



Tri-Cities Baseball and Softball Umpires Association



Adam Knobloch, *Baseball Assigning Officer*
865-607-2426 (cell)
adam.knobloch@TriCitiesUmpires.com

Danny Williams, *Softball Assigning Officer*
423-943-3847 (cell)
danny.williams@TriCitiesUmpires.com

2024 Association Meeting Schedule

<u>Day / Date / Location</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Sport</u>	<u>Meeting Type</u>
Monday, Jan 8 DBHS Daniel Boone High School Auditorium	5:30 p.m.	Softball	TSSAA State Meeting
	6:30 p.m.	Baseball	TSSAA State Meeting
Wednesday, Jan 24 ETSU Rogers-Stout Hall Room 102	5:30 p.m.	Both	Association Meeting Business and Updates · New Members
Room 102	6:15 p.m.	Softball	Rules Meeting
Room 118	6:15 p.m.	Baseball	Rules Meeting
Wednesday, Jan 31 ETSU Rogers-Stout Hall Room 102	5:30 p.m.	Both	Association Meeting
Room 102	6:45 p.m.	Softball	Rules Meeting
Room 118	6:45 p.m.	Baseball	Rules Meeting
Sunday, Feb 18 ETSU Rogers-Stout Hall Room 102	1:00 p.m.	Softball	Rules Meeting
Room 102	2:30 p.m.	Baseball	Rules Meeting
Sunday, March 3 ETSU Rogers-Stout Hall Room 102	1:00 p.m.	Softball	Rules Meeting
Room 102	2:30 p.m.	Baseball	Rules Meeting
Sunday, March 24 ETSU Rogers-Stout Hall Room 102	1:00 p.m.	Softball	Rules Meeting
Room 102	2:15 p.m.	Both	Association Meeting Election of Officers for 2025
Room 102	2:45 p.m.	Baseball	Rules Meeting

Clinic and On-Field Training Dates

Baseball

February 10 | New Umpire Clinic | Science Hill High School | **Specific Times TBD**

- Umpires with 0-2 years experience | Full uniform and plate gear needed
- Lunch will be provided for umpires | Additional Details TBA

February 24 | Varsity Umpire Clinic | Dobyns Bennett HS | 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

- Umpires with 3+ years experience or umpires who attended the New Umpire Clinic previously
- Full uniform and plate gear required
- Lunch will be provided for umpires

February 24 | Middle School Play Date | Kingsport Area Schools | 10:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

- Umpires with 0-2 years experience will be assigned to crews | Umpires will be paid
- An observer will be at each game to provide feedback and instruction to umpires

Softball Play-Dates that will count as Clinics:

Friday, Feb 23 & Saturday, Feb 24 | Middle School | Ridgeview Complex

Saturday, March 2 | High School | Science Hill HS

Info for Both Play-Dates:

- Umpires will be assigned to specific games and fields
- Umpires are responsible for having their availability up to date on Arbiter so they can be assigned when they are available.
- Observers will be on site to provide feedback and instruction

Meeting/Training Expectations

The intent of the local meeting requirement of three (3), as established by TSSAA and the Association by-laws is to ensure umpires are properly trained. A minimum of five (5) regular classroom meetings and at least one clinic per sport will be scheduled each year. Clinics will count towards the local meeting/training requirement. Play-dates **with on-site instructors and/or observers providing feedback** will be considered clinics, thus counting towards the requirement.

The shortage of officials is understood by everyone. Associations and assigners must balance the needs of getting games played with the need to hold members accountable for fulfilling their requirements.

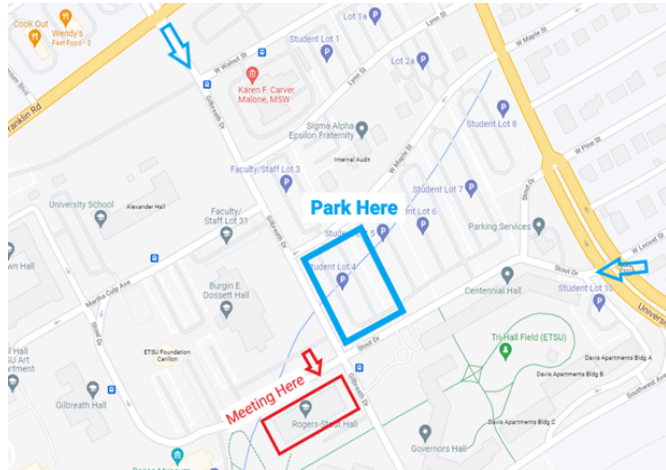
The Association's Executive Committee has established the following guidelines for Assigners to adhere to:

