

# **BASEBALL PLAN**

## **Section 145 – Athletic Purpose, Code, Plan Applicable**

### **Subchapter B**

#### **BASEBALL PLAN (Boys Event; Six Classifications)**

Rules in Sections 130–144 also apply to the Baseball Plan.

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## **Section 146 – Qualifications**

### **I. District Play**

Teams must qualify for the state play-off by competition in district play.

### **II. Playing Dates**

Starting dates for practice, scrimmages, first playing date, and district certification are shown on the current TAPPS calendar.

### **III. Number of Games**

#### **A. Season Limits**

No team shall compete in more than:

- Three (3) tournaments
- Plus 22 games in a season (through district certification)

#### **B. Games After District Certification**

1. No varsity games may be played after certification except playoff teams
2. No games after elimination from playoffs
3. No sub-varsity games after certification

### **C. District Games**

All district games:

- Must be played
- Count as varsity games

### **D. Sunday Play**

No games may be scheduled on Sunday.

### **E. JV/Varsity Players**

Players participating in both:

- Max 3 tournaments
- Max 28 total games combined

### **F. District Tournaments**

Do NOT count toward the 3-tournament limit.

### **G. Playoff Practice Games**

One practice game allowed between playoff rounds (not counted).

### **H. Schedule Adjustments**

- Substitute 2 games per dropped tournament
- Or add 1 tournament per 2 dropped games
- Must be documented on official schedule

### **I. Varsity Starters in JV**

- Only allowed with opponent coach approval
  - Only if insufficient JV players
  - Never allowed if JV players are available
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## **IV. Schedules and Rosters**

### **A. Schedules**

- Must be entered before first contest
- Must be updated regularly

### **B. Rosters**

- Must be entered before first district game
  - Must be updated regularly
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## **V. Resolving District Ties**

### **A. Two-Team Tie**

- Single elimination game allowed
- Does not count toward game limit

### **B. Three or More Teams**

- Single elimination tournament allowed
  - Does not count toward limits
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## **VI. Qualification by Classification**

Playoff qualifiers determined in Section 141.

## **VII. Certification of Playoff Teams**

District President must certify by deadline.

## **VIII. Submission to TAPPS**

All certifications and program info must be submitted via TAPPS database by deadline.

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# Section 147 – Rules

## Governing Rules

NFHS Baseball Rules apply.

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### 1. NFHS Rule Exceptions

1. Metal cleats allowed
  2. Minor bench/field violations → coach may be restricted
  3. Offenders:
    - Cannot occupy coaching boxes
    - Cannot enter field (except injury)
  4. Severe behavior → ejection
  5. Umpire may eject without warning
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### 2. Speed-Up Rules

Allowed:

- Non-district/playoffs → mutual agreement
- District → committee approval
- State tournament → director decision

Not allowed without approval.

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### 3. Courtesy Runner Rules

- Allowed for pitcher/catcher
  - Cannot use same runner for both
  - Must not have participated already
  - Illegal substitution → ejection
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## **4-10. General Rules**

- Prohibited activities: See Section 138
  - Official ball: Baden Perfection Pro
  - Practice balls: Each team supplies
  - Coaching boxes: Players/coaches allowed
  - Warmup: 10-minute infield/outfield recommended
  - Helmets required
  - District tie procedures must be pre-written
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## **11. Games**

### **11.1 Standard Length**

- 7 innings

### **Run Rules**

- 10-run after 4½/5 innings
- 15-run after 3 innings

### **11.2 Non-District**

Incomplete game = “No Game”

### **11.3 District**

- Considered suspended
  - Pitch count rules apply
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## **12. Tie Games**

- Counts as ½ win / ½ loss
  - Not replayed unless incomplete
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## **13. Suspended Playoff Games**

Resumed from point of suspension.

