

GENERAL BASEBALL REGULATIONS

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OKLAHOMA SECONDARY SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 14590, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 73113-0590
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BASEBALL CALENDAR FOR THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR

FALL BASEBALL
EVENT

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>WEEK</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Season Opens	6	August 7
Entry forms due in OSSAA office ***	6	August 11
Classification released	7	August 16
First Rankings Due by noon	9	August 21
District pairings released by OSSAA	10	September 8
Count all games played through this date for pairings at district meeting	11	September 12
District Meetings	11	September 13 (not prior to) September 15 (no later than)
Last Ranking Due 12:00 noon	12	September 18
District tournaments must be completed by	12	September 23
Regional pairings released	13	September 25
Regional tournaments	13	September 28, 29, 30
State tournament pairings released	14	October 2
State tournament	14	October 5, 6, 7

SPRING BASEBALL

Rules Meeting - Lawton High School 7:00 pm	30	January 24
Rules Meeting -Edmond Santa Fe High School 7:00 pm	30	January 25
Rules Meeting - Woodward High School 7:00 pm	31	January 31
Rules Meeting - Durant High School 7:00 pm	32	February 7
Rules Meeting - Tulsa Service Center 7:00 pm	33	February 14
Scrimmages allowed (A-B)	32	February 5
Entry form due in OSSAA office (All Classes) ***	32	February 8
Scrimmages allowed (2A-6A)	33	February 12
Season Opens (A-B)	34	February 19
Season Opens (2A-6A)	35	March 1
District pairings released (A-B)	40	April 6
Count all games played through this date for pairings at district meeting (A-B)	41	April 10
District meetings (A-B)	41	April 12-13
District pairings released (2A-3A)	41	April 13
Last Ranking Due 12:00 noon A/B	42	April 16
Count all games played through this date for pairings at district meeting (2A-3A)	42	April 17
District meetings (2A-3A)	42	April 18-19
District tournaments to be completed (A-B)	42	April 21
District play to be completed (4A)	42	April 21
Academic Achievement Applications due (A-B) or faxed no later than April 24 ***	43	April 23
Regional tournament pairings released (A-B)	43	April 23
Last Ranking Due 12:00 noon 2A-3A	43	April 23
Regional tournament (A-B)	43	April 26, 27, 28
District tournament to be completed (2A-3A)	43	April 28
Bi-District tournament to be completed (4A)	43	April 28
Make-up Date 4A District Play	43	April 23, 24, 25
District play complete (5A-6A)	43	April 26
Make-up Date 5A-6A District Play	43	April 27, 28
Regional tournament pairings released (2A-3A-4A, 5A-6A)	44	April 30
State tournament pairings released (A-B)	44	April 30
Academic Achievement Application due (2A-6A) or faxed no later than May1 ***	44	April 30
Regional tournaments (2A-6A)	44	May 3, 4, 5
State tournaments (A-B)	44	May 3, 4, 5
State tournament pairings released (2A-6A)	45	May 7
State tournaments (2A-3A-4A-5A-6A)	45	May 10, 11, 12

**WEEK NUMBER CORRESPONDS WITH OSSAA PLANNING CALENDAR

***CAN be found on the ossaa.com website on the sports page under the baseball tab.

GENERAL BASEBALL REGULATIONS

NOTE: ALL NEW RULES, REGULATIONS, AND POLICIES ARE UNDERLINED.

I. RECOMMENDATIONS TO ADMINISTRATORS OF ATHLETIC CONTESTS (Regular Season/Play-off)

- A. It is recommended that an administrator of all athletic contests meet with the game officials prior to the contest advising them of the game time, dressing facilities, discuss bad weather protocol and pre-game activities. The game administrator should also record the official's ID number. The administrator in charge should advise the head official as to where the game manager will be during the contest(s) should a problem arise.
- B. The game administrator or his designee should meet the officials to assure the officials safe return to the dressing room after the contest.

II. CRITERIA USED IN BASEBALL PAIRINGS

- A. Coaches state rankings will be the initial criteria used in pairing and seeding the play-off tournaments in classes B, A, 2A, 3A. (NOTE: If the coach feels the rankings are inaccurate to the point of disadvantaging a team, he should notify the OSSAA office prior to the release date for playoff pairings.) **Coaches are expected to participate in the OSSAA ranking process and post game scores on a weekly basis throughout the season.**
- B. OSSAA Board Policy LII: The OSSAA has an on-line ranking program for use by school administrators, coaches, and the general public. The program is accessible at the OSSAA website [www.ossaa.com]
It is mandatory that results from each regular season contest in the activities of fall baseball and spring baseball, must be entered into the ranking program within 24 hours of the conclusion of the contest throughout the season. (No rankings will be done in Class 4A/5A/6A since regional seeding is through district finish). Any coach failing to report the score within 24 hours of the conclusion of a contest will initially be notified in writing of his or her failure to comply by OSSAA Staff. A copy of that correspondence will be sent to the coach's school administrator as well. A second incident of failure to report a score will result in the coach being placed on warning for a period of one year. A third, and each subsequent failure to report a score will result in the suspension of the coach for the next contest.
- C. Records will be considered when teams are not ranked in the top twenty in their classification by OSSAA rankings.
- D. Geographics and playoff history will also be a consideration when pairing the baseball tournaments.

III. ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

- A. Spring baseball teams will be eligible for an academic achievement award. The 22 players in Classes 6A-5A-4A-3A-2A-A and B (include all players suiting up if the number is less than 22) who suit up for the first district/regional tournament game will be eligible. The GPA shall be based on the preceding semester. (Non-traditional semester: an approximate 18-week grading period used to divide the school year in half.) The academic GPA will be based on a 4.0 point system and computed to the nearest thousandth. There will be three levels of awards for academic achievement:
 - 1. Academic Achievement Certificate - Teams must have a minimum 3.25 GPA and rank in the upper 1/3 of their classification to qualify.
 - 2. Distinguished Academic Plaque - Teams must have a minimum 3.50 GPA and rank in the upper 10% of their classification.
 - 3. State Academic Champion - The team with the highest GPA will be declared the State Academic Champion.
- B. The entries must be postmarked no later than April 23 or faxed no later than April 24 for Classes A and B; April 30 or faxed no later than May 1 for Classes 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A and 6A.
- C. **The Application for Academic Achievement Award is located on the Sports page (baseball link) of the ossaa.com website.**

IV. PITCHING

- A. **Pitching Limitation Rule:** The pitch count is based on pitches (legal and illegal) thrown in a game to a batter during a time at bat. Mandated rest for the pitcher from pitching is based on the pitch count chart below:

0-35 pitches/day	No rest
36-50 pitches/day	1 calendar day rest
51-75 pitches/day	2 calendar days rest
76-100 pitches/day	3 calendar days rest
101+ pitches/day	4 calendar days rest

The starting time of the game does not impact the calculation of when a pitcher is eligible to pitch again.

No pitcher may begin a new hitter that has exceeded 120 pitches that day.

No pitcher that exceeds 75 pitches in the first game of a day shall appear as a pitcher in any subsequent game that same day.

Coaches and/or administrators that are aware of a member school violating this policy shall contact the OSSAA Baseball Administrator.

The use of an ineligible pitcher, one who has violated this rule, shall result in the forfeiture of the game in which the ineligible pitcher participated as a pitcher and a one game suspension for the head coach.

- B. NEXT DAY DEFINED - Next day will begin at daylight the morning following the game and will last until daylight the next day.
- C. Each coach is responsible for knowing the rule. In play-off tournaments at game's conclusion both head coaches or designated representatives will verify pitch count in the official book.
- D. The pitching regulations shall apply to regular season games, tournaments, and play-offs. Any violation of such rule constitutes game forfeiture and a one-game suspension for the head coach. Only the OSSAA may declare a forfeit.
- E. Reporting pitch counts on the OSSAA Rankings site is the responsibility of the head coach.
The first failure to report pitch count information within 24 hours of the completion of the contest on the OSSAA Rankings site will result in a written notification to the head coach and school administrator. The second and subsequent failures to report pitch count information will result in the head coach being suspended for a minimum of one contest for each infraction of not reporting.
- F. In district, bi-district and regional tournaments a Designated Pitch Count Recorder shall be designated by the host school (DPCR). (At the state level, OSSAA will provide a DPCR.)
 - 1. During the game, pitch counts will be recorded by the DPCR and are to be reviewed between innings. Any discrepancy shall be settled by the DPCR without umpire involvement and that record shall be considered final.
 - 2. A protest over a discrepancy in pitch counts discovered in a later inning from an earlier inning in the game will not be permitted due to end of inning verification.
 - 3. At game's conclusion both head coaches or designated representatives will verify pitch count in the official book.
 - 4. Any discrepancy found after the game will be reported to the OSSAA.
 - 5. The use of a pitcher not eligible to pitch by the pitch count restrictions shall constitute the use of an ineligible player and result in contest forfeiture and a one-game suspension for the head coach. Only OSSAA may declare a forfeit.

V. PRACTICE

Practice or competition in athletics will not be allowed on a site after the site has been announced in any play-off activity except for a regularly scheduled contest or the host school may practice at the site if that is the team's regular practice site.

