



2006 OSAA Baseball Plan



GENERAL BASEBALL INFORMATION

1. SEASON DATES

February 20	Practice Starts
March 13.....	First Contest Date
May 17	4A Cutoff Date
May 19	4A First Round; 3A Cutoff Date
May 22	4A Second Round; 3A First Round; 2A/1A Cutoff Date
May 24	4A Third Round; 3A Second Round; 2A/1A First Round
May 26	All Quarterfinals
May 30	All Semifinals
June 3	All State Championships

2. STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS INFORMATION

- a. **Athletic Directors, Coaches and Spectators** – Detailed information regarding the 2006 Baseball State Championships will be posted on the OSAA website (www.osaa.org/baseball) on April 26 for 4A, April 28 for 3A, and May 1 for 2A & 1A. It is essential that participating teams and individuals access this information prior to the state championships. Included will be information regarding ticket prices, parking, maps, how to submit souvenir program information, souvenir merchandise, etc.
- b. **Game Management Information** – Beginning Wednesday, April 26, schools that host state championship games must download Game Management Information from the OSAA website (www.osaa.org/baseball). Included will be information regarding expenses, admission policies, game management & ticket report, ticket booth signs, PA script, etc.

3. STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS LOCATIONS AND TIMES

- a. **FIRST ROUND – SEMIFINALS** – Refer to brackets for locations and home team designation.
- b. **FINALS** – All finals will be held on Saturday, June 3 at Salem-Keizer Volcano Stadium. OSAA will determine times for all finals.
 Salem-Keizer Volcano Stadium
 2965 Tepper Lane NE
 Keizer, OR 97307

4. QUALIFICATION FOR STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

- a. **4A** – Four teams from each district.
- b. **3A** – Three teams from each district.
- c. **2A/1A** – Two teams from each district.

5. STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS -- TEAM SIZE – Replacement of players applies to each game. A player replaced on the roster may be reinstated to the roster in subsequent rounds. Maximum in uniform: 18. **This policy applies for all games, first round through championship finals.**

6. OFFICIAL BALL ADOPTION – The Wilson A1010-Pro is the officially adopted baseball of the OSAA. Schools are encouraged to use Wilson baseballs during regular season play. Due to contractual obligation the OSAA will mandate use of these balls for all state championship games, first round through final sites. The OSAA will ship one dozen Wilson A1010-Pro baseballs to the home team for each State Championship

game prior to the finals. It is the host school's responsibility to use official Wilson baseballs for games at home sites.

7. AWARDS

- a. **Trophies** – Trophies will be presented to the champion and second place team in each classification. A trophy will also be sent to each semifinal team.
- b. **Medals** – Twenty-one medals will be presented to the champion and second place teams in each classification.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS 2006 BASEBALL RULES

Order a 2006 NFHS Baseball Rules Book at www.osaa.org/forms/0506rulesbookorderform.xls or contact OSAA at 503.682.6722 for more information.

For more information about NFHS baseball rules visit www.nfhs.org/rules-baseball.htm

1. 2006 NFHS RULES REVISIONS

- 1-3-2** Reminder that no BESR label, sticker or decal will be permitted on any non-wood bat effective January 1, 2006.
- 1-3-6**
Revised A glove/mitt, worn by the pitcher that includes the colors white or gray, shall be illegal.
Rationale: This change will eliminate the confusion this past season with the legality of two-toned gloves. Glove manufacturers are making two-toned gloves which typically have not been distracting and extremely popular.
- 1-5-5 New** Defensive players are permitted to wear face/head protection in the field. If a pitcher or any defensive player wears face/head protection, its outer covering shall have a non-glare surface.
Rationale: Although not frequent, there are occasions when defensive players suffer serious head injuries as a result of being struck by thrown or batted balls. Not surprisingly, pitchers have suffered a disproportionate share of such injuries. This addition emphasizes that fielder's face and head protection is permitted.
- 2-10-2**
Revised A pregame conference is a meeting involving the umpires, both head coaches and team captains (if available) near home plate...
Rationale: This reinforces the importance of the head coach at the pre-game meeting and his certification of his players being in compliance.
- 2-16-1e** Add to the current rule: e. Inadvertently declared foul by an umpire that touches the ground (becomes dead).
Rationale: Additional coverage to the definition of a foul ball.
- 3-1-1**
Revised For discovery of an illegal player (2-36-3) on offense by an umpire or either team, that player shall be called out and restricted to the bench/dugout for the duration of the game. An illegal player discovered on defense shall be restricted to the bench/dugout for the duration of the game.
Rationale: Correcting an omission from the rules book.
- 3-3-1a** Amend the current rule and renumber the remaining subarticles:
a. leave the dugout during a live ball for an unauthorized purpose;
Renumber in penalty (a) to (b)
Rationale: After numerous educational initiatives the occurrences of team members entering the live-ball area to congratulate a teammate have become a concern.

