

2022 NMAA Baseball Rules Clinic



Dusty Young
NMAA Associate Director

COVID Guidelines

Mask Wearing

No masks when participating outdoors (practice and games)

INDOORS: Masks must be worn at all times by student-athletes and coaches.

*i.e. when in weight room, locker room, transportation



COVID Guidelines

Quarantine

Vaccinated student-athletes and coaches do not have to quarantine if exposed to someone with Covid-19.

Unvaccinated student-athletes and coaches are subject to a 5 day quarantine period if exposed.

Test to Stay/Play – Days 1, 3, & 5



COVID Guidelines

- ▶ Social Distancing in effect to the greatest extent possible
- ▶ No sharing of personal athletic equipment
- ▶ Sanitization



COVID Guidelines

Transportation

- ▶ Must wear masks

Overnight Travel

- ▶ Unvaccinated - "one per room" (or large suites)
- ▶ Vaccinated can share rooms.



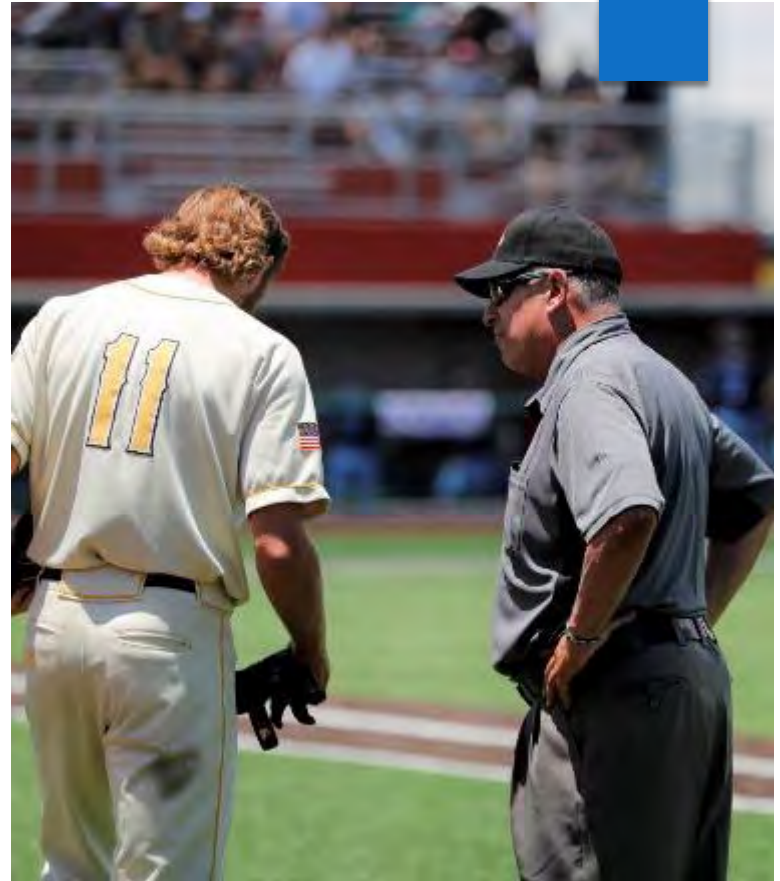
COVID Guidelines

Forfeit vs. No Contest

- ▶ Forfeit loss – move up players if needed

District Standings / Playoffs

- ▶ Must play or reschedule district games; forfeit issued otherwise
- ▶ Ineligible for state if a district game is forfeited



COVID-19 Rule Modifications

- ▶ Only one modification from 2021 will carry over to the 2022 season
 - ▶ Pitcher Conduct
 - ▶ Prohibit licking of fingers and wiping them off
 - ▶ Pitchers are not allowed to put their hands to their mouths prior to pitching the ball. This will be a "no pitch." Any umpire is permitted to make this call. The ball should be called dead immediately and it will be a "no pitch." Ball goes to the dugout for sanitizing & pitcher sanitizes hands before play continues