VI. GENERAL REGULATIONS

- A. No games will be counted for the purpose of rating or seeding for the baseball playoffs if the games are less than a complete game according to National Federation baseball rules. Rated teams are seeded higher than non-rated teams.
- B. Coaches in class B-3A are required to submit the team's season record for the first round play-off games to the site manager.
- C. The OSSAA can move play-off tournaments to an adequate available field if weather delays the tournament to Monday after the tournament was scheduled to be completed.
- D. Teams that forfeit games during the regular season or playoffs without valid reasons could be subject to penalties by the OSSAA Board of Directors.
- E. Schools interested in hosting baseball play-off tournaments should complete the site request form that is a part of the entry form on the Sports page (baseball link) of the ossaa.com website.
- F. A student's current scholastic eligibility status would not change if an OSSAA play-off contest were delayed into the next week due to inclement weather or other extreme circumstance.
- G. A regular season designated JV game shall not be counted on a team's record unless a JV team has entered an invitational tournament.
- H. In addition to the OSSAA sponsored championship tournament series, high school and junior high teams and/or individuals shall be limited to not more than the number of match games and tournaments as established by the OSSAA Board of Directors. This regulation shall apply separately to fall and spring baseball. Outside of tournament games, each game shall be counted as a match game. The game limits for varsity teams are 22 games and three tournaments. Junior High teams are limited to 14 games and two tournaments. (Junior High teams may play a third tournament by reducing the match game count by three.) A 9th grade student is eligible to participate on both the junior high and senior high teams but is limited to three tournaments.

Tournament: In bracket or pool play tournament format a champion is determined. In bracket play, succeeding games are determined by winning or losing. In pool play, pools are predetermined and defined before the beginning of play and succeeding games are predetermined. In a pool play tournament, if two or more games are played after the conclusion of pool play, then all pool play games shall count against the regular season limitation. In the event one game of a regular season scheduled tournament is completed, and the remainder of the tournament is cancelled (not postponed) due to inclement weather or any other act of nature; a school may submit a written request to the OSSAA Staff seeking permission to schedule one additional regular season game. This contest must be played prior to the beginning of the playoff series.

Festival: A festival is defined as any number of teams coming together to play predetermined opponents at predetermined times. No champion is determined or awards given. All games in the festival count as part of the regular season limits.

Scrimmage: A scrimmage is defined as a competition against another school without keeping records such as scores etc. In fall baseball, no scrimmage may take place after the beginning date of the season. In spring baseball, no team shall be permitted to scrimmage another school after the state basketball tournaments for that classification. Should a school be in two different classifications for basketball and baseball, the baseball scrimmage regulation will be applied to the basketball classification of the school. Scrimmages held outside the limits described shall then count as games toward the regular season limitations. There shall be no loss of instruction time for scrimmages.

- I. Violation of contest limits (teams and/or individuals)

Generally, if the contest, meet, or tournament limits for a particular activity have been exceeded, by either a school team or by individual participants from a school, the following sanctions will be applied.

- a. The head coach in that activity shall be suspended from coaching in any regular season contests, at the same level, in the same activity, for the remainder of the current regular season and any championship play-off events for that school year.
 - b. The head coach in that activity shall be suspended from coaching any regular season contests, at the same level, in the same activity, for one-half of the regular season the next school year.
 - c. The school will not be allowed to host any play-off contests in that activity during the school year in which the violation occurred.
 - d. The program will be placed on warning for a period of one year.
- J. Round robin tournaments will not be approved when more than four teams are involved.
- K. There will be no play of regular season, tournament games, or scrimmages on Wednesday, if school is in session. **EXCEPTION:** District make-up games in 4A-5A-6A may play on Wednesday by mutual agreement. Weekend tournaments, defined as tournaments scheduled Thursday through Saturday may not begin prior to 10:00 a.m., and no game shall be scheduled to begin later than 9:00 p.m. Tournaments scheduled to be played Monday through Friday, (excluding Wednesday, if school is in session) may not be scheduled to begin prior to 4:00 p.m. and no game shall be scheduled to begin later than 9:00 p.m. No more than 5 days shall be missed, with any part of a day to be counted toward the total of five days. If there is an athletic hour at the end of the regular school day, missing that hour shall not count against the total of five days. **OSSAA play-off games will be excluded from the 5 day total and the Wednesday exemption.**
- L. A 9th grade student is eligible to participate on both a school team for students at the ninth grade level or below, and on a school team for students above the ninth grade level, but cannot participate on both of those teams in the same tournament. A student in grades 10, 11 or 12 may play on a non-varsity team and a varsity team but cannot participate on both of those teams in the same tournament.
- M. OSSAA Rule 16, Section 5 F: An individual that has represented his or her school in a sport during the current season shall not represent his or her school in that sport after the season closes. Students may participate unattached pending approval of their local school administration. (No school team may play games after the season concludes and before school is out.)
- N. OSSAA Rule 16, Section B: Organized practice for fall baseball may begin no earlier than July 15. Organized practice for spring baseball may begin no earlier than December 1.

Organized practice is defined as school or anticipated school personnel directly or indirectly giving individual or team instruction concerning the fundamentals of a particular sport.

From the close of the season for fall baseball to the start date of July 15 and the close of spring baseball to the start date of December 1, no organized practice in that sport may take place. However, certified school coaching personnel for that sport are permitted to provide instruction in that sport in a physical education class during the regular school day.

If a member school does not schedule a physical education class during the regular school day, then an additional period may be scheduled immediately after the close of the regular school day, not to exceed one hour for the purpose of conducting a physical education class, and instruction in a particular sport may be provided by certified school coaching personnel to students during that additional one-hour period.

Time spent transporting student participants to an off-site facility or from one school site to another for the purpose of providing instruction in a particular sport during a physical education class or during the one hour period immediately following the school day shall not be counted toward the time allowed for off-season instruction. The practice period shall begin immediately upon the arrival of the athletes.

- O. Violation of contest limits (teams and/or individuals)
Generally, if the contest, meet, or tournament limits for a particular activity have been exceeded, by either a school team or by individual participants from a school, the following sanctions will be applied:
- a. The head coach in that activity shall be suspended from coaching in any regular season contests, at the same level, in the same activity, for the remainder of the current regular season and any championship play-off events for that school year.
 - b. The head coach in that activity may also be suspended from coaching any regular season contests, at the same level, in the same activity, in the subsequent season for that activity.
 - c. The school will not be allowed to host any play-off contests in that activity during the school year in which the violation occurred.
 - d. The program will be placed on warning for a period of one year.
- P. **NOISE MAKERS**
For indoor activities: Boom boxes or any type of device that plays music, sounds, or voices, and noise makers of any kind such as air horns, cow bells, etc. will not be allowed to function/operate. This will also apply to pre-game/contest and post-game contest activities. This rule applies to both regular and post-season games/contest.
For outdoor activities: Noise makers are allowed at outdoor activities unless they interrupt the normal game/contest procedure of announcers, bands, cheer squads, drill teams or any other game/contest related activities. The game officials have the authority to stop the use of any noisemakers or disruptions that interrupt the normal game/contest procedures. This rule applies to both regular and post-season games or contests.

VII. DISTRICT TOURNAMENTS (3A/2A/A/B) BI-DISTRICT TOURNAMENT (4A)

- A. Teams may be added to a district due to late entries or a school deciding not to participate.
- B. The tournaments shall be played in one day or two consecutive days unless weather conditions dictate otherwise.
- C. **Tickets will not be furnished for the district tournament.**
- D. The host school should charge \$5.00 for adults and \$5.00 for students.
- E. Trophies for district and bi-district tournament winners will be sent from MTM Recognition.
- F. When a deficit occurs in district or bi-district tournaments, the Association will reimburse the host school 50% of the loss after gate receipts are subtracted from the cost of baseballs and umpires. The host school will pay the umpires. (Tournament management should refer to Section X - OSSAA Play-off Tournaments.)
- G. District and Bi-District winners should contact the Association office after completion of the tournaments.
- H. In district play coaches must submit the team's regular season record to the district manager.
- I. Determining home team in all OSSAA playoff games shall be determined by coin toss. (Coaches may agree on home team without coin toss.)
- J. Teams that do not have an opponent at the district or bi-district tournament can play up to two additional games beyond the set contest limit against other teams that do not have an opponent at the district or bi-district level.
- K. Play-off sites in all rounds must have lights.

VIII. REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS (ALL CLASSES)

- A. Regional tournaments shall be double elimination. Regional tournaments in classes B-A-2A-3A will be seeded using the coaches' state rankings as a guideline. Regional Tournaments in class 4A/5A/6A will be seeded by District standings. Teams not ranked in the top 20 in class B-3A by OSSAA Rankings will be seeded by win/loss record.
- B. Tickets will be sent to the host school from the OSSAA. Admission prices will be \$5.00 for adults and \$5.00 for students.
- C. Trophies will be sent from MTM Recognition.
- D. Tournament management refer to Section X - OSSAA Play-off Tournaments.
- E. When a deficit occurs in regional tournaments, the Association will reimburse the host school 75% of the loss after the gate receipts are subtracted from the cost of the baseballs and umpires.
- F. In regional tournaments, the host school manager shall immediately contact the visiting schools concerning officials to be employed for the regional baseball tournament. The visiting schools shall contact the host manager concerning the assignment of regional officials. These contacts must be made as quickly as feasible after the regional tournament pairings are released from the OSSAA.
- G. Regional Tournaments in Class 4A/5A/6A will be seeded by District standings. The host school principal or designee will serve as tournament manager.
- H. Determining home team in all OSSAA playoff games shall be determined by coin toss. (Coaches may agree on home team without coin toss.)

