



# 2018 Boys Baseball State Series Terms and Conditions

In accordance with Article 1.400 of the IESA Constitution, the IESA Board of Directors has approved the Terms and Conditions governing the 2018 IESA Class 1A, Class 2A, and Class 3A Boys Baseball State Tournament Series.

## I. SCHOOL CLASSIFICATION

Seventh and eighth grade enrollment as of September 30 of the previous school year, according to figures supplied to the IESA by the member school, shall determine the classification of each school. The teams will be divided equally into three classes each containing 1/3 of the participating schools. The smallest 1/3 of the schools entered in baseball will be designated as Class 1A, the next smallest 1/3 will be designated as Class 2A, and the largest 1/3 of the schools will be designated as Class 3A. If two or more schools have the same enrollment number and that number happens to be where a split occurs, all schools with the same enrollment number shall be placed in the smaller class.

## II. STATE TOURNAMENT SERIES DATES, SITES, & SCHEDULES

### 2018 Season Calendar

Practice/Tryouts may begin (Monday).....	July 30, 2018
Cooperative Team Entry/Renewal Due.....	August 7, 2018
Games may begin (Saturday).....	August 11, 2018
Season Schedule Deadline (Saturday).....	August 11, 2018
Online Roster & Game Results Deadline (Tues.).....	September 4, 2018
Online Ranking.....	September 5-6, 2018
<b>Rosters Closed (Mon.) 4:00 p.m.</b> .....	September 10, 2018
Regionals (Tues., Sat., Mon.).....	September 11, 15, 17, 2018
Sectionals (Saturday) 11:00 a.m.....	September 22, 2018
State (Friday & Saturday).....	September 28-29, 2018
Season Must End.....	October 27, 2018

### A. Regional Tournaments---September 11, 15, 17

Regional Tournaments will be held at a site designated by the IESA Office. **"Play-in" games for those regionals that have 5, 6, or 7 teams assigned to it must be held on Tuesday, September 11.** Semi-final games shall be held Saturday, September 15, and the regional championship game on Monday, September 17. The exact playing time schedule for the semi-final and championship games shall be set by the regional host. The higher-seeded team will host all play-in games unless schools mutually agree to switch sites. The semi-finals and finals will be played at the regional host's facility. The higher seeded team in each game shall be the home team. Games must be played in bracket order. For example, when the regional semi-finals are played, the first semi-final game (which generally includes the #1 seed) must be played before the second semi-final game on Saturday. Additionally, the first regional semi-final game must be scheduled no later than 11:00 a.m. It is the responsibility of regional host to update the regional brackets online following each day of regional play.

### B. Sectional Tournaments--Saturday, September 22

Sectional Tournaments will be held on Saturday of Week 12 in the IESA standardized calendar. When a sectional site has not been determined, the two regional winners shall make contact, determine the sectional site, and notify the IESA Office as soon as possible. If both schools desire to host, a coin flip will be conducted by the IESA Office to determine who will host. **The starting time for all sectional games shall be 11:00 a.m. A coin flip will determine the home team for all sectional games.**

### D. State Tournament—Friday/Saturday September 28-29

The State Tournament will be held on Friday and Saturday of Week 13 in the IESA standardized calendar. **A coin flip will determine the home team for all state games.**

### E. State Tournament Sites

The Class 1A, 2A, and 3A tournaments will be held at EastSide Centre in East Peoria. East Peoria Central will be the host school. The IESA Baseball Advisory Committee randomly drew state pairings at its most recent meeting. In case

of bad weather on state dates, contact the IESA Office and watch the updates on the IESA website. State tournament information will be given to all qualifying teams as soon as sectional contests are concluded.

**The State Final schedule for Class 1A will be as follows:**

**Friday, September 28 (Quarterfinals)**

Game 1-- 9:30 a.m. Sectional G Winner vs. Sectional D Winner  
Game 2--11:30 a.m. Sectional E Winner vs. Sectional F Winner  
Game 3-- 2:00 p.m. Sectional A Winner vs. Sectional H Winner  
Game 4-- 4:00 p.m. Sectional C Winner vs. Sectional B Winner

**Saturday, September 29 (Semifinals & Finals)**

Game 5-- 9:30 a.m. Winners of Games 1 and 2  
Game 6--11:30 a.m. Winners of Games 3 and 4  
Game 7-- 2:00 p.m. Losers of Games 5 and 6 (***Third Place***)  
Game 8-- 4:00 p.m. Winners of Games 5 and 6 (***Class 1A State Championship***)

**\*\*\*\*No game will be allowed to start earlier than scheduled.\*\*\*\***

**The State Final schedule for Class 2A will be as follows:**

**Friday, September 28 (Quarterfinals)**

Game 1--10:00 a.m. Sectional C Winner vs. Sectional F Winner  
Game 2--12:00 noon Sectional A Winner vs. Sectional E Winner  
Game 3-- 2:30 p.m. Sectional B Winner vs. Sectional H Winner  
Game 4-- 4:30 p.m. Sectional G Winner vs. Sectional D Winner

**Saturday, September 29 (Semifinals & Finals)**

Game 5--10:00 a.m. Winners of Games 1 and 2  
Game 6--12:00 noon Winners of Games 3 and 4  
Game 7-- 2:30 p.m. Losers of Games 5 and 6 (***Third Place***)  
Game 8-- 4:30 p.m. Winners of Games 5 and 6 (***Class 2A State Championship***)

