

Welcome to Softball Training



Agenda Feb 10, 2025

- Welcome – Jeremy
- Annual Report
- Items from VHSL Commissioner's Meeting
- Webex Tutorial
- Unusual Scenarios
- Ask the Commissioner Anything



2024 Accomplishments

- Paid \$127,620 to officials in 2024
- Awarded 2 State Championship games (1 semifinal and 1 final) for Virginia Group 5
- Officiated 3 game Super Regional for a berth into the Junior College World Series
- Utilized 81 officials throughout the year
- Officiated 821 games
- Conducted 136 evals on officials
- Conducted 8 training sessions to prepare officials for the spring season



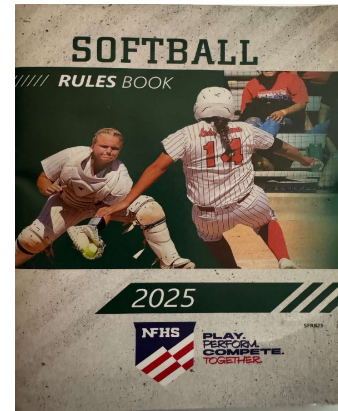
2025 Goals



- Get assignments out at least 2 weeks and preferably 30 days in advance where possible
- Conduct 2 evals on each active official
- Provide for end of season feedback session and incorporate feedback in training
- Create a relationship with college assigners to create a pipeline for officials that want to move up
- Establish recruiting plan for new officials
- Win business with 2 new customers

Items from VHSL Commissioner's Meeting

- Clinic completions are being manually updated twice a week
- Carry your rule books
 - Settle any rule discrepancy on the field. No protests.
- Conflict of interest
 - Block schools where there may be any actual or perceived conflict of interest
 - Minimum 10 years if you worked at school or took money from a school
 - Minimum 5 years if you had a family member attend a school
- 10 run rule and Tiebreaker in effect unless the district changes. None of our districts have indicated they are changing those.
 - 10 after 4 ½ or 5 innings is a ball game
 - Go to ITB in the 9th inning of a tied game
- Everything is being recorded.
- 60 Seconds Between innings
 - Be aware and keep the game moving
 - Don't be dictatorial about it. No stop watches



Webex Tutorial

- Using for March 17, April 27, and June 22
- Similar to Zoom or Google Video
- Email with link
- App can be downloaded or just join from web browser
- Enter your full name. This is the only way that I will know who attended.
- If you call in only, send the commissioner an email with your phone number
- If the commissioner assigns you a game that day and you do not get out of your game in time, you are excused
- The session will be recorded and a link sent out after



Webex Tutorial

Jeremiah Niedzwiecki is inviting you to a scheduled Webex meeting.

Monday, March 17, 2025

7:00 PM | (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada) | 1 hr

[Join meeting](#)

More ways to join:

Join from the meeting link

<https://jeremiahniedzwiecki.my.webex.com/jeremiahniedzwiecki.my/j.php?MTID=me916c30e6c35fdadc3468d0d9a260aa9>

Join by meeting number

Meeting number (access code): 2558 199 8693

Meeting password: ptPYJmpi229 (78795674 when dialing from a phone or video system)

Tap to join from a mobile device (attendees only)

+1-415-655-0001,,25581998693#78795674# US Toll

Some mobile devices may ask attendees to enter a numeric password.

Join by phone

+1-415-655-0001 US Toll

[Global call-in numbers](#)

Join from a video system or application

Dial 25581998693@webex.com

You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.

Need help? Go to <https://help.webex.com>

Webex Tutorial

Join your Webex meeting



Download the Webex app



Join from this browser

Already have Webex? [Join from the Webex app](#)

Webex Tutorial

EOA Softball 3-17-2025



Enter your name and join

Name (required)

Remember me

Join meeting

If you are the host, [sign in](#).

 Mute   Start video 

Unusual Scenarios

- Scenario 1 – State Semifinals for Group 5 – An out that wasn't
 - 2 outs, no one on base, hit to the outfield with a play at 2nd base
 - U3 comes in to the proper position and calls the batter/runner out on a bang bang tag play at 2nd base. U3 didn't realize that the fielder had dropped the ball. Batter/runner believing she had been called out proceeds to the dugout.
 - Offensive Coach appeals and says the fielder dropped the ball. Umpires get together and change the call to safe and put batter/runner back on 2nd
 - Defensive coach appeals and says the batter/runner entered the dugout and therefore left the field of play and she should be out. Umpires get together again and change the call to out ending the inning without further appeal.



Unusual Scenarios

- Scenario 1 – State Semifinals for Group 5 – An out that wasn't
 - Did they get it right?
 - Answer from the state UIC, Joe Defranco
 - We would use Rule 10-2-m “The umpire should rectify any situation in which an umpire’s decision that was reversed has placed either team in jeopardy.” Since the umpire initially called the runner out at 2nd, she figured she was out and went in the dugout. Therefore she was put in jeopardy because she thought she was out. When the call was reversed to safe, the umpire can rectify the situation and put her back at 2nd. See Case Play 10.2.3 Runner on 1st steals 2nd on a 3-2 pitch. Umpire, SS and R1 all thought it was strike 3 and runner was called out at 2nd. It turned out it was Ball 4 and as the runner was headed to the bench, she is tagged out. Ruling: R1 is permitted to go back to 2nd because the umpire’s call caused R1 to leave the base.



