

2022
OHIO HOT
STOVE BASEBALL
LEAGUE, INC.



**ADMINISTRATIVE AND TOURNAMENT RULES AND
POLICIES**

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ADMINISTRATIVE AND TOURNAMENT RULES AND POLICIES

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**AIMS AND PURPOSES of OHIO HOT STOVE
BASEBALL LEAGUE, Inc. are:**

1. To devote its time and efforts to the youth of the OHSBL.
2. To promote, protect and sponsor amateur baseball for those who wish to participate within OHSBL age classifications.
3. To benefit all who desire to participate regardless of race, creed, gender, ability, or national origin.
4. To build character, citizenship and the spirit of cooperation among its teams and players.
5. To encourage good sportsmanship, fellowship, fair play, loyalty, and reverence both on and off the playing field.
6. To provide recreation and cooperation with all local recreational officials.
9. To stress all functions of OHSBL at all levels and, that teaching of the fundamentals of the game is of prime importance.
10. To stress that, although a significant objective is the winning of the game, conduct must be such so as to never conflict with the operations and functions of OHSBL. Unethical practices should not be encouraged or condoned.
11. To adhere to all Rules and Regulations as prescribed and deemed necessary by the Active Charter Holder of OHSBL.
12. To supervise and conduct all District, Regional and State Tournament Play so that all who desire and qualify to participate shall be governed in a like manner as prescribed in all Rules and Regulations that govern all Tournament Play.
13. To further promote the growth of OHSBL, by seeking and incorporating new areas that desire to affiliate with OHSBL, and to assist in any way necessary for those Charters that desire any assistance in any phase of their local organization.
14. To require all Charter Holders to incorporate the words Ohio Hot Stove Baseball in their local organization communications and functions.

All rules of this rule book shall be adhered to by all players, managers, coaches, umpires, parents and charter officials during the local season, tournaments and at any time during local charter activities. It is the charter officials' responsibility to police and enforce full compliance to the OHSBL rule book and the OHSBL constitution and bylaws.

I - OHIO HOT STOVE BASEBALL LEAGUE, INC.

2022 Officers

Executive Committee

2021-22	Lou Vasi, President lou@loraincountyhotstove.com	440-823-2796
2022-23	Mike Dyke, Vice President mtdyke93@gmail.com	330-501-7163
2022-23	Pat Anderson, Executive Secretary pat@ohsbl.com	216-225-8177
2021-22	Bob Chase, Recording Secretary bhchase567@yahoo.com	571-606-8062
	Dan Morris, Past President morris46family@gmail.com	330-221-9625

(3) Year Trustees

2021-22-23	Randy Hendrickson ohsblchiefumpire@aol.com	330-325-1957
2022-23-24	Brian Burse alliancehotstove@gmail.com	330-309-3797
2022-23-24	Jerry Clapper jerryclapper4@yahoo.com	440-567-2475
2022-23-24	Erik Gordon erockakron@yahoo.com	330-573-1027
2022-23-24	Pete Raga ragapete@yahoo.com	330-446-0166

(2) Year Trustee

2022-23	Mike Jeffery mjeffery12@frontier.com	440-371-6333
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II - RULES COMMITTEE

Lou Vasi, Chairman	Lorain County
Mike Dyke.....	Tri County
Pat Anderson, Editor	Lorain County
Bob Chase	Summit
Dan Morris	Ravenna
Randy Hendrickson	Trustee
Brian Burse	Alliance
Jerry Clapper	Lorain County
Erik Gordon	Summit
Mike Jeffery	Lorain County
Pete Raga	Tri County

III - OFFICIAL 2022 RULES AND REGULATIONS OHIO HOT STOVE BASEBALL LEAGUE, INC.

As adopted by the Rules Committee and approved by its Active Charter Holders. OHSBL Executive Committee in agreement with the editor, has authorized that this edition be published by the Ohio Hot Stove Baseball League, Inc.

Printed in USA Pat Anderson 2022

IV - CHARTER HOLDERS

Alliance

Lorain County

Ravenna

Tri County

Canton South

North Olmsted

Summit County

V - ADMINISTRATION

OHSBL affairs are administered by Ohio Hot Stove Baseball League, Inc. policies, operating procedures, regulations and control of the program are carried out by the Executive Committee under the direction of the president of the Executive Committee.

VI - CHARTER

The Charter Holders operate under a Charter granted annually by the OHSBL. The Charter is autonomous to the extent of having freedom to elect its own officers, finance its own program and carry on various other related functions. It must adhere, however, scrupulously to all rules and regulations established by OHSBL. The Charter privilege extends use of its name OHSBL or any form of Ohio Hot Stove Baseball Inc. and its insignia to its member associations. It can be suspended for violation rules and regulations by action of the Executive Committee.

VII - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee is a group of personnel elected to their positions by the active charters and in which is placed the responsibility of enforcing all rules and regulation including receiving, granting, suspending or revoking the privileges and conditions of the charter and their local associations that play within the boundaries of the Charter Holder

VIII - PLAYER AGE ELIGIBILITY

The player must qualify under OHSBL definition of residence printed in section IX of this book, must be of correct age for the classification in which participating and must have parent consent for all minors. OHSBL offers programs for players age 7 and under through adult. OHSBL League classifications provide organized baseball programs for a wide range of ages.

- A. League Classification I is for players of age 7-8 born on or between May 1, 2013 and April 30, 2015.*
- B. League Classification HH is for players of age 9 born on or between May 1, 2012 and April 30, 2013*
- C. League Classification H is for players of age 9-10 born on or between May 1, 2011 and April 30, 2013*
- D. League Classification G is for players of age 11 and 12 born on or between May 1, 2009, and April 30, 2011.*
- E. League Classification F is for players of age 13 and 14 born on or between May 1, 2007 and April 30, 2009*
- F. League Classification EE is for players of age 15 and 16 born on or between May 1, 2005 and April 30, 2007.*
- G. League Classification E is for players of age 17 and 18 born on or between May 1, 2003 and April 30, 2005.*
- H. League Classification D is for players of age 19 and up born on or between May 1, 1922 and April 30, 2004.*

Any player that is under the specified age of any OHSBL league classification may participate in the next higher classification with Charter approval. At no time shall a player participate in any classification if over the specified age. **Note:** may participate was put in this rule to allow a charter to use an underage player to fill a team. It is expected that this will not become a normal practice. No one who has played professionally, or for pay, is eligible to play on any OHSBL team. If this is violated, all league games will be forfeited and if it is discovered during tournament play, the team will be disqualified.

IX - PLAYER RESIDENCE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Each Charter Holder will determine its internal boundaries for any association established within them for the purpose of selection of players. These boundaries should be described in detail, shown on a map and dated. A map must be forwarded to OHSBL when applying for an annual Charter. Players will be eligible to play with that Charter only if they reside within the external boundaries approved by OHSBL and the internal boundaries established for the associations within the Charter Holders boundaries. A player will be deemed to reside within the established boundaries of the Charter if:

- A Player's parents are living together and are residing within such legal boundaries or;
- B Either of the player's parents (or his/her court appointed legal guardian(s) resides within such boundaries.

Residence, reside and residing refer to a place of bona fide, continuous habitation. A place of residence, once established, shall not be considered changed unless the parents, parent or guardian makes a bona fide change of residence. Residence shall be established and supported by three or more of the following documents of residency of such parent(s) or guardian:

1. Driver's License;
2. Voter's Registration;
3. School Records;
4. Welfare Records;
5. Federal, State and Local Records;
6. Support payment records;
7. Homeowner or tenant property insurance records; and
8. Utility bills.

It shall be the Charters responsibility to require some proof of residence within the charter boundaries at the time the players register. Players and their parents/guardians are advised that a false statement of residence may lead to ineligibility to play OHSBL baseball. Under no circumstances does any person have the authority to release a player unless the Charter Holder and the Executive Committee approve a change. If the claim for residency is challenged; three of the

above materials must be submitted to OHSBL with an affidavit of residency from the parent(s) or guardian(s), which shall decide the issue. Residency documents must illustrate that the residence (as defined above) was inside the boundaries at the time of registration/sign-up of the current year.

X - LEAGUE CLASSIFICATION

OHSBL offers eight league classifications, covering ages seven through adult (*see player age eligibility VIII.*)

XI - PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- A.** Player's must be in compliance with all OHSBL rules and regulations and be of legal age or under of the classification in which they participate.
- B.** All Charter Holders must have a certified record of proof of birth for each player that participates in OHSBL. Such approved certified records shall be as listed and in the order of their acceptance for verification. They are:
 - 1.** A certified copy or photo static copy of a birth certificate from the bureau of vital statistics, state department of health or any other political subdivision; or
 - 2.** A hospital or baptismal record; or
 - 3.** A school record of birth, signed by the superintendent or other authorized school official, accompanied by a notarized affidavit signed by the parents or legal guardians.
- C.** Birth records shall be submitted each year only for new players or players who were not affiliated with the OHSBL the previous seasons. Once a player's birth record has been submitted to the Charter Holder, it will become the Charter Holder's responsibility for producing the birth certificate if questions arise necessitating further proof of birth.
- D.** A Player, who agrees to abide by Charter policies and the OHSBL, Inc. rules and regulations is eligible to play OHSBL Baseball.
 - 1.** All age classifications can be associated with other non-OHSBL teams and organizations
 - 2.** Any player can play on more than one OHSBL team providing they are from the same Charter and same

community, but not the same Class, for the sole purpose of having the minimum number of players to start a legal game:

- a. The rostered player that meets the proper age requirements can play down on a team during the regular season.
- b. Any player that plays up in an age classification must play on teams associated with their charter and community. **Note: Manager must carry rosters of the player(s) playing up or down.**
- c. All players must return to their original team roster for tournament play.
- d. Charters will have the right to monitor and approve the use of players being used for this purpose.

