

THIS WEEK IN BASEBALL

Issue 5 | May 22, 2019



Follow Along on the Brackets!

You can follow the 2019 postseason baseball tournament on the OHSAA website by going to the Baseball webpage and clicking on *Statewide Tournament Brackets*. All game information, including teams playing, sites, times and tournament managers, will be listed on the brackets and updated as the tournament continues. Best of luck to those teams still in the tournament!

2019 State Baseball Tournament

Join us for the 2019 State Baseball Tournament at Canal Park, home of the RubberDucks, in Akron, Ohio Friday, June 7 – Sunday, June 9. With the State Softball Tournament the weekend prior, the town of Akron is happy to announce the community collaboration, *Akron Double Play*, to compile activities from local dining, entertainment, shopping and recreation attractions.



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Respect
THE
GAME

OUT OF SEASON REGULATIONS

I wanted to remind you all of our out-of-season baseball regulations for both players and coaches. As listed in General Sport Regulation 7, a player may participate on a non-interscholastic team and/or program any time outside of the season, as long as there are only 4 players (or less) on that non-interscholastic team from the same school team. This includes tryouts, practicing and competing. You may also not rotate players on the non-interscholastic team to bend the rule. Please know that there is an exception to this 50% limitation during May 24 – July 31, 2019. During this time, there may be more than 4 from the same school participating on the same non-interscholastic team.

FAQS:

Q: *My baseball player's travel coach keeps asking if he can 6 players from our high school participate on his summer travel team—is this allowed?*

A: **Yes, this is allowed, but only from Friday, May 24 – July 31. At any other time, non-interscholastic programs are limited to 4 from the same school in the sport of baseball.**

Q: *The middle school baseball season ended on May 16, 2019. Are 6 players from my middle school team able to go ahead and practice with their summer team?*

A: **No. If there are more than 4 from the same school participating on a summer team, they would not be able to participate together until Friday, May 24 – July 31.**

Q: *If there is a student from X High School that did not participate on the 2019 X High School baseball team, are they included in that 50% limitation that applies before May 24 and after July 31?*

A: **No, they would not be included. In this scenario, you could have the 4 permitted from the same school, plus an unlimited number of students/players that were not on the school baseball team in 2019.**

10-DAY RULE

School coaches may coach their own student athletes on non-interscholastic teams outside of the season, as long as the 50% limitation is observed. A school coach may coach more than 4 of their school players on a non-interscholastic team, but only during the June 1 – July 31 time period, and if they have more than 4 players from their school team, they are limited to working with them for a maximum of 10 days. The 10-day limitation applies to the *entire coaching staff*.

FAQS:

Q: *Does the 10-day rule apply to each coach individually—so my Varsity coach gets 10 days, my JV coaches gets an additional 10 days and my Freshman coach gets an additional 10 days?*

A: **NO. The 10 days are applied to the entire coaching staff, grades 9-12 and separately, grades 7-8. It is not 10 days per coach.**

Q: *I am a high school coach and a summer travel coach. Am I able to have more than 4 players from my high school on my summer travel team?*

A: **Yes, but if you have more than 4 players from your high school team on your summer travel team, you are only permitted to work with them for a total of 10 days (from June 1 – July 31) and this would be included in your 10-day allotment for your entire coaching staff.**

Q: *I am a high school coach and a summer travel coach. If I only have 2 players from my high school team on my summer team, am I still restricted to 10 days of coaching them on the summer team?*

A: **No. If you have 4 players or less on your summer team, the 10-day rule does not apply. You are only restricted to 10 days if you have more than 4 of your school players on your summer team.**

Q: *Since 10 days is technically 240 hours, am I permitted 240 hours of coaching time during this time?*

A: **No—you are permitted 10 full days of coaching time, not an hourly allocation. You may practice/play more than once a day, if you choose to do so, but you are still limited to 10 coaching days.**

EJECTIONS—PLEASE READ!

Ejections are at an all time high in the state of Ohio and I am asking for your help to bring these statistics down. As of yesterday, there were **153 ejections** (117 players, 36 coaches) in the sport of baseball, with an additional coach ejection just last night, bringing the total up to 154—**that is up from 137 ejections one week prior.** With the postseason play and a decrease in teams advancing in the tournament, that is an extremely alarming increase in ejections. If we hit 156 ejections for the 2019 season, that will be the highest total in a decade. As you all know, unsportsmanlike behavior/conduct continues to be a NFHS Point of Emphasis in the Baseball Rules Meeting and it looks like it will be a continued topic. Ohio needs your help to bring these numbers down. Please educate your players and coaching staff and communicate with umpires before things get heated—there have been racial slurs, taunting, profanity, coaches refusing to leave the premises and even an umpire assaulted in the parking lot (by a spectator). More importantly, whether you agree with it or not, an umpire's decision to eject a player or coach is final. *Ejections are not appealable.* Please see General Sport Regulation 14 for more details, but any player or coach ejected is ineligible for all contests for the remainder of the day and for all contests at all levels in that sport until two contests (at the level of the ejection) are played. If a coach is ejected, they are required to leave the vicinity of the playing field and must leave the premises—they may not go sit in the stands as a spectator, they must leave the facility entirely. Moving forward, we also hope to build the coach/team relationship with umpires to alleviate any unnecessary ejections that could have been resolved by a professional conversation at the plate. We need your help on this and would welcome any feedback on how you see it best to address this increasing issue in the sport of baseball in Ohio. Thank you in advance!