

CHSAA BASEBALL BYLAWS

REVISED MARCH 2026

RECENT REVISIONS IN RED

Any situation that arises that is not specifically addressed by these by-laws will be adjudicated by the CHSAA Executive Committee in consultation with the Chairman.

I) OFFICIAL RULE BOOK

The official rulebook will be the NATIONAL FEDERATION RULEBOOK with the following exceptions:

II) OFFICIAL BALL

The official ball will be the RAWLINGS R100-H2 or H3. This ball or any of the following will be used on the J.V. and Freshman levels: RAWLINGS RNF – RAWLINGS FSRHS – WILSON A1010 HS1-RS

III) SCHEDULING

a) A schedule for all participating schools will be distributed at a Fall Meeting presided over by the chairman. Termination dates, by which all games must be completed, subject to forfeit, will be set at the spring meeting. Failure to meet any of these deadlines could result in forfeit. Freshman baseball ends on the Sunday following the last game on the league issued varsity schedule.

b) If it is deemed necessary by the chairman, any suspended game in the first half of the season that is not rescheduled will be played at a neutral site on a date that is approximately halfway through the season. This date will be determined prior to the season.

c) The home team is responsible for securing a field. If playing is deemed necessary by the chairman to meet a termination date, the chairman will attempt to secure a field if the home team can not. If no other field is available, the chairman may require the home team to play at the opponents' field. The home team is responsible for postponements due to weather. The home team must make the decision and notify the opposing coach by 1:00 on the day of the game or as soon as possible thereafter if a later postponement is necessary. Any postponement of a dubious nature as perceived by the assignor or chairman must be approved by the chairman

d) Postponed games are to be played on the next available date. The date of the rescheduled game must be submitted to the chairman within 72 hours. League games must be given priority over non-league games. Chairman's Make-up Days will be established at the Fall meeting. League games may only be played on these days with the permission of the chairman.

e) In the case of failing to reschedule games in accordance with league by-laws, the opposing coach and or athletic director should notify the chairman immediately. If an infraction is imminent, the chairman shall notify the coach and Athletic Director if time allows. Should the team refuse to play, the chairman, after consultation with the Infractions Committee will report to the league President. Penalties, including possible forfeiture, will be handed down. The head coach of the forfeiting team will also be subject to a four game suspension.

f) All member schools must complete their schedules. Teams that fail to complete their schedule after playing 80% of their games will forfeit the remaining games. All opponents will be credited with wins for games not played. If a team completes less than 80% of its games, all games played will be expunged from the standings. A team that forfeits a game for refusing to play may be declared ineligible for post-season play.

g) No team may be required to play more than 4 games per week unless deemed necessary by the chairman for the completion of the schedule by the pre-established termination dates. Teams may be required to play on weekends if scheduled by the chairman on the league issued schedule or to complete the schedule by any pre-established termination dates. Point of Emphasis: Teams must be available to play on Saturday and Sunday the weekend before and after last full week of games.

h) Teams may choose not to play on the day of their senior proms (or day after), graduation ceremonies and graduation masses. In order to secure facilities and make scheduling accommodations in a timely fashion, schools must submit these dates no later than November 1st. The chairman shall provide tentative playoff schedules via the league website no later than May 1st. Adjustments to playoff schedules are at the discretion of the chairman.

j) Archdiocese of New York schools may not play or practice from Holy Thursday at 4:00 through Easter Sunday.

k) Interscholastic competition before 1 p.m. on Sundays is strongly discouraged. Given time and calendar scheduling constraints, exceptions may be granted if deemed necessary by the chairman in conjunction with the league President. Schools always maintain the option of choosing not to play before 1 p.m. on Sunday.

IV) COMPETITION

a) All games are to be seven innings.

b) SUSPENDED GAMES

VARSAITY AA - All games must be played to completion. A game that must be stopped is considered a suspended game. Players who did not appear on the original roster or lineup card may play in the completion of a suspended game.