COVID-19 Guidelines

▶ PED Tool Kit

- ▶ https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/NMPED_COVID19ResponseToolkit_PublicSch011922_PublicVersion.pdf

▶ NMAA Return to Participation Guidelines

- ▶ https://www.nmact.org/file/NMAA_COVID-19_PARTICIPATION_GUIDELINES.pdf

▶ School/School District Guidelines

Questions

Official Ball/Bat of the NMAA

- ▶ Official State Championship Ball
 - ▶ Wilson A1010
- ▶ Official Bat
 - ▶ Wilson DeMarini Pro Maple Composite Wood

The Wilson logo, featuring the word "Wilson" in a bold, red, cursive-style font with a registered trademark symbol.The DeMarini logo, featuring a red square with a white "W" inside, followed by the word "DeMARINI" in a bold, black, sans-serif font with a registered trademark symbol.

Important Dates

Monday, January 31	First official day of practice
Saturday, February 5	Games / Scrimmages can start
Tuesday, March 1	Rosters/Schedules posted
Friday, April 15	Team Photos posted
Saturday, April 30	Last day of regular season games for Classes 2A-5A
Sunday, May 1	2A-5A Brackets Released
Saturday, May 7	Last day of regular season games for Class 1A
Sunday, May 8	1A Bracket Released

Important Dates (cont'd)

Wednesday, May 4

Class 2A 1st Round of 12

**single game*

Fri/Sat, May 6-7

Class 3A 1st Round of 12

Class 4A-5A 1st Round of 16

**best of three series*

Thurs-Sat, May 12-14

Class 2A-5A Quarters-Finals

Fri-Sat, May 13-14

Class 1A Semis-Finals

2022 Baseball Season

- ▶ Varsity Game Limitation – 26
- ▶ Sub-Varsity Game Limitations – 23
- ▶ One Scrimmage Day*
- ▶ One Alumni Game*

**Note: Scrimmages & Alumni Games may only take place during the season after minimum practice regulations are met (5 days) and before the first regular season game. Alumni games must be approved by the school administration.*

NMAA Baseball Bylaws

▶ State Playoff Information

▶ Class A

- ▶ 4-Team Bracket
- ▶ Qualifiers: 3 District Champs, 1 At-Large
- ▶ Single Elimination held during Week #46
- ▶ Semis – higher seed is home (unless chooses visitor)
- ▶ Finals – coin flip determines home/visitor (higher seed calls it)

▶ Class 2A

- ▶ 12-Team Bracket
- ▶ Qualifiers: 6 District Champs, 6 At-Large
- ▶ Single Elimination
- ▶ 1st Round of 12 on Wednesday of Week #45 & played at higher seed
- ▶ Quarters-Finals held during Week #46
- ▶ Quarters – higher seed is home (unless chooses visitor)
- ▶ Semis & Finals – coin flip determines home/visitor (higher seed calls it)

NMAA Baseball Bylaws

▶ State Playoff Information

▶ Class 3A-5A

- ▶ 12-Team Bracket for 3A, 16-Team Bracket for 4A & 5A
- ▶ District Champs Qualify, At-Large Selections Fill Brackets
- ▶ Best of Three Series in First Round, then Single Elimination
- ▶ 1st Round of 12/16 Series on Fri/Sat of Week #45 & played at higher seed (higher seed is home team for all series games)
- ▶ Quarters-Finals held during Week #46
- ▶ Quarters – higher seed is home (unless chooses visitor)
- ▶ Semis & Finals – coin flip determines home/visitor (higher seed calls it)

NMAA Baseball Bylaws

▶ State Playoff Information

▶ Class 3A-5A 1st Round Series Scheduling

- ▶ Game 1 – Friday no earlier than 3pm, no later than 7pm
- ▶ Game 2 – Saturday at 10am or 11am
- ▶ Game 3 (if necessary) – 30-45 minutes after Game 2

