



IOWA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Baseball Memo #7

June 7, 2024

Good morning, Head Baseball Coaches & AD's –

As we round out the first full week in June, have just had a few items come up that I want to bring everyone's attention to as we approach the second half of the regular season.

1. Pitch Count

There has been an uptick in pitch count errors in the last week so wanted to remind everyone to be sure we are all well versed in this, and we are all taking proper steps to ensure mistakes are not made. Pitch Count information is well detailed in our [Baseball Regular Season Manual](#). I do not believe any errors have been made intentionally but do feel they have all been preventable. Utilize [Pitch Count Spreadsheet](#) and [Pitch Count Form](#) available from our website, do checks every half inning during games and reconcile any discrepancies, know the tiers of the pitch count and days of rest associated with it, consecutive pitching days policy, and document count throughout contests by coach or trusted adult to help resolve disputes as they may arise

2. Stats Entry into Bound

Stats are to be entered into Bound within 24 hours of a contest. This is not optional and part of your program's expectations for the season. I have had to reach out to a few schools on this which I should not have to. We all need to do our part to keep the integrity of the game and complete this requirement.

3. Courtesy Runner

I have had a few inquires on the use of a courtesy runner so thought it was worth including in this memo to clarify for all. In using the new Player/DH rule where we start with only 9 in the lineup if the "player" is yet a catcher or pitcher we CANNOT courtesy run for them as the NFHS interpretation is when they are batting, they are now just DH, not a pitcher or catcher. I suspect over time adjustment would be made as courtesy runners are basically speed up rule, so no advantage is gained by allowing it, but this is the current NFHS interpretation.

4. Dugouts

Dugout Decorum was on our last memo but still people are struggling with this for some reason. Unless you are part of live play or in the on-deck circle, all other team personnel should be in the dugout, no exceptions. There is a liability piece that goes with this that we are all responsible for.

5. Umpire Assignments

Two games this week were played with a noncertified umpire. This is a forfeiture of contest per IHSAA manual and cannot happen. You can play a contest with one licensed umpire (last resort only) but I should be contacted prior to this to walk through steps to take for this as again a last resort. AD's ensure this does not take place and if you work with an assignor, ensure they certified. Full list is updated regularly and can be found on our [Officials Page](#) of the IHSAA website.

Thanks, and do not hesitate to reach out with any questions now that we are in the heart of the regular season.



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