



Baseball
Sport Manual
2025-26 Edition

4.1 Baseball

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4.1.1 Regular Season Procedures

4.1.1.1 Rules of Competition

4.1.1.1.1 Competition Rules. NFHS Baseball Rules, as modified by the FHSAA, are the official playing rules for all baseball games. The following modifications to those rules have been adopted by the Board of Directors:

- 1-2-9. A double first base is permitted.
- 1-4-4. Commemorative or memorial patches may be affixed to jerseys upon written approval of the FHSAA Office.
- 2-33. Speed-up rules may be exercised by either or both head coaches without any need for agreement.
- 3-3-1. Penalty. Coaches or players will not be restricted to the dugout for violations of g, h, i, j, k or l. If ejected, the coach will be removed from the coaching position and must exit the facility. When the head coach is ejected from the contest as a result of NFHS rule 3-3-1(f)(6), he/she will be ineligible for a minimum of the remainder of the contest in which he/she was ejected. Ejected players must remain in the dugout under the supervision of the head coach. Exception: For discovery of an illegal player (2-36-3) by an umpire or either team, the player shall be restricted to the dugout.
- 4-2-2. The 10-run rule will be in effect after four-and-one-half or five complete innings.
- 4-2-2. The 15-run rule will be in effect after three and-one-half or four complete innings.
- 4-2-4. A game that has been called because of weather, mechanical failure or other conditions in which a winner cannot be determined will be treated as a suspended game. If the game is to be completed, it will be continued from the point of suspension, subject to the rules of the game. A game that has been called because of weather, mechanical failure or other conditions after four-and-one-half innings or five innings have been completed will be declared a completed game.

In sub-varsity baseball games, no new inning shall start two hours after the first pitch of the game. Any inning in progress shall be completed. Exception 1: in a game delayed by weather, the delay time shall be added to the two hour timeframe. Example: Game starts at 3 p.m. and between the top and bottom of the third inning there is a 45-minute rain delay. No new inning will start after 5:45 p.m. Exception 2: in any non-doubleheader situation (i.e., another game is scheduled to follow the current game, if the score is tied after the two-hour time limit has been reached, additional innings shall be played to resolve the tie. Exception 3: Saturday games.

- 4-5. The decisions of the game officials are final. No protests will be allowed.
- “Arm Care Conditioning”. Student-athletes wishing to try out for the sports of baseball and softball may participate in “Arm Care Conditioning” beginning on the first Monday of January. “Arm Care Conditioning” includes the use of a glove and a baseball under the supervision of a coach. To ensure the safety of all participants, “Arm Care Conditioning” applies to all players including bullpens.

4.1.1.1.2 FHSAA Competition Rules. While occupying the first base and third base coaching boxes, a coach must wear a non-earlap style helmet.

4.1.2 Florida High School State Championship Series Procedures

4.1.2.1 District Meeting

4.1.2.1.1 Meeting Agenda. See Administrative Procedure 3.4.1

4.1.2.2 Tournament Structure and Time Schedules

4.1.2.2.1 District Tournaments.

(a) Time Schedule and Site.

- (1) **Time Schedule.** The championship game shall be played prior to or on Thursday of Week 45. Otherwise, each district will determine its own dates of competition and time schedule for its tournament at the district meeting.
- (2) **Site.** Each district will determine a site for its tournament at the district meeting.

4.1.2.2.2 Regional Tournaments.

- (a) **Complexes.** Competition will be conducted in four regional complexes in each classification. Districts 1-4 will comprise the Region 1 complex, Districts 5-8 the Region 2 complex, Districts 9-12 the Region 3 complex, and Districts 13-16 the Region 4 complex. One tournament will be conducted in each regional complex.
- (b) The FHSAA has the right to move any regional playing dates to better accommodate both participating schools.
- (c) Times for all regional tournament games must be 4 p.m. or 7 p.m. local time. If, however, a school is serving as host for both a baseball and softball regional tournament game, the game times may be staggered. Exceptions must be presented in writing and approved by the Executive Director or his/her designee.



4.1.2.2.3 Florida High School State Championship Series.

- (a) **Schedule.** The Finals schedule will be posted on the FHSAA Website:
- (b) **Coaches Packet.** A coach's packet will be sent electronically to all qualifying teams. The head coach of each participating team is required to view the information prior to their scheduled semifinal game.