**NOTE – Deviations from this schedule must be approved by the NMAA*

NMAA Baseball Bylaws

- ▶ State Playoff Information
 - ▶ Seeding/Selection Criteria (same as in previous years)
 - ▶ Finish in District
 - ▶ Head to Head
 - ▶ Wins Against District Champions
 - ▶ Overall Records
 - ▶ MaxPreps Rankings
 - ▶ Member School Input (coach ranking)

NMAA Baseball Bylaws

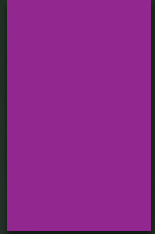
▶ State Playoff Information

▶ Championship Locations

- ▶ 1st Round – Site of Higher Seed
- ▶ Quarters/Semis – University of New Mexico, Rio Rancho HS, Cleveland HS, Eldorado HS, Sandia HS
- ▶ Finals – University of New Mexico (1A-4A)
Isotopes Park (5A)

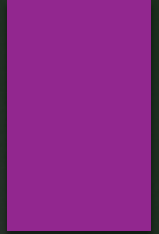
**Formats/sites for the State Baseball Championships are subject to change based on potential COVID protocols implemented by the Governor's Office, DOH, PED, UNM (i.e. overnight travel, facility requirements, etc.)*

NMAA Baseball Bylaws



- ▶ Baseballs & Catcher's Equipment
 - ▶ Baseballs – NOCSAE/SEI and NFHS Marks
 - ▶ Catcher's Chest Protector – NOCSAE/SEI Mark
- ▶ Bat Regulations
 - ▶ Only wood or composite wood bats may be used (all levels of high school play)
 - ▶ Bats must comply with NFHS Rules
 - ▶ i.e. size specifications for wood, BBCOR certification for composite wood

NMAA Baseball Bylaws

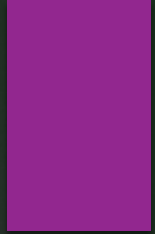


▶ Bat Regulations (cont'd)

- ▶ Beginning with the 2022-2023 school year (2023 baseball season), all legal bats as per NFHS Rules can be used.

**This includes BBCOR certified aluminum and composite metal bats*

NMAA Baseball Bylaws



- ▶ Pitching Regulations
 - ▶ Varsity – 120 pitches in any 3-day period
 - ▶ Sub-Varsity – 105 pitches in any 3-day period
 - ▶ May finish a batter if the maximum limit is hit during an at-bat
 - ▶ Pitch counts MUST be reported for all players from each game to MaxPreps within 24 hours
 - ▶ 1st Offense – Warning
 - ▶ 2nd Offense – Suspension for one game

NMAA Baseball Bylaws

► Pitching Regulations

► Rest Period Requirements

Pitches	Required Rest
91+	4 Calendar Days
61-90	3 Calendar Days
41-60	1 Calendar Day
0-40	0 Calendar Days

Calendar Day = if a pitcher throws 85 pitches on Tuesday, the player cannot pitch again until Saturday (3 required calendar days of rest)

NMAA Baseball Bylaws

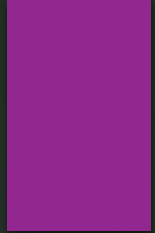


▶ Pitching Regulations

▶ Consecutive Day Note

- ▶ If a player pitches on consecutive days and accumulates more than 60 pitches total during those two days, the cumulative pitch count must be used to calculate the required rest period. If a player pitches on two consecutive days and is eligible to pitch a third consecutive day, the maximum number of pitches allowed on day three will be 60. The pitcher will be allowed to finish a batter if they hit this maximum limit during an at bat, but must exit the game after the batter.
- ▶ **If a player pitches on three consecutive days, the cumulative pitch count from those three days must be used to calculate the required rest period after day 3. (Example = Pitcher A throws 25 pitches on Thursday, 27 pitches on Friday, and 35 pitches on Saturday, which is 87 pitches cumulatively – required rest after day three would be 3 calendar days.)*