- 5-1-1g4** Amend the rule to read: Lodges in an umpire's, catcher's or offensive player's equipment or uniform and becomes dead.
Rationale: Clarifies the rule for an offensive player.
- 5-1-1h** Add to the current rule: h. the umpire handles a live ball or calls, "Time" for inspecting the ball or for any other reason, including items in Section 2 or gives the "Do Not Pitch Signal" or inadvertently announces "Foul" on a ball that touches the ground.
Rationale: To make the rule compatible with the definition of an uncaught ground ball that touches the ground is dead.
- Dead Ball Table Add to Current Rule** Activity # 17 ...Umpire inadvertently declares "Foul" as in 2-16-1e
Rationale: Provides additional support to new rule change. Activity is consistent with rule for foul ball.
- 6-2-1h** Amend the current rule: h. wearing a glove/mitt that includes the colors white or gray.
Rationale: Additional rule support for the new glove/mitt rule.
- 8-3-2** Amend the current rule: When a runner is obstructed while advancing or returning to a base by a fielder who neither has the ball nor is attempting to make a play, or a fielder without the ball fakes a tag, if the runner achieves the base he was attempting to acquire then the obstruction is ignored.
Rationale: Clarifies the existing rule.
- 8-3-3f New** One base beyond the last legally acquired base, if in the umpire's judgment the runner was attempting to advance at the time the ball becomes lodged in an offensive player's uniform or equipment. If the lodged ball occurs during play when the batter-runner was attempting to reach first base, the batter-runner will be awarded first base. Preceding runners will be awarded bases needed to complete the award.
Rationale: Provides support and guidance of the new 5-1-1g4 rule.

Major Editorial Changes

- 1-1** Re-title Rule 1-1 to Positions of Players.
- 1-3** Re-title Rule 1-3 to Bats, Balls and Gloves.
- 1-5** Re-title 1-5 to Player Equipment.
- 1-2-12, 1-3-7** Move the current rules 1-4-5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and rules 1-5-1, 1-5-2 (becomes 1-2-12) 3, 1-5-4 (becomes 1-3-7) 5, 6, 7 and 8 into the new Section 5.

Minor Editorial Changes

- Diagram 2** Provided the corrected dimensions of the diagonal sides of home plate.
- 1-4-4** Clarified manufacturer logo/trademark restriction..
- Dead Ball Table #17** Corrected a minor grammatical error.

Editorial Detail

Rule(s) 1-4-5 becomes 1-5-1; 1-4-6 becomes 1-5-2; 1-4-7 becomes 1-5-3; 1-4-8 becomes 1-5-4; 1-4-9 becomes 1-5-5; 1-5-1 becomes 1-5-6; 1-5-3 becomes 1-5-7; 1-5-5 becomes 1-5-8; 1-5-6 becomes 1-5-9; 1-5-7 becomes 1-5-10; 1-5-8 becomes 1-5-11.
Rationale: Player equipment trends and requirements have evolved to a point that justifies the creation of its own section which creates additions to other sections.

2. POINTS OF EMPHASIS

- Face Protection
- Field Conduct
- Game Management
- Batters Not Avoiding Pitched Balls

- Umpire's Professionalism
- Good Sporting Behavior

OSAA BASEBALL POLICIES

1. **OSAA ADOPTED RULES AND INTERPRETATIONS** – The NFHS 2006 Baseball Rules Book will be used.

