

NEW JERSEY STATE INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

1161 Route 130 North, P.O. Box 487, Robbinsville, NJ 08691

Phone 609-259-2776 ~ Fax 609-259-3047

TO: Baseball Coaches, Athletic Directors and Umpires
FROM: Tony Maselli, Assistant Director
DATE: January 2019
RE: NFHS Baseball Rules Modifications

NJSIAA RULES INTERPRETER

Craig Yetman

Cell Phone: (732) 690-7532

Email: cy5126@optonline.net

Baseball Coaches, Athletic Directors and Umpires are advised to read all rules carefully and to note the following state approved modifications:

1. Rule 1, Section. 4, Article. 4 - (p.13): For special occasions commemorative or memorial patches may be worn not to exceed 4 sq. in. They must be worn in a uniform fashion in an appropriate and dignified manner without compromising the integrity of the uniform. The patch must be worn on the jersey.
2. Rule 4, Section. 2, Article. 2 (p. 33) The game shall end when the visiting team is behind 10 or more runs after 4 ½ innings, or after the fifth inning, if either team is 10 runs behind and both teams have had an equal number of times at bat. (Adopted by the NJSIAA)
3. Rule 4, Section. 2, Article. 4 - (p. 34): (1) A two-hour time limit may be approved for (sub- varsity) games by mutual or conference agreement. (2) The NJSIAA does not honor suspended games, except for state tournament games.
4. Rule 4, Section 4, Article 1a - (pp. 34): A game shall be forfeited to the offended team by the umpire when a team is fifteen (15) minutes late in appearing or in beginning play, after the umpire calls "play" at scheduled game time. This may be set aside if the umpire considers the delay unavoidable.
5. Rule 4, Section 5, Article 1 (p. 35) Protests based upon an official's judgment or misinterpretation (misapplication) of the playing rules will not be honored by the NJSIAA.
6. Speed-up Rule - Courtesy Runners (pp. 65) are adopted in total.

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HANDLING EJECTED PLAYERS/COACHES

- A. It is the coach's responsibility to provide proper supervision of all players at all times.
- B. NJSIAA procedures will supersede a playing rule which requires a coach or player to leave the premises upon disqualification; therefore, a player will be confined to the bench area to remain under the supervision of the coach. If said player continues to be disruptive or act in an unsportsmanlike manner, the official may terminate the game/event.

NOTE: All schools must present the umpires with a completed 5" x 7" lineup card and when exercising the DH option, the designated hitter should be listed right above the defensive player in which the DH is batting for.

REGULATIONS FOR BLEEDING, OPEN WOUNDS AND BLOOD ON THE UNIFORM

A player, coach or umpire who is bleeding, who has an open wound or who has blood on his or her uniform shall be prohibited from participating further in the game until appropriate treatment has been administered. If medical care or treatment can be administered in a reasonable amount of time, the individual would not have to leave the game. The length of time that is considered reasonable is umpire judgment. The reentry rule would apply to players.

NOTE: See Infectious Disease Policy Note (4) for process.

BASEBALL SUSPENDED GAME RULE FOR STATE TOURNAMENT GAMES

All NJSIAA post season tournament baseball games must be played to the full seven innings (turns at bat) unless extra innings are necessary because of a tie score, or unless shortened because the home team needs none of its half of the seventh inning or only a fraction of it. The exception to this is the 10-run rule that the state association has adopted.

A BASEBALL GAME THAT IS SUSPENDED AT ANY TIME DURING THE GAME SHALL BE PICKED UP AT THE POINT OF INTERRUPTION AND THEN COMPLETED AS THE ABOVE PARAGRAPH STATES.

REGULAR SEASON GAMES – If a conference adopts the suspended game rule prior to March 31st, it shall apply to all conference games. Please refer to NJSIAA suspended game policy on page 4 of this document.