

PALM BEACH COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION



Playing under rules of the FHSAA for BASEBALL with the following modifications:

- 1) REGULATION GAME consists of six innings (6) with the following exceptions.
 - a. In the event of rain, darkness or time limitations - four (4) innings shall constitute a *complete game* (3 ½ if the home team is leading). **EXCEPTION:** **If time expires**, the game is complete no matter the number of innings played; i.e. only 3 innings completed in 1:45 = complete game.
 - b. If a game is **called before time expires** and is **not a complete game** it MUST be started over from the beginning (even if the score is tied); i.e. a game called after only 2 innings of play due to lightning, etc. – game **will not** be suspended but replayed at a later date.
 - c. **If the game is called before time expires (determining final score for a complete game).**
Example: Bottom of the 5th with one out, game is called due to lightning, etc. The score when called: **Home 3 Visitors 4**. To determine final score revert back to last completed inning, the 4th - **Home 3 Visitors 2**. **Home team wins 3-2**. (If the home team in its half scores a run to exceed the opponent's score the final score shall be as recorded when the game is called.)
 - d. **BALK WARNINGS.** One per pitcher for first 2 weeks of play...which may or may not be full weeks.
- 2) There will be **1:45 minute time limit** after which no new inning shall begin. If the home team is ahead and batting as the time expires, the game is IMMEDIATELY over – do not finish the inning.
- 3) **Tie breaking procedures will be in effect.** **After the 6th inning or if TIME has expired**, no matter the inning, and the score is tied, the Kansas City Tie-Breaker will be used. The **last official completed batter** from the previous inning will be placed on 2nd base at the beginning of the tie-breaking inning with **no outs**. The tie breaking procedure continues until there is a winner after a completed inning. **IF THE SCORE IS TIED AND THE GAME CALLED DUE TO DARKNESS, RAIN, ETC., IT WILL BE A SUSPENDED GAME.**
- 4) Field Dimensions: Bases 80 feet with pitching rubber at 54 feet. During regular season if a team's home field is not 80' it is acceptable to play on that field BUT...ALL playoff games MUST be on an 80' field.
- 5) Bat Restrictions. **BBCOR bats only. Exception: See Illegal BBCOR List on back of Pitching Limits page.**
- 6) **Up to two Coaches may be out of the dugout when on defense if it is a safe distance from Home Plate and coaches do not 'roam'. Coaches must WEAR a HELMET. NO BUCKETS outside dugouts. Umpires have complete authority on allowance of this rule; with safety of the utmost importance. Violators (roaming or not wearing a helmet) will be subject to remaining in the dugout.**
- 7) Mercy Rule. The game shall end when the visiting team is behind 10 or more runs **after 3 ½ innings or after 4 innings if home team is behind by 10 or more runs.**
- 8) Teams have option to let on-deck hitter go 'behind' the batter.

- 9) If game goes to the 7th inning, each team is allowed one defensive and offensive conference starting in the 7th. Unused conferences in first 6 innings cannot be carried over into extra innings.
- 10) EH (extra hitter) allowed and is OPTIONAL. **If used, must be declared at the plate meeting with the umpires before the start of the game and listed LAST on the line-up card.** EH may freely substitute defensively. EH is treated like a starter and has re-entry. A substitute for the EH becomes the new EH.
- 11) May start with 8 players. It is an out when the 9th slot comes up. May add a 9th player during the game.
- 12) **NEW 2016 - 5 RUN LIMIT** - *If coaches AGREE at the plate meeting,* the game may be played allowing no more than 5 runs per team, per inning.

Some key FHSAA rules used for Middle School:

NEW Rule for 2017 regarding the Force Play Slide Rule:

A runner may slide directly into home plate and if his momentum carries him through the plate in a straight line, it is a legal slide. At any other base it is still illegal to slide through a bag.

- a) The NFHS Authenticating Mark is required on all baseballs. Play game if don't have and notify Yetta.
- b) Designated Hitter. May bat for any player and is treated as a starter; i.e. may re-enter.
- c) P-DH Rule. Pitcher may hit for himself. See PBBUA web site* under Training Material-Pitching for PowerPoint explaining this rule.
- d) Speed up Rule. May use a courtesy runner (CR) for pitcher or catcher at any time. Must use someone who has not yet been in the game. MAY NOT use the same runner for both positions. CR may not pinch run or pinch hit for another player in the same inning he was used as a CR. (Exception: If an injury, illness, or ejection occurs and no other runners are available, the courtesy runner may be used as a substitute.)
- e) Prior to the start of the game, the umpire-in-chief shall receive verification from each head coach that his participants are properly equipped and **verify that his participants are using only legal equipment**, including bats and helmets. **BATS MUST BE BBCOR CERTIFIED** (see #5 for bats that are not legal although they are BBCOR). **HELMETS MUST BE FREE OF CRACKS AND DAMAGE.** Helmets must have the proper padding, meet NOCSAE standard (NOCSAE symbol must be visible on all helmets) and Batting Helmets must have warning label outside that is visible. **First violation of illegal bat usage head coach is restricted to dugout...2nd offense he is ejected.**

'18 Pay Rate - PLATE - \$37 BASE - \$37 ALONE - \$55.50

PBBUA Web Site www.palmbeachbaseballumpires.com

Rules questions or other concerns: Contact Mona Osborne, Baseball Training Coordinator and Assignor.

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PALM BEACH COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL ACTIVITES ASSOCIATION

Baseball Pitching Rules

ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL COACHES AND PLAYERS WILL ADHERE TO THE PITCHING REGULATIONS. ANY VIOLATION OF THESE RULES WILL RESULT IN A FORFEIT AND FINE.

1. Any member of the team may pitch, provided he is eligible under the rules set forth by the Association.
2. A pitcher shall not:
 - (a) Pitch more than seven (7) innings in any one day, nor more than ten (10) innings in one calendar week. The calendar week starts at 12:01AM Monday and ends at Midnight Sunday.
 - (b) Pitch in more than one game on any one day.
 - (c) Pitch on two consecutive days. (No Exceptions)
 - (d) Pitch without three calendar days rest after having pitched in four or more innings in a game and still eligible to pitch under 2a.
 - (e) Be returned to the mound after once having been removed or substituted for as a pitcher, even if he is placed in another position.
3. If a player pitches but one ball to a batter and is then removed from the mound, he shall be considered as having pitched one inning.
4. If a player pitches four or more innings in one day, he shall have at least three days rest.

If he pitched in 4 or more innings on:

Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday

And is still eligible under 2a, he can pitch again:

Friday
Not again this week
Not again this week
Not again this week, Monday
Not again this week, Tuesday

<p>This also applies to games suspended or postponed. If Pitcher 'A' pitches 1 inning in a game rained out or suspended on Monday, he cannot pitch on Tuesday if the game is resumed.</p>

All Middle School coaches and players will adhere to these pitching regulations. Any violation of these rules will result in a forfeit and fine.

BBCOR LEGAL AND ILLEGAL BATS

On FHSAA web site under SPORTS/Baseball there is a list of LEGAL bats put out by Washington State University. That link: <http://www.mme.wsu-ssl.org/certifiedbaseballbats.aspx>

THE FOLLOWING BBCOR BATS ARE ILLEGAL:

33" & 34" Marucci Cat5₂.



33" & 34" Marucci Black



32" & 33" Reebok Vector TLS



Prototype Rip It **unless marked 'recertified'** on barrel of bat.



NOTE: ALL OTHER Rip It bats are LEGAL. Rip It II, Rip It Air, Prototype B1303



Wood bats are LEGAL. Must be 2 3/4" or less in diameter at thickest part and 36" or less in length.