2. **PARTICIPATION LIMITATIONS** – (OSAA Handbook, Participation Limitations)

- a. **Team** – A school team shall not play more than 26 games at each level of competition, exclusive of varsity district playoffs and state championships.
- b. **Individual** – A student shall not participate in more than 26 games, exclusive of varsity district playoffs and state championships. A student may compete in only one jamboree.
- c. **Jamboree** – A school may participate in only one jamboree at each level of competition, and it shall not be counted as a contest. Jamborees may be held only on the first playing date and *for 30 days thereafter*. A jamboree is limited to not more than six innings (3 or more teams) and limited to not more than two innings against any school and with each pitcher limited to not more than two innings.
- d. **Pitching Limitation** – A pitcher shall not pitch more than 12 innings on three consecutive days. Appearance in an inning counts as one inning.

EXAMPLE: If he pitches two innings one day and four innings the second day, he is eligible to pitch only six innings the third day. The number of innings pitched the previous two days must be taken into account in figuring the number of innings he is eligible to pitch on the third day. Participation for any length of time in an inning as pitcher shall count as one inning.

The easiest manner in which to determine a pitcher's eligibility is to total the innings he has pitched in the previous two days and subtract the total from 12. The difference between these two figures will be the innings he is eligible to pitch on the third day.

The penalty if a baseball player pitches in more than 12 innings in a three-day period is forfeiture of the contest in which the pitcher exceeds his limit.

3. **INTERRUPTED CONTESTS** – (OSAA Handbook, Interrupted Contests) For darkness and/or weather interruptions, the contest is declared an official game if the contest is not tied and 4½ or 5 innings have been played. If fewer than 4½ or 5 innings have been played, the game shall be replayed in its entirety. A tied game is declared no contest and must be completely replayed. *NOTE:* If the two schools mutually agree or if there is an athletic district policy, the game need not be replayed if it has no bearing on State Championship representation. For other reasons, among which include light failure, sprinkler system, etc., the contest shall continue from the point of interruption unless the teams mutually agree otherwise or there are athletic district rules that apply.

4. **CONTESTS – SPORTSMANSHIP – CROWD CONTROL** – (OSAA Handbook, Rules)

- a. **Sportsmanship Responsibility** – The high school principal, coach and other responsible officials of each member school shall take all reasonable measures to insure that the school's students and supporters maintain a sportsmanlike attitude toward all events so that events may be conducted without unreasonable danger or disorder. When a petition is filed alleging violation of this Rule 3-2, the Executive Director may, at his/her discretion and with concurrence of any two Executive Board members, postpone any pending event which the Executive Director has reason to believe cannot be conducted without an unreasonable danger of disorder. All such protests shall be referred to the Executive Board, which shall proceed as provided in Rule 4. In addition to any other action the Executive Board may take regarding a protest alleging a violation of this Rule 3-2, the Executive Board shall have the power to cancel or re-schedule the event involved, or to impose conditions on conducting it.
- b. **Sportsmanship Violations / Penalties** – When the students, staff or supporters of any member school engage in unsportsmanlike conduct, disorder or infliction of damage to persons or property in connection with any festival, meet, contest or tournament sponsored by this Association, the Executive

Board may treat such acts as a violation by the school of the Rules of the Association. Any school whose students, supporters, rooters or partisans take part in riots, fights, pilfering, painting or any other unsportsmanlike conduct shall be subject to penalty.

5. GUIDELINES FOR LIGHTNING SAFETY – (Excerpts from NFHS Sports Medicine Handbook)

a. **Recognition**

Weather can be monitored using the following methods:

Monitor Weather Patterns – Be aware of potential thunderstorms by monitoring local weather forecasts the day before and the morning of the practice or competition, and by scanning the sky for signs of potential thunderstorms.