**\*\*\*\*No game will be allowed to start earlier than scheduled.\*\*\*\***

**The State Final schedule for Class 3A will be as follows:**

**Friday, September 28 (Quarterfinals)**

Game 1--10:30 a.m. Sectional H Winner vs. Sectional C Winner  
Game 2--12:30 p.m. Sectional D Winner vs. Sectional A Winner  
Game 3-- 3:00 p.m. Sectional F Winner vs. Sectional E Winner  
Game 4-- 5:00 p.m. Sectional B Winner vs. Sectional G Winner

**Saturday, September 29 (Semifinals & Finals)**

Game 5--10:00 a.m. Winners of Games 1 and 2  
Game 6--12:00 Noon Winners of Games 3 and 4  
Game 7-- 2:30 p.m. Losers of Games 5 and 6 (***Third Place***)  
Game 8-- 4:30 p.m. Winners of Games 5 and 6 (***Class 3A State Championship***)

**\*\*\*\*No game will be allowed to start earlier than scheduled.\*\*\*\***

### **III. ENTRIES, ENTRY FEES, AND ELIGIBILITY**

#### **A. Regional Entry Form**

Regional Entry Forms must be completed on-line through the IESA Member Center at [www.iesa.org](http://www.iesa.org). A school may list no more than 18 students on the form for state tournament series play. Instructions for completing the form are available on the IESA website.

Teams shall be ruled ineligible to compete in any tournament series contest unless the Regional Entry Form has been completed.

Regional Entry information is to be completed by Tuesday, September 4 no later than 11:59 p.m. NO CHANGES, ADDITIONS, AND/OR SUBSTITUTIONS MAY BE MADE TO THE REGIONAL ENTRY FORM INFORMATION AFTER 4:00 P.M. ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10.

It is the ultimate responsibility of all competing teams for all athletic activities to insure that each participant listed on its Regional Entry Form is eligible. Regional hosts for all athletic activities are also required to check each contestant on the Regional Entry Form.

## **B. Entry fees**

Schools must pay an entry fee of \$55 by the initial entry deadline of June 4. Those entries arriving after June 13 will be considered late and be required to pay a late entry fee of \$110. The IESA Office will accept entries until July 1 which is the final entry deadline. **If your school is listed in the regional/sectional assignments that are posted on the IESA website, you have paid your 2018 entry fee.**

Late entry fees will be waived for schools designated as new members or for current member schools entering an activity for the first time which petition to participate in an activity after the initial entry deadline. Entry fees will be refunded only upon request prior to the initial entry deadline.

Any school that withdraws from the IESA state series without notifying the IESA Office or withdraws from the state series after the seeding meeting shall pay a \$50.00 penalty, the cost of the umpires for the contest which they forfeited, and that school's share for one contest of any deficit assessment.

## **C. Eligibility**

To enter any of the state series tournaments a student must be eligible under all of the eligibility rules and conditions of competition of the IESA. These include but are not limited to:

### **1. Participation**

No student is eligible to participate at the same academic grade level for two different school years in the same sport. This is true whether the student attended a member or a non-member school. Participation in one interscholastic contest in a sport constitutes one season of eligibility in that sport. For example, if a student was in 7th grade during the 2017-18 school year and participated in baseball and is in 7th grade again during the 2018-19 school year, that student is ineligible to participate in baseball during the 2018-19 school year.

No student shall be a member of a team using ninth grade or high school students. Only students in grades 5-8 are eligible to participate.

### **2. Age**

A student shall be eligible through age fifteen (15). If a student in baseball becomes sixteen (16) before the final event in the state tournament series, he is not eligible to participate in the sport. A student must be born on or after September 30, 2002 to be age eligible to participate at any time during the season.

Each student must provide the principal of his school with certification of his birth before practice or participation in any athletic activity. This must be a birth certificate or hospital record or a thermostatic copy of such. **A baptismal certificate is not acceptable.**

See By-Law 3.057 regarding protests of an ineligible contestant due to age.

### **3. Physical examination**

No student shall be permitted to compete in a tryout, practice, or match unless he shall have filed with his principal a certificate of physical fitness issued by a licensed physician not more than 395 days preceding such tryout, practice, or contest in any athletic activity. (By-Law 3.061)

Any student who is not allowed to participate in interscholastic activities as the result of a physician's directive may not return to play until they have received written clearance from a physician.

4. Amateurism

As the result of participating in the IESA state series (regional, sectional, state) a student in a member school may accept any award (except cash) which does not exceed \$100.00 in fair market value, in the following sports: baseball, basketball, cross-country, softball, track, volleyball, and wrestling.

A student in a member school may accept a school letter for an interscholastic sport, regardless of cost.

Violation of the provisions of By-Law 3.070 shall cause ineligibility in the sport in which the violation occurred. An official ruling must be secured from the Executive Director before any student who violates these rules may be reinstated to eligibility.

5. Participating under an assumed name

In the event students participate in interscholastic competition under any other name than their own, the principal shall immediately suspend violators from further interscholastic participation. The Board of Directors shall then consider the future interscholastic participation of violators and/or persons contributing to a violation.

6. Coaching school participation

A student who is a member of the school team in a sport may participate, depending on local school district policy, in any coaching school/camp during that interscholastic sport season.

A coaching school/camp is defined as any program sponsored by an organization or individual which provides instruction in sports theory and skills to groups of persons.

Students may participate in and/or receive private lessons, school physical conditioning programs, and be used for demonstration purposes in coaches' clinics.