IX. SUSPENDED GAME AND GAME ENDING PROCEDURES (ALL CLASSES)

A regulation high school baseball game ends when the team behind in score has completed its turn at bat in the seventh inning, or any inning thereafter if extra innings are necessary. The National Federation now allows states to adopt game-ending procedures for baseball. By Oklahoma adoption, games can be shortened by the following:

- A. After five innings of a seven inning game, a team ten (10) or more runs behind has completed its turn at bat. (NOTE: If the home team is ahead ten (10) or more runs a game can end after 4½ innings.)
- B. If weather, darkness or other circumstances interfere with play so that a game is called (ended) by the umpire, it is a regulation game provided: (a) five full innings have been played; or if the home team has scored a greater number of runs in four or four and a fraction turns at bat than the visiting team has scored in five turns; or (b) play has gone beyond five full innings and is called when the teams have not had an equal number of completed turns at bat. The score shall be the same as it was at the end of the last completed inning: unless the home team, in its half of the incomplete inning scores a run (or runs) which exceeds the opponent's score, in which case, the final score shall be recorded when the suspended is called. Otherwise, it will be a suspended game. A suspended game shall continue from the point of suspension on the earliest possible day, with the line up and batting order for each team the same as it was at the time of suspension.
- C. **STATE TOURNAMENT EXCEPTION:** State tournament games will be regulation (7) inning games, unless the run rule is in effect. Otherwise, it will be a suspended game. A suspended game shall continue from the point of suspension on the earliest possible day, with the line-up and batting order for each team the same as it was at the time of suspension.
- D. Any further play may be shortened according to National Federation Rules.

X. OSSAA PLAY-OFF TOURNAMENTS

The following criteria will be used in baseball contests that are OSSAA play-off tournaments when brackets are drawn. Seeding for classes B-A-2A-3A playoff tournaments; district, regional and state, shall be based on the final OSSAA rankings in each class for the first 20 teams. Teams not in the top 20 of their class will be seeded on percentage of games won/lost. NOTE: No team shall be seeded that has not played at least 15 games.

1. **Two team** – Teams shall play best two of three series. A doubleheader should be scheduled at the host site. The “if necessary game” would be scheduled for the following day. (**Three games may be played in one day should both teams agree.**)
2. **A three team double elimination bracket** shall be played in the following manner:
Team A will be the team with the highest ranking. Team C will be the lowest seed.
 First day of tournament: Game 1 - Team A plays Team C.
 Game 2 - Team B plays Team C.
 Game 3 - Team A plays Team B.
 Second day of tournament: Game 4 - If one team has one loss and one team has no losses, they play.
 Game 5 - If necessary
 OR
 Game 4 - If all teams have one loss, Team B plays Team C.
 Game 5 - Winner Game 4 plays Team A
3. **Four Teams** - Seed the 1 and 2 teams based on ranking. The number one seed will be placed on the top of the bracket. The second seed will be placed on the bottom of the bracket. In a four team district tournament, the number one seed will choose between the third and fourth best seed to be placed on their side of the bracket, automatically placing the other team. If a school withdraws from the tournament creating a bye in the second round, the bracket should be re-drawn. In a four team regional bracket, the number one seed will play the number four seed and the number two shall play number three.
4. Teams may be added to a district due to late entries or a school deciding not to participate. If teams withdrawing from playoff tournaments create byes in the second round of the tournament, the tournament shall be re-drawn.
5. Beginning with the REGIONAL tournaments, tickets will be furnished by the Association. After local expenses are paid the remaining monies should be sent to the Association.
6. The umpires shall be employed and paid by the host school. The host school shall also furnish the balls.
7. In all play-off tournaments, except the state tournament, the tournament manager is responsible for employing the umpires. The regional host school manager shall immediately contact the visiting schools concerning officials to be employed for the regional baseball tournament. The visiting schools shall contact the host manager concerning the assignment of regional officials. These contacts must be made as quickly as feasible after the regional tournament pairings are released from the OSSAA.
8. All umpires used in team games, any tournaments or any state elimination games are to be eligible officials and in good standing in the Association. Eligible officials are enrolled and have passed Part 1 of the NFHS Baseball Rules Examination.
9. Only two umpires per game will be used in play-off games in the district and regional rounds.
10. The National Federation Baseball Rules will govern in all contests, specifically including (1) the Re-entry Rule, and (2) the rule on coaches permitted in the coach's box. Each batter and each base runner in a game are required to wear a head protector. THE ASSOCIATION HAS ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING REGULATIONS:
 - a) Uniforms are strongly recommended for players and coaches.
 - b) Designated Media Area - National Federation Baseball Rules require the home team or game management to designate a lined area for the media. This area shall be considered a dead ball area. This rule also prohibits media from being in a live ball area. (Rules 1-2-3) The OSSAA is asking each host site to cooperate with the media and provide a designated area. We also recommend the area be marked between home and first or third base in an area that enables adequate media coverage. We realize each park is built different and the above recommendation may not be feasible. An area that affords the best possible coverage with the least possibility of an interference situation should be selected.
11. Radio broadcasts will be permitted without a fee for the 2017-2018 season during the playoffs after making arrangements with the host site.
12. OSSAA Board Policy XLVI: One of the calculated risks that coaches must accept is that he/she, his/her players, or the officials may make mistakes during the course of the game or contest. The Board of Directors has established a policy of not honoring a protest based upon a rule situation, nor a situation which involves judgment on the part of the game official.
13. When play-off tournaments are delayed, teams are expected to play two games in one day in order that a representative be determined as early as feasible. In an emergency situation Sunday afternoon shall be used unless your school does not allow Sunday play. Sunday play can begin after 2:00 p.m.
14. Teams may play three games in one day by mutual agreement.
15. All play-off tournaments must be played in one day or consecutive days unless weather conditions dictate otherwise. Schools are encouraged to complete the tournament(s) as early in the tournament week as possible.
16. Graduations, proms, banquets, etc., should not be scheduled to conflict with the playoffs. All state tournament qualifiers should contact the OSSAA office as soon as possible to inform of any potential conflicts on the days of the scheduled state tournament. All conflicts may not be avoided, but every effort will be made to accommodate as many schools as possible when the state tournament is delayed because of inclement weather.
17. There will be no delay in starting OSSAA play-off tournaments if the previous play-off tournaments are completed.
18. The tournament chairman shall furnish at least a No. 2 grade baseball in the playoffs, which is to be used throughout the tournament. Wilson is the official ball for all OSSAA baseball playoff contests.
19. Trophies will be awarded to the winners of the district and bi-district tournaments, winners and runners-up of the fall regional tournaments, winners of the spring regional tournaments, and to the winner and runner-up at the state tournament. Individual awards will be given to members of the State runner-up and championship teams.
20. Both teams shall remain on the field until ALL award presentations have been completed.
21. Tobacco shall not be used by players, coaches, or umpires while on the field during the playing of games.
22. Please see the Athletic Director or Principal for precautionary recommendations regarding AIDS and Hepatitis B.
23. Teams are restricted to a ten (10) minute time limit during all playoff games for infield practice.
24. Teams are restricted to their dugout area while the opposing team is taking infield practice.

25. State rules meetings are mandatory for head coaches. If you are unable to attend one of the face-to-face meetings, the meeting is also available on line at www.ossaa.com, click on the Sports page, then baseball link for instructions. Proof that you have completed the on-line rules meeting must be submitted to the OSSAA. Refer to OSSAA Board Policy III.
26. Determining home team in all OSSAA playoff games shall be determined by coin toss. (Coaches may agree on home team without coin toss.)
27. OSSAA Rule 16, Section 5 C: The season for all sports shall close with its state championship tournament or meet. Except that if a game or meet is postponed and no date is open to play the postponed game or meet, the Board of Directors shall have jurisdiction in determining whether the season may be extended.
28. No school sponsored summer league games may be played after the end of season and before the end of school.

XI. TEAM MEMBERS LEAVING BENCH OR DUGOUT AREA, ETC.

- A. The OSSAA Board of Directors at their April 19, 1995, meeting adopted the following definition of fighting for all OSSAA sponsored activities: "Fighting is defined, but is not limited to, any player or non-player (bench personnel) striking an opponent with arm(s), leg(s) foot (feet), or other object(s); attempting to strike an opponent with arm(s), leg(s), foot (feet), or other object(s), regardless if there is contact with an opponent; or instigating a fight by committing an act(s) that causes an opponent to retaliate by fighting related to an OSSAA sponsored activity in which the players and non-players are participating. A player or non-player who retaliates by fighting is in violation of the fighting rule. The fighting rule will apply to pre-contest and post-contest sponsored activities."
- B. Any substitute or team member who leaves the team bench (football player leaving the team box, baseball or softball player leaving the dugout, basketball player or wrestler leaving the team bench, etc.) and enters the playing area during a fight or any other serious unsportsmanlike act shall be ejected. Those players or team members identified by game officials, school administrators, or video tape will be suspended a minimum of one game if they were not involved in the altercations and a minimum of two games if they were involved in the altercation. This rule applies to both regular season and play-off games. The suspension applies to individuals/teams on the same level of competition; i.e., varsity to a varsity game, junior varsity to a junior varsity game, etc. Any additional penalties by the National Federation Rule Book and the OSSAA Rules and Regulations Handbook would also apply. The rule would apply to all OSSAA sponsored activities.
- C. Any student involved directly or indirectly for fighting or any other serious unsportsmanlike act a second time during the season shall be suspended for the remainder of the season.
- D. It is mandatory that all head coaches remind his/her team that fighting during the post game hand shaking ceremonies or conducting themselves in an unsportsmanlike manner after the game will be severely penalized. The head coach and team will be subject to additional suspension penalties beyond the normal penalties imposed on fighting and unsportsmanlike acts that occur during the contest. Injuries have occurred because of fans climbing over walls and fences, being trampled, or participating in dog-pile celebrations, etc. at the conclusion of a contest. Therefore, school administrators should be aware that if their student body and fans come onto the playing area after a contest, penalties may be imposed.