Flash to Bang – This method is used to assess how far away lightning is striking. It is determined by counting the number of seconds it takes to hear a clap of thunder after witnessing a flash of lightning. The number of seconds is then divided by five to get the distance, in miles to the lightning flash. Generally, a 30-second or less flash to bang count suggests removal of the athletes from the field to a safe shelter.

National Weather Service (NWS) – Weather can also be monitored using small, portable weather radios from the NWS. The NWS uses a system of severe storm watches and warnings. A watch indicates conditions are favorable for severe weather to develop in an area; a warning indicates severe weather has been reported in an area and for everyone to take proper precautions.

b. **Management**

Evacuation – If lightning is imminent or a thunderstorm is approaching, all personnel, athletes and spectators should evacuate to available safe structures or shelters. A list of the closest safe structures should be announce and displayed on placards at all athletic venues.

Thirty-minute rule – Once lightning has been recognized, it is recommended to wait at least 30 minutes after the last flash of lightning is witnessed or thunder is heard. Given the average rates of thunderstorm travel, the storm should move 10-12 miles away from the area. This significantly reduces the risk of local lightning flashes. Any subsequent lightning or thunder after the beginning of the 30-minute count should reset the clock and another count should begin.

c. **Prevention**

In order to prevent lightning related injuries, it is important to formulate and implement a proactive, comprehensive lightning emergency plan. The plan should include:

- Advance Planning
- A systematic approach for monitoring local weather conditions
- Education of staff to recognize sign of nearby lightning activity
- Criteria for suspension and resumption of play
- Evacuation plan including nearby safe shelters
- Periodic review and practice of the plan by appropriate high school personnel

6. 10-RUN RULE – Leagues have the option to adopt the 10-run rule for regular season play. In non-league contests the league adoption of the home team will apply. The 10-run rule will NOT be in effect in state playoffs and state championship games.

7. OSAA BASEBALL RULES BOOK OPTIONS

Athletic directors and baseball coaches are reminded that Oregon treats the various options provided in the *2006 National Federation Baseball Rules Books* as follows:

1-2-9 Disregard the NOTE following this article. Oregon has not adopted the double first base.

2-33 Optional speed-up rules (see below)

4-2-2 The 10-run rule will be optional by league adoption for all regular season games. (see 10-Run Rule above)

4-2-4 There are no suspended games in Oregon. If it is not a regulation game with a winner determined, it must be replayed entirely. However, an athletic district may adopt a rule that the game will not be replayed and will not count in the standings.

4-5-1 Protests based on application of playing rules or on judgment of game officials will not be heard.

NOTE: Umpires are expected to enforce the rules as printed with the above options.

8. OPTIONAL SPEED-UP RULES – *(may be adopted by an athletic district (league), but will NOT be in effect for state playoffs.)*

a. **Courtesy Runners**

- 1) At any time the team at bat may use courtesy runners for the pitcher and/or the catcher.
- 2) The same runner may not be used for both positions.
- 3) Neither the pitcher nor the catcher will be required to leave the game under such circumstances.
- 4) Players who have participated in the game in any other capacity are ineligible to serve as courtesy runners.
- 5) A player may not run as a courtesy runner for the pitcher or the catcher and then be used as a substitute for another player in that half inning. If an injury, illness or ejection occurs and no other runners are available, the courtesy runner may be used as a substitute.
- 6) The umpire-in-chief shall record and announce to the scorer, courtesy runner participation.
- 7) A player who violates the courtesy runner rule is considered to be an illegal substitute.

EXCEPTION: Should an injury, illness or ejection occur to the courtesy runner, another courtesy runner for the pitcher or catcher may run.

b. **After Putouts**

- 1) After a putout in the outfield and with no runners on base, the ball shall be thrown to a cutoff man and, if desired, to one additional infielder before being returned to the pitcher for delivery to the next batter.
- 2) After a putout in the infield and with no runners on base, the ball shall be returned directly to the pitcher.
- 3) Following the final out in any inning, the ball shall be given to the nearest umpire. The plate umpire shall give the ball to the catcher. The base umpire shall place the ball on the pitcher's plate.