7. All-star participation

No athletic team from any member school may compete against an "all-star" team.

## IV. FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

### A. Regional and Sectional Tournaments

Each member school hosting a regional or sectional baseball tournament shall receive no prepaid compensation from the IESA Office. Each school hosting a regional game must hire and contract two officials for each game at the rate of \$55 per game, the costs of which are to be split by the participating schools. Each participating school should bring a check for the appropriate amount payable to the host school. Regional hosts are not required to submit a financial report of any kind. The IESA Office shall contract umpires for all sectional tournaments.

Admission may not be charged at the regional and sectional tournaments. Participating schools could be assessed on a per-game basis to cover operating deficits of a regional or sectional tournament.

### B. State Tournament

Each member school hosting a state level athletic activity shall send all receipts and the vouchers for workers and expenses to the IESA Office within one week after the completion of the tournament. Expenditures not permitted shall be detailed on the financial report forms. One-third of the profit shall be returned to the host school and two-thirds of the profit retained by the IESA. Deficit expenditures shall be paid by the IESA. The state tournament host shall receive an amount approved by the Board of Directors as their share of t-shirt merchandise sales. The host school will keep all concession (food, candy, pop, etc.) revenue. Outside vendors, besides concessions, must be contracted at least one month in advance through the IESA Office instead of the host school. The following items will not be approved as expenditures: payment for substitute teachers, rental of playing facilities, and cost of utilities used during a tournament unless previously approved by the Executive Director.

State Tournament Series admission prices are as follows:

Regional & Sectional -- None Allowed

State – Friday

\$2.00 for grades K-8 and Senior Citizens (at least 62 years of age)

\$5.00 for high school and adults

Saturday (Two games guaranteed for each team--all day admission—everyone will receive a wristband to wear during the day)

\$3.00 for grades K-8 and Senior Citizens (at least 62 years of age)

\$7.00 for high school and adults

## V. TOURNAMENT STRUCTURE

### A. Assignment and Advancement of Teams

Class 1A teams will be assigned to one of sixteen (16) regional tournaments. Likewise, Class 2A teams will be assigned to one of sixteen (16) regional tournaments and Class 3A teams will be assigned to one of sixteen (16) regional tournaments. All tournament play shall be single elimination.

### B. Online Seeding

All seeding is completed online. Schools must list their season schedule by August 11 and after each game, should go into the Member Center and record the result of the game. Your season record and the result of each game played must be updated by **Tuesday**, September 4, 2018. Based on the information supplied by the teams in your regional, teams will then seed the other teams in the regional on Wednesday and Thursday, September 5-6. Be sure to list the following:

- Team Record
- Season Schedule with results
- Special Comment Section on your team's season

### ONLINE SEEDING PROCEDURES

1. **A school that has not completed any of the online seeding procedure steps has no say regarding seed.** It is that school's responsibility to enter the appropriate material online by the deadline.
2. Seeding is a two-step process. Step 1: All schools must update their team record, season schedule with results, and special comment section before 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, September 4, 2018. **NOTE:** No school may enter the state series unless they have scheduled at least three interscholastic contests in that sport prior to the deadline for on-line seeding. The following penalty is in effect for schools that fail to submit their online record and seeding information by the posted deadlines in boys' baseball:
  - First Offense: School will be placed on probation.
  - Second Offense: School will be able to participate in the state series of the current year, but will not be able to participate in the state series the following year unless the school pays a \$250 fee for reinstatement to the state series.
3. Step 2: Schools will rank all participating schools in their regional except their own, based on the information each team submitted online in the previous step. Each school will have a two day period to complete this step of the online seeding process. This second step will open at 12:01 a.m. on Wednesday, September 5, 2018 and close at midnight Thursday, September 6, 2018.

Factors to consider in seeding (Listed in Random Order) these factors are all available to each online coach.

- a. Season Record
  - b. Quality of team's competition [written summary]
  - c. Smaller schools competing against larger schools (1A/2A vs. 3A) [written summary]
  - d. Head to Head competition [schedules and results]
  - e. Record against common opponents [schedules and results]
4. The computer will tabulate the seeds given to each school and the IESA Office will confirm the seed results on Friday, September 7, 2018. The actual seeds given by a school for the regional will be seen by all the schools assigned to the regional.

A regional game which is not played because one of the teams withdraws from competition following the regional online seeding, shall be considered a forfeit. The forfeiting team is subject to penalty. The remaining teams shall not be re-seeded.

All games are to be played in the proper order and shall not be changed unless permission is granted by the IESA. Games should not be played during school hours. The following tournament formats schedule must be followed, whichever is applicable.

In four-team regional tournaments, seed #1 vs. seed #4 in game one in top bracket; and seed #2 vs. seed #3 in game two in bottom bracket. The two winners of these games will then meet for the regional championship. Since there are only four teams in the regional, the semifinals would be played on Saturday and the championship game would be played on Monday.

In five-team regional tournaments, seed #1 vs. bye and seed #4 vs. seed #5 in game one in top bracket; In the second round, game two will pair seed #1 against the winner of game 1 and game three will pair seed #2 vs. seed #3. The two winners of games two and three will then meet for the regional championship. Since there are only five teams in the regional, game one must be played on Tuesday; the semifinals (games two and three) would be played on Saturday; and the championship game would be played on Monday.

