

Welcome to Softball Training



Agenda – Jan 19,2026

- Welcome
- USA Softball
- Annual Report
- Arbiter
- Whistle Registration
- Important Dates
- Uniforms and Equipment
- Social Media
- Fines

USA Softball of Virginia

- Jeremy Niedzwiecki is UIC for the Tidewater Area
- State Director is John McPhail
- State UIC is Joe DeFranco
- Local Tournament Director is James Spencer
- List of tournaments on usasoftballofvirginia.com
- Price increased to \$65 a game
- Must be registered with USA and take Safesport Email went out from John McPhail for those previously registered and Jeremy will send another one.



2025 EOA Softball Annual Report

Submitted by Jeremy Niedzwiecki, EOA Softball
Commissioner



2025 Softball Committee

- Cara Headrick
Committee Chairperson
- Sheldon Parson
EOA Softball Delegate
- Sam Serman
Evals
- Vern Aunchman
Evals
- Scott Warren
New Official Trainer and Registrar
- Ricky Kyle
At Large
- Laura Kaiser
At Large
- Robert Toran
At Large/President
- Jeremy Niedzwiecki
Commissioner

Committee will add one member in 2026

- Josh Sawyer At Large



2025 Representatives and Other Duties

- Robert Toran- Nominations and Election Committee Representative
- Donald Richardson- Judicial Committee Representative
- Rich Vargas- Rules Interpreter

2025 Accomplishments

- Paid \$185,781 up from \$127,620 in 2024 to Officials
- Officiated 3 State Quarterfinals for VISAA
- Officiated 2 State Quarterfinals for VHSL
- Awarded 2 State Championship games (2 semifinals) for VHSL Group 5 and 6
- Utilized 90 officials throughout the year
- Officiated 1176 games up from 821 games in 2024
- Conducted 169 evals up from 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 ✓

2026 Goals



- Get assignments out at least 2 weeks and preferably 30 days in advance where possible
- Conduct 2 evals on each active official
- Establish recruiting plan for new officials
- Conduct spring and fall training for new officials
- Create a social media presence
- 100% of Eligible Officials Post Season VHSL Eligible

Arbiter

- Our system for game assignments and pay
- URL is ***arbitersports.com***
- Please be sure to mark yourself ready
- Use the block feature to let the commissioner know when not available. **If this is not used, you may be scheduled on a date when you are not available.** Do not depend on calling or emailing me. **Use the system!**
- Use Arbiter to get information to contact your partner

Arbiter



Ready to be Assigned

EVOA-SB

Arbiter Pay Summary

Show Balance

Central Hubs

EVOA-SB

Upcoming Schedule

You have no future games

Announcements

Group: All ▾



EVOA-SB

12/1/25

3:20 PM

Jeremiah Niedzwiecki

2026 Spring Softball Meeting and Training Schedule

Monday, January 19 at 6pm at Salem HS Schola – Kickoff Meeting and Social – Jeremy Niedzwiecki

Monday, January 26 at 6pm at Salem HS Schola – New Rules, Points of Emphasis, Infield Fly, and Look Back Rule – Josh Sawyer

Monday, February 2 at 6pm at Salem HS Schola – Pitching Rules – Josh Sawyer and Sam Serman

Monday, February 9 at 6pm on Webex – Batting and Batter Runner Rules – Laura Kaiser

Sunday, February 22 at 1pm at Salem HS Softball Field – Plate Mechanics and Plate Meeting – Josh Sawyer and Lewis Richardson

Sunday, March 1 at 1pm at Salem HS Softball Field – Base Mechanics, Pre Game, and Post Game – Sam Serman and Lewis Richardson

Sunday, March 8 at 1pm at Salem HS Softball Field – Combined 2 Umpire Drills – Laura Kaiser and Lewis Richardson

Monday, March 16 at 6pm on Webex – Interference and Obstruction – Jeremy



Arbiter



Jeremiah Niedzwiecki
My Account ▾



DASHBOARD SCHEDULE EVALUATIONS PAYMENTS BLOCKS ELIGIBILITY **LISTS** SETTINGS

Officials Assn. Officers Contacts Sites Teams Forms

Utilities

Filter

Reports

Photo Roster

Legend

- Normal
- Not Ready
- Inactive
- Not Joined
- Left your group

Display

Rows(1-200):

