

2018 IMPORTANT DATES

Members are subject to a fine of \$5 for the first missed MANDATORY meeting and \$10 for each subsequent meeting missed. All classroom meetings will be held at Walker High School unless otherwise noted. Mechanics sessions will be held at the East Cobb Baseball Complex.

January 02 - Tues – 7PM - 9PM

1st year Umpires

*Mandatory Training Meeting**

Walker HS, Auditorium

January 06 - Sat – 10AM - 2PM

1st year Umpires

Mandatory Mechanics Session East Cobb Baseball Complex*

January 09 - Tues – 7PM - 9PM

1st and 2nd year Umpires

*Mandatory Training Meeting**

Walker HS, Auditorium

January 13 - Sat – 10AM - 2PM

1st and 2nd year Umpires

*Mandatory Mechanics Session**

East Cobb Baseball Complex

January 16 – Tues

1st and 2nd year Umpires 6PM – 7PM

All Umpires 7:00 PM – 9PM

Mandatory Training Meeting

Walker HS, Auditorium

****DEADLINE TO PAY DUES****

•• January 15 - February 7 ••

Mandatory GHSA Rules Clinic Online at www.ghsa.net

January 20 - Sat – 10AM - 2PM

All Umpires

*Mandatory Mechanics Session**

East Cobb Baseball Complex

•• January 24 - February 7 ••

Mandatory GHSA Exam Online at www.ghsa.net

January 22 – Mon

1st and 2nd year Umpires 6PM – 7PM

All Umpires 7PM – 9PM

*Mandatory Training Meeting**

Walker HS, Auditorium

January 27 - Sat – Times TBA

Live Mechanics Session – Time & Location TBA

1st – 3rd year – Crew of 2

4th year + - Crew of 3

January 30 – Tues

1st and 2nd year Umpires 6PM – 7PM

All Umpires 7PM – 9PM

*Mandatory Training Meeting**

Walker HS, Auditorium

February 06 – Tues

1st and 2nd year Umpires 6PM – 7PM

All Umpires 7PM – 9PM

*Mandatory Training Meeting**

Walker HS, Auditorium

February 12- Monday

Season Begins

April 17- Tues - All Officials 5:30 PM

Playoff Meeting Walker HS,

Auditorium

April 17- Tues - All Officials 7:30 PM

Mandatory Election Meeting

Walker HS, Auditorium

April 21 - Saturday

Season Ends

April 26 - May 23 – State Playoffs

June 5 - Tues - MUA Banquet

Pinetree County Club – Kennesaw

5:00 PM – Happy Hour

6:00 PM - Dinner

•• GHSA Varsity Credit Camps ••

\$50 pre-registration, NO WALK-UPS,

Registration closes 10 days before

each camp start date.

January 06 - Sat - 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

GHSA Umpire Camp @ Heritage Park,

McDonough, GA

January 13 - Sat - 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

GHSA Umpire Camp @ Banks Co HS, Homer, GA

January 13 - Sat - 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

GHSA Umpire Camp @ Greenbriar HS, Evans, GA

January 20 - Sat - 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

GHSA Umpire Camp @ Colquitt County HS,

Norman Park, GA

January 27 - Sat - 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

GHSA Umpire Camp @ River Ridge HS,

Woodstock, GA

January 27 - Sat - 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

GHSA Umpire Camp @ Toombs County HS,

Lyons, GA

February 3 - Sat - 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

GHSA Umpire Camp @ Norcross HS, Norcross, GA

February 3 - Sat - 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

GHSA Umpire Camp @ Veterans HS, Warner

Robins, GA

February 10 - Sat - 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

GHSA Umpire Camp @ Blessed Trinity HS,

Roswell, GA

MUA 2017 TRAINING SYLLABUS

January 2

Walker High School-7:00 PM

Auditorium

(1st yr Officials)

New Members Welcome, Orientation and Pictures

Training:

Introductions / Notebooks
MUA Training Goals
Training Schedule and Expectations
Umpire Signals & Terms
Dress Code / Equipment

Rules:

Rule Myths (Handout)
Using Rule & Case books

Assignments:

*Tobacco, Helmet, Jewelry / Int Base on Balls /
Thrown Bat / Conferences / Illegal Sub / Courtesy
Runner / Designated Hitter / Batting Out of
Order / Check Swing (3-2 w/runners on base) /
Dropped 3rd Strike (Runner gives up when?) /
Dead Ball/Live Ball / Base Awards / Foul Tip /
Batters Box/Illegal Slide / Obstruction /
Interference / Malicious Contact / Infield Fly / Hit
by Pitch / Appeals / Detached Players Equipment*

January 6

East Cobb Complex - 10:00 AM

Baseball Field/Cage

(1st yr Officials)

Warm UP -

Warm up – Calls: Foul/Fair, He’s Out/Safe, That’s a catch/No Catch,
On the Tag/No Tag, Off the Bag, Balk