VARSAITY A / JUNIOR VARSAITY – Regular season only. The following apply for regulation games (4 1/2 innings with the home team ahead, or 5 innings with the visiting club ahead or tied) that are stopped:

- If one team is ahead, the team that is ahead shall be declared the winner (unless the game is called while an inning is in progress and before the inning is completed, and the visiting team has scored one or more runs to take the lead, and the home team has not retaken the lead, in which case the score upon the completion of the last full inning shall stand.

- If the score is tied, the game shall be declared a “tie game” (unless the game is called while an inning is in progress and before the inning is completed, and the visiting team has scored one or more runs to tie the game, and the home team has not retied the game, in which case the score upon the completion of the last full inning shall stand. For winning percentage purposes, a tie will count as half a win and half a loss. A tie will count as 1 point in the standings

Games that are stopped and are not considered regulation will be considered suspended games and picked up at the exact point the game was stopped. Players who did not appear on the original roster or lineup card may play in the completion of a suspended game.

Teams may concede after 4½ innings. A team may concede before 4 ½ innings are played only with the approval of the chairman.

All playoff games on all levels must be played to completion.

c) Where Parks Department permits have been issued and a team is ready to take the field at the expiration of permit time, no inning is to start later than the expiration of the permit.

d) The home team must provide an adequate number of baseballs. For varsity games at least six, for junior varsity and freshman, at least four.

e) Each team must be completely uniformed. Jewelry (including all types of necklaces and bracelets) may not be worn. Umpires should remind coaches as part of pre-game ground rules.

f) EXTRA PLAYER - FRESHMAN AND JUNIOR VARSITY ONLY – A ten man batting order may be used on the Freshman and Junior Varsity level. Any nine of the ten players in the lineup can play the field at any time. You may use a Designated Hitter and Extra Player in the same lineup

g) PITCH COUNT GUIDELINES:

Pitch counts must be submitted to chsaapitchcount@gmail.com by 9:00 a.m. the day following the game

Varsity 0-25 pitches / JV-Frosh 0-20 pitches	0 days rest
Varsity 26-50 pitches / JV-Frosh 21-40 pitches	1 days rest
Varsity 51-75 pitches / JV-Frosh 41-60 pitches	2 days rest
Varsity 76-90 pitches / JV-Frosh 61-80 pitches	3 days rest
Varsity 91+ pitches / JV-Frosh 81+	4 days rest

Varsity Maximum 105 pitches / JV-Frosh Maximum 90 pitches
(pitchers may exceed the maximum to complete an at bat)

Coaches must submit a list of pitchers not eligible to pitch on their lineup cards prior to all games. A representative from each team will confer after each half inning to confirm the number of pitches thrown that inning and the cumulative total for the game. In extreme cases where the representatives can not agree, the umpire will serve as a mediator. If a pitcher exceeds the maximum, all at bats will count. Both coaches should report the violation to the chairman. The coach of the pitcher who exceeded the maximum will be issued a warning for the first offense. A second offense will result in a one game suspension from CHSAA league play. A third offense will result in a two game suspension. The suspension will continue to increase for subsequent violations.

USE OF AN INELIGIBLE PITCHER – using a pitcher not eligible to pitch in that game will be considered “use of an ineligible player” subject to all CHSAA penalties including forfeit. The Infractions Committee will also review the case and make a recommendation to the League President regarding any possible suspension.

Pitch counts must be recorded by 9 a.m. the morning following the game at chsaapitchcount@gmail.com. A \$25.00 fine may be imposed for failing to post pitch counts in a timely manner.

h) Appeal plays must be carried out according to major league rules. Federation rules allow for a verbal appeal after time is called. This will not be accepted.

i) All member schools should submit ground rules for their fields prior to the season. The purpose of this is that ground rules, once established, should remain consistent throughout the season. It is acknowledged that there are extenuating circumstances under which this rule may be waived.

j) If a coach is ejected, there must be a member of the school staff present to replace him in a supervisory capacity or the game will be considered a forfeit.

k) Major league rule concerning trips to the mound will be used. Note: Rule modifications instituted by MLB in 2018 do not apply

l) A pitcher must come out of the game as a pitcher on the second visit by a coach or representative in an inning. He may not pitch again in that game. A pitcher who is removed at any other time may return to the mound as long as he has retained his re-entry rights.