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## **14. Weather Policy (Playoffs)**

Key points:

- Must attempt to finish before deadline
  - Opponent approval required if delayed
  - May require neutral sites
  - Coin flip possible if unresolved
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## **15-19. Administration**

- Officials: Section 134
  - Playoff structure depends on number of teams
  - Teams handle logistics and expenses
  - Gate receipts split unless agreed otherwise
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## **20. Reporting**

- Scores entered by winning coach
  - Next game info entered promptly
  - Pitch counts reported after every game
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## **21. Rosters**

Must be submitted before district play via database.

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## 22. Playoff Format

### 1. Admission

- Admission for **Bi-District** and **Regional** games shall be determined by the participating teams.
  - Admission for **State Semi-Finals** and **State Finals** shall be determined by TAPPS.
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### 2. Baseball Playoff Structure

#### 2.1 Bi-District

- Bi-District games shall be a **single-game playoff**.

#### 2.2 Area and Regional Rounds

- Area and Regional rounds shall be played as a **best two-out-of-three series**.

### Exceptions

A different format may be used under the following conditions:

1. Mandated by TAPPS
  2. Mutually agreed upon by both coaches
  3. A **single-game playoff** is allowed if both coaches agree
  4. If coaches cannot agree on format, a **coin flip** shall determine the format
  5. If required due to weather or other conditions preventing completion before the TAPPS deadline
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### 3. State Rounds

- **State Semi-Finals and Championship (Finals)** hosted by TAPPS shall be **single-game elimination**.
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## **SERIES FORMAT (Two-Out-of-Three)**

### **4. Order of Play**

1. **Day 1** – Game 1 and Game 2
  2. **Day 2** – Game 3 (if necessary)
    - If weather prevents completion of a three-game series, the **winner of Game 1** shall be declared the winner.
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### **5. Batting Order / Home Team Designation**

#### **5.1 Home and Away Format**

- Game 1 – Home Team
- Game 2 – Visiting Team
- Game 3 – Determined by coin flip

#### **5.2 Neutral Site Format**

- Game 1 – Coin flip winner
  - Game 2 – Coin flip loser
  - Game 3 – Coin flip winner's choice
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### **6. Pitch Count**

- All pitch count rules remain in effect.
  - If a game is suspended or ruled a **no contest**, all pitches thrown prior to termination **shall count** toward pitch count limits.
  - Tournament pitch count rules apply **only if games are played on consecutive days**.
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## **FINAL NOTE**

- **STATE SEMIFINALS AND FINALS SHALL BE SINGLE-GAME ELIMINATION.**
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## **22.5 Run Rule**

Same as regular season.

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## **22.6 Umpires**

- District: 2
  - Playoffs: 3
  - State: multi-chapter preferred
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## **22.7–22.8 Misc**

- Home team: coin flip
  - Baseballs: Baden required
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## **23. Final Four**

- Single game format
  - Home/visitor by coin flip
  - Dugouts assigned
  - Batting cages scheduled
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# **Section 148 – Pitch Count Rules**

## **I. Purpose**

Player safety per NFHS requirements.

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## II. Basic Rules

- Max: 110 pitches/day
  - Only in-game pitches count
  - Rest = no pitching
  - Full-day rest rule applies
  - Finish current batter if limit reached
  - Can return to field after pitching
  - Umpires do not enforce pitch count
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## III. Pitch Count Table

| Pitches | Rest Days |
|---------|-----------|
| 1-30    | 0         |
| 31-45   | 1         |
| 46-65   | 2         |
| 66-85   | 3         |
| 86-110  | 4         |

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## IV. Tournament / Series Rules

- Combined pitch count applies
  - Rest based on total pitches
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## V. Back-to-Back Games

Follow series rules if rescheduled.

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## **VI. Doubleheader Rules**

- Second game  $\neq$  rest day
  - Total pitches determine rest
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## **VII. Reporting**

- Home team: official book
  - Visitor: pitch count
  - Must verify each inning
  - All levels must report
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## **VIII. Accountability**

- Violations  $\rightarrow$  suspensions/fines
  - Failure to report  $\rightarrow$  disciplinary review
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