



IESA BASEBALL

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES & RECOMMENDATIONS

November 1, 2021

The following members were present for the meeting: Patrick Arlis, Bourbonnais UGC; Brandon Porter, Brimfield; Austin McDowell, South Wilmington; and Todd Venters, Marshall; and Administrator Tim Damery, Principal Metamora GS. Not in attendance, Jim Kohlbacher, Manhattan; Jeffery Hull, Payson Seymour; Introductions were made and a review of the advisory committee's role took place.

The baseball advisory committee in its meeting on November 1, 2021, makes the following recommendations to the Board of Directors for their January 28, 2022 meeting:

RECOMMENDATION #1

Current	There is nothing in the terms and conditions that states a coach must use the IESA website to record their pitch counts for each pitcher.
Proposed	After each game, within 24 hours, coaches must enter their pitch counts on the IESA website to track their pitch counts for each pitcher. The IESA Baseball Administrator, or designee, will send emails on a weekly basis to the administration and coaches of those schools who have not kept their pitch counts up to date.
Rationale	We offer the ability to keep track of pitch counts in the member center for all schools registered for baseball. The tool is widely used but should be used by all.
T&C	Section VII; B
Handbook	4.014
Admin. Vote	2-0 in favor
Board Action	

RECOMMENDATION #2

Current	For regular season play, no inning can start 2 hours and 15 minutes after the first pitch of the game. Any inning in progress shall be completed
Proposed	For regular season play, no inning can start 2 hours after the first pitch of the game. Any inning in progress shall be completed.
Rationale	We are experiencing an umpire shortage in many areas of the state. There is also a significant number of umpires that will not work jr. high games due to the length of games along with the low pay. We received many phone calls and emails from schools struggling to get two licensed officials to work their games. It became such an issue that we allowed them to hire one licensed umpire if their opponent, the schools administration, and the umpire, all agreed to have one licensed umpire. This issue is not isolated to one area of the state but is statewide.
T&C	Section VII; B
Handbook	4.015
Admin. Vote	2-0 in favor
Board Action	Approved

RECOMMENDATION #3

Current	Rubber-soled or rubber-cleated baseball shoes are required as metal cleats are prohibited. The penalty for wearing metal cleats in a game shall be immediate removal from the contest without the opportunity to return to the game. [1-4-1]
Proposed	Allow metal cleats to be used during the jr. high baseball season.
Rationale	The majority of jr. high baseball players are using metal cleats all summer long on their travel teams. Confusion about the use of metal cleats consistently causes confusion for players and parents. It also requires parents to have to purchase a second set of baseball shoes for the IESA baseball season.
T&C	Section VII; B
Handbook	4.024
Admin. Vote	2-0 in favor
Board Action	Approved

The committee again discussed portable pitching mounds and there was almost unanimous consensus to not allow portable pitching mounds during the state series. The general feeling is that many of the portable pitching mounds are not safe, become very slippery if they get wet, make pick-off attempts difficult depending on the type of portable mounds, and simply are not fair to those pitchers who have not previously thrown off a portable mound.

State Pairings for 2022:

	<u>GAME 1</u>	<u>GAME 2</u>	<u>GAME 3</u>	<u>GAME 4</u>
CLASS 1A --	B vs C	A vs D	E vs H	F vs G
CLASS 2A--	G vs E	B vs C	A vs D	F vs H
CLASS 3A--	B vs G	C vs F	A vs E	D vs H