E. A OHSBL Player must play on a team under the jurisdiction of the Charter Holder, duly authorized and functioning as such, and governed by each Charter Holder as set forth in their policies and regulations which govern the selection of players such as zoning, public school systems, cities, or player draft systems, etc. Any player who is living in one Charter area and reestablished his residency by living with another parent or guardian, in another Charter, may elect to sign up in either Charter, providing player meets all deadlines established by the Charter, and abides by all Charter policies and OHSBL rules and regulations. A player may have to prove legal residency by providing court documentation that there is a change in summer residency, if player is not living at the parents' or legal guardians' place of residence.

F. Selection of handpicked teams is strongly discouraged. Charter officials must approve any exception to Charter Holder's internal boundaries. OHSBL Executive Committee must be notified prior to the start of the season.

G. Open enrollment:

1. Class I, HH, H, G, & F participation permits players to go to a school which may not be located within the internal

boundaries of the Charter Holder or within the approved Charter Holder Boundaries established by OHSBL, Inc. Charter Holder should be careful that they inform the players that they are bound to the area in which they live and not to the school boundaries of the school they are attending.

2. 2. Class E and EE players that have elected to use open enrollment may play with the school team they are attending. Proof of attending school under the open enrollment policies must be provided upon request i.e. school baseball roster, report card or notarized statement stating the school that is being attended.

H. All teams and players (See exception G-2) must be formed, and the players must live in the Charter area in which they are playing in. Any individual player coming from an area that does not support OHSBL must have a release approved by OHSBL Executive Committee to play on a team under the jurisdiction of a Charter. An unchartered area will be any community that does not support a team within the charter boundaries, as well as those areas outside of the Charter. Players coming from these areas cannot be placed on a roster until the OHSBL Executive Committee approves the releases. There can be only three approved releases, per team, for players, which includes the coaching staffs' sons or daughters that fall into this category. Any exception to the three releases must be approved by the Executive Committee.

I. A release is required for any player that signs up or is put on a roster and is from an area that does not support OHSBL baseball within or outside of the established Charter boundaries. Release must be approved by the charter and OHSBL.

J. No players shall be permitted to change teams after midnight of the last Friday in May of the current year without the permission of the managers involved and a properly submitted release, approved by both the Charter officers and the OHSBL Executive Committee. Shifting of player(s) to strengthen team(s) for tournament play is

unethical and will not be permitted. **NOTE:** When a release to transfer a team or player is requested, a valid, detailed reason must be stated on the release. The Charter and OHSBL Executive Committee must approve it. No player or players can be added to a team roster after midnight of the last Friday in May for I, HH, H, G & F and established dates for EE, E and D by the EE, EE, & D State Commissioner.

K. A player in all classifications may play on only **one OHSBL** team. **Exception 1:** this does not apply for all classes as related to practice and scrimmage games. **Exception 2:** Players may play on OHSBL teams per rule XI D2. OHSBL Teams playing in season tournaments as defined in XI-O are allowed to play, through the Monday before they start OHSBL Tournament play, but not during OHSBL tournament play, or until eliminated from OHSBL tournament play. If a player plays on more than one baseball team not associated with OHSBL, they must play in at least 50% of their OHSBL **played** scheduled games played to be eligible to play in the OHSBL district, regional or final state tournament. These games must be played prior to Friday of the start of OHSBL Tournament Play. **Penalty** for violating this rule is on page 12.

L. All Team Classifications and players can play in only one OHSBL District, Regional or State Final Tournament during the current year. There is no exception to this rule.

M. Charter sponsored Hot Stove single-elimination tournaments must meet the following requirements:

1. Hot Stove teams are allowed to enter and must use the OHSBL Rosters and Rules (without variation).
2. Active Hot Stove officials appointed by the Charter involved must conduct tournaments.
3. Details of the tournament must be filed with the OHSBL Executive Committee for approval.
4. All Hot Stove teams that enter pre- or in-season Hot Stove tournaments must use only players listed on the official OHSBL league team roster submitted to the OHSBL Executive Committee and must enter OHSBL Tournament play.

5. Non Hot Stove teams may participate in local Hot Stove Tournaments but cannot enter OHSBL tournament.

N. OHSBL Teams participating in in-season tournaments are allowed to play through Monday prior to the start of their OHSBL tournament game.

The interpretation of organized tournament play is defined as anyone or combination of the following:

1. Must be sanctioned and organized by a recognized baseball organization.
2. Single or double elimination is involved.
3. Entry fees are required.
4. Team rosters must be submitted.
5. Birth records are required to verify player's age.
6. State recognition is achieved through participation in a tournament.

RULE INTERPRETATION If a charter uses the term tournament in determining its league championship the following penalty will not apply.

Penalty: Violations of Rule XI above by any Manager or Player shall cause the individual to be suspended from further participation in OHSBL, and shall be suspended for a minimum of one year with reinstatement subject to approval by the OHSBL Executive Committee. Lesser penalties may be applied to players only, at the discretion of the OHSBL Executive Committee. In the event that a player has participated in any OHSBL tournament game when this is being violated, then that player's team shall forfeit the game and be disqualified from further participation. The last team they defeated shall be reinstated and placed in its position to continue tournament play, or if the team has won the OHSBL state title, it shall be disqualified and the runner-up shall then be declared the OHSBL Champion.

O. All Star Games. It is permissible for Charters to have All Star Games providing:

1. Players are from the same age classification.
2. Players are on an OHSBL roster.
3. All Star consist of one game.

4. Players who are on the All Star team must be from the Charter, but may play another All Star team from another Charter.
 5. OHSBL rules will apply.
 6. Executive Secretary must be notified when a Charter is going to have an All Star Game. A player may play in only one OHSBL approved All Star event during the season.
- P. Teams can complete their league games during OHSBL tournament time. Keep in mind that you must abide by all pitching rules. Do not schedule make up games or scheduled games that will interfere with your pitching requirements needed for tournament play.

XII - TEAM ROSTER

A. *Rosters must be prepared via the OHSBL registration program or approved form published by OHSBL.*

B. Teams (HH thru D) may consist of not more than one manager, one assistant manager and two coaches. I league may have five coaches. **All must have a valid background check.**

I. Class D managers are not required to have a valid background check.

C. The OHSBL roster must contain all requested information on form OHS-6 (Roster)

D. The Charter Holder will distribute the copies after they have validated them to ensure eligibility of all players and teams as follows:

1. Original copy to the OHSBL
2. 2nd copy to Charter Holder
3. 3rd Copy to the Manager

E. **The Charter Holder will forward (in a group) only the original copy of the roster (form OHS-6) to the OHSBL Executive Secretary.** All fees will be forwarded to OHSBL by the following dates:

1. All Classifications. Deadline for submitting rosters to the OHSBL Executive Secretary by the Charter Holder

is as stated on the current year rule book charter calendar. **Charter Holder can establish a deadline date, to allow sufficient time for meeting the OHSBL's Executive Secretary's deadline.**

2. Upon review, OHSBL League Commissioners will not accept rosters that are submitted individually by any manager or Charter Holder unless a letter accompanies the said roster signed by a Charter officer stating a valid reason for said roster being submitted separately rather than with all of the state rosters as required.
3. Charter Holders must establish deadline dates so that they can have time to review rosters prior to submitting them to the OHSBL League Commissioners.
4. All Charter fees must be submitted to OHSBL Secretary Treasurer by the established dates in the current rule book.

F. Charter officers should be on site to assist the OHSBL Executive Committee in reviewing contested players, rosters and releases for their charter. If the Officers are present the Executive Committee could circumvent the need to red line players and/or rosters. Any unresolved issues as related to players, rosters and releases will cause them to be red lined and they cannot play until OHSBL has received a revised roster or release with the necessary corrections. Any team, player, or players shall not play until the OHSBL Secretary Treasurer deems them as legal participants.

XIII - REVISED TEAM ROSTER

A. A revised roster must be processed any time there is a change made to the **Original Roster**. Required information as stated on roster form OHS-6

1. **Rosters must be prepared via the OHSBL registration program or approved form published by OHSBL.**
2. Teams (I thru E) may consist of not more than one Manager, one assistant Manager and two Coaches. I league can have 5 Coaches.
3. The Charter holder will distribute the copies of the completed rosters as follows:

- a. Original copy to the OHSBL;
 - b. 2nd Copy to OHSBL;
 - c. 3rd copy to Charter Holder; and
 - d. 4th Copy to Manager
4. Upon review, OHSBL will not accept rosters that:
 - a. Are not signed and dated by the Manager and a Charter Holder Officer.
 5. If a player is being added via a revised roster, the player cannot play until the OHSBL has reviewed the roster. If a player has been red lined (removed from the original roster for any reason), player must be reinstated or added via a revised roster. In either case, the player cannot play until the Executive Secretary has reviewed the revised roster. Games will be forfeited if the player is used prior to the state review.
 6. Revised roster should be submitted to the OHSBL Executive Secretary (by the Charter) as soon as possible to ensure that all players are legal.
 7. Deadline for submitting a revised roster to the OHSBL by the Charter Holder is as stated on the charter calendar. Charter Holder can establish a dead- line date, allowing sufficient time for meeting the OHSBL's deadline. Revised rosters can be mailed, emailed or faxed.