XII. COACHES CONDUCT

- A. The school administration should designate a qualified coach that shall be in charge of contestants.
- B. When an official banishes a coach or sponsor from the vicinity of the game or contest and there is no other qualified assistant or faculty member (according to OSSAA and SDE mandates) present to assume full responsibility of the team or organization, the game or contest must be forfeited. Any school in violation shall be placed on warning.
- C. Any time a coach is ejected from a game, meet, or contest, the Board of Directors, through the Executive Director, will require that the coach not be allowed to occupy his/her normal coaching position during the next game, meet, or contest in which that team participates. NOTE: This includes being in the press box during the game, dressing room after the game begins, and court before and during the game. The coach is to send no instructions to his/her team once the game begins. Any time a coach is ejected from a game, meet or contest for a second time during the same season, the coach will be suspended from coaching until reinstated by the OSSAA Board of Directors.
- D. When an athletic coach removes his/her team from the playing area, the game or contest shall be forfeited and the school or team automatically placed on probation.
- E. In addition, any coach who has been ejected from an OSSAA contest will be required to complete the NFHS Teaching and Modeling Behavior course. This course must be completed within seven (7) days after being ejected. The coach can be reinstated after verification of his/her completion of the course and any sit-out time that is required by OSSAA rules.
- F. NOT HONORING A PROTEST. (OSSAA Board Policy XLVIII): OSSAA will not consider requests to overturn the determinations of game/contest officials in interpreting or enforcing rules at games or contests. In agreeing to participate in a game or contest, a member school, and the individual participants and the coaches or sponsors representing that member school, accept the risk that game/contest officials may make errors in interpreting or enforcing rules at games or contests. Any errors by game/contest officials should be raised with those officials, in a respectful manner, and in accordance with the rules established for that particular activity. The decisions of the game/contest officials are accepted as final. An exception to this Policy may be granted if in the case of an ejection of a participant from a contest, the game/contest official misidentifies the individual who should have been ejected. The request to review the misidentified player must be submitted to the OSSAA in writing.

- G. OSSAA Board Policy IV-Coaches: The OSSAA Board of Directors authorized the implementation of a Coaches Education Program. All first year athletic coaches and any adjunct/volunteer athletic personnel will be required to complete the NFHS Fundamentals of Coaching course prior to their participation as a coach in any OSSAA regular season contest. The course is available online at www.nfhslearn.com.
- H. STATE RULES MEETING REQUIREMENTS FOR COACHES-Each head coach of all varsity teams shall attend an OSSAA state rules meeting for that sport for the current school year. If the head coach does not attend a meeting, an online rules meeting is available at www.ossaa.com. Written verification of the online rules meeting must be submitted to the OSSAA. All head coaches of fall activities must complete their state rules meeting by September 1st, all head coaches of winter activities must complete their rules meeting by December 1st, and all head coaches of spring activities must complete their state rules meeting by March 1st. The penalty for failure to attend a state rules meeting or to complete an on line rules meeting and proper documentation submitted to the OSSAA office by the prescribed deadlines, will result in the school suspending the head coach for all interscholastic competition until the coach is in compliance and proper documentation has been submitted and verified by the OSSAA.
- I. All coaches in grades 7-12 are required to complete the on-line concussion management video and Heat Illness Prevention video at www.nfhslearn.com. Schools are responsible for implementing a system to make sure their coaches are in compliance with the regulation.
- J. PUBLIC CRITICISM OF CONTEST OFFICIALS AND SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES
Any school representative who publicly criticizes a contest official, and any contest official who publicly criticizes a school representative in connection with a contest, meet, or tournament is subject to sanctions. The member school represented by an individual who publicly criticizes a contest official may also be subject to sanctions if the school fails to take appropriate action in response to the school representative's public criticism of the contest official. The sanctions could include warning or suspension.

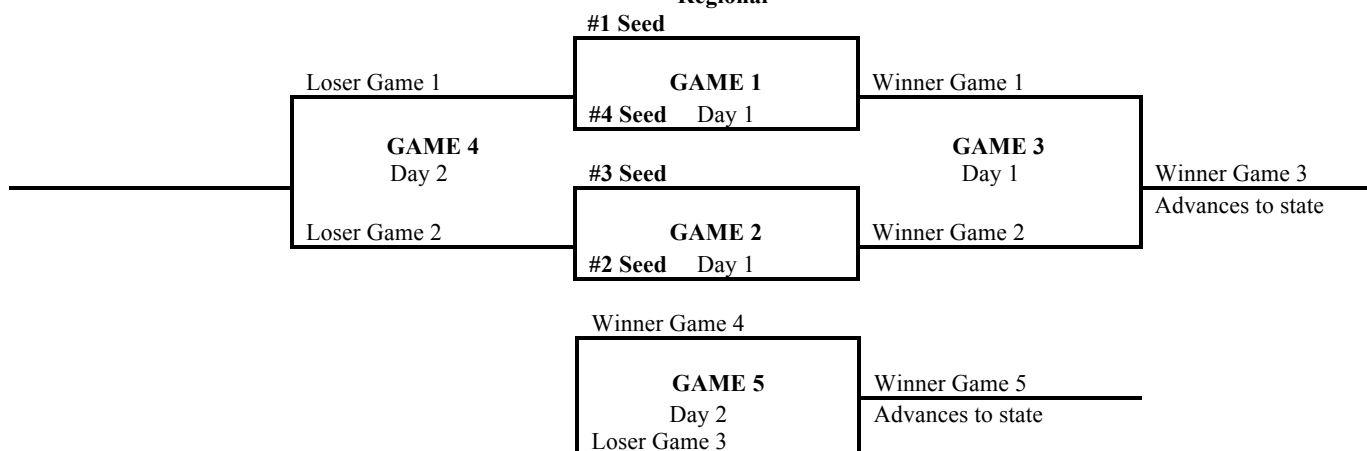
Public criticism includes, but is not limited to, comments made to the media or during a broadcasted event, and comments made in a public forum.

FALL BASEBALL REGULATIONS

GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

- A. The season may begin on August 7 or when school starts, whichever is first.
- B. Send the Fall Baseball entry to the Activities Association on or before August 11, 2017. **The Fall Baseball entry form is located on the Sports page (baseball link) of the ossaa.com website**
- C. Only schools not playing football are eligible to enter the fall baseball play-off series.
- D. Fall Baseball playing schools will be divided evenly between Class A and Class B with the largest number of schools in Class B if the numbers are not even. Schools adding or dropping Fall Baseball after the date classifications are released will not affect any classifications. (NOTE: Co-op baseball teams will be placed in the classification in which the combined ADM of the two co-op schools places them.)
- E. No school will be allowed to enter into a co-op agreement in any sport that is offered by that particular school at any time during the school year. (See OSSAA Rule 22 for details on co-op agreement) The OSSAA Board of Directors may make exceptions in circumstances caused by annexation or consolidation.
- F. Schools participating in fall baseball are not allowed to participate against non-school teams.
- G. District representatives in Classes A and B shall be determined by September 18, 2017. The tournament shall be played in one day or consecutive days unless weather conditions dictate otherwise. A list of the teams that comprise a district will be posted on the ossaa.com website on or before September 8, 2017. The Association shall set the site or determine as to how the selection is made. The principal or designee of the playing site shall act as chairman. The chairman should call a meeting of the schools assigned not prior to September 13, 2017, and not later than September 15, 2017. They shall draw up brackets, agree on umpires and plan for the district tournament in general. The records of wins and losses should be through September 12, 2017. (NOTE: No team shall be seeded that has not played at least 15 games.)
- H. Coaches may send a list of five officials you would recommend for use in the fall state tournament by email to the OSSAA Fall Baseball Administrator.
- I. Double elimination should be used in both Classes A and B through the district playoffs. Two-team tournament districts shall refer to General Baseball Regulations in this manual under OSSAA Playoff Tournament Section X-1. For three team tournament districts, shall refer to OSSAA Playoff Tournaments Section X-2. Four team tournament districts shall refer to OSSAA Playoff Tournament section X-3. The OSSAA would encourage teams involved to work cooperatively with other schools if the majority wish to change the tournament times and dates. The format may not be changed.
- J. District winners should phone the Association office (405) 840-1116 after such districts are completed with the results from the district tournament.
- K. Both classes will be assigned four regional tournaments to be played on September 28, 29, 30, 2017, a Format 2 bracket should be used.
- L. The Activities Association for state championship games shall assign the four regional winners, along with the four consolation winners. The State Tournament will be played on October 5, 6, 7, 2017. The four regional winners will be seeded based on the final ranking in OSSAA rankings. The four regional runner-ups will be placed opposite in the bracket from their regional champion and seeded based on their final ranking in OSSAA rankings.

Format 2 Bracket
(Fall Baseball, 2-team Advance, OSSAA will establish actual game order when brackets are released)
Regional



- M. The game shall end when, after five innings of a seven-inning game, a team is ten (10) or more runs behind and has completed turn at bat. (EXCEPTION: State Tournament games will be seven innings unless the run rule is in effect. Otherwise, it will be a suspended game.)
- N. Teams are limited to 22 players in any play-off game in Classes A and B.
- O. Please see the general baseball regulations for other information.
- P. Determining home team in all OSSAA playoff games shall be determined by coin toss. (Coaches may agree on home team without coin toss.)

SPRING BASEBALL REGULATIONS

I. CLASSIFICATION

- A. Schools will be classified in the following manner for spring baseball:
 1. 6A - 32 largest schools
 2. 5A - Next 32 largest schools
 3. 4A - Next 64 largest schools
 4. 3A - Next 64 largest schools
 5. 2A - Next 64 largest schools
 6. A - Next 96 largest schools
 7. B - All remaining schools
- B. Note: Beginning with the 2017-18 school year, 4A-5A-6A schools will remain in the same class for two consecutive years. Co-op baseball teams will be placed in the classification in which the combined ADM of the two co-op schools places them. Classification of other schools could change due to the co-ops.

II. EXPENSE - STATE BASEBALL TOURNAMENT

OSSAA Board of Directors will determine baseball reimbursements.