NMAA Baseball Bylaws



▶ Pitching Regulations

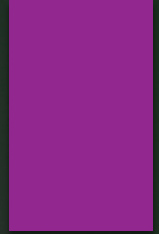
▶ Full High School Pitching Regulations

https://www.nmact.org/files/NMAA_Baseball_HS_Pitching_Restrictions.pdf

▶ Full Middle School Pitching Regulations

https://www.nmact.org/files/NMAA_Baseball_MSJrH_Pitching_Restrictions.pdf

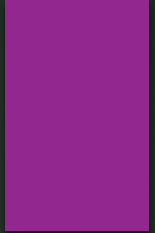
NMAA Baseball Bylaws



▶ Game Limitations

- ▶ Each varsity team or individual is limited to twenty (26) total games. Each sub-varsity team or individual is limited to seventeen (23) total games.
- ▶ **Innings of Play** - If a school plays two games at different levels (i.e. JV & Varsity) back to back on the same day, at the same site, and against the same school, a student-athlete may participate in 10 innings between the two contests and only count this as one game towards his/her game limitations.
- ▶ If a player participates in a contest as a courtesy runner only, this will not count towards that player's game limitations for the season.

NMAA Bylaws



- ▶ Protests
 - ▶ Not allowed
- ▶ Ejection Policy
 - ▶ 1st Offense – sit out one game and complete NFHS course
 - ▶ Subsequent Offenses – more severe sanctions
 - ▶ Battery (punch, kick, etc.) – suspended from 15% of season limitation based on game limitations

NMAA Reminders

► Sportsmanship

► Compete with Class

The NMAA defines sportsmanship as, “the act of treating others in a respectful manner; taking personal accountability for ones actions and responding with integrity while engaged in competition” and is rooted in three core values: Respect, Integrity and Responsibility

► Bench Decorum

Cheering on your team from the dugout versus unnecessary and/or inappropriate “chatter” directed at the opposing team or umpires

Questions

NFHS Rule Changes & POEs

- ▶ Dave Rast
 - ▶ NMOA Umpire, Baseball Clinician





2022 NFHS BASEBALL RULES POWERPOINT

National Federation of State
High School Associations



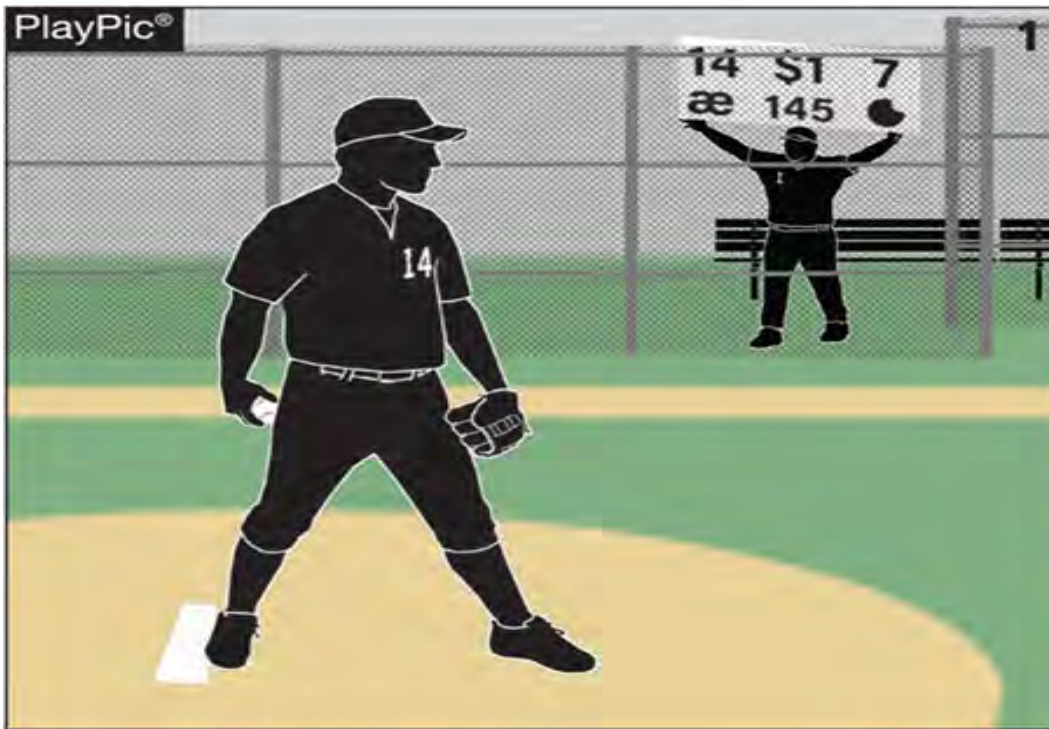
B. Elliot Hopkins, MLD, CAA
NFHS Director of Sports, Sanctioning and Student Services