In six-team regional tournaments, seed #1 receives a bye and seed #4 vs. seed #5 in game 1 in top bracket; seed #2 draws a bye and seed #3 vs. seed #6 in game 2 in bottom bracket. In the second round, game three will pair seed #1 against the winner of game 1 and game four will pair seed #2 against the winner of game 2. The two winners of games three and four will then meet for the regional championship. With six teams in the regional, games one and two must be played on Tuesday; semifinals (games three and four) on Saturday; and the championship game on Monday.

In seven-team regional tournaments, seed #1 receives a bye and seed #4 vs. seed #5 in game 1 in top bracket; seed #2 vs. seed #7 in game 2 and seed #3 vs. seed #6 in game 3 in bottom bracket. In the second round, game four will pair seed #1 against the winner of game 1 and game five will pair the winners of games #2 and #3. The two winners of games four and five will then meet for the regional championship. With seven teams in the regional, games one, two, and three must be played on Tuesday; semifinals (games four and five) on Saturday; and the championship game on Monday.

Games must be played in bracket order. For example, when the regional semi-finals are played, the first semi-final game (which generally includes the #1 seed) must be played before the second semi-final game on Saturday. Additionally, the first regional semi-final game must be scheduled no later than 11:00 a.m.

## VI. ADVANCEMENT OF WINNERS

### A. Class 1A

The winners of the sixteen (16) regional tournaments will advance to sectional tournament play. The winners of the eight sectional tournaments will advance to state tournament play.

### B. Class 2A

The winners of the sixteen (16) regional tournaments will advance to sectional tournament play. The winners of the eight sectional tournaments will advance to state tournament play.

### C. Class 3A

The winners of the sixteen (16) regional tournaments will advance to sectional tournament play. The winners of the eight sectional tournaments will advance to state tournament play.

The regional host shall enter the results of each game on the IESA website.

### D. The following policy has been adopted by the IESA Board of Directors if weather should cause an undue delay in completing a regional and/or sectional tournament:

- **STEP ONE:** If the weather conditions persist at the Regional or Sectional facility, the IESA may elect to designate an alternative field to complete play.
- **STEP TWO:** If it is not possible to move the playing field and the games have not been played prior to the start of state play, then the higher seed will advance.
- **STEP THREE:** If the teams remaining have the same seed, then a coin flip will be performed by the IESA office between the two teams on the Thursday prior to the start of the State Tournament play on Friday.

## VII. TOURNAMENT RULES & IESA EXCEPTIONS

### A. Rules of Play

In all regional games, the higher-seeded team is automatically the home team even if the game is held somewhere other than the higher-seeded team's traditional home field. In all sectional and state final games, the home team shall be determined by a coin flip.

The current National Federation Rule Book is adopted as the official rules of play for the state tournament series with exceptions listed below as well as Section 4.014 of the 2018-19 IESA Handbook.

### B. Exceptions to the National Federation Rules

\*\*Regulation baseball uniforms are not necessary. A minimum uniform shall be a baseball cap, shoes, long pants, and a T-shirt with numbers. 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]

\*\*Diamonds for all regular season and state series games shall be 80 feet square with the pitching distance at 54 feet. The distance from home plate to the middle of second base is 113 feet, 1 5/8 inches. All other sections of NFHS rule 2-1 should be followed. If a school desires to host the semi-final and championship games of the regional and/or a sectional contest their field must have the specifications listed above and a fence 225 feet or more from home plate. The recommended minimum distance from home plate to the backstop is 20 feet. Schools should not apply to host a regional or a sectional if their field does not meet these requirements. In cases where no field meets these specifications, then the schools assigned to the regional will meet to determine the regional host. First-round regional games which are played at the site of the higher seeded teams do not have to meet the home run distance. [1-2-1]

\*\*The use of Safe-Base, or a manufactured reproduction thereof, shall be mandatory in all regular season and tournament play. No game shall be played unless the Safe-Base is in use. The rules pertaining to Safe-Base shall be as follows: The batter-runner should use the orange portion only on the first attempt at first base. A runner is never out for touching the white base rather than the orange portion. Once the runner reaches first base, the runner shall then use only the white base. The defensive player may use only the white portion of the bag in making any play at first. One exception--On a missed third strike the first baseman may use the orange portion for the putout throw from the catcher. A batted ball must hit totally in the orange to be foul. [1-2-9 Note]

\*\*The ten-run rule is in effect and the game shall end when the visiting team is behind 10 runs or more after 4 ½ innings, or after the 5<sup>th</sup> inning, if either team is 10 runs behind and both teams have had an equal number of times at bat. A 15 run rule is also in effect and the game shall end when the visiting team is behind 15 runs or more after 2 ½ innings, or after the 3rd inning, if either team is 15 runs behind and both teams have had an equal number of times at bat. [2-17-1, 4-2-2]

\*\*It is strongly recommended that coaches be attired in school colors although adult coaches are not required to be in the uniform of the team. [3-2-1].

\*\*In any instance in which a team does not have an eligible substitute for a player who becomes ill, injured, or is ejected from the lineup by an umpire, the player last removed from the lineup by the team coach, who is otherwise eligible to play, shall be used as a substitute, taking the batting-lineup position of the replaced player. When a team's last available substitute enters the game as part of a multiple substitution, the team coach shall advise the umpire and official scorekeeper which player is to be considered the last player removed from the lineup. [3-1-3]

BATS (NFHS Rule 1-3-2)

\*\* The following bats are legal for use in 2018 IESA contests:

Any non-wood bat containing a silkscreened or permanently marked BBCOR label as detailed in section 1-3-2 of the NFHS baseball rules book or;

Any bat 30 inches and under that has a greater than minus three drop provided the bat barrel diameter does not exceed 2 1/4 inches or;

Any bat 30 inches and under that has a greater than minus three drop and a barrel diameter no larger than 2 5/8 inches provided that bat contains the USA Baseball logo or;

Any wood bat that meets the NFHS standards as detailed in section 1-3-2 and 1-3-3 of the NFHS baseball rules book.