Any team player or players shall not play until the OHSBL Executive Secretary deems them as legal participants.

XIV - RELEASES

Team Releases

- A. Team releases are required for any team that moves from one charter area to another charter and must have the approval of **both charters** and the OHSBL Executive Committee.
- B. Any team or teams located in an unchartered area may play in a league under a Charter's jurisdiction, providing the Charter accepts them, and there is written approval secured from the OHSBL Executive Committee.
- C. An unchartered area is any area (Cities both chartered and unchartered, Townships, School districts etc.) within

or outside of an Active Charter.

Penalty: for violating rule XIV-A, B, C shall be:

1. Manager may be suspended for one year. Reinstatement must be requested, in writing, by the Manager asking to be reinstated to the OHSBL Executive Committee.
 2. It could cause a team to forfeit all of its games.
 3. The OHSBL Executive Committee may take action against the Charter.
- D. All teams released to another charter shall fall under their jurisdiction and the charter that accepts them is responsible for submitting all paper work and fees and etc.
- E. If a charter releases a league classification to another charter they must release all of the teams in that classification to the same charter. All or none in the class being released. All managers and coaches shall know the OHSBL rules and regulations.

Player Releases

- A. Player release is required for any player that is put on a team and does not live within the Charter area from which the team players are selected. Release must be approved by the Charter and OHSBL.
- B. Any Player that does not live within Charter boundaries must have a release approved by the Charter and OHSBL.
- C. Any player that does not meet the residency requirements must have a release approved by the Charter and OHSBL.
- D. Charter as related to above releases are Charter Holders only. The only Charters that are recognized by OHSBL are those that have paid their Charter dues to OHSBL or Charter at Large Members as approved by the Executive Committee.

***Note:** When a player is released between **charters** both releasing and accepting **charter** officials must sign the release. Releases between Communities must be signed by the community and charter officials. All releases must be approved by OHSBL.*

XV - LEADERSHIP

A. With thousands of young people playing OHSBL, we will strive to have the leadership needed to improve the standards of our program.

1. It cannot be stated too strongly - managers and coaches should be qualified adult volunteers. Every effort should be made to enlist the assistance of such persons. It is not sufficient that candidates for these important roles, have previous experience in the game.
2. Managers and coaches must possess leadership ability and know how to work with young children and young adults. Training and fundamentals of team work, good sportsmanship and discipline are realistic goals and are readily attainable through publications, videos, seminars and clinics.
3. In order to provide proper leadership it is important for all managers and coaches to know the OHSBL Rule and Regulations.

XVI - ROLE OF THE PARENT

- A. The parents of thousands of players combine with their children, Charter and local associations, umpires, managers and coaches and countless other volunteers including sponsors to have wholesome competition.
- B. Practically speaking, Ohio Hot Stove Baseball Inc. is an adult volunteer work project constructed, supervised and assisted by parents who want to extend the benefit to their children. The parent who shirks this responsibility cannot, in turn, expect others to assume this burden.

XVII - MANAGERS' AND COACHES' RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. All managers are urged to know the rule book. Managers are the only individuals in direct contact with the players, and are completely responsible for their behavior and knowledge of the rules. Managers must inform players of the rules, therefore, the manager must be totally responsible for informing and policing the players to maintain compliance with the Ohio Hot Stove Baseball

Rules.

- B. Manager/acting Manager shall be an adult and be responsible for the conduct of his team, his fans and other business of the team, including the accuracy of the team roster and ensure that their coaches have current background checks.
- C. If a Manager or acting Manager fails to have a current team roster at a game, and it is questioned during that game, the game shall be played under protest until the roster is presented. The umpire will indicate on the score sheet that the game is being played under protest for not having a roster. **Penalty:** Manager is suspended from participating in the next league scheduled game. After the first violation of this rule the local protest committee can impose any penalty it deems necessary. The intent of this rule is to ensure that the team has the official roster with them at all times.
- D. Managers should take the time to review their rosters after they have been reviewed and signed by a Charter Holder and returned to them by the Charter Holder. Should any information not appear to be correct and proper, an appropriate Charter Holder Officer should be questioned.
- E. The Charter has the right to disqualify any player that is not in good standing of a team sponsored by the Charter Holder in the OHSBL program (all funds, fees, and etc.).
- F. Any Manager that violates any policy adopted by a Charter Holder that regulates player selection, shall be ineligible for tournament play during the current year.
- G. Any Manager/acting Manager using an ineligible player during league or tournament play may be suspended for a minimum of one year, with reinstatement subject to the approval of the OHSBL Executive Committee. **NOTE:** It must be noted that, in other rules, there are some specific ineligible player violations that require mandatory suspensions.

- H. During the period of time that OHSBL District, Regional and State Final Tournament is being played, No team may participate in any other organized tournament (as defined in XI-O) until the team has been eliminated, or until state tournament play is completed. **Penalty:** Violation of this rule by any Charter Holder or team shall cause them to be declared ineligible, disqualified from the Tournament, and just cause for forfeiting the last game in which they played. The last team defeated will be reinstated in their position to continue tournament play, or, if said team has won the OHSBL Tournament, it shall be declared ineligible and the Runner up Team shall be declared the State Champion. Any further action deemed necessary shall be subject to the judgment of the OHSBL Executive Committee.
- I. The Manager or Charter Holder of any team that drops out of an OHSBL Tournament to participate in another tournament will be subject to whatever action deemed necessary by the OHSBL Executive Committee.
- J. As stated in article XV Leadership, we again state, it cannot be stated too strongly that qualified adult volunteers must be enlisted as team managers and coaches. It is not enough that candidates for these important roles have previous experience. Managers and coaches must possess leadership ability and know how to work with young participants. Training players in the fundamentals of teamwork, good sportsmanship and discipline are attainable goals.
- K. It is recommended that, when possible, all adult personnel affiliated with a team be in uniform regarding their dress as related to their team's uniform and color. Full uniforms are not necessary, but all adult personnel of the team should wear hats and T-shirts of the same style and color. Tank tops and muscle shirts are not considered proper attire and persons wearing either will not be permitted on the field or in the dugouts/benches.
- L. Managers' and Coaches' must comply with the Ohio State Concussion Law. See Information on [page 98](#) of the Rule Book.

XVIII - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Here are some answers to the most common questions we receive at OHSBL each year.

Q: Can a local association set up a web site in which any of the trademarks of OHSBL are used?

A: Yes, providing the Charter Holder in which they are playing is in good standing with OHSBL and only after receiving annual written permission from OHSBL.

Q: If a manager, coach or umpire is returning from previous years, does the person automatically return to the same position in the next year?

A: Volunteers in the OHSBL program do not have tenure, regardless of the years of service. In order to serve, the Charter must approve a manager, coach or umpire. The Charters have the right to establish a selection process.

Q: Can a Charter or Local Association release its rights to a player who lives within its boundaries, allowing that player to participate in another OHSBL Program?

A: A Charter or Local Association does not have the authority to release such rights. The OHSBL Executive Committee has final approval for a properly submitted release of this kind (Rule XIV). If the OHSBL Executive Committee votes to grant a release, the Charter Holder will be informed in writing. Releases, if granted, are for the current season only.

Q: If a parent signs a notarized statement granting temporary custody of a child to a friend or other family member, can that friend or family member's residence be used for registering a child to play in OHSBL?

A: No. The ONLY acceptable documentation regarding a change of custody is COURT ORDERED CUSTODY, a decree issued by a judge who has jurisdiction in the matter.

Q: Does the Charter Holder or Local Association have the authority to grant a waiver of a rule or regulation? Example: Could the Charter Holder or Local Association give permission for a Local Association to register players whose residence is outside the Charter Boundaries or Local Association boundaries?

A: The OHSBL Inc. Executive Committee is the only governing body that can rule on a waiver of a rule or regulation. No other person or group has this authority. If the Executive Committee votes to grant a waiver, the Charter Holder will be informed in writing. Releases, if granted, are for the current season only.

Q: How much does it cost to belong to OHSBL?

A: The Charter Fee, paid once per year to Ohio Hot Stove Baseball Inc. is \$150.00. Annual team fees are \$105.00 per team. Each Charter or Local Association must also provide adequate medical and liability insurance coverage. If the league purchases the insurance through OHSBL the cost is estimated between \$80 and \$119 per team, per season, depending upon the league classification. Detailed information on the insurance offered through OHSBL is available from the Executive Secretary. Charter operating fees vary.

Q: What is the difference between Regular Season and Tournament Play?

A: During the Regular Season and Tournament Play every eligible child in the league's boundaries is given the opportunity to participate on a team. Generally, the Regular Season begins in the spring and can last until August, but the starting and ending dates for the Regular Season vary with tournament games scheduled in late July and the beginning of August. Many of the rules and regulations are the same for Regular Season and Tournament Play. However, there are some exceptions, detailed in the Tournament Rules and Guidelines section of this book.