RULES CHANGES



RULE 6-1-1 PITCHING





RULE 6-1-1

ART. 1 . . . The pitcher shall pitch while facing the batter from either a windup position (Art.2) or set position (Art.3). The position of his feet determine whether he will pitch from the windup or the set position. He shall take or simulate taking his sign from the catcher with his pivot foot in contact with the pitcher's plate. The pitching regulations begin when he intentionally contacts the pitcher's plate. Turning the shoulders after bringing the hands together during or after the stretch is a balk. He shall not make a quick-return pitch in an attempt to catch a batter off balance. The catcher shall have both feet in the catcher's box at the time of the pitch. If a pitcher is ambidextrous, the umpire shall require the pitcher to face a batter as either a left-handed or right-handed pitcher, but not both.



RULE 6-1-1

Rationale:

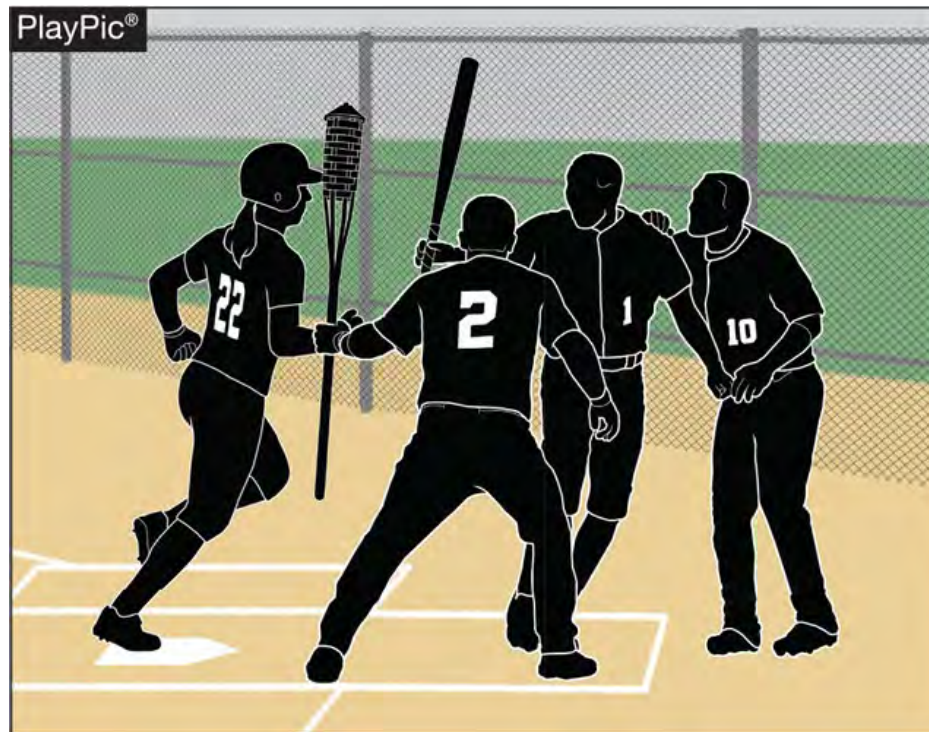
The pitcher acquiring the sign from the catcher is one of the fundamental rules of baseball. It not only signals the defensive team that action is about to be initiated, but it also establishes when an offensive base runner(s) can take a lead-off from his/her base. That simple act has evolved over the last decade but was not supported by an accompanying rule. This change validates the pitcher taking the sign from the dugout/bench via “call” signs, numbers, colors, or an arm wristband/placard that contains printed cards where the defensive set up/pitching repertoire is located. This aspect of the game has become more sophisticated to match the skill level and ability of today’s high school baseball player.



