

OVAC SOFTBALL FORMAT

Effective 2011-2012

SOFTBALL COMMISSIONER/DIRECTOR:

Tom Bechtel
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Wheeling, WV 26003

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2012 CHAMPIONSHIP DATE:

Saturday, April 28, 2012
I-470 Ball Fields
Wheeling, WV 26003

FUTURE DATES:

April 27, 2013
May 3, 2014
May 2, 2015

MANDATORY MEETING:

There will be no mandatory meeting for softball. All necessary materials will be e-mailed to the head coaches the **first Monday of February**. It is **IMPERATIVE** that all coaches see that their e-mails are correct on the website and that they have established user names and passwords.

1. There will be an OVAC regular season divisional winner in each of the five (5) classes: 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, and 5A. Each regular-season champion will receive a plaque which will be decided when **the regular season ends on Saturday, April 21, 2012.** The champion will be determined by the OVAC power rating system.

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

3. All OVAC games that are **PLAYED BEFORE** the cutoff date will count in the standings, including invitationals, against all opponents. **BEGINNING IN 2010**, 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 schedules when submitted on the **first Sunday in March (March 4, 2012)**. **[NOTE: West Virginia schools cannot scrimmage once you play your first game.]**

4. **Each team must play a minimum of six (6) OVAC games to be eligible for the playoffs. Cutoff date for the playoffs is Saturday, April 21, 2012.**

5. No schedule changes or additions **AFTER WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2012**, will count in the standings or count as games played.*

Only regular season games scheduled **PRIOR TO** the cutoff date will count in the standings.

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 Secretary. 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 21, 2012, and regular season champions will be named. 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 23 playing dates. Doubleheaders must be played on nonschool days or days when there is no school the following day.

NOTICE:

Schools who cannot compete in the tournament to its completion due to overscheduling 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 **Tuesday, April 24, 2012,** and **Wednesday, April 25, 2012.** Times and fields TBA.

A rain date has been set for Thursday, April 26, 2012, and Friday, April 27, 2012.

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

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 Saturday, April 28, 2012. Approximate times of each contest are:*

1A	10:30AM
2A	12:15PM
3A	2:00PM
4A	3:45PM
5A	5:30PM

*These are subject to change at the discretion of the softball committee.

TICKET PRICES FOR ALL PLAYOFF GAMES

Adults: \$6.00

Students: \$4.00

OVAC passes are good for all championship playoff games.

OHIO & WEST VIRGINIA
SECTIONAL MANAGERS:

Please be aware of the above OVAC Tournament dates, and try to avoid conflicts with the OVAC dates.

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

ALL SCORES MUST BE REPORTED TO:

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR:

Ed Cihy
Wheeling Central Catholic High School
School: 304.233.5505
FAX: 304.233.3187
106 Liberty Way
Wheeling, WV 26003-7716
Home: 304.336.7535
Cell: 304.281.0754
e-mail: ovacsoftball@frontier.com

FUTURE SOFTBALL DATES

2011-2012

Schedule Changes Due: March 14, 2012
Cutoff Date: April 21, 2012
Semifinals: April 24, April 25, 2012
Semifinals Rain Date: April 26, April 27, 2012
Championships: April 28, 2012
Rotation: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Media Night: May 29, 2012
All-Star Game: June 6, 2012
All-Star Game Rain Date: June 7, 2012

2012-2013

Schedule Changes Due: March 13, 2013
Cutoff Date: April 20, 2013
Semifinals: April 23, April 24, 2013
Semifinals Rain Date: April 25, April 26, 2013
Championships: April 27, 2013
Rotation: 2, 3, 4, 5, 1
Media Night: May 20, 2013
All-Star Game: May 29, 2013
All-Star Game Rain Date: May 30, 2013

2013-2014

Schedule Changes Due: March 19, 2014
Cutoff Date: April 26, 2014
Semifinals: April 29, April 30, 2014
Semifinals Rain Date: May 1, May 2, 2014
Championships: May 3, 2014
Rotation: 3, 4, 5, 1, 2
Media Night: May 26, 2014
All-Star Game: June 4, 2014
All-Star Game Rain Date: June 5, 2014

2014-2015

Schedule Changes Due: March 18, 2015
Cutoff Date: April 25, 2015
Semifinals: April 28, April 29, 2015
Semifinals Rain Date: April 30, May 1, 2015
Championships: May 2, 2015
Rotation: 4, 5, 1, 2, 3
Media Night: May 25, 2015
All-Star Game: June 3, 2015
All-Star Game Rain Date: June 4, 2015

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

**SCHOOLS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR THE
2012 CHAMPIONSHIP:**

Class A: All schools eligible
Class 2A: Wellsville
Class 3A: All schools eligible
Class 4A: All schools eligible
Class 5A: All schools eligible

UPDATED: 06.15.11

**ALL SCORES MUST
BE REPORTED TO:
ovacsoftball
@frontier.com**