

7.12.1 General Rules/Policies

- A. Classes** - There are four classes: A-AA, AAA, AAAA and AAAAA.
- B. Practice Date** - Practice may begin Monday of Week #32. The season ends when the school is eliminated from or does not qualify for post-season play.
- C. Game Limitation** – Each varsity team or individual is limited to twenty-six (26) total games. Each sub-varsity team or individual is limited to twenty-three (23) total games. This includes regular season and invitational tournament games.
- D. Pitching Restrictions** - Pitchers may throw a maximum of 12 innings in a 72-hour period, regardless of the length of a game.

In state tournament play, a pitcher may throw a maximum of 12 innings during the first round of 16.

A pitcher may also throw a maximum of 12 innings during the quarterfinals, semifinals, and finals (final 8).

- E. Protests** - As per National Federation Rules, a protest must be placed/filed in the scorebook prior to the next pitch, to be considered. The schools involved and umpires are required to submit a report, in writing, to the NMAA within 72 hours of the time/date of the protest. Failure to perform either of the identified conditions shall constitute a waiver of the protest option where applicable.
- F. NMAA District Clinic** – The head coach from each declared baseball school must complete the district clinic online at www.nmact.org between February 1st and February 28th (February 29th in a leap year). Failure to comply shall result in a \$100 fine to the school which will be assessed on March 1st.
- G. State Association Adoption(s)** - The following options in the National Federation Baseball Rulebook have been adopted by a vote of the schools:

- 1. NFHS Rule 4-2-2 (10-Run Rule):** A game is ended any time after 5 innings or after 4½ innings when the visiting team is ten or more runs behind and has completed its turn at bat, or when the home team is behind by 10 or more runs and has completed its turn at bat (after five innings).
- 2. NFHS Rule 4-2-3 Regulation Games:** If weather or darkness interferes with play so that the game is called (ended) by the umpire, it is a regulation game.
 - a.** If five full innings have been played or if the home team has scored an equal or greater number of runs in four or four and a fraction turns at bat than the visiting team has scored in five turns at bat; or
 - b.** If play has gone beyond five full innings:

If the game is called when the teams have not had an equal number of completed turns at bat, the score shall be the same as it was at the end of the last completed inning; except that if the home team in its half of the incomplete inning, scores a run (or runs) which equals or exceeds the opponent's score, the final score shall be as recorded when the game is called.

3. **Suspended Game:** If a game is terminated for any reason (weather, darkness, mechanical failures, etc.) and does not meet the requirements of a regulation game, it will then be treated as a suspended game. The game will be continued from the exact point of suspension with the line-up and batting order of each team the same as it was the moment of suspension.
 - a. **Suspended District Games** - All suspended district games must be completed as indicated above. The game should be completed at its original site, on a date agreed upon by both schools, if feasible. Should circumstances not allow for this (travel/expenses, scheduling conflicts), the following protocol should be followed:

If the two schools meet at a later date, the suspended game will be completed first as part of a doubleheader. This may cause the suspended game to be played at a different site than originally scheduled. However, the home team in the scorebook will be the same as it was originally.
 - b. **Suspended Non-District Games** - All suspended non-district games must be completed as indicated above using the same criteria as district games. However, if the two schools involved are more than 150 miles apart in distance, the game does not have to be completed unless both schools agree to do so.
 - c. **Continuation of Suspended Game** - In state tournament play, any suspended game shall be continued from the point of suspension at a later time. All state games must be played out to seven innings or more (unless the state adopted 10-run rule ends the game earlier).
4. **Unable to Continue Suspended Game** - If circumstances do not allow for a suspended game to be completed, no win, loss, or tie will be given to either team.
5. **Undetermined Winner** - A regulation game where a winner cannot be determined will be treated as a tie for both team's record.

H. Speed-Up Rules - The following speed-up rules have been adopted (Ref. NFHS Baseball Rulebook):

Courtesy Runners:

1. At any time the team at bat may use courtesy runners for the pitcher and/or the catcher. The same runner may not be used for both positions. Neither the pitcher nor the catcher will be required to leave the game under such circumstances.
 2. Players who have participated in the game in any other capacity are ineligible to serve as courtesy runners.
 3. A player may not run as a courtesy runner for the pitcher or the catcher and then be used as a substitute for another player in that half inning. If an injury, illness or ejection occurs and no other runners are available, the courtesy runner may be used as a substitute.
 4. The umpire-in-chief shall record courtesy runner participation.
 5. A player who violates the courtesy runner rule is considered to be an illegal substitute.
- I. Uniformed Coaches** - Coaches must be in complete uniform prior to the start of the game. If coaches are not in complete uniform, they will be restricted to their team's dugout.

7.12.2 Umpires

- A. Officials working any NMAA sanctioned event must be registered through the Association. Schools are required to use two (2) NMAA/NMOA officials/umpires for regular season sanctioned contests. When available, three (3) umpires are used at the NMAA State Baseball Tournament.
- B. Schools are subject to a fine for using non-registered officials for games.