NFHS BASEBALL POINTS OF EMPHASIS



EXCESSIVE CELEBRATION

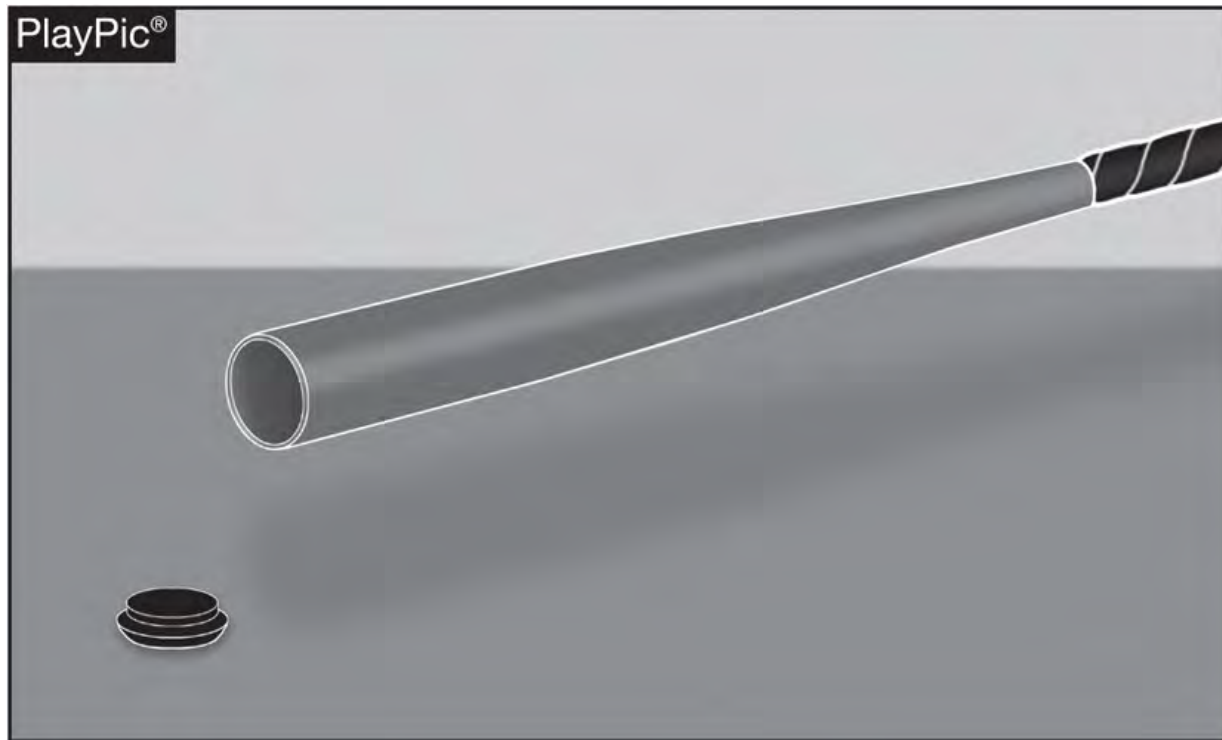




EXCESSIVE CELEBRATION

- The game has evolved from celebratory high-fives and cheers to choreographed celebrations that include props and players being assigned specific roles.
- If coaches are unable to manage the emotions of their players or the theatrics of celebration, then the game umpires have existing rules that provide warnings, possible restrictions and ultimately ejections from the contest.