m) Game personnel shall not use language that will, in any manner, refer or reflect negatively upon opposing players, umpires or any spectator. The offending individual may be subject to restriction or ejection. If the verbal abuse continues after the first ejection, the head coach will be ejected along with any other offending player(s).

n) Any player or coach ejected from any contest (non-league included) FOR ANY REASON will receive a TWO GAME SUSPENSION from CHSAA league and/or playoff competition. **SUSPENSIONS MUST BE SERVED IN THE NEXT TWO LEAGUE GAMES AND CAN NOT BE SERVED IN NON-LEAGUE COMPETITION.** Suspensions received in the Fall, may be served in the Fall. As per NFHS rules, an umpire may issue a written warning and restrict a player or coach (“out of sound”) to his dugout for various infractions. Violation of any part of this restriction will mean immediate ejection and subsequent suspension. Restriction is not intended to be a replacement for immediate ejection by an umpire for egregious infractions. Rather, it is intended to be used as another game management tool by the umpire. Ejected coaches must leave the facility (out of “sight and sound”) as determined by the umpires. Ejected players may remain in the dugout. Coaches and players engaging in unsportsmanlike or inappropriate behavior following an ejection may be subject to additional penalties. Coaches and players serving a suspension may not travel with or be present at a facility while under suspension.

o) All appeals regarding game ejections for coaches and student-athletes must be made to the League President. The appeal must be made via email. Only an Athletic Director or Principal can make the appeal. The appeal cannot be made by a coach. A suspended coach who also serves as an administrator, i.e., Athletic Director or Principal, cannot make the appeal. The League President, in consultation with the Executive Board and Chairman and Assigner for the sport involved, will render a timely decision. Notification will be made via email. Suspensions will be served if a decision cannot be rendered prior to the next CHSAA contest. Any investigation may include witnesses and rule-interpreters specific to that sport. The CHSAA has the right to increase any suspension if it feels the actions of the individual involved warrant further punishment.

p) Protests are to be filed in accordance with the C.H.S.A.A. CONSTITUTION as well as the NATIONAL FEDERATION RULES and MUST HAVE AN EFFECT ON THE OUTCOME OF THE GAME. Within 72 hours (N.Y.-48 hours/ Playoffs-24 hours), a letter must be sent to the chairman and league President explaining the reason for the protest. This letter must be signed by the Athletic Director and the Principal. B.Q. ONLY- A \$50.00 fee must also be submitted. This fee will be refunded for upheld protests. The chairman will convene a meeting of a Protest Board consisting of three of the league's coaches. N.Y. ONLY -The League President will appoint a Games Committee who will rule on all protests. PROTESTS INVOLVING TWO TEAMS FROM DIFFERENT DIOCESE - A committee consisting of three coaches and an executive board member from each diocese will serve. Due to time restraints and availability, the chairman reserves the right to change the appointees as needed.

When a PLAYOFF GAME IS PROTESTED, the umpires shall contact the chairman's designated representative (usually the assignor or an umpire designated by the assignor) immediately. A ruling will be issued before the game will continue. Any ruling made during the game may be appealed to the chairman. If possible, the chairman will make a ruling. Any ruling made by the chairman or his designated representative during the game may be appealed following the game. Due to time constraints the appeal must be made within 3 hours of the conclusion of the game by contacting the Chairman. A protest committee will be convened if deemed necessary by the chairman in consultation with the Executive Committee.

q) HOME TEAM should have FIRST AID SUPPLIES available.