NOTE 1: Any bat 31 inches and over must meet the NFHS bat guidelines and contain the BBCOR label.

NOTE 2: Any bat 31 inches and over and has a greater than a minus 3 drop with the USA Baseball logo is an illegal bat.

NOTE 3: Any non-wood bat with a barrel diameter greater than 2 5/8" is illegal.

NOTE 4: Effective with the 2019 season, no bat with a 2 1/4" barrel will be legal.

<b>Legal and Illegal Non-Wood Bats Without a USA Baseball Logo</b>			
<b>Length</b>	<b>Weight</b>	<b>Barrel Diameter</b>	<b>Status</b>
31	28	2-5/8"	<b>Legal assuming BBCOR labeled</b>
28	18	2-5/8"	Illegal--Maximum barrel diameter for a 30" (or less) non-wood bat that has a greater than minus 3 differential is 2 1/4"
30	20	2-1/4"	<b>Legal--BBCOR label not required</b>
29	18	2-1/4"	<b>Legal--BBCOR label not required</b>
29	22	2-3/4"	Illegal--Maximum barrel diameter for a 30" (or less) non-wood bat that has a greater than minus 3 differential is 2 1/4"
31	20	2-1/4"	Illegal--A 31" bat must weigh at least 28 oz. and meet all other NFHS standards including a BBCOR label
28	19	2-1/4"	<b>Legal--BBCOR label not required</b>
31	28	2-3/4"	Illegal--Maximum barrel diameter for a non-wood bat is 2 5/8"
31	28	2-5/8"	<b>Legal assuming BBCOR labeled</b>
30	27	2-5/8"	<b>Legal assuming BBCOR labeled</b>
32	22	2-1/4"	Illegal--A 32" bat must weigh at least 29 oz. and all other NFHS standards including a BBCOR label
31	25	2-1/4"	Illegal--All 31" and over bats must meet the NFHS standards and include a BBCOR label
30	27	2-1/2"	<b>Legal assuming BBCOR labeled</b>
30	18	2-1/4"	<b>Legal--BBCOR label not required</b>
30	20	2-5/8"	Illegal--Bats 30" and under with a greater than -3 drop have a maximum barrel diameter of 2-1/4"
28	18	2-1/2"	Illegal--Bats 30" and under with a greater than -3 drop have a maximum barrel diameter of 2-1/4"



## Legal and Illegal Non-Wood Bats With a USA Baseball Logo

Length	Weight	Barrel Diameter	Status
30	20	2-5/8"	Legal assuming USA Baseball Logo is silk screened on bat
31	20	2-5/8"	Illegal--All bats 31 inches and over for use in IESA must meet NFHS guidelines including BBCOR label
28	18	2-5/8"	Legal assuming USA Baseball Logo is silk screened on bat
26	16	2-1/4"	Legal assuming USA Baseball Logo is silk screened on bat
31	21	2-5/8"	Illegal--All bats 31 inches and over for use in IESA must meet NFHS guidelines including BBCOR label
32	22	2-5/8"	Illegal--All bats 31 inches and over for use in IESA must meet NFHS guidelines including BBCOR label
29	19	2-5/8"	Legal assuming USA Baseball Logo is silk screened on bat
28	18	2-1/2"	Legal assuming USA Baseball Logo is silk screened on bat

**NOTE: Effective January 1, 2012 any bat with a BESR label is illegal.**

\*\*The Suggested Speed-Up Rules pertaining to courtesy runners have been adopted. [2-33-1]

\*\*Any state series game that is suspended for reasons of weather, darkness, or mechanical failure (i.e. lighting problems, power outage, water system problems), and does not meet game ending regulations as described in rule 4-2-3, will be treated as a suspended game and continued from the point of suspension when the game is able to resume. The line-up and batting order shall be the same as the line up and batting order at the point of suspension. Pitching limitations will still apply whenever the game is resumed. The coach of the team trailing at the time of the suspension may forfeit the contest at which time the game will be considered a complete game. [4-2-3, 4-2-4]

\*\*Any state series game that is suspended for reasons of weather, darkness, or mechanical failure (i.e. lighting problems, power outage, water system problems), and does not meet game ending regulations as described in rule 4-2-3, will be treated as a suspended game and continued from the point of suspension when the game is able to resume. The line-up and batting order shall be the same as the lineup and batting order at the point of suspension. Pitching limitations will still apply whenever the game is resumed. The coach of the team trailing at the time of the suspension may forfeit the contest at which time the game will be considered a complete game. [4-2-3, 4-2-4]

\*\*When a regular season game is stopped for any reason, the school administration of the participating schools may choose to do one of the following:

Suspend the game and mutually agree to resume the game at the point of suspension at a later date and time; or the team losing at the time of the suspension can forfeit and the team winning at this time would claim this as a win on their record; or the team winning at the time of the suspension can forfeit and thus the team losing at this time would claim this as a win on their record; or the schools mutually agree to record the game as a "no game." [4-2-3, 4-2-4]

\*\*A portable pitching mound may NOT be used in the state series. [1-2-7]

### ***Pitching Exceptions (Applies to all regular season and state series contests)***

Any pitcher (either the starting pitcher or any relief pitcher) withdrawn from the mound or game may return to the pitching position once per game as long as it is within the legal re/entry rule. [3-1-2 note]

#### ***Illustrations for the above***

- Q.** My starting pitcher is removed from the mound during the third inning but remained in the game as the shortstop. Can he return to the mound in the 5th inning to finish the game as the pitcher?
- A.** Yes, assuming he has sufficient numbers of pitches that can be thrown in a given day remaining. Starting pitchers can return to the mound once per game.