Q: What does it cost to participate in the OHSBL Inc. Tournament?

A: To participate in the District Tournament, it costs \$75.00. As a team advances in the Tournament to the Regional, it costs an additional \$75.00, and an additional \$75.00 to participate in the OHSBL finals. This does not include team fees established by local associations and charters.

Q: Are Background Checks required?

A: Yes. See XXIII

XIX - OFFICIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Rules and regulations that govern the conduct and operation for all league play established by OHSBL, Inc.

The Charter

A. The Charter Holder, if possible, will establish teams aligned with the following classifications and is the only unit of organization. Birth date requirements are listed under VIII.

- 1. The I league classification is to accommodate participants age 7-8.*
- 2. The HH league classification is to accommodate participants age 9.*
- 3. The H league classification is to accommodate participants age 9-10.*
- 4. The G league classification is to accommodate participants ages 11-12.*
- 5. The F league classification is to accommodate participants ages 13-14.*
- 6. The EE league classification is to accommodate participants ages 15-16.*
- 7. The E league classification is to accommodate participants ages 17-18.*
- 8. The D league classification is to accommodate participants ages 19 and older.*

B. The Charter shall be governed by the provisions set forth in its constitution and by-laws.

C. Each Charter shall:

1. Prepare, adopt and submit to OHSBL, a constitution consistent with all rules, regulations and polices of OHSBL.
2. Apply for and, if approved, be issued a Charter certificate.
3. Have separate boundaries as provided for, and approved by, the OHSBL and the Charter Holder.
4. Provide all players with conventional uniforms and caps as recommended, but hand-me-down type uniforms may be worn if so approved by the Charter. OHSBL shoulder patch (See rule 1.11A for specific placement).
5. Obtain Sports Accident and General Liability insurance through OHSBL or a private insurance

company. The said insurance shall name Ohio Hot Stove Baseball League, Inc. on the insurance policy, and the issuing company must provide an insurance certificate to Ohio Hot Stove Baseball League, Inc. which includes the \$ limits. The Minimum Insurance requirements are as follows:

- a. Sports Liability \$1,000,000.00 (Occurrence Liability Insurance)
 - b. Medical Accident Limits \$100,000 and:
 - c. Medical Expense Maximum (Excess), \$15,000 accidental death, \$50,000 accidental dismemberment & paralysis, \$5,000 dental maximum is the limit of the medical accident limits.
 - d. Sports Accident medical coverage to cover the personnel participating in a game should be \$100,000.
6. If insurance is purchased locally, a copy of the policy or insurance certificate(s) must be submitted to OHSBL, Inc. with the team rosters and Insurance form. If it's purchased from OHSBL, we'll have the information on file.
 7. Charters can, upon OHSBL approval, release their teams to other Charters if they do not have enough teams for a four-team league, or if they want to combine to form a larger, more competitive league.
 8. Charter Boundaries for selection of players must conform to those of the Charter Holder, approved by OHSBL, and those boundaries approved by the Charter Holder for its local associations.
 9. The Charter shall establish the number of players on each team with a maximum of 24 players on HH, H, G, & F classifications. Class EE, EE & D E may use an unlimited number of players. If the number exceeds 24 players, a team should use two roster forms. The Charter must have all rosters approved by OHSBL on or by the established dates as stated in the Charter calendar as listed on the inside of the back cover.
 10. If a charter does not support E, EE or D then these

teams come under the Control of the E-EE-D State Commissioner.

D. Charters must ensure that their managers' and coaches' abide by the Ohio State Concussion Law. See page 98 of the Rule Book for additional information.

CHARTER BOUNDARIES

A. Charter Boundaries for selection of players must conform to those of the Charter Holder approved by OHSBL, and those boundaries approved by the Charter Holder for their Local Associations.

XX - COMMERCIALIZATION

- A. Exploitation of OHSBL in any form or for any purpose is prohibited.
- B. Fund raising projects must be under adult supervision.
- C. A reasonable Charter participation fee may be assessed as a parent's obligation to assure the operational continuity of the local League. It is recommended that parents who are unable to pay a participation fee be encouraged to contribute volunteer time to the Charters or Local Associations.

XXI - FIELD DECORUM

- A. The actions of players, managers, coaches, umpires and league officials must be above reproach. Any player, manager, coach, umpire or league representative who is involved in a verbal or physical altercation, or an incident of unsportsmanlike conduct at the game site, or any other OHSBL activity, is subject to disciplinary action by the Charter Holder and OHSBL.
- B. Uniformed players, professional photographers see rule **3.16**, managers, coaches and umpires only shall

be permitted within the confines of the playing field just prior to and during games. Bat boy or bat girl is permitted, providing an approved batting helmet is worn for protection when entering the field of play. Except for the batter, base runners, and base coaches at first and third bases, all players shall be on their benches, in their dugouts or in the bull pen when the team is at bat. Bat boy/girl must be careful when entering the playing field. When the team is on defense, all reserve players shall be on their benches or in the bull pen.

- C. Two adult or player base coaches are permitted.
- D. A manager, player coach or coach shall not leave the bench or dugout except to confer with a player or an umpire and only after receiving permission from an umpire.
- E. The use of tobacco in any form is prohibited on the playing field, benches or dugouts. Class D exception: Smoking is not permitted on the playing field, dugouts or areas surrounding the field. This would include the use of cigars, cigarettes, pipes and vapor/ eCigs.
- F. The use of alcoholic beverages in any form is prohibited in the ball park.
- G. The use of any loud noise making devices operated mechanically or by air are prohibited in the ball park.
- H. Cell phones or other communication devices shall not be used on the field of play or in dugouts, except those used to respond to emergencies and identify themselves at ground rules. Electronic score keeping is permissible with these devices.

XXII - TOURNAMENT PLAY

These regulations apply to the OHSBL Tournament, which includes all classifications. (Exceptions for I league is on Page 78, OHSBL Playing Rules.)

- A. The OHSBL Executive Committee (depending on the number of teams) shall specify District,

Regional and State Final play.

- B. The tournament rules are published herein.
- C. Unless officially notified to the contrary by OHSBL Executive Committee, each District, Regional and State Final tournament sites shall assume full responsibility for expenses incurred in tournament competition that exceed the tournament fee assessed each team, less the administrative cost of \$5.00 per team.
- D. The cost per team to participate in the state single elimination tournament is a progressive cost as follows:
 - 1. District \$75.00
 - 2. Regional \$75.00
 - 3. State Final \$75.00.The total cost for single elimination through the State Final without a district is \$150.00. (If there is a district it is an additional \$75. When a team moves into the State Finals, it is the responsibility of the Manager to pay the State Finals fee to the Tournament Director.
- E. The Cost per team to participate in the state double elimination (EE, E and D) is \$210.00.

XXIII – BACKGROUND SCREENING

OHSBL has made it mandatory that all managers, coaches and charter affiliate officers have a background (check) screening. OHSBL has partnered with the Nation Center for Safety Initiatives (NCSI) to provide the services that we need to accomplish the background screening in the fairest way possible while at the same time maintaining complete privacy of information submitted to obtain the most accurate information that is available. All rejected (FLAGGED) applicants will have the opportunity to resolve any issues with NCSI without getting the Charter or OHSBL involved. A copy of the contract will be on file with OHSBL. Each charter will receive a copy of the OHSBL Volunteer Disqualifiers List.

- A. All managers, coaches, charter officers and Executive Committee will be required to have a current background check prior to the start of the 2022 season.
- B. It shall be the manager and charter's responsibility to ensure that the Background screenings are completed.
- C. If a person is FLAGGED, they cannot participate in

OHSBL until the issues that caused the flagging have been resolved with NCSI.

- D. Charter and OHSBL will maintain a list of all screened participants that will have no detailed information except name, NCSI ID # and the indication of a FLAGGED (means you were rejected) and a CLEARED (means you passed the screening.)
- E. Any disputes that may arise by a person being FLAGGED disqualified will be handled by the person being disqualified and NCSI.
- F. OHSBL will set up the accounts that will be necessary for payment and tracking purposes.
- G. All background checks through NCSI is self-pay. The only acceptable background check is the OHSBL program through NCSI. Check with your Charter for the proper procedure for doing your background check. Anyone that had a background check in 2021 will have a background recheck (2nd year) in 2022 at no cost. If your CLEARED is reversed to a FLAGGED your charter will notify you that you can no longer Coach. **The latest date for a new background check is June 1 of the current year. Keep in mind that any determination in 2020 is considered to be an expired background check and must re-apply in 2022. Charters should make sure that back-ground checks are completed prior to the first practice.**

TOURNAMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS

T15.01 TOURNAMENT PLAY

- A. All Tournament Directors are advised by the Executive Committee that no player may be added to a State Team Roster nor any player made eligible on any State Team Roster unless these teams and players have been approved by the Executive Committee. No changes or additions to any State Team Roster will be made by any Tournament Director upon the presentation of any birth record submitted by any Team Manager during tournament play regarding any player not approved by the Executive Committee due to said player being omitted on a State Team Roster or being ineligible due to a birth record not being submitted by the established dates.

