

IHSAA Middle School Rules apply with the following exceptions:

## GENERAL

1. (4) Complete innings of play (3 ½ innings if home team is winning the game) will be considered a COMPLETE game in the event of a rain cancellation. The umpire makes the final decision on game cancellations. In the case of a game called in the middle of an inning, the final official score will revert to the score at the bottom of the previous inning.
2. A new inning may not be started after 1 hour and 40 minutes.

## HITTING

1. **Batting Order.** ALL PLAYERS WILL BAT. A batting order will be established prior to the start of the game. Only those players present and part of the official team roster at the start of the game can be in the batting order. This batting order will be kept for the entire game once the game has started. A player arriving after the game has started will be put at the end of the batting order.
2. **Throwing the Bat.** Umpires will warn the batter and the team on the first offense. A second offense by any batter on that team will result in that batter being called out.
3. **Maximum Run Rule.** A team may score a maximum of seven (7) runs per inning, excluding the sixth inning or subsequent innings after that. In the sixth inning or beyond, a team can score an unlimited number of runs. A game will be called if a team is ahead by 15 or more runs at the completion of four innings.
4. **Time Outs.** The coach is allowed to stop play to only one (1) batter per inning while his team is at bat.
5. **Mandatory slide rule.** On close plays, the player must slide or avoid contact with the defensive player. A player not sliding or avoiding contact will be considered out in the judgment of the umpire. Base runners can only slide head first when returning to a base.
6. **Bats**
  - a. Beginning in the 2020 season, only “drop 3” BBCOR certified bats with barrels of 2 5/8” or less will be allowed
  - b. The 2019 season will be a transition year, in which the following bats may be used
    - i. BBCOR certified

- ii. BPF certified with a factor of 1.15 or less
- iii. USA Baseball certification

## FIELDING

- 7. **Bench players.** All players must spend an inning on the bench before any player spends a second inning on the bench.

## PITCHING

- 8. **Pitching Limits.** The PitchSmart guidelines will apply to all pitchers, based on their age as of May 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - a. During the regular season, violations of the pitching limits may result in pitching bans for the pitcher during the regular season and/or the tournament, based on the discretion of the league commissioner (or the overall rec commissioner if said ban affects games involving the league commissioners team).
  - b. During the tournament, a violation of the pitching limits will result in an automatic forfeit.

Age	Daily Max	0 Days Rest	1 Days Rest	2 Days Rest	3 Days Rest	4 Days Rest	5 Days Rest
13-14	95	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66+	N/A
15-16	95	1-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76+	N/A

- 9. **Hitting a Batter.** A pitcher that hits 3 batters in an inning must be replaced with a new pitcher to finish the inning and is done pitching for the game and can NOT re-enter as a pitcher. The new pitcher or another pitcher must pitch the next inning.
- 10. **Balks.** The pitcher will get one warning. The second offense results in the runner advancing to the next base.
- 11. **Coach Trips to the Mound.** A coach is allowed two trips to the mound to consult with their pitcher in one game. On the third trip, the pitcher must be replaced with a new pitcher. If the

second trip is in the same inning as the first trip, the pitcher must be removed for a new pitcher. A trip to the mound due to injury does not count toward total trips.