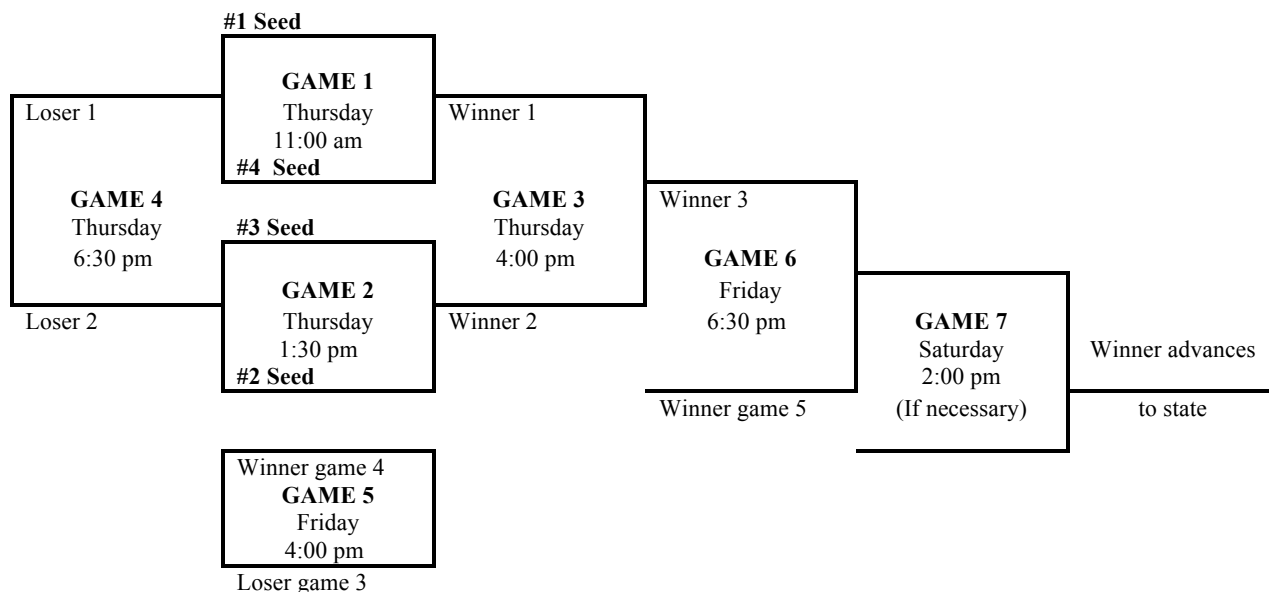
III. CLASSES 3A, 2A, A, AND B BASEBALL REGULATIONS

- A. Send the Spring Baseball entry form to the Activities Association on or before February 8, 2018. **The Spring Baseball entry form is located on the Sports page (baseball link) of the ossaa.com website.**
- B. Schools are divided into Classes 3A, 2A, A, and B for the baseball championship series and are assigned by class to thirty-two districts each. Each school must compete in its own class.
- C. District representatives in Classes A and B shall be determined by April 21; Classes 2A and 3A shall be determined by April 28. The tournament shall be played in one day or two consecutive days unless weather conditions dictate otherwise. A list of teams that comprise a district tournament will be posted on the ossaa.com website on or before April 6 for Classes A and B and April 13 for Classes 2A and 3A. The Association shall set the site or determine as to how the selection is made. The principal or athletic director of the playing site shall act as chairman. The chairman should call a meeting of the schools assigned on April 12 or 13 for Classes A and B and April 18 or 19 for Classes 2A and 3A. They shall draw brackets, agree on umpires and plan for the district tournament in general. The record of wins and losses should be through April 10 for A and B. (NOTE: No team shall be seeded that has not played at least 15 games.)
- D. Schools winning district championships shall notify the Association office as soon as district representatives are determined.
- E. Wilson is the official ball of the OSSAA.

- F. Double elimination shall be used in districts and regionals.
- G. District play sites shall be determined by the Association. The host school shall furnish the balls and umpires after recommendations are made from competing schools on such umpires.
- H. Four teams will be assigned to each of the eight regional tournaments. The district in, which a team has played, will not determine the regional tournament to which it will be assigned. The regional tournament will be seeded according to the top 20 teams listed on OSSAA rankings.
 #1 Seed - Highest Rated Team
 #2 Seed - Second Highest Rated Team
 #3 Seed - Third Highest Rated Team
 #4 Seed - Fourth Highest Rated Team
 The #1 seed will play #4 seed; the #2 seed will play #3 seed.
 (NOTE: If teams are not rated in the top 20 of OSSAA rankings they will be seeded according to record. Teams that are not rated shall not be seeded higher than rated teams, regardless of records. 15 games minimum required to be seeded.)
- I. Teams are limited to 22 players in any play-off game.
- J. These schools will be assigned to eight different regionals, which will be double elimination. See Format 1 Bracket. All regionals are scheduled to begin on Thursday with four games on Thursday, two games on Friday, and one game (if necessary) on Saturday, with Sunday being a make-up day if everyone agrees prior to the tournament beginning. Regional tournament times and dates may be changed by mutual agreement. The OSSAA would encourage teams involved to work cooperatively with other schools if the majority wish to change regional tournament times and dates. All regional tournaments must be scheduled for consecutive days. The OSSAA office shall be notified of any change in the regional bracket.
- K. The ten run rule is in effect for all OSSAA playoff games. Times and dates for Regional play may be changed with unanimous approval of all teams. The format of the tournament will remain the same. **(Playoff games may be played on Wednesdays.)** Regional play may start as early as Tuesday of the scheduled date.

FORMAT 1 BRACKET

(OSSAA will establish actual game order when brackets are released)



- L. The eight regional winners will be assigned to the state championships, which will be single elimination.
- M. Determining home team in all OSSAA playoff games shall be determined by coin toss. (Coaches may agree on home team without coin toss.)
- N. Play-off sites in all rounds must have lights

IV. CLASSES 4A BASEBALL REGULATIONS

- A. Send the Spring Baseball entry form to the Activities Association on or before February 8, 2018. **The Spring Baseball entry form is located on the Sports page (baseball link) of the ossaa.com website.**
- B. There will be eight 8-team districts beginning with the 2017-18 school year. Districts will be for a two-year cycle. The 2017-18 OSSAA/ADM classification sheet that is based on the 2016-17 school year will be used to determine the Districts for the 2017-18, 2018-19 school year. The OSSAA will take input from the Baseball coaches when determining Districts. Plans submitted to the OSSAA must be approved by the OSSAA Staff and are subject to change before being submitted to the OSSAA Board of Directors for approval.
- C. District games shall be completed by April 21. Make-up district games may be scheduled through April 25. Bi-district Tournaments shall conclude by April 28.
- D. Schools winning bi-district championships shall notify the Association office as soon as district representatives are determined.
- E. Wilson is the official ball of the OSSAA.
- F. Double elimination shall be used in bi-districts and regionals.
- G. Bi-district play sites shall be determined by district finish. Host site shall be at the site of the higher district finisher or at a site mutually agreed. Play-off sites must have lights.
- H. Regional play sites shall be determined by district finish. Host site shall be at the site of the highest district finisher or at a site mutually agreed by all four teams. Play-off sites must have lights.
- I. Teams are limited to 22 players in any play-off game.
- J. Bi-district winners will be assigned to eight different regionals, which will be double elimination. See Format 1 Bracket. All regionals are scheduled to begin on Thursday with four games on Thursday, two games on Friday, and one game (if necessary) on Saturday, with Sunday being a make-up day if everyone agrees prior to the tournament beginning. Regional tournament times and dates may be changed by mutual agreement. The OSSAA would encourage teams involved to work cooperatively with other schools. All regional tournaments must be scheduled for consecutive days. The OSSAA office shall be notified of any change in the regional bracket.
- K. The ten run rule is in effect for all OSSAA playoff games. Times and dates for Regional play may be changed with unanimous approval of all teams. The format of the tournament will remain the same. **(Play-off games may be played on Wednesdays.)** Regional play may start as early as Tuesday of the scheduled date.
- L. The eight regional winners will be assigned to the state championships, which will be single elimination. (See Diagram 2)
- M. Determining home team in all OSSAA playoff games shall be determined by coin toss. (Coaches may agree on home team without coin toss.)

PLAY-OFF STRUCTURE FOR CLASSES 4A

- 1. District standing: District standing will be determined by a percentage of games won/lost in district play. In case two or more teams are tied in percentage of games won/lost in district play, the highest available position in the district standings and the next highest available position(s) in the district standing shall be determined in the following manner:
 - When two teams are tied in percentage of district games won and lost, the highest position available in the district standings will go to the team that won over the other in district play. (In the event the teams split the games played between each other in district play, the team with the highest marginal point total in the two games played between the two tied teams will be given the highest position in the standings. Marginal points will be the difference in score. Winners will add the difference in score to their marginal point total and losers will subtract the difference in score from their marginal point total. No team will add more nor subtract more than ten points in any district game. (In the event of an extra inning game, the winner will receive 1 marginal point and the loser will deduct 1 marginal point.) In the event the two teams have tied in marginal points the team that won the last game of district play between the two tied teams will be given the highest position in the district standing.) The team that lost to the other tied team will be given the next highest available position in the district standings.
 - When three or more teams are tied in percentage of district games won and lost, the highest position available in the district standings will go to the team that won over the other tied teams in district play. The next highest available position in the district standings will go to the team that won over the remaining tied team(s) in district play. This procedure shall continue until all available positions are filled.
 - When three or more teams are tied in percentage of games won and lost in district play, and no team is the winner over the other tied teams in percentage of games won and lost in district play, the representative(s) for the highest available position(s) in the district standings shall be determined by:
 - a) The team with the highest winning percentage in games between the tied teams shall be given the highest available position. The next highest percentage shall receive the next position.
 - b) If teams are tied in winning percentage among games played with tied teams then marginal points will be used to break the tie. Total the marginal points each tied team had in games between the tied teams. Marginal points will be the difference in score. Winners will add the difference in score to their marginal point total and losers will subtract the difference in score from their marginal point total. No team will add more nor subtract more than ten points in any district game. The team with the greatest number of marginal points will occupy the highest available position in the district standings. The team which has the next greatest number of marginal points will occupy the next highest available position in the district standings. This procedure shall continue until all available positions are filled. Any time two teams are tied in marginal points, refer to the process for breaking a two-team tie.