T15.02 TEAM ELIGIBILITY

- A. No teams shall be eligible for OHSBL Tournament Play unless a State Team Roster (see XII) has been submitted to the OHSBL for the team as it stands as of established date of the current year.
- B. The District Tournament Directors shall receive all OHSBL Team Rosters from the State Executive Committee after the checking and approving of said rosters.
- C. The Regional Tournament Directors shall receive all OHSBL Rosters for those teams qualifying for Regional Play from District Tournament Directors.
- D. The State Tournament Director shall receive all State Team Rosters for all Teams qualifying for State Play, and said rosters shall be forwarded to the State Tournament Director by each Regional Tournament Director.
- E. Team age groups must conform to the OHSBL Rules and Regulations.
- F. A team shall be composed of players who enter OHSBL Tournament Play, and such players must be regular members of that team and certified as such on the roster. All approved teams must have played at least seven scheduled league games prior to the OHSBL

Tournament Drawing to be eligible for Tournament Play.

- G. A player in all classifications may play on only one OHSBL team. If a player plays on more than one baseball team not associated with OHSBL, they must play in at least 50% of their OHSBL played scheduled games played to be eligible to play in the OHSBL district, regional or final state tournament.

T15.03 TOURNAMENT ENTRY FEE

- A. An entry fee of \$75.00 single elimination and \$210.00 for double elimination (EE, E and D) must be paid for each team that is going to enter into Tournament play: The fees are to be sent to The OHSBL Executive Treasurer before established date of the current year. Forms will be furnished to all Charters to list their teams by roster names, manager's name, age class and number of eligible players. **PENALTY:** Teams that have not paid their entry fee by the required date will be ineligible for Tournament play. Tournament fees shall be refunded if a team withdraws by notifying the Charter, who will submit the proper form by the established deadline. There shall be no entry fee refunds after this deadline.
- B. When a team advances to regional or finals, the manager is responsible for paying an additional \$75.00 on each advancement to the Tournament Director.

T15.04 TOURNAMENT DRAWING

There shall be no refund of any entry fee if a team withdraws or is disqualified from Tournament play.

- A. It shall be the responsibility of each Tournament Director to notify the official Charter representative of each Charter participating in Tournament play of the details concerning the drawing. No drawing may be held unless every Charter has been notified.
- B. Each Manager is responsible for getting the information from their Charter Officer, as to the time and place of the drawing and have himself/herself, a

representative listed on the roster, or a Charter approved representative (in writing) must be present for the drawing. Failure to be present at the drawing will disqualify a team from participating in the tournament. **Note:** If no adults can be present for the drawing the Charter can assign an adult to draw for the team. There must be a written letter stating team name, person that will be drawing and the reason for no one on the roster being present for the drawing. The tournament director will approve the letter for the state and forward them to OHSBL. **NO ONE CAN DRAW FOR MORE THAN ONE TEAM IN EACH CLASSIFICATION.**

- C. Under no circumstances can a team be added to the Tournament after the drawing is underway.
- D. The pre-tournament drawing for (E, EE and D) shall be conducted by the State E/EE/D League Commissioner. Drawing for all other classifications shall be conducted as follows:
1. All League play will be used to determine seeds. Each division must have a minimum of six (6) teams to qualify as a division seed. The definition of a league will be a minimum of four (4) teams. All leagues are entitled to one seed, but if a league has more than one division they must be made up of six (6) teams each.
 2. Each seeded team is determined by a point system established by local league standings as of midnight the 48 hours before drawing.
 3. Teams participating in a tournament draw for a Charter that is different from their regular season play will receive a top seed only if they won the respective division in which their regular season games were played.
 - Teams traveling to another Charter to play tournament games that do not receive a top seed will be seeded accordingly with remaining seeds.

E. Point System

1. Each team will get one point per official game played
 2. Winning team will receive two points each game (plus the one point for playing)
 3. Losing team will receive zero points each game (plus the one point for playing)
 4. In the event of a regulation game that is tied and cannot be completed, each team will receive 1 points (plus the one point for playing)
 5. In classes where there are scheduled bye dates, where teams do not have an even amount of scheduled games, teams will receive two points per scheduled bye (as not to penalize a team for circumstances beyond their control.)
 6. In the event of a forfeit, the offending team receives zero points while the winning team receives three points.
- F. Top Seeded Teams
1. Each division in an age group will have number one seed, pursuant to the Ohio Hot Stove Rule Book. In classes that have more than one division, the overall tournament seed will be determined by the same criteria for breaking ties, as described below. Divisional number one seeds may choose to go on the bracket once their time to choose occurs, or opt to pass until after the next team selects their bracket location.
- G. Remaining Seeds
1. Teams that do not receive a number one seed in the division will be placed into a pool of all remaining teams, regardless of division. Teams will then be ranked, based on the tie breaker system below. Their ranking will then determine their tournament draw position. Teams that do not receive number one seeds must go on the bracket when their draw number is up and may not pass.
- H. Tie Breaker System
1. Total Points

2. Overall Winning Percentage
 3. Head to Head (if two teams are tied)
 - If three or more teams are tied then if one team has defeated all of the other teams involved, they win the tie breaker and the remaining teams continue to #4. If not, go to #4)
 4. Best Divisional Winning Percentage
 5. Least Runs Allowed
 6. Coin Toss
- I. Once the seeds have been determined and certified by the Ohio Hot Stove Executive Committee, no changes may be made.
 - J. Once number one seeds are determined and placed in order, overall number one seed may choose to go on the board or pass. Remaining number one seeds subsequently may then choose to go on the board or pass. This will continue until all number one seeds have had a choice to go on the board or pass.
 - K. Once all number one seeds have had their choice to go on the board, remaining seeds will then choose their bracket location. They must go on the board when their draw position is due.
 - L. If any number one seeds have not gone on the board, they have the option to go on or pass after each subsequent team chooses their bracket location. This will continue until all number one seeds are on the board.
 - M. The tournament draw will continue until all teams are on the board.
 - N. Once the tournament draw has started, it may not restart.

T15.05 TIME SCHEDULE OF GAMES

- A. This schedule is set at the Pre-Tournament Drawing with at least a two and one-half hour playing time allowed for each seven innings (THIS RULE IS MANDATORY). NOTE: In the event any game is completed in a shorter time, the Tournament Director

- may start the next scheduled game before said scheduled time providing all teams have reported and are ready to play.
- B. Team Managers, Assistant Managers or Coaches shall report with their roster at least one hour prior to the scheduled time their team is to play to the Tournament Headquarters to notify the Tournament Officials that they are on hand. Each Manager shall report on each day he/she is scheduled to play. This must be done in order that the Tournament Officials can supply each team Manager with any notices regarding field changes, time changes and his/her issuing eligibility forms. No protests will be allowed regarding any field changes if any Team Official fails to report as required. **Penalty:** Team will forfeit the right to choose home or away for that game. If a manager violates this rule a second time during the tournament, additional disciplinary action may be taken by the Executive Committee.
- C. Scheduled games may be postponed due to weather conditions or darkness and must be rescheduled. **(NOTE:** No game is to be called on account of rain without waiting a reasonable period of time to make sure game is not playable. Minimum time is thirty (30) minutes. Team Managers shall report to the Tournament Headquarters immediately to receive instructions on a field change or rescheduling. **NOTE:** Do not allow your players to leave until the Tournament Director has made a decision. This requirement is necessary so that there will be no misunderstanding nor any misinformation being relayed to the Managers of the Teams involved. Tournament Directors shall enforce this requirement, and any Managers that fail to report as required, shall forfeit all right to protest that they were not properly notified as to the rescheduling of such game. No exceptions to this rule shall apply.
- D. The visiting team is allowed fifteen (15) minutes warmup before the home team and the home team is

allowed fifteen (15) minutes warmup immediately before the scheduled game time. The manner in which this allotted time is used is left to the discretion of the Manager and Coaches. **NOTE:** All Managers and Coaches shall adhere to this rule and no team shall be allowed to be on the playing field the day of any scheduled Tournament game for any reason for warm-up until their allotted time as outlined above. The Tournament Officials are responsible for enforcing this rule.