4.1.2.2.4 Advancement of Winners. See Administrative Procedure 3.3

4.1.2.3 Tournament Regulations

4.1.2.3.1 Squads.

- (a) **Player Limit.** Each participating school shall be allowed a maximum of 22 players in uniform for each tournament game. Uniformed players, coaches and team managers will be admitted to tournament games free of charge.
- (b) **Florida High School State Championship Series.** The number of field passes for participating teams shall not exceed the number of uniformed players plus eight to be used by coaches, managers, statisticians, trainers, medical personnel, administrators, etc.

4.1.2.3.2 Pregame Warm-up and Procedures. A pregame warm-up period of 15 minutes will be permitted prior to each game in the FHSAA Baseball Playoffs (district and regional tournaments) for infield practice. Infield practice may be reduced or eliminated due to existing field conditions. A pregame schedule will be in the host packet for all games during the regional state series games.

4.1.3 Pitch Count Regulations

AGE	DAILY MAX (PITCHES IN GAME)	REQUIRED REST (PITCHES)				
		0 Days	1 Day	2 Days	3 Days	4 Days
7-8	50	1-20	21-35	36-50	N/A	N/A
9-10	75	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66+
11-12	85	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66+
13-14	95	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66+
15-16	95	1-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76+
17+	105	1-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76+

- (1) Once the student-athlete reaches the maximum amount of pitches in the chart above, that student-athlete is ineligible to pitch from that point forward.
 - A pitcher at either level (varsity/sub-varsity) shall be allowed to finish the batter when the pitch count limit is reached during an at bat, and must be replaced immediately when the at bat ends.
 - Pitch Count is a daily count:
 - Game is delayed in the 3rd inning and pitcher has 63 pitches; student-athlete is required to rest for three (3) days.
 - If there is a violation of the chart above, Policy 6.1.3.3.1 will apply.
 - The student-athlete will be permitted to play any other position during this mandatory rest period. The student-athlete will be eligible to pitch on the eighth (8) day.
- (2) **Day of Rest** - A day of rest is defined as a "calendar day". If the game being played on the day of rest extends beyond midnight, it is not considered a new calendar day for the pitcher who is under required rest.
- (3) **Tabulation of Pitch Counts** - The process for all level games will be done by each school. The school is responsible for tracking the pitches. If a school has a question in regards to total pitches for an opposing pitcher, they are to contact our office the following day. The host team scorekeeper is responsible to complete the GameChanger software and complete the verification form.
- (4) Schools are required to complete the pitch count verification form after each game and keep on file at school.

4.1.4 Team Information and Up-to-Date Statistics on MaxPreps and Media Information

4.1.4.1 Team Information and Up-to-Date Statistics on MaxPreps. As per Administrative Procedure 3.9.1, schools that advance to the regional round in the Florida High School State Championship Series must update team information and have up-to-date cumulative statistics on MaxPreps or the FHSAA's designated official scores and statistics provider. The deadline for completion is no later than noon EDT the day of the game for each round participating in the Florida High School State Championship Series.

4.1.4.2 Media Information Form. As per Administrative Procedure 3.9.2, schools whose teams qualify to advance to the Florida High School State Championship Series state semifinals and/or state finals event(s) must report by noon EDT on the Monday following the team's qualifying victory, up-to-date cumulative statistics through the end of the regional tournament and additional information by completing the "Media Information Form".





- During pre-game, exchange tracking forms with opponent
- Teams should track pitch count for both pitchers
- Check with opposing team after each half-inning for accuracy
- Both coaches **MUST** sign form after game is complete.

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Name of Your School - <i>School Name (City)</i>	Printed Name of Head Coach
Printed Name of Individual Tracking Pitches	Position at School (i.e. Pitching Coach)

Name of Opponent - <i>School Name (City)</i>	Date of Contest
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[illegible]

*Pitches thrown is defined as: Number of pitches thrown on this date, to include all pitches thrown for strikes, balls, and all batted balls hit into play.
 ***Pitches thrown is NOT defined as and does NOT include: Any warm-up pitches, throws to bases for out, or pickoff attempts.

By signing below I certify that the above information on this form is complete and accurate.

Signature

Date _____

Position (i.e. Head Coach, Athletic Director)