PROPER USE OF EQUIPMENT





PROPER USE OF EQUIPMENT

- Equipment manufacturers spend millions of dollars to ensure that their products are held to high industry standards. Most products are tested as to how they are supposed to be worn or used. When someone alters that product, it violates the equipment's warranty and leaves the end-user uncertain that the product will perform...or protect the wearer from injury or harm.
- Bats, helmets, chest and chin protectors should not be modified or used in a way that it was not designed by the manufacturer.
- Doing so violates the equipment's warrant and creates a product that may not perform as intended nor protect the user from injury or harm.



SITTING ON BUCKETS (COACHES)

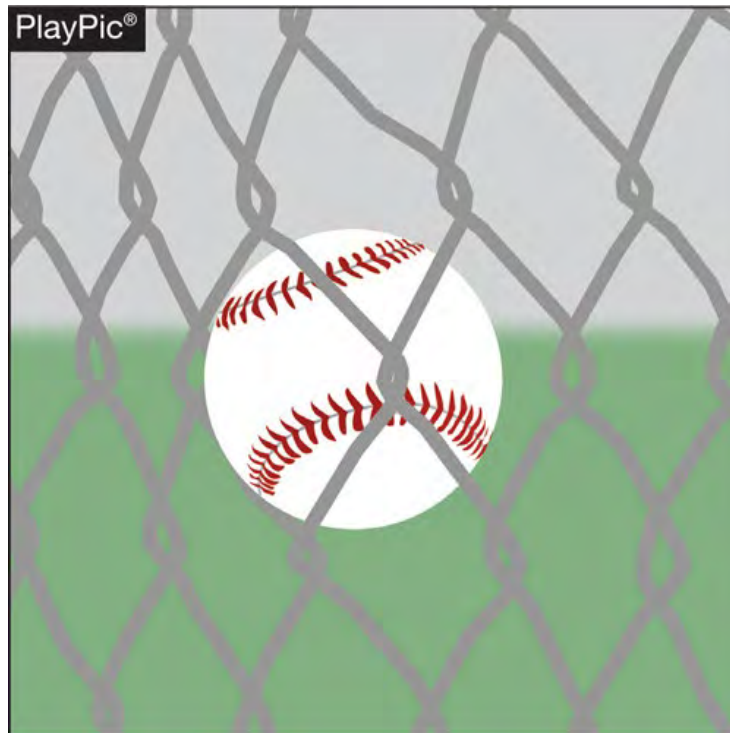




SITTING ON BUCKETS (COACHES)

- Coaches, players, substitutes, attendants or other bench personnel shall not leave the dugout during live ball for any unauthorized purpose.
- Coaches or team personnel may not sit outside the dugout/bench on buckets or stools.
- We have an obligation to protect and set a good example for the students we coach and care about; not to entice them to break the rules. High school sports have always been about teaching skill and work ethic while modeling appropriate behavior. Staying in the dugout/bench area is another example of showing our students the “right” way to do things.