Plate (Cage Work)

Calls

Put Ball In-Play, Balls & Strikes, Foul-Tip,
Strike 3 (Caught & Dropped), HBP

Soft Toss

Position: Slot
Stance: Heal-Toe/Scissors
Mechanics: Head Position & Height, Locked In, Flat Back, Head
Still, Ball and Strike mechanics. When to go set / Line of Sight
Outside corner @ the knee

Cage

Left & Right hitters (5-10 each), Put ball in play, Position/Stance,
Track ball w/eyes not head, Timing of Calls, Call Balls Down &
Strikes Up, 3rd Strike Call (Caught and Dropped)

Plate (Field Work)

Mechanics

Removing Mask / Put ball in play (start of game vs. after foul)
Fair/Foul (When & how to call), Foul Tip, Check Swing,
Clearing catcher: Foul back, Ground/Fly Ball,
Int.Walk – Base On Balls, Catchers Obs./Batter’s Int.

Signals

Signals: Staying Home, Rotation, Infield Fly, Timing Play,
Count?, Outs?, Infield-In, Fly Ball Coverage

Pitching Regulations

Wind-Up, Set & Hybrid Position, Clear and Discernable Stop,
Pivot Foot, Disengaging Pitcher’s Plate, Dropped Ball,
Pick-off Moves, Distance & Direction, Illegal Moves (Knee Pop),
Hidden Ball Trick

Wrap UP

Practice, practice, practice!
Q&A

January 9

Walker High School - 7:00 PM Auditorium

(1-2yr Officials)

Training:

Q&A
Equipment Review
Crew of 2 Mechanics

Rules:

*Tobacco, Helmet, Jewelry / Int Base on Balls /
Thrown Bat /Conferences / Illegal Sub / Courtesy
Runner*

Assignments:

Crew of 2 Mechanics

January 13

East Cobb Complex – 10:00 AM Individual Mechanics

(1-2yr Officials)

Warm UP

Warm up: Warm up – Calls: Foul/Fair,
He’s Out/Safe, That’s a catch/No Catch,
On the Tag/No Tag, Off the Bag, Balk

Base Work

Position A

**Ready Position: (10-12’: F3 / 12-15’:1b)
Angle & Distance: (15’-20’/90°) Call Position:**
Chest to bag, Turn head in front of ball-Watch foot
listen for catch (Eyes closed drill)
Calls: Out/Safe (routine/close play) / Errant throw
mechanics – On the tag, He’s Out! / Safe! Safe! No
Tag! / Safe! He’s off the bag!
Base Hit/Fly Ball: P-R-R, Go Out or Pivot

Position B/C

Position: Depth, angle and distance
Pick Off Mech: Make the call (routine/close)
Steal Mech: Pitch crosses plate/drop step/ let throw
take you to play
Base Hit Fly Ball: Working Area

Pivot Drill

1) Walk thru, 2) Run Thru, 3) Watch touch,
4) Find Ball & See Touch / Repeat

Plate Work

Review from 01/07

Position, stance and mechanics.

Cage Work

Left & Right hitters (5-10 each)
Put ball in play/Position/Stance
Track ball w/eyes not head
Timing of Calls
Call Balls Down & Strikes Up
3rd Strike Call (Caught and Dropped)

Wrap UP

Body Language / Perception is Reality
Q&A

Warm UP All

Warm up: Warm up – Calls: Foul/Fair, He's Out/Safe, That's a catch/No Catch, On the Tag/No Tag, Off the Bag, Balk

Crew of 2 No Runners On

PU/Base - Position A

Fair or Foul Coverage
Fly Ball/Pop Up Coverage
Base Hit
Ground Ball

Drills

Ground Ball
Fly Ball/Base Hit
Fly Ball – BU goes out / Fair or Foul

Runner on 1st

PU/Base - Position B

Fair or Foul Coverage
Fly Ball/Pop Up Coverage
Base Hit - Rotation (Also-1st & 2nd < 2 outs)
Ground Ball
Pick Off & Steal/Rundown

Drills

Double Play Pick Off / Steal
Base Hit (Rotation)

Pitching Rules

Wind Up Position
Set Position
Balks & Illegal Pitches

Plate Work

Cage Work
Review from 01/07-14

Strike Zone (Keys and Techniques)
Position, stance and mechanics. (*As needed*)
Left & Right hitters (10-15 each)
Put ball in play/Position/Stance
Track ball w/eyes not head
Timing of Calls
Call Balls Down & Strikes Up
3rd Strike Call (Caught and Dropped)

| | | |
|------------------------|--|---|
| Jan 29 - Feb 11 | Various Schools & Times | SCRIMMAGES |
| January 27 | River Ridge HS – 8:00 AM | GHSA CAMP |
| February 10 | Blessed Trinity HS - 8:00 AM | GHSA CAMP |
| April 17 | Walker HS-5:30 PM | PLAYOFF MEETING <i>(Playoff Umpires)</i> |
| *April 17 | Walker HS-7:00 PM | ELECTION MEETING <i>(All Umpires)</i> |
| June 5 | Pinetree Country Club - 5:00 PM | MUA BANQUET |

