NJSIAA BASEBALL EXAM

- Opens February 1
- Closes February 28

**Format**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Questions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Section 1</td>
<td>Baseball Mechanics</td>
<td>10 questions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Section 2</td>
<td>NJSIAA Regulations</td>
<td>10 questions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Section 3</td>
<td>NFHS Rule Changes</td>
<td>5 questions</td>
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<td>Section 4</td>
<td>NFHS Points of Emphasis</td>
<td>5 questions</td>
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<td>Section 5</td>
<td>Baseball Rules</td>
<td>20 out of 50 questions</td>
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Passing Score = 80%
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<td>Feb. 10</td>
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<td>7 PM</td>
<td>Colonia HS</td>
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<td>Brick Two, HS Cafeteria 3</td>
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<td>7 PM</td>
<td>Riverside Masonic Hall</td>
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| Tri-County Tri-Country Umpire Association |         |         | Each Chapter received a copy of this list at NJSIAA Interpretation Meeting.
NJSIAA REGULATIONS AND POLICIES

- Jewelry (Medical Reasons must be approved by NJSIAA)
- Social Media.
- Adult Coaches must wear proper head protection in coaching box.
- Umpires wearing sunglasses.
- Players wearing sunglasses.
- Eye Black.
- Extending dugout / bench area.
- Lightning Detectors
A complete game consists of seven complete innings. Exceptions to this are:

- The game requires extra innings because of a tie score after 7 complete innings.
- The game was shortened because the home team needs none of its half of the seventh inning or only a fraction of it.
- The 10-run rule. The visiting team is behind 10 or more runs after 4 1/2 innings, or after the fifth inning, if either team is 10 runs behind and both teams have had an equal number of times at bat.

An official game is a game that has reached 5 complete innings. Exceptions to this are:

- The away team has had 5 complete innings at bat and is behind in the score.
- The score is tied after 5 complete innings.
- Games playing under the suspended game rule will supersede this rule. Please see suspended game regulations below.
A complete game that is tied and in extra innings and called for weather, field conditions or darkness will be considered final. The final score will follow the procedure below:

- The final score will be reflected from the last completed inning, which includes ties.
  - **CL1**: If the game is tied at the completion of the 10th inning and the away team goes ahead in the top of the 11th inning and the game is called. The score will revert to the last completed inning thus conclude as a tie.
  - **CL2**: If the game is tied at the completion of the 10th inning and the home team goes ahead in the bottom of the 11th inning, the game will end.

Any official game that is called for weather, field conditions or darkness will be considered final. The final score will follow the procedure below:

- The final score will be reflected from the last completed inning (5th inning minimum) which includes ties; except that if the home team in its half of the incomplete inning, scores a run (or runs) which equals or exceeds the opponent’s score, the final score shall be as recorded when the game is called.
REGULAR SEASON

– **CL1:** If the game is tied at the completion of the 5th inning and the away team goes ahead in the top of the 6th inning and game is called. The score will revert to the last completed inning (5th) and will remain a tie.

– **CL2:** If the game is tied at the completion of the 5th inning and the home team ties or goes ahead in the bottom of the 6th inning and game is called. The final score shall be as recorded when the game is called.

If a game is called before it becomes official because for weather, field conditions or darkness, the umpire shall declare the contest “no game”. It will be up to the two schools to determine if the game will be replayed. Except if the game is played under the suspended game rule (See rule below).

All games shall end when the visiting team is behind 10 or more runs after 4 1/2 innings, or after the fifth inning, if either team is 10 runs behind and both teams have had an equal number of times at bat (10-run rule).
All NJSIAA State tournament games will be played under the suspended game rule.

All conference, league, & county tournament play will also play under the suspended game rule when a winner is needed to advance or crown a champion.

- The suspended game rule will also be in play for any regular season conference, League, or county play that needs to have a winner to determine a conference, league, county or division champion.
- **NOTE 1:** The regular season game opponents must be in the same conference or league.
- **NOTE 2:** Any regular season tournament that requires a winner to advance may also use the suspended game rule if applicable.

All games will end when the visiting team is behind 10 or more runs after 4 1/2 innings, or after the fifth inning, if either team is 10 runs behind and both teams have had an equal number of times at bat (10-run rule)
STATE TOURNAMENT  (COUNTY AND CONFERENCE TOURNAMENTS)

- If a game is called before it becomes a completed game because of weather, field conditions or darkness, the umpire shall declare the contest a “suspended game”. There are no official games when the contest is played under the suspended game rule. The game must be played to completion.