- c) In the event ties cannot be broken by the criteria above, the highest available position in the district standings shall be determined by lot. After lot has decided the highest available position in the district standings when three teams are tied in marginal points, the next highest available position in the district standings will go to the team that won over the other tied team in district play. When four or more teams are tied in marginal points, the highest available position in the district standings will be decided by lot. The next highest available position in the district standings will go to the team that won over the other two tied teams in district play. If the next available position in the district standings cannot be determined by who won over the other tied teams, then lot will determine the next highest available position in the district standings. The remaining tied teams will determine their district standing position by which team won the last game over the other in district play.
 - Should it become necessary for a position to be determined by lot, the OSSAA will call a meeting of the involved schools and conduct the necessary procedure to determine the position.
2. Forfeited/Canceled District Games
 - a) A forfeiture of a district game will require the forfeiting team to subtract 10 marginal points per game forfeited from their marginal point total. The team receiving the forfeit will gain 10 marginal points for each game forfeited. Forfeiture only affects the two teams involved. All other standing for other teams in the District will remain. Any time a team forfeits a game, the team will automatically be placed on probation. Probation status prohibits the team from participating in invitational tournaments and any post-season contest. A team placed on probation has the right to appeal their status to the OSSAA staff.
 - b) A scheduled district game that is canceled will be treated as a forfeited contest.
 - c) In the event that a re-scheduled game(s) cannot be played prior to April 28th, the re-scheduled games have no impact on the final district standings for either team and both teams agree not to play the contest(s); the teams involved may seek approval from the OSSAA to eliminate those contest(s) from the district schedule without declaring forfeiture
 - d) Make-up or rescheduled district games **should** take priority over non-district games. These games **should** be scheduled as soon as possible after cancellation to avoid multiple rescheduled games at the end of the season.
 3. On Week 44 of the OSSAA calendar for Baseball, each bi-district winner will be assigned to one of eight 4-team regionals to determine the eight regional champions that will advance to the State Tournament, see Diagram 3.
 4. Regional play will be double elimination format with seeding determined by district standings. Refer to Diagram 3. Host sites shall be at the site of the highest district finisher or at a site mutually agreed upon. Refer to Format 1 Bracket.
 5. Regional champions will advance to the State Tournament and placed on the single elimination bracket per Diagram 2.
 6. In the event less than four teams are assigned to a regional, refer to OSSAA Baseball Regulations X, Number 2 for a 3-team bracket and OSSAA Baseball Regulations X, Number 1 for two teams.
 7. Times and dates for Regional play may be changed with unanimous approval of all teams. The format of the tournament will remain the same. Wednesday play is permitted in playoff games.
 8. Play-off sites in all rounds must have lights.

Diagram 3: 4A Playoff Structure
 District 1, 2, 3 and 4 (West)
 District 5, 6, 7 and 8 (East)

<u>Bi-District</u>	<u>Advance To</u>	<u>Regional</u>	<u>State Quarter Final</u>
D1-1 vs D2-8	Advance To	1	R1 vs R8
D4-4 vs D3-5	Advance To	1	
D3-2 vs D4-7	Advance To	1	
D2-3 vs D1-6	Advance To	1	
D8-1 vs D7-8	Advance To	8	
D5-4 vs D6-5	Advance To	8	
D6-2 vs D5-7	Advance To	8	
D7-3 vs D8-6	Advance To	8	
D4-1 vs D3-8	Advance To	4	R4 vs R5
D1-4 vs D2-5	Advance To	4	
D2-2 vs D1-7	Advance To	4	
D3-3 vs D4-6	Advance To	4	
D5-1 vs D6-8	Advance To	5	
D8-4 vs D7-5	Advance To	5	
D7-2 vs D8-7	Advance To	5	
D6-3 vs D5-6	Advance To	5	
D7-1 vs D8-8	Advance To	7	R7 vs R2
D6-4 vs D5-5	Advance To	7	
D5-2 vs D6-7	Advance To	7	
D8-3 vs D7-6	Advance To	7	
D2-1 vs D1-8	Advance To	2	
D3-4 vs D4-5	Advance To	2	
D4-2 vs D3-7	Advance To	2	
D1-3 vs D2-6	Advance To	2	
D6-1 vs D5-8	Advance To	6	R6 vs R3
D7-4 vs D8-5	Advance To	6	
D8-2 vs D7-7	Advance To	6	
D5-3 vs D6-6	Advance To	6	
D3-1 vs D4-8	Advance To	3	
D2-4 vs D1-5	Advance To	3	
D1-2 vs D2-7	Advance To	3	
D4-3 vs D3-6	Advance To	3	

V. CLASSES 5A AND 6A BASEBALL REGULATIONS

- A. Send the Spring Baseball entry form to the Activities Association on or before February 8, 2018. **The Spring Baseball entry form is located on the Sports page (baseball link) of the ossaa.com website.**
- B. The 32 schools with the largest ADM are in Class 6A and the next 32 in size are in Class 5A. Classifications are done in a two year cycle.
- C. The ten run rule is in effect for all OSSAA playoff games.
- D. Determining home team in all OSSAA playoff games shall be determined by coin toss. (Coaches may agree on home team without coin toss.)

VI. SUSPENDED GAME AND GAME ENDING PROCEDURES

A regulation high school baseball game ends when the team behind in score has completed its turn at bat in the seventh inning, or any inning thereafter if extra innings are necessary. The National Federation now allows states to adopt game-ending procedures for baseball. By Oklahoma adoption, games can be shortened by the following:

- A. After five innings of a seven inning game, a team ten (10) or more runs behind has completed its turn at bat. (NOTE: If the home team is ahead ten (10) or more runs a game can end after 4½ innings.)
- B. If weather, darkness or other circumstances interfere with play so that a game is called (ended) by the umpire, it is a regulation game provided: (a) five full innings have been played; or if the home team has scored a greater number of runs in four or four and a fraction turns at bat than the visiting team has scored in five turns; or (b) play has gone beyond five full innings and is called when the teams have not had an equal number of completed turns at bat. The score shall be the same as it was at the end of the last completed inning unless the home team, in its half of the incomplete inning scores a run (or runs) which exceeds the opponent's score, in which case, the final score shall be recorded when the suspended is called. Otherwise, it will be a suspended game. A suspended game shall continue from the point of suspension on the earliest possible day, with the line-up and batting order for each team the same as it was at the time of suspension.

NOTE EXCEPTION: State tournament games will be regulation (7) inning games, unless the run rule is in effect. Otherwise, it will be a suspended game. A suspended game shall continue from the point of suspension on the earliest possible day, with the line-up and batting order for each team the same as it was at the time of suspension.

- C. Any further play may be shortened according to National Federation Rules.

VII. CLASS 5A AND 6A DISTRICTS

There will be eight 8-team districts beginning with the 2017-18 school year. Districts will be for a two-year cycle. The 2017-18 OSSAA/ADM classification sheet that is based on the 2016-17 school year will be used to determine the Districts for the 2017-18, 2018-19 school year. The OSSAA will take input from the Baseball coaches when determining Districts. Plans submitted to the OSSAA must be approved by the OSSAA Staff and are subject to change before being submitted to the OSSAA Board of Directors for approval.

Additionally, since there may be an uneven split between East and West teams, the OSSAA will select teams to travel to either the East or West side of the State. The OSSAA will take input from schools where there may be an imbalance of teams, but the OSSAA will have the final say when determining the East/West split.

PLAY-OFF STRUCTURE FOR CLASSES 5A AND 6A

1. District standing: District standing will be determined by a percentage of games won/lost in district play. In case two or more teams are tied in percentage of games won/lost in district play, the highest available position in the district standings and the next highest available position(s) in the district standing shall be determined in the following manner:
 - When two teams are tied in percentage of district games won and lost, the highest position available in the district standings will go to the team that won over the other in district play. (In the event the teams split the games played between each other in district play, the team with the highest marginal point total in the two games played between the two tied teams will be given the highest position in the standings. Marginal points will be the difference in score. Winners will add the difference in score to their marginal point total and losers will subtract the difference in score from their marginal point total. No team will add more nor subtract more than ten points in any district game. (In the event of an extra inning game, the winner will receive 1 marginal point and the loser will deduct 1 marginal point.) In the event the two teams have tied in marginal points the team that won the last game of district play between the two tied teams will be given the highest position in the district standing.) The team that lost to the other tied team will be given the next highest available position in the district standings.
 - When three or more teams are tied in percentage of district games won and lost, the highest position available in the district standings will go to the team that won over the other tied teams in district play. The next highest available position in the district standings will go to the team that won over the remaining tied team(s) in district play. This procedure shall continue until all available positions are filled.
 - When three or more teams are tied in percentage of games won and lost in district play, and no team is the winner over the other tied teams in percentage of games won and lost in district play, the representative(s) for the highest available position(s) in the district standings shall be determined by:

