OVAC SOFTBALL FORMAT
Effective 2019 - 2020

SOFTBALL COMMISSIONER/DIRECTOR:
Tom Bechtel
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Cell:  304.639.6326
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2020 CHAMPIONSHIP DATE:
Friday, May 1, 2020
Saturday, May 2, 2020
I-470 Ball Fields
Wheeling, WV  26003

FUTURE DATES:
April 30/May 1, 2021

MANDATORY MEETING:
There will be a mandatory meeting for all
softball coaches on SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2020,
at the Linsly library starting at 1:00PM.
Coaches are required to bring FIVE (5)
copies of their 2020 schedule for the OVAC
committee.

1. The regular season ends on Saturday,

2. There will also be an OVAC tournament,
   with the winning team in each class receiving a
   championship trophy, and the runner-up receiving
   a plaque.

3. All games that are **PLAYED BEFORE**
   the cutoff date will count in the standings, includ-
   ing invitationals, against all opponents. Only the
   first two games played against an opponent will
   count in the standings.

   Scrimmage games in Ohio may be played
   during the regular season.  **[NOTE: Coaches
   need to check their state regulations regarding
   this.]** However, it must be by mutual agreement
   of both coaches and so indicated on both sched-
   ules when submitted on the **Sunday, March 15,**
   2020.  **[NOTE: West Virginia schools cannot
   scrimmage once you play your first game.]**

4. **NOTE:** Teams are eligible to participate
   in OVAC playoffs as prescribed by the respective
   sport by scheduling at least eight games against
   OVAC opponents or playing at least six against
   OVAC opponents. In the event that a team sched-
   ules fewer than eight games against OVAC op-
   ponents, a minimum of six games must be played
   against OVAC opponents; if eight or more are
   scheduled against OVAC opponents, a minimum
   of four must be played. **All Conference games
   scheduled and played must be done prior to
   the cutoff date listed for that sport (April 25,
   2020).**

5. No schedule changes or additions **AF-
   TER WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2020,** will count
   in the standings or count as games played.

   Only regular season games scheduled
   PRIOR TO the cutoff date will count in the stand-
   ings.

   Only those games scheduled prior to the
   cutoff date may be moved forward to an [earlier]
   **OPEN DATE** by mutual agreement of the two
   schools.
Any problem during the final week, other than poor weather conditions, must be reported to the softball director within twenty-four (24) hours. A ruling will be made by the softball committee, the softball commissioner, and the Executive Director. Extenuating circumstances will be taken into account.

*Nonvalid reasons for changing/canceling a scheduled game:
- Track meet/sporting event
- Field trips
- Tests (ACT/SAT) It is recommended that schools change their starting times to accommodate the test.
- Banquets
- Plays
- Concerts
- Proms/After-Proms
[Rainouts may be rescheduled and count in the standings as game(s) played.]

6. The OVAC regular season will end on Saturday, April 25, 2020. Remember that the two tournament games (semi-championship and championship) will count toward regular season totals as allowed by your state.

WEST VIRGINIA: Maximum Team Contests - A softball team will be permitted to play no more than 32 games exclusive of Sectional, Regional, and State contests.

OHIO: An individual may play in a reserve game and a varsity game in the same day. Participation in both counts as two games in contest limitation of 27 contests on 27 playing dates.

NOTICE:
Schools who cannot compete in the tournament to its completion due to over-scheduling the State limits of their respective state will not be allowed to participate in the tournament.

In this case, each team will move up and the next team in order of finish will be elevated to fill the vacant spot.

In the event that a school should schedule a game between the semi-final game and the championship that should put them over the State limit, they will not be permitted to compete in the playoffs and will be ineligible for competition in that sport the following year.

Executive Board order
May 28, 2003

7. Semi-finals will be played at The Chambers I-470 Fields in Wheeling, WV. Game dates are Monday, April 27, 2020, Tuesday, April 28, 2020, and Wednesday, April 29, 2020. Times TBA.

A rain date has been set for Thursday, April 30, 2020, and Friday, May 1, 2020.

Additional information and regulations will be determined by the softball commissioner as needed.

SCHEDULE:
Monday, April 27, 2020+
1A, 2A
Tuesday, April 28, 2020+
3A, 4A
Wednesday, April 29, 2020+
5A
+Rain date first available date

The semi-finals will pit the teams according to their finish (#1 v #4, #2 v #3). This shall be completed in each of the five (5) designated classes. The higher-seeded team will be the home team.

8. The tournament championships will be played at The Chambers Fields at Wheeling, WV, on Friday, May 1, 2020, and Saturday, May 2, 2020. Approximate times of each contest are:

FRIDAY, MAY 1
5:30PM
7:30PM

SATURDAY, MAY 2
11:00AM
12:30PM
2:00PM

*These are subject to change at the discretion of the softball commissioner.
TICKET PRICES FOR ALL PLAYOFF GAMES

Adults: $6.00
Students: $4.00

OVAC passes are good for all championship playoff games.

9. All tournament games shall be played using the OVAC’s run rule and pitching rule.
   - **Run rule:** 10 runs after five innings
   - **Pitching rule:** 14 innings allowed
   - **Tie:** The international tie-breaker WILL NOT be in effect.
   - **Suspended game:** In the event of inclement weather, the game will resume at the earliest possible date and be played as a suspended game.

10. It is the HOME team’s responsibility to cancel the contest. Any deviation from this must be reported to the softball commissioner immediately or it will result in the penalty listed in #5.

I-470 FIELD HOTLINE

Save gas; call before you leave!

304.234.6477

TWITTER: I470BALLPARK

FUTURE SOFTBALL DATES

**2019-2020**

Schedule Changes Due: March 18, 2020
Cutoff Date: April 25, 2020
Semifinals: April 27, April 28, April 29, 2020
Semifinals Rain Date: April 30, May 1, 2020
Championships: May 1, 2020
   - May 2, 2020
Media Night: June 2, 2020
All-Star Game: June 8, 2020
All-Star Game Rain Date: June 9, 2020

**2020-2021**

Schedule Changes Due: March 17, 2021
Cutoff Date: April 24, 2021
Semifinals: April 26, April 27, April 28, 2021
Semifinals Rain Date: April 29, April 30, 2021
Championships: April 30, 2021
   - May 1, 2021
Media Night: June 1, 2021
All-Star Game: June 7, 2021
All-Star Game Rain Date: June 8, 2021

NOTE: DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE SHOULD STATE ASSOCIATIONS ALTER THEIR CALENDARS.

UPDATED: 06.12.18
A coach, or their appointed representative, is required to report the score of their game, win or lose, home or away, to the number listed below. It is recommended that this be done immediately after each game. The responsibility for reporting scores belongs to EVERY school, EVERY game.

TEXT NUMBER

1.740.279.1999

SAMPLE TEXT MESSAGES
Softball Shadyside 3 Bridgeport 2
Softball St. Clairsville-Harrison Central Cancelled

QUESTIONS CONCERNING STANDINGS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

RICK DeLUCA, statistician
5042 County Highway 15
Rayland, OH 43943
FAX: 740.264.9898
Home: 740.859.6335    Cell: 740.632.8808
e-mail: RADELUCA70@Yahoo.com