- A game that is suspended at any time shall be picked up at the point of interruption the next day. If the next day is a Sunday, the game may be played if both schools are permitted to play on Sundays, otherwise, the game must be played on Monday. Local conference, league, or county rules may supersede this rule with the exception of the state tournament.

- All pitch count rules remain in effect regardless of the number of pitches or days in between the suspended game (except the state tournament)
In an NJSIAA State Tournament a game that is suspended and resumed the next day, the pitcher of record may continue to pitch to the extent of his eligibility provided he has pitched 50 or fewer pitches.

If the pitcher has thrown 50 or fewer pitches before the game was suspended, that pitcher’s count shall carry over to the next day and the pitcher may pitch until the maximum of 110 pitches in a game is reached.

If the pitcher has thrown more than 50 pitches before the game was suspended, that pitcher shall be required to meet the rest period as per pitch count rule limits.
UMPIRE DRESS CODE

During the regular season, umpires may wear the navy blue or black shirt with NJSIAA logo.

- Note: Chapters may dictate which color they want their umpires wearing during the regular season. If umpires cannot agree on the uniform color, then the default color will be the navy-blue.
Starting with the 2020 season, all shirts (short sleeve or long sleeve) must have the sublimated approved NJSIAA logo on them.
Starting with the 2020 season, all umpires may wear either the plain Jacket (no logo) or the jacket with the approved NJSIAA logo. In addition, the approved logo may be embroidered on a jacket for those umpires that already have a plain jacket and wish to have it embroidered on. The NJSIAA will not require umpires to wear the jacket with the NJSIAA logo at any time, however, our approved vendor will no longer sell the plain jacket to NJSIAA registered officials. Only the jacket with the approved NJSIAA logo will be sold.
2020 Regular Season Games

Any of the three hats listed below will be acceptable for all regular season games. **Umpires do not need to have matching hats.**

- NJSIAA approved logo hat
- Chapter Hat
- Blank Hat
During the NJSIAA tournament, either uniform combination is fine. During the state tournament all umpires must match in color for all parts of the uniform. **If umpires cannot agree on the uniform color, then the default color will be the navy-blue.**

Any of the two hats listed below will be acceptable for all NJSIAA tournament. Umpires do not need to have matching hats. The 2020 season will be the last year the NJSIAA will supply hats for the state finals.

- NJSIAA Approved Logo Hat
- Blank Hat
NFHS CORPORATE PARTNER

TEAM IP IS PROUD TO BE THE EXCLUSIVE CORPORATE PARTNER FOR NFHS BASEBALL


Inc. 500 | 5000
NFHS (located in Indianapolis, IN – Est. 1920):
• National leadership organization for high school sports and fine arts activities;
• National authority on interscholastic activity programs.
• Conducts national meetings;
• Sanctions interstate events;
• Produces national publication for high school administrators;
• National source for interscholastic coach training and national information center.
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

- Membership = 50-member state associations and D.C.
- NFHS reaches more than 19,000 high schools and 12 million participants in high school activity programs, including more than 7.8 million in high school sports.
The NFHS Rules Review Committee is chaired by the chief operating officer and composed of all rules editors. After each committee concludes its deliberations and has adopted its recommended changes for the subsequent year, such revisions will be evaluated by the Rules Review Committee.
The NFHS writes playing rules for 17 sports for boys and girls at the high school level.

- Publishes 4 million pieces of materials annually.
NFHS RULES BOOK AS E-BOOKS

- E-books features:
  - Searchable
  - Highlight areas of interest
  - Make notes
  - Easy navigation
  - Adjustable viewing size
  - Immediate availability

www.nfhs.org
NEW NFHS RULES APP

- Rules App features:
  - Searchable
  - Highlight notes
  - Bookmarks
  - Quizzes for all sports
  - Easy navigation
  - Immediate availability
  - Free to paid members of the NFHS Coaches and Officials Associations
  - www.nfhs.org/erules for more information
GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOLS AND STATE ASSOCIATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION OF ACCOMMODATIONS

1. Request from Student to School for Accommodation(s)
2. School Conducts Individual Student Assessment
3. Request from School for Accommodation(s) to State Association
4. Notice and Opportunity to be Heard
5. State Association Review of Request
6. State Association Provides Written Determination for Accommodation(s) to School
7. If appropriate, School Provides Letter of Authorization to Head Official for Local Contest Allowing Competition with Accommodation(s)
IMPORTANT FACTS AND DATES

- **2018-19 Participation Results**
  - Baseball (4) 482,740 [down from 2017-18 {487,097}]
  - Girls’: 1,284 (down from 2017-18 1,762)

- **Online Interpretation Meeting Date**
  - January 23, 2020

- **Mid-Season Webinar Date**
  - April 24, 2020

- **Rule Change Proposal Submission Dates**
  - Open Date: September 1, 2019
  - Close Date: May 1, 2020

- **Rules Committee Date**
  - June 5-7, 2020
PROPOSALS FOR RULE CHANGES

- Must be submitted by State Associations not individuals.