1. **Assigning Fees** - Umpires who have paid their assigning fee will receive game assignments before other umpires who have not paid their required assigning fee.
 - *Any umpire who fails to pay their assigning fee by the final scheduled meeting of the season shall be removed from any future assignments and not receive additional game assignments. At the discretion of the assigner, the umpire may remain in games already assigned but not receive further assignments until the requirement is met.*
2. **Meeting Attendance/Clinic Participation** - Umpires who have not attended at least two local trainings by March 1st will not receive assignments before umpires who have attended two local trainings.
 - *Any umpire who fails to attend at least two local trainings after the final scheduled meeting shall be removed from the schedule for the remainder of the season.*
 - *The TSSAA state meeting is not considered a local training and will not count towards this requirement.*
 - *Failure to attend three local training opportunities will result in an umpire being placed on probation for the following season*
3. **Postseason Eligibility** - An umpire who has not satisfied the requirements outlined above will not be eligible for postseason assignments. Additionally, umpires who have not made themselves available to their assigner for pre-season scrimmages or play-dates shall not be eligible for postseason assignments.

It is understood that there will be times when someone's personal situation may keep them from attending the required number of trainings. A request for an exception may be submitted to the Executive Committee. The Committee will meet after the final Association meeting to review any requests and make the final decision on whether to allow an exception.

Directions to ETSU Rogers-Stout Hall

- **From Elizabethton / I-26 Exit 24:**
Take University Parkway towards campus. Turn **left** on **Stout Drive**.
- **From Kingsport / I-26 Exit 19 and Jonesborough:**
Take State of Franklin Road towards ETSU. Turn **right** on **Gilbreath Drive**. (Pal's/Elizabethton Federal Bank)
- Park in the lot located between Gilbreath Drive, Stout Drive, and West Maple Street.



Dates and Deadlines

- Umpires should be **registered with TSSAA by Wednesday, January 31**.
- Submit March availability in Arbiter by **February 15**.
 - Assignments are made 3-4 weeks prior to game dates and published about 2 weeks before game dates.
- Scrimmages begin Feb 10.
- Middle School Games begin February 26
- High School Games begin March 4
- Local Assigning Fee of \$60.00 is due by **Sunday, February 18** (third scheduled meeting). The Executive Committee has established a \$10 late fee to apply to fees paid after February 18.
 - If baseball or softball only, pay the assigning officer of that sport. Make checks payable to them directly.
 - **If registered for both baseball and softball**, pay 1/2 of the assigning fee (\$30) to each assigning officer. Any late fees are owed to both assigning officers (\$40 to each assigner)
 - The Local Assigning Fee **is waived** for first-year members who are working their first year of school ball. This is to help defray startup costs for new umpires and the fee is not waived for transfers who have worked school ball in another association or state.

2024 Game Fees

<u>Baseball</u>	<u>Softball</u>
High School Varsity - \$90	High School Varsity - \$80 Varsity / JV - \$110 JV DH - \$110
<u>No Time Limits</u> HS JV or Middle (Full 7) - \$85 HS JV or Middle (6 Innings) - \$75 HS JV or Middle (5 Innings) - \$65	<u>No Time Limits</u> HS JV or Middle (Full 7) - \$70 Middle DH (10 Innings) - \$110
<u>Time Limits</u> HS JV or Middle (7-inn/1:45 Time) - \$75 HS JV or Middle (5-inn/1:30 Time) - \$60 Middle School (1:15 drop dead) - \$45	<u>Time Limits</u> HS JV or Middle (7-inn/1:30 Time) - \$65 HS JV or Middle (5-inn/1:15 Time) - \$55

Arbiter Pay - The following school systems utilize Arbiter Pay. All officials must be set-up for Arbiter Pay to receive payment. All other systems not listed below will pay by check at the game site or will mail a check after the game.

Bristol City Schools | Johnson City Schools | Kingsport City Schools | Washington County Schools

Note: Pay received via Arbiter Pay will be combined for 1099 reporting. A 1099 will be received from Arbiter Pay instead of the schools systems if the official is paid \$600 or more from Arbiter Pay during the calendar year.