- a) The team with the highest winning percentage in games between the tied teams shall be given the highest available position. The next highest percentage shall receive the next position.
 - b) If teams are tied in winning percentage among games played with tied teams then marginal points will be used to break the tie. Total the marginal points each tied team had in games between the tied teams. Marginal points will be the difference in score. Winners will add the difference in score to their marginal point total and losers will subtract the difference in score from their marginal point total. No team will add more nor subtract more than ten points in any district game. The team with the greatest number of marginal points will occupy the highest available position in the district standings. The team which has the next greatest number of marginal points will occupy the next highest available position in the district standings. This procedure shall continue until all available positions are filled. Any time two teams are tied in marginal points, refer to the process for breaking a two-team tie.
 - c) In the event ties cannot be broken by the criteria above, the highest available position in the district standings shall be determined by lot. After lot has decided the highest available position in the district standings when three teams are tied in marginal points, the next highest available position in the district standings will go to the team that won over the other tied team in district play. When four or more teams are tied in marginal points, the highest available position in the district standings will be decided by lot. The next highest available position in the district standings will go to the team that won over the other two tied teams in district play. If the next available position in the district standings cannot be determined by who won over the other tied teams, then lot will determine the next highest available position in the district standings. The remaining tied teams will determine their district standing position by which team won the last game over the other in district play. Should it become necessary for a position to be determined by lot, the OSSAA will call a meeting of the involved schools and conduct the necessary procedure to determine the position.
- C. Forfeited/Canceled District Games
- a. A forfeiture of a district game will require the forfeiting team to subtract 10 marginal points per game forfeited from their marginal point total. The team receiving the forfeit will gain 10 marginal points for each game forfeited. Forfeiture only affects the two teams involved. All other standing for other teams in the District will remain. Any time a team forfeits a game, the team will automatically be placed on probation. Probation status prohibits the team from participating in invitational tournaments and any post-season contest. A team placed on probation has the right to appeal their status to the OSSAA staff.
 - b. A scheduled district game that is canceled will be treated as a forfeited contest.
 - c. In the event that a re-scheduled game(s) cannot be played prior to April 29th, the re-scheduled games have no impact on the final district standings for either team and both teams agree not to play the contest(s); the teams involved may seek approval from the OSSAA to eliminate those contest(s) from the district schedule without declaring forfeiture.
 - d. Make-up or rescheduled district games *should* take priority over non-district games. These games *should* be scheduled as soon as possible after cancellation to avoid multiple rescheduled games at the end of the season.
- D. On Week 44 of the OSSAA calendar for Baseball, each team will be assigned to one of eight 4-team regionals to determine the eight regional champions that will advance to the State Tournament, see Diagram 1.
 - E. Regional play will be double elimination format with seeding determined by district standings. Refer to Diagram 1. Host sites will be District champions and District Runner-Ups. (The site may be changed if agreed upon by *all* teams in the Regional.) Refer to Format 1 Bracket
 - F. Regional champions will advance to the State Tournament and placed on the single elimination bracket per Diagram 2.
 - G. In the event less than four teams are assigned to a regional, refer to OSSAA Baseball Regulations X, Number 2 for a 3-team bracket and OSSAA Baseball Regulations X, Number 1 for two teams.
 - H. Times and dates for Regional play may be changed with unanimous approval of all teams. The format of the tournament will remain the same. Wednesday play is permitted in playoff games.
 - I. Play-off sites in all rounds must have lights.

Diagram 1

District 1 and District 2 (West)
District 3 and District 4 (East)

Regional 1-4 West

Regional 1

District 1 winner plays District 2 number 8
District 2 number 4 plays District 1 number 5

Regional 2

District 1 runner up plays District 2 number 7
District 2 number 3 plays District 1 number 6

Regional 3

District 2 winner plays District 1 number 8
District 1 number 4 plays District 2 number 5

Regional 4

District 2 runner up plays District 1 number 7
District 1 number 3 plays District 2 number 6

Regional 5-8 East

Regional 5

District 3 winner plays District 4 number 8
District 4 number 4 plays District 3 number 5

Regional 6

District 3 runner up plays District 4 number 7
District 4 number 3 plays District 3 number 6

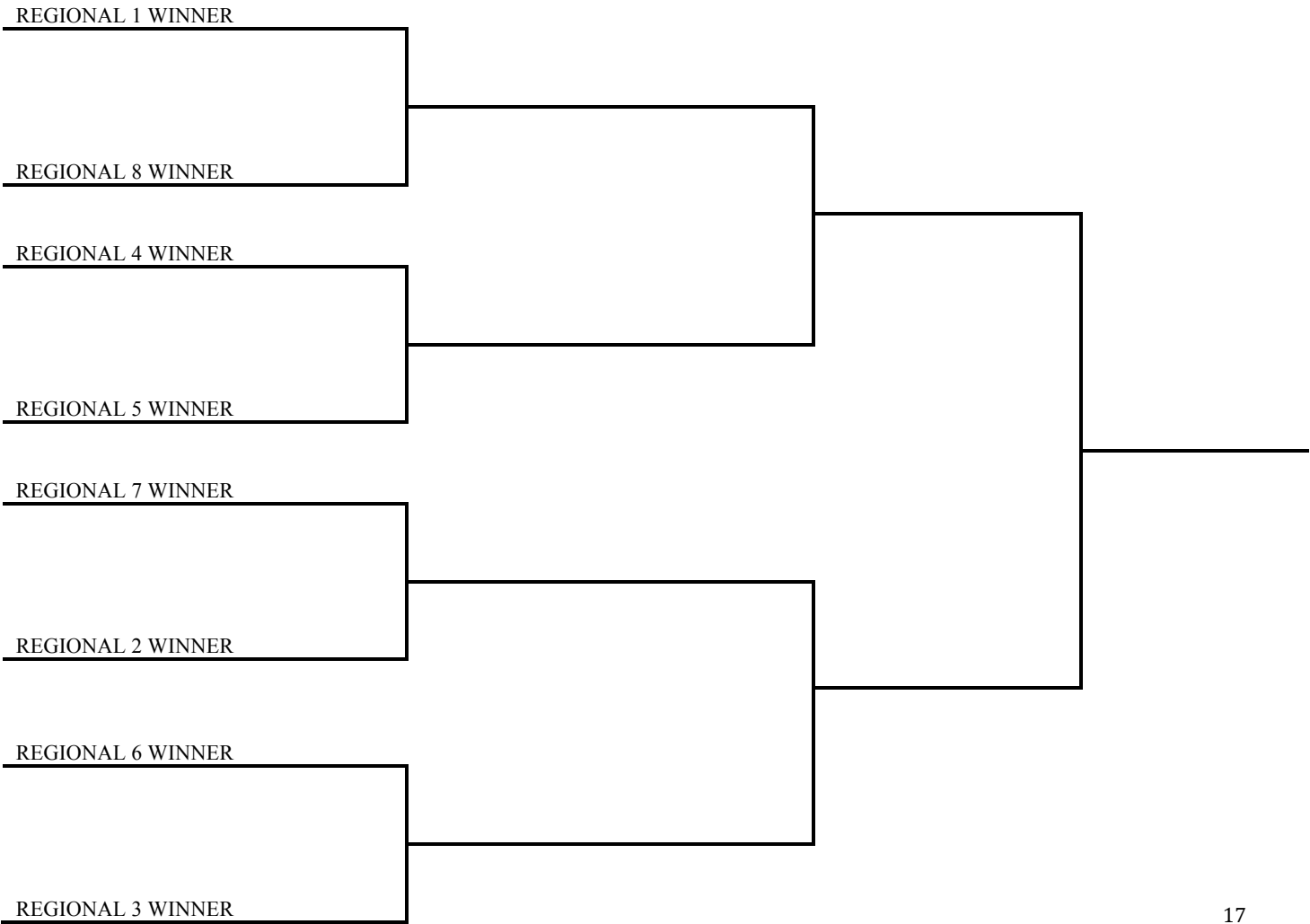
Regional 7

District 4 winner plays District 3 number 8
District 3 number 4 plays District 4 number 5

Regional 8

District 4 runner up plays District 3 number 7
District 3 number 3 plays District 4 number 6

DIAGRAM 2—State Bracket for Classes 4A, 5A and 6A



VIII. REGIONAL TOURNAMENT DATES

- A. Classes A and B – April 26, 27, 28, 2018
- B. Classes 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A and 6A – May 3, 4, 5, 2018

IX. SPRING CHAMPIONSHIP DATES

- A. Classes A and B - May 3, 4, 5, 2018
- B. Classes 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A and 6A - May 10, 11, 12, 2018

X. STATE TOURNAMENT GENERAL INFORMATION

- A. Coaches may submit a list of five officials to recommend for use in the state tournaments by sending an email to the OSSAA Baseball Administrator.
- B. There will be a limit of ten (10) minutes per team for infield practice.
- C. Teams are restricted to their dugout area while the opposing team is taking infield practice.
- D. If the state tournament is played on a field with a tarp and the field needs to be covered, the following steps will be used:
 - 1. The winning team from the final game of the day will help put the tarp in place.
 - 2. The two teams scheduled to play the first game the next day will arrive early at the park and help remove the tarp before their game.
- E. The following procedure will be used for the awards presentation after the State Championship game:
 - 1. Teams will line up on their respective baselines within five minutes of the final out.
 - 2. Individual awards and team trophy will be given to the state runner-up.
 - 3. Individual awards and team trophy will be given to the state champion.
 - 4. Any team that reaches the state championship game and wishes to have a representative from their school involved in the trophy presentation should inform the OSSAA staff prior to the game as to whom will be involved.