- r) Results (including postponed games) should be submitted by 9 a.m. the day following the game. Coaches who fail to submit results in a timely fashion will be subject to penalty. These teams will be required to play an extra road game(s) the following season.
- s) A fly ball caught by an outfielder that is carried in to dead territory will result in a dead ball with all runners advancing one base from the time of the pitch. A fly ball caught and carried in to dead territory by anyone else will result in a dead ball with no advance. A ground ball gloved by a fielder and carried into dead territory will result in an award of two bases from the last base touched
- t) The home team may take batting practice only until the visiting team arrives. All forms of batting practice are prohibited during games. No player in uniform for the game may hit anywhere near the vicinity of the field. The home team must take a pre-game infield first but must vacate the field at least 20 minutes prior to game time (as written on the Arbiter). The road team must vacate the field at least five minutes prior to game time. As a courtesy, coaches of teams who are running late should contact the opposing coach with an estimated time of arrival.
- u) Effective September 1, 2007, the use of non-wood bats as described by New York City law is banned in all C.H.S.A.A. league and playoff competition. Approved bats must be made of 100% wood or must be composite bats that have been approved by MLB for use at certain levels of minor league play. Currently, MLB has approved composite bats made by Baum, Demarini, and Hoosier (3 piece). Schools may use non-wood bats in non-league competition outside of New York City. Any on-field penalties for use of an illegal bat will be determined by the rules set forth in the National Federation rulebook. The determination of a bat's legality is at the sole discretion of the umpire and is not subject to protest. Bats determined to be illegal should be removed from the game and given to the coach of the offending team. The chairman will contact the school's Athletic Director to investigate the matter further.
- v) All types of "artificial noise" and noisemakers are banned at all games. Each team is responsible for making every effort possible to control what occurs on both the bench and in the stands. **Visiting teams may not bring their own speakers on to the field or into the dugouts.**

w) Rosters must be posted on the Google Drive by the pre-determined deadline. Failure to do so may result in a \$25.00 fine

x) P/DH Rule – If being used, the P/DH must be declared on the lineup card prior to the game. If the P/DH is used, he begins the game hitting for himself. If he leaves the mound, he must also leave the field – he may not play any other position. He now becomes the DH for the player who replaced him on the field. The lineup has now been converted to a lineup with a designated hitter. A courtesy runner may be used for the P/DH only when he is in the game as a pitcher.

POINTS OF EMPHASIS:

A pitcher may only be designated as the P/DH before the game:

1. He may never play the field.
2. He may not pitch again after leaving the field

y) 1B/3B Pickoffs – effective April 1, 2026, the 3B/1B pickoff move will be considered illegal and declared a balk, aligning with the MLB rule change instituted a few years ago

z) The head coach shall be held accountable for the conduct of all team personnel, both on the field of play and within the dugout. Any behavior originating from the dugout that is deemed inappropriate by the umpires (including, but not limited to, bench jockeying, taunting, or similar actions), and for which the specific offending individual(s) cannot be identified, shall be addressed as follows:

First offense: The head coach shall be issued a warning and directed to immediately address and control team conduct.

Second offense: The head coach shall be restricted to the dugout for the remainder of the game for the purpose of monitoring team behavior.

Third offense: The head coach shall be ejected from the game. Should inappropriate conduct persist following the ejection of the head coach, the game shall be declared a forfeit.

aa) Effective April 1st, 2026. 15 after 4 and 20 after 3 will also be considered Mercy Rule situations similar to the NFHS 10 after 5 rule.

V) OFFICIALS

- a) Officials are to be appointed by either a recognized officials bureau or other group recommended by the coaches and approved by the leagues' Executive Boards. Bureaus not approved by the league may not be used in any competition (Fall and non-league included).
- b) When a bureau is empowered to assign officials for the league, participating schools are to be given the opportunity to reject members of the association for their own games.
- c) Officials are to be notified of postponements by 1:00 on the day of the game. Officials not so notified are entitled to a half game fee. Once a game begins, the officials are entitled to their full fee.
- d) B.Q. - There shall be two man crews for all league games. N.Y. - Two man crews will work on the Varsity level. One man will work Freshman and Junior Varsity regular season games. Their fees will be determined prior to the season. Two men will be assigned to all playoff games. Four men will be assigned to all championship games.
- e) Officials receive a full fee once a game begins. A half fee is paid for make-up games of three innings or less only if the game is played along with a complete game.
- f) Schools may only cancel non-league games due to weather related reasons or to reschedule a league game. If the umpire cannot be re-assigned, the school may be responsible for all umpire fees.