- E. In the event that, due to weather conditions, games must be scheduled that do not allow for the allotted time of warm- up period to the teams, the Field Director has the authority to waive all regulations under this requirement. This shall assist all Tournament Officials to have all fields playable by eliminating the allotted warmup time for all teams.
- F. Managers are cautioned to insure that their pitchers are given plenty of warm-up time.
- G. No team shall be scheduled to play more than one game in one day either in District, Regional or State tournament play except upon written agreement by the Managers of teams involved. Executive Committee, if necessary, a team may play two games in one day in order to complete a District or State Tournament. Interpretation of this rule is meant for Double Headers. Two scheduled seven (7) inning games (6 inning for HH, H) include suspended games. Tournament director can schedule the completion of suspended game and a full 7 inning game (6 inning for HH, H) in the same day. **NOTE:** Whenever a team agrees to play more than one game in one day during Tournament play, the second game shall be scheduled so as to allow the team at least (1) full hour rest between games. The fifteen (15) minute warm-up period that is allowed teams shall not be included in the required one (1) full hour rest period. Pitching rules shall be enforced.
- H. When two bracket winners are decided in District

- Tournament, there shall be no playoff to decide the District Champion.
- I. No OHSBL Tournament game shall be scheduled to start prior to 9:00 A.M. on Saturdays and 11:30 A.M. on Sundays. (EXCEPTION: Due to weather conditions and at the discretion of the tournament director Sunday games can start at 10:00 AM.
- J. Team Managers are urged to check the time for all scheduled games, and no formal protest will be allowed for failure to do so. In the event that, due to travel conditions, a team is unable to arrive in time to play its scheduled game, the manager is responsible for notifying the Tournament Director regarding this situation. The Tournament Directors have been so instructed and will give all possible consideration to each team regarding this type of delay and have the authority to adjust the time regarding the playing of this game. Additional consideration must be given to the team that has reported and is ready to play. Final decision lies with the Tournament Director. No appeals to the Executive Committee for decisions made covering this situation will be accepted.
- K. Any Manager taking undue advantage of Section 1 shall be subject to any action deemed necessary by the OHSBL Executive Committee.
- L. An allotted warm up time of ten (10) minutes will be extended to any team that has been delayed due to travel conditions provided the proper procedure has been followed by the Manager, and the game has been temporarily delayed by the Tournament Director.
- M. No Tournament game shall be started after 7:00 P.M. on a field without lights or after 9:00 P.M. on a field with lights. Starting time for a game is when the umpire calls "Play Ball."
- N. In the event that weather conditions or darkness cause the postponement of any OHSBL game, or in the event that a game must be replayed due to a protest, the Tournament Director shall reschedule the playing of such game on a date, at such a location and at such time that he deems it appropriate in order to complete

Tournament play as scheduled. **NOTE:** Due consideration must be given to the teams involved when scheduling or rescheduling any game, regarding [Rule 8.10](#) pitching. All decisions made by the Tournament Director are final and are not subject to protest.

T15.06 HOME TEAM

- A. This is determined by the seed of teams. The team with the lower seed may choose home or away for all regional games. For State semi-final and State final games where the Class has more than one region, a coin toss will be used, with the team traveling the longest distance will call the toss. The winner of the coin toss will have the right to choose to be the home or away team.
- B. The home team's player's bench shall be located on the first base side of the playing field, and the visiting team's player's bench shall be located on the third base side of the playing field for tournament play.

T15.07 PLAYER LINE-UPS

- A. All line-ups shall be handed to the Field Director fifteen (15) minutes prior to scheduled game time. Line-up for HH, H, and G League must include those players needed to match each team's number of players for the two-inning rule. Example: If one team has twelve (12) players and the other has fifteen (15), each team must list the starting nine (9) and at least three (3) of its subs. These are the players that meet the two-inning rule. All line-ups shall be accompanied by Form OHS 10 submitted and signed by the Tournament Director or authorized Tournament Official stating the eligibility of all players. Proper notification by the Field Director shall be relayed to the Manager at this time stating any player that is ineligible to participate in Tournament play.
- B. All subs and pitching changes (either from the field or bench) must be reported to official scorer at the time they are entering the game or position on offense or defense.
 - 1. A Tournament Director or authorized Tournament Official shall, at any time that it is discovered that a manager of record has failed to report all changes at the time they are made, cause the manager of record

to be ejected from the game and suspended from participating in the next tournament game. If a manager of record violates this rule the second time, the suspension shall be for the remainder of the tournament, and additional disciplinary action may be taken by the Executive Committee. All pitching rules are to be enforced.

T15.08 LEGAL GAMES

The following shall govern all regulation games. See [Rule 3.22](#) for HH, H and I league requirements on [Page 85](#):

1. Regulation games shall be seven (7) innings. 6 inning for I, HH and H Leagues.
2. If a tie score results at the end of seven (7) innings 6 inning for Class I, HH and H the game shall continue into extra innings until a winner is declared.
3. An official game shall be declared if, at the end of five (5) or more full innings the visiting team is ahead by ten (10) or more runs, or if at the end of 4 1/2 innings or more the home team is ahead by ten (10) runs or more. It shall be an official game.
4. An official game shall be declared if after a full two (2) hour playing time, a team is ten (10) or more runs ahead. Full inning must be played unless the home team is leading at this time. Either the five (5)-inning rule or the two (2) hour playing time limit shall end a game determined by the ten (10) run rule.
5. All called games become suspended games and shall continue from the point when called. (All games must progress to a regulation game except in 3 and 4.)
6. Incomplete or suspended games in all league classifications for all District, Regional and State Tournament play may be moved to another field at the discretion of the Tournament Director.

T15.09 PLAYING RULES

A. All OHSBL Official Playing Rules, Regulations and I league rules on [Page 85](#) will be enforced.

T15.10 PLAYING FIELDS

- A. See [Rule 1.04](#) and [Rule 1.08](#)

- B. Players and substitutes of both teams shall confine themselves to their team benches.
- C. No one except players, substitutes, managers, coaches, team scorekeeper and one bat boy/girl shall occupy the team bench during a game.
- D. There shall be no intoxicating beverages on or within the vicinity of the playing field before, during or after the completion of any game.
- E. There shall be no smoking or use of smokeless tobacco such as chewing tobacco, snuff and etc. by anyone before or during a game as long as that person is within the playing limits of the field. **NOTE:** No protests of games will be allowed regarding any of the above sections of this rule. When any section of this rule is being violated, it shall be brought to the attention of any Official present, and in a situation where it can be corrected, such steps shall be taken to correct it. When any situation cannot be corrected, a report by the Official shall be submitted to the OHSBL Executive Committee for further action that is deemed necessary.

T15.11 SERVICES AND EQUIPMENT FURNISHED BY THE TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS

- A. The Tournament Directors shall furnish a central location to which teams must report and obtain any information.
- B. The District, Regional and State Tournament Directors shall furnish competent adult field directors, official scorekeeper, baseballs, bases and rosin bags. Each team shall furnish its own practice balls. Official scorers shall score in the official score book and prepare box scores. **NOTE:** No State, Regional or District Tournament game shall start or be played unless an **Official Field Director** is present.
- C. The Tournament Directors shall approve all assignments of competent Umpires to all scheduled games. Such assignments shall be made by the Supervisor of Umpires of the Charter Holder conducting District

Tournament play. For Regional or State Tournament play, such assignments shall be made by the State Assignment Committee made up of the President, Executive Committee Member at large and State Chief Umpire with the help of Supervisor of Umpires for all regional sites. The assignments of umpires shall be made consistent with the ability of the individual to adhere to all OHSBL Rules and Regulations and their ability to conduct themselves in accordance with the standards set forth by the OHSBL Executive Committee. District Tournament Directors may use 16-17 year old umpires for H and HH league and 14-17 year old umpires for I league only.

- D. In Regional play, the local Charter Supervisor of Umpires, once the State Assignment Committee has made assignments, shall supervise, replace and substitute when umpires do not show up or other circumstances of an immediate nature exist.
- E. The OHSBL shall furnish Tournament Directors all trophies and awards for presentation to all Tournament Finalists and Runners-up and State Tournament Winners and Runners-up.
- F. All OHSBL Tournament Directors shall furnish competent Adult Field Directors at all playing field locations in order that they can supervise each game and handle all matters that are prescribed for them by the OHSBL Executive Committee. No Field Director may overrule any Umpire in any decision that relates to the duties of the Umpire, which governs the actual playing of the game under regular OHSBL baseball rules.
- G. NO TOURNAMENT officials may enter the playing field area in muscle shirts or any other clothing that does not give normal dress appearance. Tournament officials are permitted to wear shorts.
- H. In situations where Tournament Directors or any official member of a Tournament Staff are not carrying out their duties as prescribed by the OHSBL Executive Committee, such violations must be submitted to the

Executive Committee for their prompt attention to take any action they deem necessary in order to correct any situation that may hinder the completion of any Tournament play.

T15.12 FILING PROTESTS

- A. Protests based on the misinterpretation of a published rule and regulation or the misinterpretation of a playing rule governed by the current Official Baseball Playing Rules will be received and considered. The failure of a field director and/or Umpire to apply the proper penalty for a certain violation of prescribed rules and regulations would be protestable.
- B. Protests that relate to Hot Stove League Rules and Regulations must be made to the plate umpire at the time of the incident. In all cases, play shall not be resumed until the Umpire-in-Chief has notified the field director or authorized official and the official scorekeeper. In any of the mentioned situations, the teams must be notified by either the Umpire-in-Chief or the field director or authorized official present, as to the nature of any protest.
- C. No manager shall be denied the right to protest provided he/ she has followed the requirements as stipulated. It is the responsibility of the Manager protesting to know the requirements relating to the filing of protest as well as to which rule can be protested.
- D. All verbal and written accounts of protests must be related to OHSBL Rules and Regulations that govern the actual playing of the game. Such verbal and written accounts must be in detail and must quote the rule number and page being protested.
- E. During Tournament play a written account of any protest and \$75.00 fee must be given to the plate Umpire or Tournament Director at the time of the actual protest. Game ending protests: **(a)** A verbal protest must be communicated to the tournament director within 10 minutes after the game has ended. **(b)** The written account of the protest must be in the hands of the tournament director within two hours of the game