9. EJECTION POLICY

a. **BP 20 – Ejection Policies – Coach Ejected; Contest Forfeited**

If a coach is ejected from a contest and that contest is forfeited, such incident must be reported to the OSAA office by the schools involved and also by the contest officials. If a coach is ejected and the game is not forfeited, it is the school's responsibility to be certain that any such person who does assume the coaching responsibilities in such a situation meets the requirements of that school district.

b. **BP 21 – Ejection Policies – Ejected Player or Coach**

- 1) If a player or coach is ejected by an official for an unsportsmanlike act, both the athletic director of the school of the ejected player/coach and the commissioner of officials shall notify the OSAA by facsimile of the ejection by the next workday. Ejected coaches must leave the contest immediately and shall not be allowed further contact with team members for the duration of that contest. It shall be the responsibility of the school to disallow the ejected player or coach from participating during the period of suspension specified in the Regulations. Should an ejected player participate or an ejected coach remain within "sight and sound" of the team during the period of suspension specified in the Regulations, and no appeal is pending, that action shall be considered use of an ineligible participant and shall result in forfeiture of that contest and other penalties as determined by the Board.
(Revised Fall 2005)
- 2) Appeal Process – If the principal or the Athletic Director of the ejected coach/player and the commissioner of officials agree that the suspension should be set aside, the principal may appeal to the Executive Director within 48 hours of the ejection to set aside the next game suspension portion of the penalty. If the Executive Director denies an appeal, that denial may be appealed to the Executive Board, which shall hear the appeal at its earliest convenience and issue a final ruling.

Implementation of the next game suspension may be postponed during the time that an appeal is pending. *(Fall 1998) (Revised Fall 2002)*

7. **Q.** When a coach or player is ejected, what period of time does the ejection cover?
A. Baseball / Softball – Remainder of that day. *(Revised December 5, 2005)*
8. **Q.** When does the period of suspension begin?
A. The suspension is served after the ejection has been served. The ejection and suspension may not be served simultaneously.
9. **Q.** Once a player or coach has served a period of ejection, when and over what period of time is a suspension served?
A. Baseball / Softball – Sit out through next contest at that level.
- NOTE:** In unusual circumstances, the Executive Director may modify the period of suspension.

c. **BP 22 – Ejection Policies – Fines**

- 1) Schools shall be assessed fines for ejections within specific sports programs. Each sport (i.e., Football, Boys Basketball, Softball) shall be tracked as separate and distinct for the purpose of calculating fines. When the first participant or coach in a sport is ejected, the school that the participant or coach is representing shall be assessed a \$50 fine by the Executive Board. A second ejection in the same sport during the same season shall result in the assessment of a \$100 fine, and each ejection thereafter in that sport during that season shall result in a fine to be increased by \$50 increments for each ejection without limitation.
- 2) All funds accumulated by the Association as a result of ejection fines shall be used to conduct Citizenship through Sports training workshops throughout the state. Training shall be offered on the October in-service day and at other times as announced by the OSAA.
- 3) A school receiving five or more ejections during one school year shall be required to submit a written Plan of Correction to the Executive Board including a Citizenship through Sports training workshop and timelines for implementation of the Plan. *(Fall 2000) (Revised Fall 2002)*

d. **BP 23 – Ejection Policies – Multiple Ejections of Individual**

A second ejection for an unsportsmanlike act during the same sport season will result in a two-game suspension. A third ejection for an unsportsmanlike act during the same sport season will result in disqualification from further participation in that sport during that sport season. *(Fall 1999)*

e. **BP 24 – Ejection Policies – Physical Contact with Official**

Physical contact between a coach/player and an official shall be considered a gross act of unsportsmanlike conduct. The offending coach/player shall be immediately ejected from the contest, shall be suspended as provided in the Regulations and may be required to satisfy other requirements as prescribed by the Board. Both the athletic director of the school of the offending coach/player and the commissioner of officials shall notify the OSAA by facsimile of the incident by the next workday. In addition, the school shall be fined up to \$1,000 as set by the Board, and an administrator and the coach/player shall be required to appear before the Executive Board at the next scheduled meeting. *(Fall 1998)*