THE FOLLOWING WAS APPROVED BY THE INTERSECTIONAL
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – JUNE, 2026

In the event that a team fails to field a complete team for a scheduled game, the matter shall be subject to review by the League Chairman in consultation with the Executive Committee. Based on this review, a forfeit may be declared at their discretion.

Should a forfeit be declared, the team deemed to have forfeited shall bear full responsibility for all umpire fees associated with the scheduled game.

The circumstances leading to the inability to field a team, including the justification provided and the amount of advance notice given, shall be duly considered prior to any final determination regarding forfeiture.

VI) PLAYOFFS

Playoff structure will be reviewed annually and finalized prior to the start of the season.

Teams who do not complete their season may not be eligible for the playoffs

VII) TIEBREAKER PROCEDURES

- Ties within the division are always broken first. If a three (or more) way tie involves multiple teams from the same division and a team from another division, use division tiebreakers to break the division ties first and then break the tie between the highest rated team in each division.

- Three (or more) way ties – Once a position is awarded or a team is eliminated from a tiebreaker (i.e. in a 3-way tie, two teams have more points than the third team, use head-to-head to break tie between team with more points), always revert to the first tiebreaker for the remaining teams. If the remaining teams are from the same division, use division tiebreakers.

- Tiebreaker games, if necessary, do not count toward regular season winning pct.

TIES WITHIN THE DIVISION

1. Head-to-Head (games between tied teams)
2. Division Record (games within the division)
3. Conference Record (games within level of play)
4. Points in all games (teams get 2 points for a win, 1 point for an extra inning loss)
5. Strength of Victory (winning pct. of all opponents beaten)
6. Strength of Schedule (winning pct. of all opponents)
7. Coin flip (Tiebreaker game replaces this tie involves a bye or playoff elimination.)

NOTE: Ties for first place in all divisions will be broken using only tiebreakers #1-4 from above. If the tie is not broken, a game (or games if more than two teams are involved) will be played. Subsequent tiebreakers will be used to determine home team and site for that game(s)

CONFERENCE TIES (TIES OUTSIDE THE DIVISION)

1. Head-to-Head (games between tied teams)
2. Conference Record (games within level of play)
3. Points in all games (teams get 2 points for a win, 1 point for an extra inning loss)
4. Strength of Victory (winning pct. of all opponents beaten)
5. Strength of Schedule (winning pct. of all opponents)
6. Coin flip (Tiebreaker game replaces this if tie involves a bye or playoff elimination.)

VIII) FALL BASEBALL

- a) Fall baseball run for five weeks (Wednesday after Labor Day to Tuesday after Columbus Day). The League President may extend this deadline at his discretion
- b) For the purpose of dealing with transfer student athletes, Fall Baseball will be treated like all sports. That is, a transfer is not eligible unless he meets at least one of the exceptions noted in the Constitution. Since Fall Baseball begins before the Eligibility Committee meets, requests for provisional eligibility must be submitted to the League President.

IX) VARSITY CALL-UPS – the following was approved in June, 2025

A student-athlete may move up to varsity and participate in up to three games while maintaining eligibility to return to a lower level. Participation in a fourth varsity game makes the athlete ineligible to return to the lower level.

Notes:

- Rule does not apply to movement between freshman and junior varsity levels.
- Athletes may not exceed the maximum number of allowable games per season.
- Athletes may not participate in varsity and junior varsity contests on the same day.
- A player must actually play to be considered a participant

NOTE: All call-ups should be submitted to the chairman by than 9 a.m the day after the game. Prior to the start of the season, coaches will also be asked to submit a list of lower-level players who will most likely play at the varsity level for the season. This will help avoid unnecessary call-up notifications.

X) INFRACTIONS / PENALTIES

Any team not in compliance with these by-laws may be subject to penalty. The following process will be followed:

The chairman shall appoint one representative (plus an alternate) from each division prior to the season to serve on the Games and Infractions Committee. If deemed necessary by the chairman and league President, this committee will meet and serve in an advisory capacity to the league chairman. The chairman will report all findings of this committee to the league president. The decision of the league president is final and may not be appealed.