



IOWA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Baseball-Coach and AD Memo #7

June 12, 2026

1. Pitching Position:

I continue to get calls from Coaches and Umpires on the pitching position, balks and illegal pitches. Simply put the pitching position is determined by the pivot foot, and pitchers must use either the wind-up position or the set position, so everyone knows which Rule 6 guidelines apply. If the pivot foot is in contact with the plate and **not parallel**, the pitcher is in the wind-up and may only pitch or step backward off with the pivot foot first. If the pivot foot is **parallel to or directly in front of the plate**, the pitcher is in the set position and must follow set rules.

For umpires, if you cannot clearly tell which position is being used, default to calling it the **windup**

Here are a few resources linked to help:

Clarification of 6.1.1 Pitching, 6.1.2 The Windup 6.2.2, The Set Position and 2.28.3 Time of the Pitch: [-Case Book Examples](#)

Short Video on Set Position: [SET POSITION](#)

Short Video on Windup :[WINDUP POSITION](#)

2. Dugouts and Team Personnel

All team personnel are required to remain inside the dugout during play. Sitting, standing, or placing buckets to sit outside the dugout is not permitted. This expectation is in place to reduce safety risks and limit liability for all involved. **Coaches and Umpires are expected to enforce this consistently throughout the game.**

3. Profanity

Whether direct or indirect—has no place in education-based activities. There is no justification for the use of foul language, and it will not be accepted or tolerated. There have been multiple instances this season where this standard has not been upheld. Let's work together to address this issue and maintain an appropriate environment.

4. Designated Hitter:

I have had a couple of calls and questions on the Designated hitter—specifically regarding re-entering the game. Both the position player and the DH are considered starters and can each re-enter once. One way to think of it is when playing with the DH you have ten starters

Here is some additional guidance on the Designated for reference: [Designated Hitter Guidance](#)

5. Bound Stats

All game results, statistics, and pitch counts must be entered into Bound within 24 hours—this is a required expectation for all programs, not optional. Timely and accurate stat entry is critical for maintaining the integrity of the sport and for **evaluating teams for postseason opportunities**. Coaches are strongly reminded that consistent, prompt data entry is expected, and failure to meet these responsibilities reflects poorly upon your program.

6. Weather Impact

Recent weather has significantly impacted game schedules. Please review the [IHSAA Baseball Regular Season Manual](#) Ensure you have a clear, actionable safety plan in place, with game administrators and umpires working together to make decisions in the best interest of student-athlete safety. Also, be familiar with proper game-ending procedures. It is important to understand the distinction between a completed game and a suspended contest, as the manual provides specific examples for reference. If you do have a suspended contest, please update Bound, using directions again linked [HERE](#) from a previous memo.

7. Post-Season Release Date

Class 1A/2A will be released the week of June 22nd

Class 3A/4A will be released the week of June 29th