7.12.3 District Alignments 2008-09/2009-10

Class 5A – Baseball

of Schools 23

District	District	District	District	District
1-5A	2-5A	3-5A	4-5A	5-5A
Cibola	ABQ. High	Alamogordo	Carlsbad	Eldorado
Cleveland	La Cueva	Gadsden	Clovis	Highland
Gallup	Sandia	Las Cruces	Hobbs	Los Lunas
Rio Rancho	Santa Fe	Mayfield		Manzano
West Mesa	Valley	Oñate		Rio Grande

Class 4A – Baseball

of Schools 26

District	District	District	District	District	District
1-4A	2-4A	3-4A	4-4A	5-4A	6-4A
Aztec	Bernalillo	Chaparral	Artesia	ABQ. Academy	Atrisco Heritage
Farmington	Capital	Deming	Goddard	Del Norte	Belen
Kirtland Central	Española	Santa Teresa	Roswell	Moriarty	Grants
Piedra Vista	Los Alamos	Silver		Valencia	St. Pius
Shiprock	Taos				Volcano Vista

Class 3A – Baseball

of Schools 24

District	District	District	District	District
1-3A	2-3A	3-3A	4-3A	5-3A
Bloomfield	Pojoaque	Cobre	Dexter	Cuba
Miyamura	Raton	Hatch	Lovington	Hope Christian
Tohatchi	Robertson	Hot Springs	NMMI	Laguna Acoma
Wingate	SF Indian	Socorro	Portales	Sandia Prep
	St. Michael's		Ruidoso	Thoreau
	W. Las Vegas			

Class 1A- 2A – Baseball

of Schools 35 (NORTH)

District	District	District	District
1	2	3	4
Gallup Catholic	McCurdy	Cimarron	Clayton
Jemez Valley	Mesa Vista	Monte del Sol	Grady
Navajo Prep	Peñasco	Mora	Logan
Shiprock NW	Questa	Pecos	San Jon
			Tucumcari

(SOUTH)

District	District	District	District
5	6	7	8
Capitan	Estancia	Dora	Eunice
Lordsburg	East Mountain	Elida	Gateway Christian
Mesilla Valley	Magdalena	Floyd	Lake Arthur
Tularosa	Santa Rosa	Melrose	Loving
		Texico	Valley Christian

7.12.4 District Tournaments

District tournaments are left up to each individual district. If held, they must be held on the week prior to the first round of 16.

7.12.6 State Tournament Information

- A. **Dates:** Week #45 – 1st Round of 16 for all classes
Week #46 – Quarters, Semis and Finals for all classes

B. State Qualifying Procedures for Class A and AA:

1. The District Champion and Runner Up from each of the eight districts will advance to the State Tournament.
2. First Round of State pairings by year is as follows:

NOTE: The champion from one district will host the runner-up from another district based upon the rotation below. Districts 1-4 are considered North; Districts 5-8 are considered South. Districts 1-4 will play on a rotating basis and Districts 5-8 will play on a rotating basis.

2008-2009	2009-2010
1C vs. 4R	1C vs. 3R
2C vs. 3R	2C vs. 4R
3C vs. 2R	3C vs. 1R
4C vs. 1R	4C vs. 2R
5C vs. 6R	5C vs. 7R
6C vs. 5R	6C vs. 8R
7C vs. 8R	7C vs. 5R
8C vs. 7R	8C vs. 6R

In the first round of 16, a best 2 of 3 series will be held to determine who advances to the quarterfinals. District Champions will host this series. Winner of the series will advance to the final field of 8. The remaining eight will then be seeded 1-8 by their respective seeding committee.

C. State Tournament Format for Classes AAA-AAAAA

1. 16 teams advance to the playoffs.
2. The district champion will automatically advance to the playoffs.
3. The remaining teams will be selected “at large” by the Seeding/Selection Committee. There will be 11 at large teams selected from Classes 3A and 5A and 10 at large teams selected from Class 4A.
4. In the first round of 16, a best 2 of 3 series will be held to determine who advances to the quarterfinals. The higher seed will determine the home site, unless the lower seed is a district champion. If two district champions meet in the first round, the higher seed will host the series.

D. Roster Limitation:

Each team is limited to eighteen (18) uniformed squad members. Rosters may not be changed during the tournament from the original list submitted.

- E. Officials’ Fees** - Fees for state tournament officials are based on the number of games called plus mileage and per diem if applicable.

7.12.6 Financial Information for the 1st Round of 16

A. Class A/2A-5A 1st Round of 16 Hosts

1. Each host school will be responsible for paying any expenses that may be incurred during the 1st round of 16. This includes game officials, tournament personnel, and any other expenses that may occur from hosting the event.
2. The host school will determine if there will be a gate charge for attendance to these events. However, if there is a price set on admittance, it will be \$5. The revenues brought in from this gate will go directly to the school. No money will need to be sent to the NMAA or visiting schools.

7.12.17 School Co-op Participation

Two Class A schools with a combined enrollment of 125 students or less can petition the director to co-op in the sport of baseball. At least one of the schools must show proof that they do not have enough willing participants to field their own team.