

Pitch Count Proposal

Below is the pitch count proposal that was recently developed by the MPA Baseball Committee.

Varsity Pitchers

Maximum pitches one day – 110

- ✓ 1-20 pitches – 0 days rest
- ✓ 21-39 pitches – 1 day rest
- ✓ 40-65 pitches – 2 days rest
- ✓ 66-95 pitches – 3 days rest
- ✓ 96-110 pitches – 4 days rest

Sub-varsity Pitchers

Maximum pitches one day – 90

- ✓ 1-15 pitches – 0 days rest
- ✓ 16-35 pitches – 1 day rest
- ✓ 36-55 pitches – 2 days rest
- ✓ 56-74 pitches – 3 days rest
- ✓ 75-90 pitches – 4 days rest

Recommendations for Middle Level Pitchers

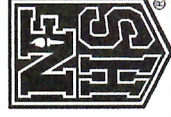
Maximum pitches one day – 85

- ✓ 1-15 pitches – 0 days rest
- ✓ 16-30 pitches – 1 day rest
- ✓ 31-50 pitches – 2 days rest
- ✓ 51-70 pitches – 3 days rest
- ✓ 71-85 pitches – 4 days rest

- The Pitch Count is based on the number of pitches thrown in a game. This includes balls, strikes, foul balls, and outs. A pitch thrown with a balk is called shall not count as a pitch.
- If a pitcher reaches the pitch count limit at any point while facing a batter, the pitcher may continue to pitch until 1) the batter reaches base; 2) the batter is put out; or 3) the third out is made to complete the inning.
- Each team must maintain a pitch count for their team, as well as a count for the opponent. Pitch counts will be confirmed after each half-inning. If there is a discrepancy it shall be reported to the umpire. The records of the home team shall be used as the official record. At the varsity level it is recommended that the person keeping the pitch count be an adult.
- At the conclusion of the game each head coach will sign the MPA Pitching Chart Form. Each school must retain a copy of the Pitch Chart Form and make it available to the MPA upon request. Violation of the Pitch Count Rule shall constitute the use of an ineligible player and will result in forfeiture of the game.
- It is recommended that an athlete avoid playing catcher while not pitching.

• Doubleheader Rule:

- A pitcher must follow the pitch count rule that is in effect for that day, allowing them to throw up to 110 pitches total between the games.
- Coaches must be aware that when there is significant time between pitching assignments (weather delay, multiple games in a day, etc.) that a pitcher returning to the mound must have sufficient warm-up and that they must be aware of arm fatigue.



MPA BASEBALL State Interpreter/Coach/Umpire Clinic

2017



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2017 NFHS Baseball Rules Changes

Warn/Restrict/Eject***New 3-fier protocol**

1. Warning: Umpire will warn and document warning.
2. Restrict to dugout: After the warning if coach continues to argue, they will be restricted to the dugout. The only time they now may come out is if injury occurs and umpire calls coach out to handle injury.
3. Eject: If the above two steps did not work then eject offender.
 - *This is a guideline and protocol for all umpires to use in helping coaches stay in the game and to help umpires be more consistent in handling ejections. Either of the first two steps may be skipped if the offense is more serious.

Defining a Legal Slide: Rule (2-32-2c)

*A player sliding into HP, if sliding legally, may slide beyond HP and make contact with the catcher.

Legal Slide

*Feet or head first, if feet first one leg and buttock must be on the ground, must slide directly at the base, and hand and foot must be able to reach the base.

Illegal Slide

- *Violating any of the above legalities, rolling, cross-body, pop up, slash or kicking at fielder, arms/shoulder extending at fielder.
- Contact above the waist is flagrant as well as trying to injure.
- Penalty: Interference, ball dead, runners go back to last base legally touched, eject if flagrant.

Umpire Interference

- Umpire interference occurs on steals as well as pickoffs. If runner is retired, ignore, if not retired send runners back. It is not umpire interference if hit by thrown ball or umpire contacts catcher trying to retrieve a missed ball.

Coach-assisted Runner

- If a coach assist a runner it is a delayed dead ball, the runner is out and all plays stand. Runners may be put out or advance. (New)
- Umpire mechanic: Point at runner, call interference, call out runner, And let the play go on. All advances/outs stand.

Pitching Restriction Rule

*NFHS now mandates pitches, rather than innings, must be used. -See attachment.

Assistance From Partner

- If you feel you have all information and got the play right no conference needed.
- If you feel your view was blocked or want to go to partner for help
 - a. Let requesting coach know they must return to dugout.
 - b. Let requesting coach know they may not return to field if call not changed.
 - c. Then meet with partner.
 - d. If call changed then give explanation to opposing coach if they request it.
 - e. The umpire who made original call will make the final call/signal.

Ball Markings

- All baseballs at all levels in the State of Maine must have the NFHS stamp.

Legal Slide**Illegal**

- *Rolling, cross body, pop up slides (illegal)
- *Runners raised leg higher than fielders knee, in standing position.
- *Runner goes beyond base and interferes, makes contact or alters fielder.

Legal

- Direct line to base, within reach of base with hand/foot, buttock on ground.
- Penalty; Immediate dead ball, interference, call out batter also. All runners return to base at T.O.P.

Location of Team Personnel

- No players, coaches, team personnel, equipment may be outside the dugout or dugout area. Umpires will not start the game until this rule is in place.