- ending play.
- F. If the protest is won and the game must be replayed from the point of protest, or the game is forfeited; the protest fee is returned to the Manager filing the protest. If the protest is denied, the fee goes into the Tournament fund.
- G. Umpires shall make note of the protest on the official score sheet and shall file a full account of the incident with the Tournament Director during tournaments and Local League Officials during Local League Play. All umpires, field directors, scorekeepers, and managers (both teams) shall make themselves available for a protest meeting. The protest committee shall consist of at least five (5) persons. Chairperson and Secretary will be agreed upon. IN TOURNAMENT PLAY, A PROTEST COMMITTEE CONSISTING OF FIVE (5), AND FIVE (5) ALTERNATE PEOPLE MAY BE SET UP FOR EACH OF THE TOURNAMENT SITES. Protest Committee for the State finals will consist of (5) members of the Executive Committee. The protest shall be read, all concerned parties shall be invited to speak and the committee shall complete its deliberations. During Tournament games, a committee consisting of at least five members may meet and decide a protest with the game being held up until a decision is made. The protest fee must be paid at the time of the protest. The protesting Manager must write down exactly what is being protested. The Tournament Director shall notify all persons affected by the protest committee he/ she has followed the requirements as stipulated. It is the responsibility of the Manager protesting to know the requirements relating to the filing of protest as well as to which rule can be protested. If a protest is won and not an automatic forfeit, the game must be resumed from the point of the violation regardless of whether or not the protest committee believes the protest had any bearing on the eventual outcome of the contest. OHSBL Executive Committee will not consider nor act upon an appeal regarding any decision that is rendered by any Local Charter, District or State Tournament protest committee, unless such decision is in

direct violation of any adopted rule or regulation that governs all play. A protest must be filed properly to be acted upon. No appeal of any nature can be submitted to the local or state organization for their consideration unless the procedure of filing a protest has been complied with. Protests can be acted upon only when properly presented. There are no exceptions. The Protest Committee shall have the exclusive right to determine whether all steps involved in a protest have been followed sufficiently well for it to resolve the protest in a just manner. **NOTE:** The time of incident shall mean that exact point that any situation occurs to cause the Manager to bring this to the attention of the Umpire-in-Chief, Field Director, or Authorized Official. Protest shall be denied if they are made after the next pitch, which follows the incident. In situations where no further pitch will follow due to the ending of a game by a run, the time allotted for a verbal protest shall not exceed ten (10) minutes after completion of the game (Protest fee must be paid at this time). Written account of the protest must be submitted to tournament director no later than two hours after the end of the game. Protests shall be considered on the following: 1. Protests based on the misinterpretation of a playing rule will be received and considered. 2. The failure of an Umpire to apply the proper rule to a given situation or to impose the proper penalty for a certain violation of rules would be protestable.

- H. Only fraudulent roster information will be considered for protest after 2nd Sunday in June of the current year.

T15.13 UMPIRES

- A. For Tournament play Charter Holders may submit a list of qualified umpires to be assigned for Tournament play. Charter Umpire-in-Chief will use this list to select the necessary umpires for their tournament site. **FOR STATE FINAL TOURNAMENT:** Each Tournament Director/ Head Umpire will submit a list of qualified umpires to be assigned for State Tournament play. The State Umpire Assignment Committee (State Umpire in

- Chief, President, and Secretary Treasurer) approve umpire assignments.
- B. No Umpire involved in a protest shall be permitted to serve on a Protest Committee.
 - C. Tournament games. Two umpires will work district games. **Two** umpires will be scheduled for all regional games with the exception of the regional finals. **Three** umpires should be scheduled for all regional final games. **Four** umpires (**Three** umpires for Class I) should be scheduled for all State Semi-Final and Championship games, and shall be furnished by the State Umpire-in-Chief. For State Tournament play such assignments shall be made by the OHSBL Assignment Committee, made up of the President, Executive Secretary-Treasurer and the State Umpire-in-Chief. Fourteen (14) through seventeen (17) year old umpires can be used for District Tournament play (I, HH and H league only).
 - D. No OHSBL Tournament game shall be played unless the required number of Umpires of the Approved Tournament Umpires Staff scheduled to work the game are in attendance. Such games shall be rescheduled by the Tournament Director, and at such time when he can furnish the required number of Umpires to work this. A scheduled game shall be delayed until the requirements as stipulated above are adhered to, and such time of delay shall be up to the discretion of the tournament director. There are no exceptions to this rule.
 - E. All umpires shall submit to the Tournament Director a complete report of any ejection from a game of any Manager, Assistant Manager, Coach or player. Use supplied form.
 - F. All Umpire groups of each Charter Holder should endeavor to be recognized as an approved association by being registered with the OHSBL Organization. Each Charter Holder should submit to the Executive Committee of the OHSBL Organization an application to have their umpire organization approved and on file

- so that, in the future, when tournament sites are approved and awarded, those Charter Holders who have approved umpire organizations will be eligible for a tournament site.
- G. All umpires wishing to umpire in OHSBL Tournaments shall submit a completed umpire data sheet to their Charter Chief Umpire prior to the start of the tournament games, who in turn will forward data sheets to the OHSBL Umpire in Chief. This is the responsibility of either the Local Charter President or the Charter Supervisor of Umpires.
 - H. The OHSBL Umpire-in-Chief has the authority to enforce OHSBL rules for Tournament and League Play and carry out any other directive as set forth by OHSBL Executive Committee.
 - I. Prior to start of the game, Coach/Manager shall be responsible for verifying to the Chief Umpire that all his players are equipped in compliance with OHSBL rules. Any question regarding legality of a players' equipment shall be resolved by the crew chief.
 - J. Official umpire patches. To receive an official patch, an umpire must pass both the rules and field test covering one, two and three man systems, which will include the proper use of hand and verbal signals. The OHSBL Umpire-in-Chief will be responsible for making up the test and appointing qualified people to administer the tests.
 - K. Mandatory tournament umpires meeting will be held at each of the tournament sites under the direction of the State Umpire-in-Chief. These meetings will be held prior to the OHSBL tournament.
 - L. **UMPIRES DRESS UNIFORM**
Black shoes, shined & with black laces. (Single white stripe on the side is permissible.)
Socks - black or dark blue
Trousers - gray with black belt.
Shirt - Major League Replica Black pull over shirt to be worn at all tournament games. Only OHSBL patches are to be attached to the sleeve(s) of your

shirt. If a tee shirt is worn it must be red.

Cap - Regulation black or dark blue cap shall be worn by all umpires with the bill of the cap always to the front. All Caps shall be plain or may have an OHSBL or Charter insignia on the front. Exception: Plate umpires who elect to wear a hockey style helmet will not be required to wear a cap. Helmets shall be plain or have an Insignia or lettering approved by OHSBL or the Charter.

Uniforms and equipment shall be clean and neat. Chest protector, mask with throat protector, shin guards, indicator, protective cup and a short brush are a must. Shin guards must be worn underneath trousers.

No jewelry shall be worn that can cause a reflection on the field.

An umpire shall not fraternize with coaches, managers, players, spectators or any field personnel. In the final analysis, the success or failure of the Hot Stove League rests to a large degree on the quality of the Umpire Corps. Good umpiring will foster more interest from the boys, more help and cooperation from the parents and more aid from the community in general. Bad umpiring will destroy anything we have built to date.

T15.14 CELL PHONES

Cell phones or other communication devices shall not be used on the field of play or in dugouts, except those that respond to emergencies and identify themselves at ground rules. Cell Phones are not considered part of your uniform. Put it in your pocket.

T15.15 INTERPRETATIONS

The Rules, Regulations and any Rule supplements governing all play as adopted shall be interpreted only by the **State Rules Interpreter** as approved by the Executive Committee of the OHSBL Organization. All interpretations are final. All requested rule interpreter must be done in writing.

LINDSAY'S LAW

Lindsay's Law is about Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) in youth athletes. This law went into effect in 2017. SCA is the leading cause of death in student athletes 19 years of age or younger. SCA occurs when the heart suddenly and unexpectedly stops beating. This cuts off blood flow to the brain and other vital organs. SCA is fatal if not treated immediately.

The following resources were developed to implement Lindsay's Law:

For parents/guardians and youth athletes:

- [Required video](#)
- [Required SCA Informational Handout](#)
- [Required Signature Form](#)

Lindsay's Law requires both the youth athlete and parent/guardian to acknowledge receipt of information about Sudden

Cardiac Arrest by signing a form. Charters must ensure compliance by all athletes. Forms can be found at <https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/know-our-programs/lindsays-law/lindsays-law>.

OHIO STATE CONCUSSION LAW IN YOUTH SPORTS

It is the responsibility of the Charters to ensure that all of their Managers, Coaches and Umpires abide by the Ohio Concussion return to play law, which went into effect on April 26, 2013. Law requires an update every 3 years.

Charters must do the following:

- 1 Follow up and make sure that your managers, coaches and umpires take their Free NHFS Concussion Course. Links for this web site under news. The course is good for two years. Any one that has taken the course through their high school is acceptable.
- 2 Charter can verify the completion of the course by going to the NHFS Concussion Course web site and go to the (COACHES SEARCH). If a person has a current school pupil activity permit this is proof that they have completed the course.

