




ACTIVITY UPDATE

2009 IESA BASEBALL

There are no major changes to the structure of the IESA baseball state series for the 2009 season. Here are some important date reminders and other pertinent information for all coaches:

- Try-outs/Practice May Begin: August 3
- Games May Begin: August 15
- Regionals: September 15, 19, 21
- Sectionals: September 26---11:00 a.m. 
- State Finals: October 2-3, EastSide Centre, East Peoria, Illinois

Coaches should familiarize themselves with the end-of-game procedures especially when those involve darkness and/or weather. There is a difference between a regular season complete game and a state series complete game when it comes to weather issues and the coaches should know the rule differences. The 15 run rule is now in effect after 3 innings (2 1/2 if the home team is ahead) 

The 3 class system will once again be used. The enrollments of a school's 7th and 8th grade are used to determine classification. There are 16 regionals in each class, 8 sectionals and then 8 teams advance to the finals. With 24 total teams playing in East Peoria, it makes for a great baseball atmosphere.

As of August 17, students who want to be a member of the school baseball team must cease all participation on any summer team. Students may be on the school team and finish the summer season as long as participation on the summer team is completed by August 17. (By-Law 3.042).


Schools are reminded that they must go online by **September 2** to complete the Regional Entry Form which can list up to 18 players for the state series.

With players finishing up their summer seasons and beginning play on the school team, please be sure they only wear rubber cleats during the IESA season. Metal cleats are prohibited during the entire IESA season.

Similarly, many of the bats used in the summer leagues are illegal bats during the IESA season. Be sure all bats conform to the IESA regulations. A complete listing of the bat regulations is located on the IESA website at the following address: <http://www.iesa.org/activities/bbb/bats.asp>

Pitching limitations can be accessed at the following website address:
http://www.iesa.org/administration/advisory/rules/IESA-BBB_LimitationRule.pdf

Individual limitations violation - IESA By-Law 4.106 mandates that the head coach of the team shall be ineligible to coach for the next two (2) contests at the level of competition where the violation happened, and at all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim, if he/she allows a player to exceed the individual limitations in a given activity. In baseball, a pitcher has game/daily/weekly inning limitations. If a pitcher exceeds these, the head coach will be penalized. Coaches are expected to ensure players adhere to all individual limitations and should they fail to adhere to them, the head coach shall be penalized as stated above. Coaches should review the individual pitching limitations applicable to this activity with students and parents.

 New for the 2009-10 Baseball Season, host schools will conduct their regional seed meetings completely online. This will eliminate another night of travel for coaches. The process for inputting information will be mandatory for all schools participating in the activity. Information on how to complete the online seeding process will be included in the initial baseball mailing.