***Mandatory Meeting**

MUA TRAINING GOALS

2018

- 1) Encourage members to fulfill all GHSA certification advancement requirements; including passing test, and attending the online state rules clinic. STRIVE TO BE CERTIFIED!!
- 2) Encourage all MUA members to attend MUA field Mechanics Sessions, the GHSA State Training camp and use the GHSA/NFHS approved mechanics for crews of 2, 3 & 4.
- 3) Provide insight to individual members on how to use their rulebook and casebook by providing demonstrations, handouts, tests, etc. that require looking answers up in the book.
- 4) Provide a more amicable game relationship between umpires, coaches, and players by entering into sportsmanship conversation in pre-game conference.
- 5) Encourage members to establish and maintain a higher level of fitness to help prevent injury and fatigue throughout the season.
- 6) Encourage members to utilize the "restriction to the dugout option" for problem coaches when the need arises.
- 7) Strive to improve consistency of rules interpretation and enforcement throughout the membership. Strive to be a better official every year with hard work and constructive feedback.
- 8) Improve umpiring as a whole by encouraging honesty, integrity and professionalism.
- 9) Stress professionalism, appearance, and perception by use of game-management skills.
- 10) Encourage selfless behavior both on and off the field.



2018 Baseball Rule Changes

1-3-1

The ball shall be a sphere formed by yarn wound around a small core of cork, rubber or similar material and covered with two strips of white horsehide or two strips of white cowhide tightly stitched together. It shall be 5 to 5 ¼ ounces in weight and have a circumference of 9 to 9 ¼ inches. The Coefficient of Restitution (COR) shall not exceed .555. The ball shall meet the NOCSAE standard at the time of manufacture and the mark is required on all balls. (Effective January 1, 2019) A minimum of three umpire-approved baseballs shall be provided to start the game. Unless otherwise mutually agreed upon, the home team has this responsibility. No less than two baseballs shall be used to complete the game.

The NFHS Authenticating Mark is required on all balls that will be used in high school competition. A current list of NFHS authenticated products can be found on the website: www.nfhs.org.

Rationale: To maintain a consistent and uniformed standard for high school baseball competition. To ensure that every baseball manufactured meets the same level of quality and playability. This proposal is recommended and endorsed by the NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC) to minimize risk.

1-3-2a 2

Non-wood bats shall not have exposed rivets, pins, rough or sharp edges or any form of exterior fastener or attachment(s) that would present a potential hazard.

Rationale: Clarification to better delineate what cannot be attached on a bat.

1-5-3

The catcher shall wear, in addition to a head protector, a mask with a throat protector, body/chest protector that meets the NOCSAE standard at the time of manufacture (Effective January 1, 2020), protective cup (male only), and baseball protective shin guard.

Rationale: A NOCSAE standard has been developed to protect the heart and the cardiac silhouette from commotio cordis. The NOCSAE standard could be included in a product that is either a separate device/apparel or a device constructed into a traditional chest protector. This proposal is recommended and endorsed by the NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC) to minimize risk.

8-2-7

A batter-runner who reaches first base safely and then over-runs or over-slides may immediately return without liability of being put out provided he does not attempt or feint an advance to second. ~~A player who is awarded first base on a base on balls does not have this right.~~

Rationale: This is a simple change that is fair for all batters and is more umpire-friendly.

2018 Major Editorial Changes

NFHS Casebook: It has been recommended to amend the entire NFHS Casebook to reflect the nomenclature of how runners are identified in case situations. R1, R2, R3 will now represent the base that they (the runners) are occupying. In addition, the Batter-Runner will now be known as “BR” and the Batter will be identified as “B”.

Rationale: Moving to this new identification of base runners will assist in promoting and educating officials through various NFHS print and electronic mediums.



2018 Points of Emphasis

- Sportsmanship (National Anthem Stand-Offs, Bench Jockeying, Celebrations, Negative comments between opponents)
- Jewelry Rule Enforcement
- Proper Administration of NFHS Rules
- Proper Pitching Positions

Important Contacts

| Position | Name | Phone | Email |
|---|-----------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| President | Jay Smith | 678-234-7080 | president@mariettaumpires.com |
| VP of Scheduling (Booking Secretary) | Michael Bates | 678-964-6821 770-324-9925 | secretary@mariettaumpires.com |
| Treasurer | Conrad Sikorski | 404-569-9567 | treasurer@mariettaumpires.com |
| Recording Secretary | Jack Ridings | 404-408-9184 | records@mariettaumpires.com |
| Training Director | Brady Akers | 404-791-2048 | training@mariettaumpires.com |
| Recruiting Director | James Sanchez | 678-521-3187 | recruiting@mariettaumpires.com |
| Mentor | | | |