[Save settings](#)
[Reset to default](#)

Filters

None Applied
Count: 90

Sort

Last Name, First Name
Email

[Reset Sort](#)

Last Name Filter

[\[Clear Last Name Filter\]](#)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Full Name	Email	Games
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Anderson Jr., William C	Wca461@gmail.com	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Andrews, Samuel	sba1942@msn.com	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Aunchman, Vernon	vernmarg@aol.com	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Belanga, Michael Iou	belangamichael@yahoo.com	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Benton, Karen K	kbenton8556@hotmail.com	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Blount, wade	blount_wade@hotmail.com	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brenneman, Rick C	rickbrenneman2@gmail.com	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brooks, Devin	dpbrooks2012@gmail.com	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Browning, Steve	scmb@cox.net	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Butler Sr., Gary O	gbu10@msn.com	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	capps, robert j	deweycapps@verizon.net	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Carter, John	umpcarter@gmail.com	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Casteen, Mike	mike.casteen@gmail.com	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Coakley (115), Connell "Coke"	notpepsi2002@aol.com	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cox, Andy	andcox2323@icloud.com	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Crossman, Cheryl	Luvsports8@cox.net	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Eagan, Debbie Anne	dfroge@aol.com	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Eichelberger, Levi	eichelbergerls@gmail.com	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Eichmann, Charles	cjaruck@comcast.net	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Feaster, AARON	AARON_FEASTER@YAHOO.COM	

1 2 3 4 5

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z All

Arbiter



Jeremiah Niedzwiecki
My Account ▾



DASHBOARD SCHEDULE EVALUATIONS PAYMENTS **BLOCKS** ELIGIBILITY LISTS SETTINGS

Dates Sites Teams Partners Travel Limits Postal Codes Summary

Action

- View Schedule
- Block All Day
- Block Part Day
- Clear Blocks
- Add Notes
- Firm Block

Calendar

Action - "View Schedule"

Time Range

From To

Date Range

From To

S M T W T F S

Exit

Reports

Calendar

Legend

- Assigned Game
- Attached Game
- Pending Game
- Full Day Block
- Part Day Block
- Open Day

Action - "View Schedule"

Month Jan ▾

December		January 2026					February
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
28	29	30	31	1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

1/18/2026 - Games and Blocks

Group	Games/Blocks	Status	From	To	Site/Created	Firm
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Exit

Arbiter



- Profile
- Help
- Give Feedback
- Sign out

User Preferences

Alerts

Check the boxes below to receive alerts. Only valid phone numbers are allowed.

Alert Type	Game
JeremyandBeth@yahoo.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
757-663-6609	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
757-364-7583	<input type="checkbox"/>

Alert Types

- Active all alert types
- Game Reminder: Reminder message of upcoming game
- New Game: Notification that you have been assigned to a new game
- New Event: Notification that you have been invited to an event
- Game Change: Notification that a game you are assigned to has been changed
- Unassigned: Notification that you have been unassigned from a game
- Event Reminder: Reminder of an upcoming event

Phone Numbers

757-663-6609
757-364-7583

Calendar Sync

Receive an email with a link to set up your iCal feed.

Other

Time Zone: (Specify the time Zone that you are in. Applicable data will be displayed in this time zone.)

Page Size: (When viewing grids of data, this value is used to determine how many rows are visible at a time.)

Date Range: (Used to only show data that is within your season.)

Default Printing Format



Jeremiah Niedzwiecki

Account

Sign-in & Security

Additional Information

Tax Information

Account

Update and manage your account

Cancel Save

* First Name MI

Jeremiah

* Last Name Suffix

Niedzwiecki

Nickname

Commissioner

Date of Birth Gender

06/30/1975 Male

Email

JeremyandBeth@yahoo.com Username

+ Add Email

Phone Number Extension Type

(757) 663-6609 654 Cellular

Whistle

- VHSL site for registration, test, and clinic
- URL is whistle.vhsl.org
- Must complete the test and clinic by Mar 14
- Registration fee is \$45. This is no longer handled by the association. Each official must go into Whistle and register for VHSL
- Select Eastern Virginia Softball Officials Association when registering

Whistle



[ABOUT](#)

[HELP](#)

[NEW OFFICIALS REGISTRATION](#)

[RETURNING SIGN IN](#)

Serving Youth Since 1913

Welcome to the new officiating application platform

A smartphone mockup displaying a user dashboard for the Whistle application. The dashboard has a dark blue header with the Whistle logo on the left and a welcome message on the right. Below the header is a profile section with a user icon, name, and status. To the right is a table showing eligibility and registration status for various sports. At the bottom, there are icons for announcements and testing.

