

SECTION V: SPORTS GUIDELINES

PCL BASEBALL

- 1. The National Federation of State High School Association Baseball rules shall govern baseball.**
- 2. Special regulations regarding baseball are printed in the WIAA Handbook.**
- 3. MAKE-UP GAME PROCEDURE:**
 - a. Rainouts can be played on Saturdays during the entire season if both teams agree.
 - b. Non-league games shall be postponed if the game conflicts with a required rescheduled league game.
 - c. Postponed league games shall be played on the next playable date.
 1. The next playable date is the next weekday from the beginning of the season until the last two weeks of the season.
 2. Prior to the designated block of the season a team is not required to play more than four (4) league games in any one week.
 3. Teams can play more than four (4) times before the last two weeks of the regular season if both schools agree.
 4. After the designated block of the regular season all week days must be used for make-ups.
 5. Saturdays during the last two weeks of the regular will be reserved for play to complete the regular season. The baseball commissioner will make the final decision to play if necessary.
 6. Double header will be scheduled to help complete the season, even if it means involving more than two teams at one site.
 - d. Makeup Scheduling:
 1. When a game is canceled because of weather or other factors that disallow the completion of what would have been a legal game the following procedure will be used:
 - *Both coaches whose teams were involved in a canceled or suspended game will review their schedules and a calendar immediately and reschedule the game on the next playable date for both teams. That date becomes final and all additional games not completed on the regular league will be scheduled in like manner. In all cases this reschedule must take place before the next league game is played (a date is decided).
 2. Failure to play on the next playable date may result in a forfeit for one or both teams.
 - e. After the designated block of the league season:
 1. Games involving teams that could qualify for post season play must be played first.
 2. Baseball Commissioner will be empowered to set the games necessary to complete the schedule during the last two weeks of the season.
 3. Games not made up by the competition of the last week of the schedule and having no bearing on the league championship or post season tournament will be left to the discretion of the schools involved.
 4. League scheduled activities (band, choir, drama, etc.) have precedence over rescheduled make up games, and league tie breakers.
- 4. GAME REGULATIONS:**
 - a. All games are seven innings.
 - b. In case of a tie the game shall continue until the tie is broken.
 - c. If a game is ended by the umpire due to weather or darkness, the following outcomes apply:

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1. It is a regulation game if five full innings were played, or if the home team had scored a greater number of runs and the visiting team has had five turns at bat, or if play has gone beyond 5 innings of play.
2. It is a suspended game, to be restarted at the point of suspension on the next date the two teams are scheduled to play or on the next playable date (at the originally scheduled venue), if the game was called prior to the completion of the fifth inning, or does not meet the minimum requirements for a regulation game, see (1) above.
3. It is a suspended game, to be completed on the next playable date, if the game is tied at the end of the fifth inning, or last completed inning beyond the fifth. On the next playable date, the game will begin at a point reverted back to the last completed inning.
- d. Games scheduled during vacation periods are to be played as scheduled.
- e. Starting time of league games shall be 4:00 p.m. on school days.
- f. Night games may occur if mutually agreed upon by the athletic directors involved. Preferred start times will be 7:00 p.m.
- g. Both the home team and visiting team shall be allowed ten (10) minutes infield practice before the start of the game.
- h. In the case of a suspended game all player participation rules are the same as if the game was never delayed.
- i. Metal cleats and sunflower seeds are NOT allowed on artificial turf playing surfaces. Turf shoes, molded cleats and tennis shoes are the only shoes allowed on artificial surfaces.

5. PITCHER LIMITATIONS:

- a. Pitcher limitation shall be determined by WIAA rule 29.5.0.
- b. Every legal and illegal pitch thrown from the pitching mound to a batter shall count as a pitch. This includes all foul balls and base hits. Throws from the pitching mound toward a base to put out a runner shall not count. If the umpire calls "time" or "no pitch" while the pitcher is in the wind up, the pitch shall NOT count.
- c. The pitching limitation applies to all regular season and post-season games, as well as to tied, suspended, discontinued or protested games.
- d. There will be an adult associated with the home team (non-coach) keeping track of official pitch counts—who will not also be keeping score—for all varsity home games. For sub-varsity games, an adult is preferred, but a student or player may count pitches.
- e. Coaches will type or legibly hand-write first and last names, along with jersey numbers, on a lineup card and give it to the official, home, pitch counter.
- f. Umpires are not responsible for any aspect of the pitch count rule and will not help to settle discrepancies.
- g. Scorekeepers from both teams are strongly encouraged to compare pitch counts after each inning and settle discrepancies prior to the beginning of the next inning. The home pitch counter shall be the official recorder of pitch counts.
- h. The home team pitch counter will notify each coach when their pitcher reaches 100 pitches. This alerts the coach that the pitcher is nearing the 105-pitch limit.
- i. Each coach shall report the number of pitches thrown by their own pitchers by 12:00 PM the day following a contest through the MaxPreps website.
- j. Pitch counts will be recorded for all Varsity, Junior Varsity, and C-team games.

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- k. Table of pitches thrown and rest required:
 - 1. 76-105 pitches 3 calendar days rest
 - 2. 51-75 pitches 2 calendar days rest
 - 3. 31-50 pitches 1 calendar day rest
 - 4. 1-30 pitches 0 calendar days rest
- l. Using an ineligible pitcher shall result in a forfeiture of the game in which the athlete was ineligible and other consequences as determined by the school, league, and/or the WIAA.

6. MISCELLANEOUS REGULATIONS:

- a. Two officials will be used for varsity league games. (one allowed if necessary).
- b. A minimum of one association umpire is required for all junior varsity games.
- c. When postponements occur, notification should be made to the visiting school prior to 12 noon for the day games and 4:00 pm for the evening games. Umpires should also be notified by the home team. Postponements will be determined by the coach or the principal or his designee.
- d. The speed up rule is in effect during league play. Choice is up to the coach whether to use options or not.
- e. Home team may have batting practice on the field but once the visiting team arrives, the home team must clear the field. If home team uses batting cages, both teams shall have equal opportunity for batting cage practice. Whiffles outside the dugout area are allowed, pepper is not allowed.

BASEBALL TIE-BREAKER/PLAYOFFS:

- 1. General PCL Tie breaking criteria for tournament play will be used to break ties. (see page 13-14)
 - a. The purpose of the tie breaking system is to eliminate playing unnecessary games.
 - b. Playoff games will be scheduled by the sports commissioner.
- 2. Placement to Regionals will be determined by WIAA draw and league post season tournament.
- 3. Seeding for league tournament: format will be based on WCD allocations.
- 4. Same rules in PCL playoffs as state WIAA playoff guidelines