LODGED BALL PROCEDURE

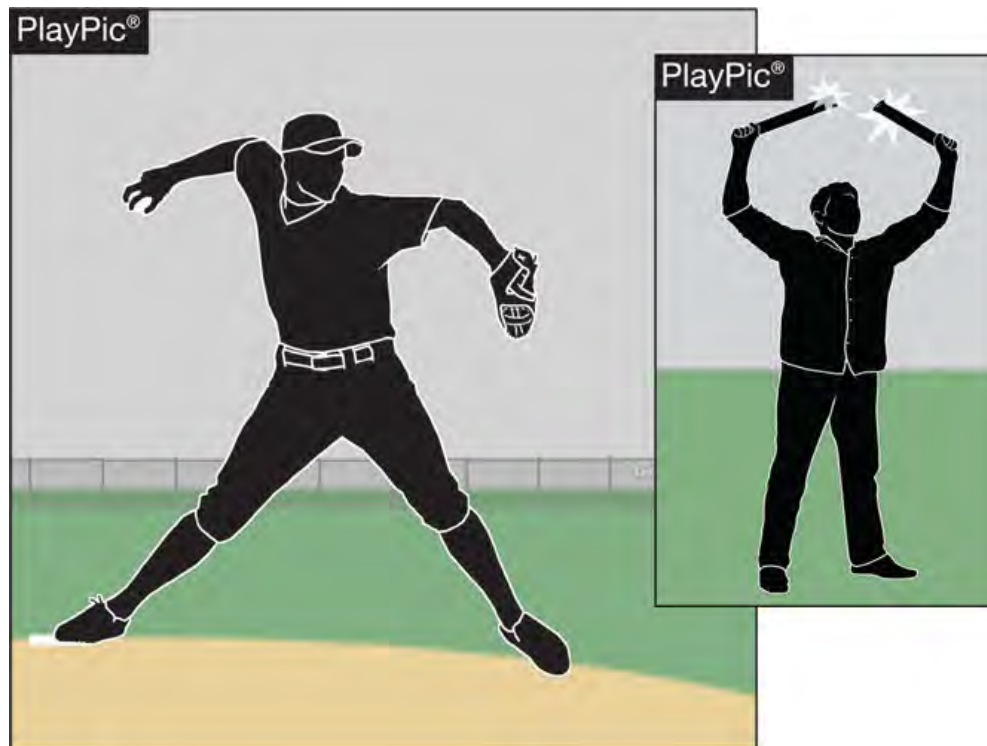




LODGED BALL PROCEDURE

- When a lodged ball situation occurs, there is always a lot of energy behind it if the ball is truly lodged or is the defensive player practicing gamesmanship. We have seen at different levels that when a ball gets lodged in a glove the quick-thinking fielder removes his glove and throws it to the respective base to register the force out. While it is an exciting play that takes skill and a little bit of luck to accomplish, we do not have that many lodged balls in high school baseball.
 - A baseball that remains on the playing field but has become wedged, stuck, lost, unreachable, is defined to be a lodged ball.
- If the ball impacts something, stops abruptly, and does not fall or roll immediately, it is considered lodged.

SPORTSMANSHIP



SPORTSMANSHIP

- Chants/intentional distractions/loud noises (natural or artificial) directed at the opponent's pitcher prior to his pitching, the batter preparing to hit, or a fielder getting ready to make a play is not good sportsmanship and should not be accepted.
- Players are not allowed to stand or kneel outside their dugout/bench and make "cat-calls" or any other disparaging remarks to the other team. Rooting for your team is an integral part of high school baseball. Supporting your teammates is extremely important and encouraged, however, making disparaging remarks toward your opponent is not part of the game, in fact it detracts from the contest. The purpose of interscholastic sports is educational.



RULES REMINDERS



DESIGNATED HITTER RULE 3-1-4a2

14	4	Daniels		8
	SUB.			
32	5	Edwards		DH 3
	SUB.			
17	6	Franklin		6
	SUB.			
24	7	George		2
	SUB.			
2	8	Hamilton		9
	SUB.			
19	9	Irwin		5
	SUB.			
6	10	Jackson		1
	SUB.			
				3
NO.	SUBSTITUTES			POS.
11	Knutson			
28	Larson			
35	Matthewson			
1	Nelson			

- While there is no change from the previous DH rule.
- The role of a standard DH is still terminated for the remainder of the game when the designated hitter or any previous designated hitter assumes a defensive position.



**THANK YOU AND HAVE A GREAT
BASEBALL SEASON!**