XI. COACHES' ETHICS AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

- A. Exemplify the highest moral character, behavior and leadership.
- B. Respect the integrity and personality of the individual athlete.
- C. Abide by the rules of the game in letter and in spirit, regardless of the consequences.
- D. Respect the integrity and judgment of sports officials, never baiting or taunting officials in any way, or seeking out an official during halftime or at the conclusion of a contest.
- E. Demonstrate a mastery of, and continuing interest in, coaching principles and techniques through professional improvement.
- F. Encourage and respect all athletes and their values.
- G. Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat.
- H. Promote ethical relations among coaches.
- I. Fulfill responsibilities to provide emergency health procedures and ensure an environment free of obvious safety hazards.
- J. Encourage the highest standards of conduct and scholastic achievement among all athletes.
- K. Seek to inculcate good health habits, including the establishment of sound training rules.
- L. Strive to develop in each athlete the qualities of leadership, initiative and good judgment.
- M. Achieve a thorough understanding and acceptance of the rules of the game and the standards of eligibility.
- N. Coaches are expected to participate in the weekly ranking process and post game results on the OSSAA rankings site.
- O. Coaches must take an OSSAA Baseball Rules meeting each calendar year.

2017-2018
BASEBALL RULES MEETINGS
(7:00 P.M.)

January 24	Lawton High School
January 25	Edmond Santa Fe High School
January 31	Woodward High School
February 7	Durant High School
February 14	Tulsa Service Center (3027 S New Haven)

HISTORY OF SPRING BASEBALL CHAMPIONS

YEAR	CLASS 6A	CLASS 5A	CLASS 4A	CLASS 3A	CLASS 2A	CLASS A	CLASS B	CLASS C
1947					Co-Champs	Capitol Hill Central (T)	Southside (Elmer)	
1948						Central (T)	Friendship (Altus)	
1949						Altus	Byng	
1950						Central (T)	Burns Flat	
1951						McAlester	Byng	Burns Flat
1952						Capitol Hill	Choctaw	Southside
1953						Capitol Hill	Byng	Southside
1954						Will Rogers	Byng	Friendship
1955						Central (T)	Bethany	Tupelo
1956						Capitol Hill	Byng	Arnett (H)
1957					NW. Classen	Stillwater	Byng	Tupelo
1958					Daniel Webster	Norman	Byng	Broxton
1959					Lawton	Daniel Webster	Mangum	Gotebo
1960					Central (T)	Anadarko	Byng	Dover
1961					Edison (T)	Daniel Webster	Garber	Arnett (H)
1962					Lawton	Daniel Webster	Buffalo	Oney
1963					Enid	Anadarko	Garber	Asher
1964					Lawton	Daniel Webster	Binger	Navajo
1965					Lawton	Altus	Holdenville	Broxton
1966					Nathan Hale (T)	Chickasha	Sulphur	Gould
1967					McLain (T)	El Reno	Holdenville	Capron
1968				Will Rogers	Star Spencer	Holdenville	Asher	Roff
1969				College (B'ville)	Daniel Webster	Holdenville	Granite	Gracemont
1970			East Central	D. Webster	Anadarko	Granite	Asher	
1971			Edison (T)	Tahlequah	Holdenville	Depew	Asher	
1972			Putnam City	Ardmore	Byng	Pocola	Asher	
1973			Will Rogers	Owasso	Weatherford	Granite	Asher	
1974			Muskogee	Choctaw	Lindsay	Lone Grove	Asher	
1975			Nathan Hale	Owasso	Anadarko	Kellyville	Leedey	
1976			Nathan Hale	B. Kelley	Harrah	Granite	Binger	
1977			NW. Classen	Charles Mason (T)	Meeker	Ketchum	Asher	
1978			Will Rogers	Bishop Kelley	Bixby	Dewar	New Lima	
1979			Will Rogers	Union	Blanchard	Stonewall	Asher	
1980			Memorial (T)	College (B'ville)	Blanchard	Barnsdall	Asher	
1981			Memorial (T)	U.S. Grant	Sperry	Rattan	Asher	
1982			Yukon	Mustang	Sperry	Stuart	Asher	
1983			Nathan Hale	Western Heights	Sperry	Stuart	Stringtown	
1984		Memorial (T)	U.S. Grant	Mannford	Haskell	Binger	Asher	
1985		Bartlesville	Daniel Webster	Stilwell	Rattan	Granite	Asher	
1986		Enid	Ardmore	Broken Bow	Drumright	Asher	Braggs	
1987		Owasso	Miami	Stilwell	Hennessey	Asher	Braggs	
1988		Midwest City	McAlester	Tuttle	Mt. St. Mary	Asher	Lookeba- Sickles	
1989		Union	Guthrie	Ada	Latta	Cameron	Turner	
1990		Unionl	Stilwell	Sperry	Hobart	Cameron	Bokchito	
1991		Broken Arrow	El Reno	Spiro	Dale	Sentinel	Asher	
1992		Edmond	El Reno	Ada	Salina	Binger- Oney	Asher	

HISTORY OF SPRING BASEBALL CHAMPIONS (cont)

1993		Edmond	Claremore	Ada	Latta	Cameron	Asher	
1994		Westmoore	Nathan Hale	Clinton	Dale	Cameron	Asher	
1995		Norman	MacArthur	Weatherford	Dale	Cameron	Asher	
1996	Tahlequah	McAlester	Oologah	Haskell	Latta	Cameron	Turner	
1997	Jenks	Nathan Hale	Grove	Chandler	Ratta	Cameron	Taloga	
1998	Owasso	McAlester	Weatherford	Chandler	Dale	Cameron	Eakly	
1999	Owasso	Claremore	Coweta	Heritage Hall	Latta	Rock Creek	Sentinel	
2000	Jenks	McAlester	Weatherford	Plainview	Dale	Rock Creek	Lookeba-Sickles	
2001	Owasso	Ada	Byng	Metro Christian	Dale	Fletcher	Dover	
2002	Jenks	Chickasha	Bishop McGuinness	Verdigris	Dale	Silo	Dover	
2003	Owasso	Claremore	Weatherford	Henryetta	Latta	Rattan	Buffalo Valley	
2004	Owasso	Bishop Kelley	Skiatook	Sulphur	Latta	Roff	Taloga	
2005	Union	Claremore	Oologah	Chandler	Latta	Silo	Tupelo	
2006	Union	Bishop Kelley	Tuttle	Sperry	Dale	Roff	Chattanooga	
2007	Owasso	Carl Albert	Berryhill	Bethel	Dale	Rock Creek	Tupelo	
2008	Owasso	Bixby	Bishop McGuinness	Sperry	Silo	Ft. Cobb-Broxtown	Red Oak	
2009	Owasso	Carl Albert	Tuttle	Sperry	Silo	Soper	Roff	
2010	Union	Collinsville	Weatherford	Bethel	Silo	Fletcher	Roff	
2011	Broken Arrow	Bishop Kelley	Locust Grove	Verdigris	Wister	Roff	Red Oak	
2012	Edmond North	Carl Albert	Hilldale	Verdigris	Dale	Rattan	Red Oak	
2013	Owasso	Carl Albert	Berryhill	Verdigris	Silo	Rattan	Red Oak	
2014	Stillwater	Carl Albert	Tuttle	Verdigris	Dale	Binger-Oney	Red Oak	
2015	Owasso	Shawnee	Blanchard	Heritage Hall	Silo	Rattan	Lookeba Sickles	
2016	Edmond Memorial	Shawnee	Heritage Hall	Verdigris	Christian Heritage	Binger-Oney	Red Oak	
2017	Mustang	Shawnee	Byng	Metro Christian	Silo	Binger-Oney	Leedey	

HISTORY OF FALL BASEBALL CHAMPIONS

YEAR	CLASS A	CLASS B	CLASS C
1955		Kansas	Arnett (H) & Macomb
1956		Varnum	Broxton
1957		Moss	Gotebo
1958		Moss	Atwood
1959		Ft. Cobb	Arnett (H)
1960		Granite	Davidson
1961		Webbers Falls	Gotebo
1962		Warner	Asher
1963		Warner	Gould
1964		Latta	Gould
1965		Pocola	Tupelo
1966		Latta	Braggs
1967		Ft. Cobb	Gould
1968		Granite	Gould
1969		Elgin	Asher
1970	Byng	Asher	
1971	Welch	Asher	
1972	Lone Grove	Asher	
1973	Ft. Cobb	Asher	
1974	Meeker	Asher	
1975	Dale	Asher	
1976	Meeker	Eakly	
1977	Lookeba-Sickles	Asher	
1978	Smithville	Asher	
1979	Dale	Asher	
1980	Byng	Eakly	
1981	Rattan	Asher	
1982	Byng	Asher	
1983	Wister	Asher	
1984	Rattan	Asher	
1985	Smithville	Asher	
1986	Byng	Braggs	
1987	Asher	Bokchito	
1988	Cameron	Leedey	
1989	Cameron	Bokchito	
1990	Byng	Lookeba-Sickles	
1991	Binger-Oney	Asher	
1992	Latta	Granite	
1993	Latta	Asher	
1994	Cameron	Asher	
1995	Rattan	Asher	
1996	Rattan	Taloga	
1997	Rattan	Taloga	
1998	Rock Creek	Asher	
1999	Dale	Lookeba-Sickles	
2000	Dale	Stonewall	
2001	Latta	Lookeba-Sickles	
2002	Rattan	Lookeba-Sickles	
2003	Dale	Buffalo Valley	
2004	Byng	Ft Cobb-Broxton	
2005	Dale	Dover	
2006	Silo	Lookeba-Sickles	
2007	Silo	Tupelo	
2008	Dale	Red Oak	
2009	Oktaha	Roff	
2010	Silo	Red Oak	
2011	Dale	Arnett	
2012	Dale	Red Oak	
2013	Binger-Oney	Asher	
2014	Silo	Leedey	
2015	Binger-Oney	Leedey	
2016	Tushka	Lookeba-Sickles	