information & Qualifying Forms*.
- 3. The necessary forms are listed in the "2016 Regional Tournaments" section.

The following forms are available on the Softball page listed above and <u>must be downloaded and submitted by Tuesday, May 24 at noon.</u> Each form is described in detail below this list. Each form is necessary for the Regional AND the State Tournament.

- School Information Form
- Softball Team Roster/Pass List
- Season Results
- Team Photograph Identification Form
- Team Stats Form
- Team Media Coverage Form
- Regional Mileage Report

School Information Form

Please download and complete and save. Please submit this to your Regional manager in addition to Tim Stried at **tstried@ohsaa.org**.

Softball Team Roster

Download and complete this form electronically (save to your hard drive). Email this form to your Regional Site Manager no later than Monday following your District Final game. In addition, email this to Tim Stried at tstried@ohsaa.org no later than Tuesday, May 24, 2016 as previously indicated. Please note there is space for 22 players. This is a "Word" document that allows you to type; please make certain spelling is correct as this is the way names will appear in the State Tournament program. The information on this form is necessary for State Tournament Programs and clothing sales. If your team qualifies for the State Tournament, please bring a copy of this to the State Tournament Participants' Meeting (you will receive information on this).

Season Results Form

Please download this also, complete and save. Please submit this form as requested by **Tuesday, May 24** but update it as you progress through the Regional tournament. Your final form will be due at the State Tournament Participants' meeting should you win the Regional tournament.

Team Photo Identification & Team Photo

Submitting this NOW is extremely important for the State Tournament to allow for printing of programs. Please download this form also, complete and save. Check with your Regional manager if he/she requires this form. Submit this along with a digital copy of your photo. If you choose to submit a printed photo, please mail the photo no later than Monday following your District Final game. If you submit a hard copy photograph, it WILL be returned to you.

Regional Mileage Report

Ohio remains one of the few states that provide compensation to participating schools. Part of that compensation is a 'mileage reimbursement'. This form is attached with this mailing and is used to pay expenses for your Regional participation. Complete and provide to your Regional Site manager.

Official Eligibility Certificates

Mentioned on the required forms, players must be certified by the Principal or Designee on the Official OHSAA Eligibility Certificate. Only 22 players may be in uniform for any one game from the Official OHSAA Eligibility Certificate. These 22 may change from game to game during the tournament, however, the names must be on the Official OHSAA Eligibility Certificate.

Other Important Regional Tournament Information

Regional Sites

It is necessary to secure and contract sites well in advance of the Regional tournament. Regional sites were approved by the Board of Directors at the February meeting. The Commissioner was authorized by the Board of Directors to move individual game sites and or times. This CAN and MAY occur to when POSSIBLE to accommodate graduations and other travel concerns.

Admission & Ticket Information

Tickets for all Regional Softball sites are \$7.00 per person (adult & student).

Batting Practice at Regional Sites

Batting practice is permitted at Regional sites prior to tournament games, but is not mandatory at the game field. Please make sure you check with the Regional Site manager for their policy and procedure. Many schools will communicate with a school in route to the Regional site for their batting practice.

Reminder Regarding COACHING Eligibility

All Coaches in the dugout must comply with dress code regulations as described in the NFHS Rules Book and the Softball Pre-Season Coaches' Manual. Only coaches with valid Pupil Activity Coaching Permits issued by the Ohio Dept. of Education are permitted to coach and be in uniform in the dugout. Approved coaches and their "PAP" permit numbers were submitted via the Tournament Entry Form.

Game Umpires

Umpires for the Regional tournament have been assigned by the Commissioner's Office. The umpires assigned for the tournaments are determined by a combination Rating/Voting system approved by the Board of Directors. Names of the officials will not be announced in advance of the games. Just as in all games and in accordance with NFHS Rules, the **decisions and rulings of the officials will be final.**

Game Balls

The Worth SB12LND softball is the official game ball of ALL levels of OHSAA Softball tournament play.

Looking Ahead

For your planning purposes, there is a **State Finalists Meeting** on <u>Tuesday, May 31, at 12:15 pm</u> at the OHSAA OFFICE. Specific information will be available on the OHSAA's website after winning the Regional Tournament.

All required forms necessary for completion are online at:

http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/sb/girls/tournamentinfo.htm#Regional