- Q.** I removed my starting pitcher from the game in the second inning and he returned to the mound in the 4th inning. Because he does not hit very well, I want to pinch hit for him in the 6th inning. What is his playing status if I pinch hit for him?
- A.** In this instance, the player has to be removed from the game. Although you legally entered him back in the pitching position (starting pitchers may re-enter as the pitcher once per game) once you pinch hit for him, regulation re-entry rules prohibit him from re-entering the contest.
- Q.** I removed my starting pitcher in the 4th inning. He did not stay in the game. Can he re-enter in the pitching position to get the final out of the game?
- A.** Yes, assuming he has sufficient number of pitches that can be thrown in a given day remaining and he re-enters according to the re-entry rules.
- Q.** I brought in a relief pitcher to face one batter in the 5th inning. After he retired that batter he stayed in the game as the right fielder. Can he pitch to one batter in the bottom of the 7th inning?
- A.** Yes. Effective with the 2018 season, relief pitchers removed from the mound may return to the game as the pitcher as long as he has sufficient pitches remaining for the day.

### **IESA PITCH COUNT LIMITATIONS---REGULAR SEASON AND STATE SERIES**

PITCH COUNT PER DAY	REQUIRED DAYS OF REST	MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PITCHES ON NEXT APPEARANCE	NEXT APPEARANCE CAP
			Note: Pitch count caps are soft, meaning that the pitcher will be afforded the opportunity to finish the at bat if the maximum is reached in the middle of an at-bat.
1-20	0 days	70 pitches	A pitcher who throws 1-20 pitches may pitch on two consecutive days without rest. The maximum number of pitches that can be thrown on the second day is 70. A pitcher who throws on two consecutive days must rest for one day.
21-35	1	Up to 90	A pitcher who throws 21-35 pitches must rest for one day. After one day of rest, the pitcher is eligible to pitch to a cap of 90 pitches.
36-50	2	Up to 90	A pitcher who throws 36-50 pitches must rest for two days. After two days of rest, the pitcher is eligible to pitch to a cap of 90 pitches.
51-65	3	Up to 90	A pitcher who throws 51-65 pitches must rest for three days. After three days of rest, the pitcher is eligible to pitch to a cap of 90 pitches.
66-90	4	Up to 90	A pitcher who throws 66-90 pitches must rest for four days. After four days of rest, the pitcher is eligible to pitch to a cap of 90 pitches.

#### ***Illustrations for the above***

- Q.** Our game was suspended due to weather conditions in the middle of the 4<sup>th</sup> inning. Can my pitcher complete the game the next day?
- A.** Maybe. Once a pitcher throws 21 pitches, at least one day of rest is required. In this instance, if he threw 21-35 pitches before the game was suspended, he cannot pitch until he has had at least one full day of rest making him ineligible to pitch the next day.
- Q.** My team has advanced to the semi-finals of the Class 3A state tournament. Can my pitcher throw 45 pitches in the semi-final game and then come back and throw 20 pitches in either the third place or championship game?
- A.** Maybe. It all depends on the number of pitches that your pitcher can throw that day. If he can throw 90 pitches on Saturday, then he can throw in both games in any combination up to a maximum of 90 pitches. If he can only throw 50 pitches on Saturday and he throws 45 in the first game, then he would only have 5 pitches to throw in the second game. The pitching limitation is based on the number of pitches allowed on a given day and it is no longer based on innings.
- Q.** Our game is in the top of the 7<sup>th</sup> inning. My pitcher has 4 pitches left to throw before he will reach his maximum for the day. After his 4<sup>th</sup> pitch of the inning, the count on the batter is 2-2. Can he finish pitching to the batter?
- A.** Yes. However, once the batter has completed his at bat, in this instance, the pitcher must be immediately removed from the mound. Coaches need to have a new pitcher ready to come into the game when the pitcher has been removed from the mound.

**Q.** My pitcher has pitched 7 innings. The score is tied after 7 innings. May he continue to pitch in the 8<sup>th</sup> inning since the game is tied?

**A.** Maybe. A pitcher is allowed a maximum of 90 pitches in one day if he has had the required rest between outings. Assuming he has 90 pitches available in one day and in this instance he has only thrown 80 pitches after 7 innings and the score is tied, he still has 10 pitches remaining that day. A pitcher who pitches more than he is allowed is considered an ineligible player at that point and the game shall be forfeited in accordance with By-Law 5.071 and as noted below under Pitching Limitation Penalty.

**Q.** My pitcher threw 10 pitches on Monday and only 7 pitches on Tuesday. How many pitches can he throw on Wednesday?

**A.** None. A pitcher who throws on two consecutive days must rest for at least one full day before he can pitch again. In this instance, the next time the pitcher could throw would be on Thursday--up to a maximum of 90 pitches.