- 3 Charter should provide each parent/guardian and athletes with a copy of the **Ohio department of health concussion information sheet for youth sports organizations.** You can do this at sign up or the manager must pass it out at the team meeting. Link to obtain this form is on the OHSBL.com web site under news.
- 4 If needed you may have to show proof that you have completed this concussion course as required by Ohio Law. Those that are going to participate in youth sports must abide by this law. Do not put this off. Take the concussion course before your first practice.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PROCEDURES

While Risk of one athlete infecting another with HIV/AIDS during competition is close to nonexistent, there is a remote risk that other blood born infectious diseases can be transmitted. For example, Hepatitis B can be present in the blood as well as in other body fluids. Procedures for reducing the potential for transmission of these infectious agents should include, but not be limited to the following:

- 1 The bleeding must be stopped, the open wound covered and if there is excessive amount of blood on the uniform, it must be changed before the athlete may participate.
- 2 Routine use of gloves or other precautions to prevent skin and mucous membrane exposure when contact with blood or other body fluids is anticipated.
- 3 Immediately wash hands and other skin surfaces if contaminated (in contact) with blood or other body fluids. Wash hands immediately after removing gloves.
- 4 Clean all contaminated surfaces and equipment with an appropriate disinfectant before competition resumes.
- 5 Practice proper disposal procedures to prevent injuries caused by insulin needles and other medical instruments or devices.
- 6 Although saliva has not been implicated in HIV transmission, to minimize the need for emergency mouth to mouth resuscitation, mouth pieces, resuscitation bags, or other ventilation devices should be available for use.

- 7 All team personnel with bleeding or oozing skin conditions should refrain from all direct athletic contact until the condition is corrected.
- 8 Contaminated towels should be properly disposed of, or disinfected.
- 9 Follow acceptable guidelines in the immediate control of bleeding and when handling bloody dressing, mouth guards and other articles containing body fluids.
- 10 If treatment can be administered in a reasonable amount of time, the individual would not have to leave the game. The length of time that is reasonable is an umpire's judgement call. If a player must be removed from the game for treatment, the re-entry rule will be enforced. Uniform requirements, if necessary, will be suspended when this is enforced.

ADA

Ohio Hot Stove Baseball League, Inc. will intervene in all matters related to any Permanent Disability that may cause any exceptions to our rules and regulations as stated in Constitution and rule book and must be presented to the OHSBL Executive Committee for their review. Any ruling handed down by the Committee will affect only the Player/Guardian that is making the request.

- 1 Charters are responsible for forwarding any requests to the Executive Secretary, whose name and address is listed under the State Organization.
- 2 All requests must be done in writing. Detailed explanation will be required.
- 3 If the Executive Committee requires a hearing, all parties must make themselves available.
- 4 Time is very important. Do not delay in getting the request to Executive Committee. In the event the Charter is not responsive to a request by a Player or Guardian, they can make their request directly to the Executive Committee. This is in no way meant to supersede Charter Policies in selecting players, but it is intended to remove any obstacles that may be in your way as related to those that may fall into a category of having a permanent disability, and the current

rules prevent them from playing. Correspondence and any hearing minutes will be held in the possession of the Executive Secretary.

INSURANCE GUIDELINES FOR ABUSE AND MOLESTATION

1. No staff member of the team shall inflict or cause to inflict any physical punishment on any participant enrolled in the OHSBL baseball program. "Physical Punishment" includes, but is not limited to, spanking, striking the participant anywhere on the body with the hand or an object even once, pushing or shoving of a participant, or flicking with the finger. No staff member of the team shall direct any other person or participant to inflict any form of physical punishment on another participant.
2. All staff members of the team will use clear and appropriate language when addressing participants. No rude, off color, personal remarks, or name-calling is to be done, and they shall not make comparisons of participants to other persons or objects.
3. No staff member of the team shall touch or cause anyone else to touch another participant in a manner that would be considered "Molestation". This includes touching, rubbing, caressing, any areas of a participant's bottom, genital areas or breast areas.
4. No staff shall cause a child to touch, rub, caress, or perform any physical action that would involve a participant touching any part of the staff member's body.
5. All staff shall watch for participants engaging in any action with another participant that would include physical contact in an inappropriate manner such as listed above.
6. Staff members should not put themselves in a situation where they are alone with a child in a private area such as, but not limited to, a bathroom.
7. If any observations or allegations of misconduct or molestation are known, the staff member is required to report it to the office immediately.

SAFETY CODE

- 1 Responsibility for safety procedures should be that of an adult member of the local league.
- 2 Arrangements should be made in advance of all games and practices for emergency medical services.
- 3 Managers, coaches and umpires should have some training in first aid. First Aid Kit should be available at the field.
- 4 No game or practice should be held when weather or field conditions are not good, particularly when lighting is inadequate. When lightning is spotted, the game will be delayed one half hour from the time the lightning is spotted. Time is started over from each time lightning is spotted.
- 5 Play area should be inspected frequently for holes, damage, glass and other foreign objects.
- 6 Dugouts and bat racks should be positioned behind screens.
- 7 Only players, managers, coaches and umpires are permitted on the playing field during play and practice sessions.
- 8 Responsibility for keeping bats and loose equipment off the field of play should be that of a regular player assigned for this purpose. Batters must wear protective helmets during practice, as well as during games.
- 9 Procedures should be established for retrieving foul balls batted out of the playing area.
- 10 During practice sessions and games, all players should be alert and watching the batter on each pitch.
- 11 During warm up drills, players should be spaced so that errant balls endanger no one.
- 12 Equipment should be inspected regularly. Make sure it fits properly.
- 13 Pitching machines, if used, must be in good working order (including extension cords, outlets, etc.) and must be operated only by adult managers and coaches.
- 14 Batters and catchers must wear protective helmets during games, as well as during practice.
- 15 Catchers must wear catcher's helmet, face mask with throat guard, this applies on the field and in the bull pen.
- 16 Except when runner is returning to base, head first slides should be discouraged.
- 17 During sliding practice bases should not be strapped down.
- 18 At no time should "horse play" be permitted on the playing field.
- 19 Parents of players who wear glasses should be encouraged to provide safety glasses.
- 20 Players must not wear watches, rings, jewelry or other metallic items.
- 21 Players who are ejected, ill or injured should remain under the supervision of an adult until released to the parent or guardian.

2022 CHARTER CALENDAR

Date	Time	Description	Location
Sunday, October 10, 2021	10:00 AM	OHSBL Annual Meeting - Stow Youth Baseball Hall, 4157 Hudson Dr., Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44224	Stow
Sunday, February 13, 2022	11:00 AM	1st State Meeting - Location TBA -Baseball Distribution	TBA
Saturday, April 9, 2022	11:00 AM	2nd State Meeting - OSIBAS - 8540 Root Rd., North Ridgeville, OH 44039 -Roster Deadline for I, HH, H, G, F to State	North Ridgeville
Sunday, April 24, 2022	9:00 AM	Roster review for I, HH, H, G, F	TBD
Sunday, May 22, 2022	Midnight	-Roster and Fee Deadline for EE, E and D -Deadline for I, HH, H, G, F Revised Rosters -Deadline for tournament fees (all classifications) -Deadline for tournament fees refund	OHSBL
Sunday, May 29, 2022	9:00 AM	-Roster review for EE, E and D -Revised roster review for I, HH, H, G, F -Tournament assignment	TBD
Sunday, June 12, 2022	TBA	3rd State meeting - Location TBA -Informational meeting for tournament directors and head umpires will meet after the regular state meeting. Charters are encouraged to stay for this meeting. -Final Roster review for EE, E and D	TBD
Sunday, June 12, 2022	Midnight	Revised Roster deadline for EE, E and D	OHSBL
Saturday, June 25, 2022	TBA	Tournament Drawing - Lorain County	Lorain
Sunday, June 26, 2022	TBA	Tournament Drawing - Alliance, EE, E and D	TBD
Sunday, June 26, 2022	TBA	Deadline for 2023 proposed rule changes	OHSBL
Sat/ Sun., July 9-10, 2022	TBA	Regional Tournament - I-D	Various Sites
Sat/ Sun., July 16-17, 2022	TBA	Regional Tournament - I-D	Various Sites
Sat/ Sun., July 23-24, 2022	TBA	State Finals	Alliance
Sunday, August 21, 2022	9:00 AM	Rules committee review of the proposed changes	TBD
Sunday, October 9, 2022	10:00 AM	OHSBL Annual Meeting	TBD

The deadline dates, as published, are dates that the charters must adhere to so that OHSBL Executive Committee has adequate time to meet necessary administrative and supervision obligations. Charters must establish their dates and allow sufficient time so that all League Commissioner and OHSBL deadlines are met.

Local Officials, Managers, Coaches and Umpires, only, are invited to request, in writing, a rule interpretation at any time. Only the OHSBL Rule Interpreter can provide an official rule interpretation. If anyone other than the OHSBL rule interpreter provides an interpretation it is an opinion of the individual providing the information and as such is not an official interpretation.

OHSBL RULE INTERPRETER

LOU VASI

6381 Avon Belden Road

North Ridgeville OH 44039

Phone 440-327-7628

EMAIL: lou@loraincountyhotstove.com

OHSBL UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF

RANDY HENDRICKSON

Phone 330-325-1957

EMAIL: ohsblchiefumpire@aol.com

Call Randy to schedule an umpire clinic

CHARTER CONTACTS

Alliance.....	Brian Burse	330-309-3797
Canton South.....	Andrew May	330-224-8205
Lorain County.....	Lou Vasi	440-823-2796
North Olmsted.....	Tom Lazar	330-461-2565
Ravenna	Ralph Townend	330-221-4708
Summit	Mike Engelhart	330-622-2377
Tri County.....	Pete Raga	330-446-0166