LOGO Welcome back, Your Name!

Last login: March 27, 2018 at 9:04pm (est)

Your Sport Eligibility	Registration	Test Score	Rules Clinic
Girls Volleyball JV V PS	Completed & Paid	98%	100%
Baseball JV V	Completed & Paid	82%	100%
Girls Soccer JV	Completed & Paid	70%	95%
Field Hockey	Completed & Paid	N/A	50%

JV Junior Varsity Eligible V Varsity Eligible PS Post Season Eligible

[Edit Profile](#)

[Announcements](#)

[Testing](#)

Whistle

Please confirm that you are a member of the correct associations:
Also, confirm your [U.S. CERTIFICATION](#) status. [CLICK HERE](#).

Required - Please confirm that you agree to the following: VHSL's [Privacy Policy](#), [Terms of Service](#), and [Non-Felon Acknowledgement](#).

I Agree

Sports Test and Video Clinic	Price
Softball	\$45

Pay for Sports: \$45.00

Important Dates

• Training Dates

- Jan 19 6pm – Salem HS Schola
- Jan 26 6pm – Salem HS Schola
- Feb 02 6pm – Salem HS Schola
- Feb 09 6pm – WEBEX
- Feb 22 1pm – Salem HS Softball Field
- Mar 1 1pm – Salem HS Softball Field
- Mar 8 1pm – Salem HS Softball Field
- March 16 6pm – WEBEX
- April 12 6pm – Salem HS Schola
- April 19 1pm – Salem HS Softball Field (3 Umpire Clinic)
- June 15 6pm – WEBEX

- Make up Date of March 15 in case any of the outdoor sessions need to be made up

• Other Important Dates

- Mar 1 5pm – EOA Business Meeting
- Mar 16 – VHSL Start of Season
- Mar 14 – Last Day for Test and Clinic
- June 12 and 13 – VHSL State Games Semifinals and Finals

Uniforms

- Standard Uniform Other Than JUCO
 - Charcoal or Heather Grey Pants
 - Black Belt
 - Black Shoes
 - Blue or Grey Ball Bag
 - EOA Ball Cap
 - Powder or Polo Blue with Black Collar – Main Shirt
 - Dark Blue with red and white stripes – Alternate Shirt
 - White Undershirt
- Standard Equipment
 - Mask and Throat Guard
 - Chest Protector
 - Shin Guards
 - Indicator
 - Plate Brush
 - Lineup Card Holder



Uniforms

- Websites for Uniforms and Equipment
 - <https://epicsports.com>
 - <https://lbofficialsapparel.com>
 - <https://www.ump-attire.com>
 - <https://smittyapparel.com>
 - <https://honigs.com>
 - <https://amazon.com>
- Local Embroidery
 - Sports Connection –
 - 545 CENTRAL DRIVE # 110, VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23454
 - 7573409758

Social Media

- Launched a new facebook page for EOA Softball. Being led by Cara Corbett aka Cara Headrick
- Please send pictures throughout the season to Cara. I will be taking pictures when I am at games as well.
- Cara and I will control what is posted there.
- Mostly a recruiting and celebrating tool

The Facebook logo, consisting of the word "facebook" in white lowercase letters on a blue rectangular background.

facebook®

Social Media Dos and Don'ts

- Dos

- Present a positive image of umpiring and the association
- Celebrate achievements after they have occurred

- Don'ts

- Post game assignments
- React to other posts about a game (even if it involves you)
- Post anything about EOA with permission from the commissioner or EOA board
- Post ask the umpire or comment on plays

- If you feel something is out there that needs an official association response, bring it to the commissioner and/or EOA Board for consideration

Fine Schedule

- Fine schedule has been approved by the EOA Executive Board
- It is posted to the EOA website under Softball
- It will be enforced as needed

Questions?