**Q.** Our regional championship game was scheduled for Monday. Due to weather, it was not played until Tuesday. On Tuesday, my best pitcher threw 85 pitches and shut out the opponent. Can he pitch in the sectional championship game on Saturday?

**A.** No. When a pitcher throws between 66 and 90 pitches, the pitcher must rest for four days before he can pitch again. In this case, he would have only rested three days (Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday) which would make him ineligible to pitch on Saturday.

**Q.** Our regional championship game was scheduled for Monday but was not played until Tuesday due to weather. However, I noticed that our opponent for the sectional was able to play on Monday. Their starting pitcher will be able to throw in the sectional on Saturday because he has had four days of rest but my #1 pitcher will not be able to throw on Saturday because he will not have had four days rest. Is this fair?

**A.** The rules are in place for the safety of the pitchers. The rules do not take into account for any weather delays. In this instance, you will either want to limit your #1 pitcher to 51-65 pitches in the regional championship being played on Tuesday so he can throw again on Saturday or if he pitches 66-90 pitches on Tuesday, he will be ineligible to pitch on Saturday.

**NOTE:** Each team is responsible for counting its own team's pitches and the opposing team's pitches. The head coach or designee will compare pitch counts with the opposing team after every even-numbered inning and at the conclusion of the game. If teams report different pitch count numbers to one another, the teams will split the difference and will use that number as the pitcher's official number. If splitting the difference results in a number that ends in a decimal, the teams will round that number up to the next whole number. For example: Following the 2nd inning, Team A has recorded 32 pitches for its pitcher. Team B has recorded 36 pitches for Team A's pitcher. The official pitch count number for Team A's pitcher will be 34 pitches. Another example: Following the 4th inning, Team A has recorded 63 pitches for its pitcher. Team B has recorded 60 pitches for Team A's pitcher. Since splitting the difference results in 61.5 pitches, the official pitch count number for Team A's pitcher will be 62 pitches.

### **Pitching Limitation Penalty**

In addition to automatic forfeiture of the contest, should a pitcher throw more than the maximum number of pitches allowed, the coach of the team shall be ineligible to coach for the next two interscholastic contests at the level where the violation occurred and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim.

### **C. Tournament Team Limitations**

Each tournament team shall consist of a maximum of 18 uniformed players whose names appear on the Regional Entry Form. No changes will be permitted on the Regional Entry Form after the Roster Closed deadline. The Roster Closed deadline is set at 4:00 p.m. on the Monday preceding the start of the regional.

All tournament play shall be single elimination with the winning team advancing from regional to sectional and from sectional to state level competition. If an opponent incurs a violation in the state series that requires a contest or contests to be forfeited, the following policy will be followed:

- If the violation affects only one round of competition, the opponent within that round will be advanced on to the next round of competition within the state tournament series.
- If the violation affects more than one round of competition, no opponent from the preceding rounds of competition shall be advanced to the next round of competition within the state tournament series.
- The advancement of opponents shall be determined by the IESA Office.

When a sectional site is undetermined, the two regional winners shall make contact, determine the sectional site, and notify the IESA Office as soon as possible. If both schools desire to host, a coin flip will be conducted by the IESA Office to determine who will host. **Starting time for the sectional is set for 11:00 a.m.**

## VIII. TOURNAMENT POLICIES

### A. Authority

By authority of the IESA Constitution and By-Laws, the Board of Directors shall interpret and enforce the Terms and Conditions.

### B. Failure To Appear And Forfeiture Of Contest

Any school that withdraws from the IESA state series without notifying the IESA Office or withdraws from the state series after the seeding meeting shall pay a \$50.00 penalty, the cost of the umpires for the contest which they forfeited, and that school's share for one contest of any deficit assessment.

A team failing to field the required number of starting players within 45 minutes of the scheduled game time shall forfeit the game. The IESA Office and tournament host school must be notified of such.

No state series contest shall be forfeited due to weather conditions. If the administrator of any participating school determines he or she cannot reach the tournament site due to weather conditions, the host school shall reschedule that particular game as soon as possible. The IESA Office and the opposing schools shall be notified of the rescheduling. Other contests scheduled on that particular date may still be held.

Any coach or school official who withdraws a team from the field of play under any circumstances prior to the official completion of the game shall forfeit all rights to protest, except when the principal of the forfeiting school believes circumstances which affected the health, safety, or welfare of the students required such action, he or she may file a protest.

### C. Baseballs

Regional-- Each Regional host will receive nine (9) Rawlings RIESA baseballs for the three games they are scheduled to host (2 semi-final games and the regional championship game). Schools that host one of the play-in games on September 11 will receive three (3) baseballs once the host of the play-in games is determined.

Sectional-- Each Sectional host will receive three (3) Rawlings RIESA baseballs to be used for the sectional. Host schools must have some identical balls on hand in case the 3 balls are not enough to complete the game. One ball shall be given to the loser of each game and two balls shall be given to the winner of each game.

### D. Players And Team Personnel

No team will be allowed in uniform more than 18 players whose names must appear on the Regional Entry Form. Only students who are currently eligible to participate in an interscholastic contest shall appear at the contest in the uniform of their school.

### E. Awards

Plaques shall be awarded to the regional and sectional winner, and trophies to the champion, runner-up, third and fourth place winners at the state final competition. Twenty-six individual medals will be presented to the first, second, third, and fourth place team winners in the state final competition.

