

Historical Operations Case Study - Updated

Gate, Net Concessions, Umpire Compensation & USSSA Sanction Fees | 2001-2026

Research status: Comparative sensitivity analysis only. The September 10, 2026 Hidden Valley dataset and its public-information findings remain unchanged. The historical-provider figures are used as a separate experienced-operator benchmark, not as replacement data.

Measure	Hidden Valley	Historical Scenario	Difference
Gate	\$70,070,890	\$74,600,181	\$4,529,291
Net concessions (50% gate)	\$35,035,445	\$37,300,090.50	\$2,264,645.50
Umpires (central)	\$31,468,440	\$33,106,470	\$1,638,030
State sanction fees	\$1,662,740	\$1,852,215	\$189,475
National sanction fees	\$399,450	\$624,100	\$224,650
All five modeled categories	\$138,636,965	\$147,483,056.50	\$8,846,091.50

Executive Summary

The original Historical Operations Case Study compared Hidden Valley's standardized gate and umpire assumptions with the retrospective operating experience of a seasoned Oklahoma USSSA tournament operator. The updated email discussion adds historical recollection concerning **USSSA state and national sanction fees**, allowing a broader comparison of the standardized research architecture against experienced operating memory.

The operator first reported the current structure as approximately **\$200 per event to USSSA National** and **\$15 per team to the state**. When asked whether that structure applied across 2001-2026, he clarified that earlier USSSA fees were approximately **\$100 national and \$10 state/team 'to I think 2021.'** Because the transition year is expressed as recollection rather than a contemporaneous record, this case study conservatively models the earlier structure through 2021 and the newer structure beginning in 2022.

Using the same sanctionable team/event units embedded in the September 10 dataset, the Hidden Valley component model produces **\$1,662,740** in state sanction fees and **\$399,450** in national sanction fees. The historical-provider sensitivity scenario produces **\$1,852,215** and **\$624,100**, respectively.

The sanction-fee sensitivity alone increases the like-for-like component total from \$2,062,190 to \$2,476,315, a difference of \$414,125 (20.08%).

1. Source Chronology and What the Emails Support

September 10: the researcher stated that Hidden Valley had standardized state sanction fees at \$10 per team and national sanction fees at \$75 per event across 2001-2026 and asked the experienced operator for historical guidance.

September 11, 8:19 AM: the operator responded that USSSA sanction fees are \$200, all going to National, and \$15 per team going to State.

September 11, 8:51 AM: the researcher asked whether those amounts applied throughout 2001-2026.

September 11, 11:31 AM: the operator clarified that earlier USSSA fees were \$100 and \$10 'to I think 2021.' The phrase 'I think' is retained as an evidentiary limitation. The email does not establish an exact effective date or prove uniform application to every event.

2. Sanction-Fee Comparison

Period	Hidden Valley Standard	Historical-Provider Scenario	Interpretation
2001-2021	\$10 state/team + \$75 national/event	\$10 state/team + \$100 national/event	State assumption aligns; national assumption is lower than recalled historical fee.
2022-2026	\$10 state/team + \$75 national/event	\$15 state/team + \$200 national/event	Both standardized assumptions are lower than the recalled newer structure.

3. State Sanction Fee Sensitivity

Hidden Valley's standardized state sanction component totals **\$1,662,740**. Applying \$10 per sanctionable team through 2021 and \$15 beginning in 2022 produces **\$1,852,215**. The modeled difference is **\$189,475**, or 11.40%.

This comparison does not alter public team counts or team-entry-fee information. It changes only the hypothetical sanction-rate assumption used in the isolated historical scenario.

4. National Sanction Fee Sensitivity

Hidden Valley's standardized national sanction component totals **\$399,450** using the dataset's \$75-per-event architecture. Applying the experienced-provider recollection of \$100 per event through 2021 and \$200 beginning in 2022 produces **\$624,100**.

The modeled difference is **\$224,650**, or 56.24%. Of the two sanction components, the national-event assumption produces the larger proportional sensitivity.

Dataset reconciliation note: the September 10 CSV's state and national sanction component columns sum to \$2,062,190, while the stored *TotalUSSSASanctionFees* column sums to \$2,062,025. The \$165 difference comes from row-level stored-total exceptions. This case study does not modify those records; the sanction sensitivity uses the component columns for like-for-like comparison.

5. Updated Combined Sensitivity

Before adding sanction fees, the existing historical-operations comparison totals **\$136,574,775** under the standardized model and **\$145,006,741.50** under the central historical scenario for gate, net concessions and umpire compensation.

Adding the sanction components produces a like-for-like five-category comparison of **\$138,636,965** under Hidden Valley's standardized component assumptions versus **\$147,483,056.50** under the updated historical scenario. The resulting difference is **\$8,846,091.50**, or 6.38%.

This larger combined figure must remain labeled a historical sensitivity scenario. It is not an assertion of actual statewide receipts, actual director income, actual tax liability, or verified payments by every USSSA event.

6. Why the Updated Sanction Information Matters

The sanction-fee comparison adds an important distinction to the research. Hidden Valley's standardized \$10 state team fee appears consistent with the operator's recollection for the earlier period, while the standardized \$75 national event fee is below his recalled \$100 historical amount. After approximately 2021, both standardized rates are below the recalled newer structure.

This means the standardized model is not uniformly aggressive. In the sanction-fee category, the experienced-provider scenario generally moves modeled amounts upward, particularly for national event sanctions after the recalled fee change.

The updated case study therefore provides a stronger methodological picture: public event and team-entry-fee data remain the research foundation; standardized non-public variables remain reproducible; and experienced operating recollection provides a separate historical stress test.

7. Evidentiary Classification and Limitations

Gate and umpire information: experienced-provider retrospective operating recollection from the September 10 email.

Sanction-fee information: experienced-provider retrospective recollection from the September 11 follow-up.

Transition-year limitation: the operator wrote 'to I think 2021.' Therefore, 2021 is used as a sensitivity-model boundary, not presented as a verified contractual or organizational effective date.

Statewide limitation: the correspondence does not establish that every USSSA event, director, sport, facility or market used identical fees in every year.

Dataset status: no modification. Team-entry-fee findings remain public-information findings; the historical scenario remains isolated from the authoritative dataset.

Conclusion

The updated historical-operations analysis now compares five modeled categories: gate, net concessions, umpire compensation, state sanction fees and national sanction fees. The standardized five-category component model totals **\$138,636,965**; the central historical-provider scenario totals **\$147,483,056.50**. The difference is **\$8,846,091.50** (6.38%).

The proper research interpretation is unchanged: do not rewrite Hidden Valley. Preserve the standardized longitudinal dataset and publish the experienced-provider figures as a parallel sensitivity case study. The new sanction-fee evidence adds another historical operating layer and improves understanding of where the standardized model may diverge from real-world tournament experience.

Source note: September 10-11, 2026 email correspondence concerning historical gate, umpire and USSSA sanction fee practices, reviewed alongside the September 10, 2026 Hidden Valley dataset and the prior Historical Operations Case Study. The public-facing analytical narrative may anonymize the operator while preserving the evidentiary source files.