Unusual Scenarios

- Scenario 1 – State Semifinals for Group 5 – An out that wasn't
 - What could have been better?
 - Don't turn your head from the play when "selling" a call
 - Understand if your actions put the batter/runner in jeopardy



Unusual Scenarios

- Scenario 2 – Varsity Game Between Landstown and Salem
 - No outs, ball is hit down the third base line, hits the glove of the 3rd baseman in fair territory and lands foul.
 - Plate umpire misses it hitting the 3rd baseman's glove and calls the ball foul
 - Offensive coach calls time and protests that it hit the glove of the 3rd baseman. Plate confers with partner and partner confirms it hits the 3rd baseman's glove. Both umpires agree that it can't be changed because a foul ball was already called.
 - Plate explains the ruling to the offensive coach who is not happy, but accepts it.

Unusual Scenarios

- Scenario 2 – Varsity Game Between Landstown and Salem
 - Did they get it right?
 - Yes. This is an unfortunate situation, but the ruling stands. Once a foul ball is called, it is a foul ball.

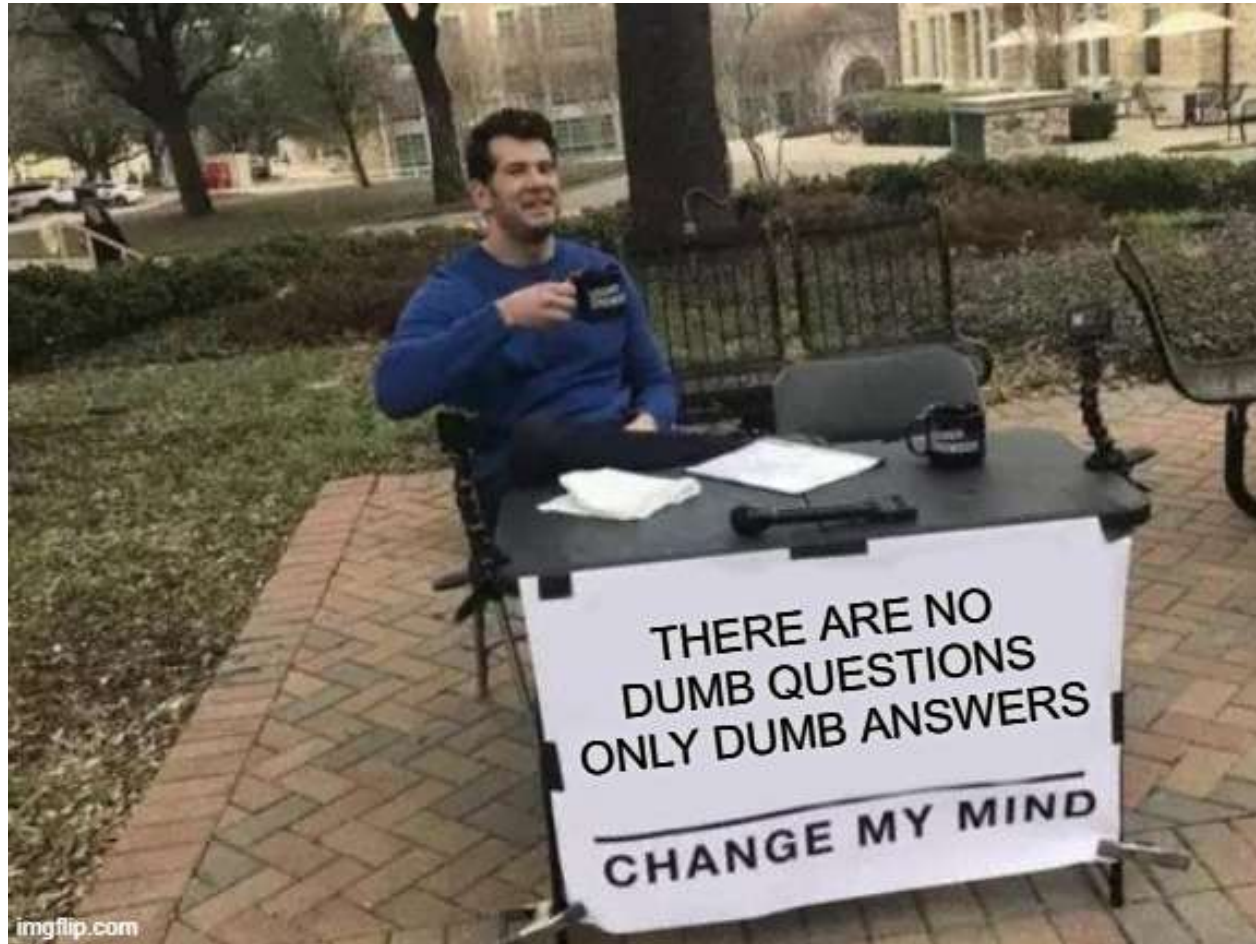


Unusual Scenarios

- Scenario 2 – Varsity Game Between Landstown and Salem
 - What could have been better?
 - Plate umpire should have paused. Especially knowing that he blinked at the inside pitch.
 - Crew can change a ruling of fair to foul, but not the other way around. Remember calling foul makes the ball dead immediately.



Ask the Commish!



Questions?