### F. Conduct of Coaches, Players, Fans

Any player ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be ineligible for the next interscholastic contest at that level of competition, and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim, in addition to other penalties the IESA or school may assess. Any player ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct a second time in any activity during the school year, shall be ineligible for all remaining interscholastic contests the day of the ejection and the next two

interscholastic contests at the level at which the ejection occurred, in addition to other penalties the IESA or the school may assess. Examples: A basketball player is ejected twice during the course of the season. The player is not allowed to participate in the next two contests following the ejection; a player is ejected one time during the baseball season for unsportsmanlike conduct and one time during the basketball season also for unsportsmanlike conduct. That player is not allowed to participate in the next two basketball contests following the second ejection.

Any coach ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be ineligible for the next two (2) interscholastic contests at that level of competition, and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim, in addition to other penalties the IESA or school may assess. Any coach ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct a second time in any activity during the school year, shall be ineligible for all remaining interscholastic contests the day of the ejection and the next five (5) interscholastic contests at the level at which the ejection occurred, in addition to other penalties the IESA or the school may assess. Examples: A basketball coach is ejected twice during the course of the season. The coach is not allowed to attend the next five contests following the second ejection; a coach is ejected one time during the baseball season for unsportsmanlike conduct and one time during the basketball season also for unsportsmanlike conduct. That coach is not allowed to attend the next five basketball contests following the second ejection.

Any player or coach ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct who fails to sit out the remaining interscholastic contest(s) as required in By-Laws 5.121 and 5.122 shall cause the team(s) to forfeit that contest and possibly receive other penalties as determined by the Board of Directors.

Any fan ejected from a state series contest is not able to attend any remaining games at that level of the state series if there are games remaining in the tournament. For example, a fan is ejected at the semi-final game on Saturday. That fan may not attend the championship game on Monday.

If a school has any coach ejected from two contests for unsportsmanlike conduct in a school year, that school's administration shall be required to communicate in writing with the Sportsmanship Review Panel on the steps the school is taking to address the issue. The panel may recommend additional sanctions to the Board of Directors if they deem necessary.

Students participating in the state series in violation of IESA By-Laws, or other persons found to be in gross violation of the ethics of competition or the principles of good sportsmanship, may be barred by the Executive Director from the remainder of the state tournament series and future interscholastic activities.

If players or representatives of any school entered in a tournament are found guilty of carelessly or maliciously breaking, damaging, or destroying property or equipment belonging to the host school or other visiting schools, the players or representative's school shall be held responsible for costs incurred in repairing or replacing such property or equipment.

#### **G. Facilities**

The host school shall not make its playing fields available to the visiting teams for practice sessions other than for the customary scheduled batting practice and infield just before game time.

#### **H. State Tournament Information**

State tournament hosts will be required to send packets of information to all sectional hosts to pass on to their sectional winners.

#### **I. Media**

Space shall be made available for news media personnel covering the state series and host schools should make every effort to accommodate the media. Reporting information to the news media shall be the responsibility of each tournament manager and strongly recommended.

#### **J. Signs, Banners, And Noisemakers**

The displaying of signs, banners, placards, balloons, or constructed frames through which players run is prohibited. Local tournament managers should not permit these devices to be brought into the playing areas. Tournament managers should not permit spectators to bring mechanical noise-making devices, megaphone, radios, or tape players into the playing area of the state tournament contest.

**K. Video-Taping**

Video-taping of regular season and state series contests by fans and spectators is allowed. Video-taping of contests by coaches during a game is governed by NFHS rule.

**L. Other**

No alcoholic beverages shall be served at any IESA activity where there are students participating.

**IX. OFFICIALS**

Contest officials shall make all decisions regarding the rules of play. Their judgments and decisions cannot be protested.

**A. State Final Umpires**

The IESA Office shall contract the umpires for the state finals. Three (3) umpires will be contracted for each state final tournament game. All umpires shall be licensed by the Illinois High School Association.

**B. Regional And Sectional Umpires**

Regional---The regional host school shall contract the umpires needed for each game in the regional semi-final and final games. It is NOT the host school's responsibility to hire the umpires for PLAY-IN GAMES on Tuesday, September 11. It is the responsibility of the school(s) hosting the play-in contest to secure these umpires. Two umpires licensed with the Illinois High School Association shall be contracted. Umpires must be licensed with the IHSA. Preferably, no officials should be contracted from cities playing in the regional tournaments. At the regional level, each school shall pay the cost of one umpire for each game in which they participate.

Sectional---The IESA shall contract two umpires for the contest. Only IHSA licensed umpires shall be used. Sectional umpires will be sent checks directly from the IESA Office after completion of the sectional game.

**C. Payment**

Regional -- \$55.00 per game

Sectional -- \$65.00 per game (2 umpires assigned and paid by the IESA Office).

State -- \$75.00 per game (3 umpires assigned and paid by the IESA Office).

The following procedure shall be in effect for payments to officials in both the regular season and state series when contests are postponed or suspended:

- a. When an official is notified before arriving at the site there shall be no compensation
- b. When an official arrives at the site and the contest is suspended or cancelled before the contest begins, the official shall be paid one-half of the game fee.
- c. If the contest begins and then is suspended until the next day, the official shall receive the full game fee for the contest which began and then a full fee for the completion of the contest the next day.

**D. Provide for Umpires**

It is highly recommended, especially in the early part of the season, that water is made available to the umpires between innings.