**NJSIAA Procedure**
1. Chapters, Coaches and Individuals may submit rule change proposal to NJSIAA.
2. Proposals must be received by Tony Maselli no later than May 31st of each calendar year.
3. Proposal will be brought before NJSIAA Baseball Rules Committee
4. If viewed favorably, proposal will be forwarded to NJSIAA advisory board to determine if proposal is to be forwarded to NFHS for consideration the following year.
UMPIRE MECHANICS

Jack Venezia

NJSIAA Mechanics Chairperson
The approved signal for communicating with a partner(s) that an umpire has some relevant information that may help in making a decision is to tap the left chest in the heart area.
CORRECTING A DECISION

The UIC may rectify any decision in which a reversal places another team at a disadvantage.

The UIC has the authority to make a final decision on a point not covered by the rules.
On a half-swing Base Umpire shall respond only if the Plate Umpire asks.

In 3-Man Mechanics, PU should appeal to U1 on right handed batters and U2 on left handed batters, even if they are in Position B or C.
With a runner at 1\textsuperscript{st} base only, the Plate Umpire should be prepared to assist the base umpire on illegal slides at 2\textsuperscript{nd} base in a double play situation where U1 must direct his attention to the play at first base.

NFHS Umpire Manual Page 28, #4
For contentious situations involving the head coach, umpires have the option to restrict rather than eject.

Whenever an assistant coach is restricted or ejected, the head coach must also be restricted to the bench.
FLY BALL COVERAGE

Base Umpire(s) in a 2-man or 3-man crew shall use the Pause-Read-and-react technique to determine whether a batted ball to the outfield is a “trouble ball” which requires a base umpire to “go out” to the outfield or whether it is a routine fly ball or clean base hit which does not require an umpire to leave the infield.
NFHS has added an option for a coach to use when preparing a lineup card. Coaches may continue to:

1. Play with a straight 9 hitters and no DH
2. Play with a traditional DH as a 10th starter.
The DH may still be a 10th starter hitting for any one of the nine starting defensive players.
When using a standard designated hitter, the role of the DH is still terminated for the remainder of the game when the defensive player for whom the DH batted, subsequently bats, pinch-hits or pinch-runs.

In the example, Jackson bats for Charles. Charles has been removed from the game one time and is eligible for re-entry in the same spot in the batting order.
When using a standard designated hitter, the role of the DH is still terminated for the remainder of the game when the defensive player for whom the DH batted, subsequently bats, pinch-hits or pinch-runs.

When using a standard designated hitter, an offensive substitution for the DH becomes the new designated hitter.
The role of a standard DH is still terminated for the remainder of the game when the designated hitter or any previous designated hitter assumes a defensive position.

In this example, Charles the starting DH enters the game as a first baseman. Jackson has been removed from the game one time and is eligible to re-enter once in the same spot in the batting order as a hitter or defensive player.
Rule Change

DESIGNATED HITTER
RULE 3-1-4b

• The starting designated hitter (DH) may now be any one of the starting defensive players, including the pitcher.

• A Player/DH then holds two positions: defensive player and designated hitter.
The starting designated hitter (DH) may now be any one of the starting defensive players, including the pitcher.

A Player/DH then holds two positions: defensive player and designated hitter.
In the case where one player is listed as a starting DH and a starting defensive player in the lineup, the role of the defensive player may be substituted for by any legal substitute.

The original player/DH may re-enter defensively one time.
COURTESY RUNNER AS IT RELATES TO THE DH FOR A PITCHER OR CATCHER

The courtesy runner option is not available if the coach chooses either DH option.

If he elects to have his starting pitcher be listed also as the designated hitter on the lineup card:

When he bats or is on offense, he is performing the role of designated hitter.
When he plays defensively, he is performing as a pitcher.
When using the P/DH, the role of the DH is terminated for the remainder of the game when any player substitutes offensively for the DH.
As a reminder from the previous rule, the role of the DH is terminated for the remainder of the game when the starting defensive Player/DH is substituted for either as a hitter or a runner.
Rule Change

DESIGNATED HITTER (DH)
RULE 3-1-4

- **ART. 4 . . .** A hitter may be (not mandatory) designated for any one starting player (not just pitchers) and all subsequent substitutes for that player in the game. A starting defensive player cannot be listed as the designated hitter in the startup. A designated hitter for said player shall be selected prior to the start of the game, and his name shall be included on the lineup cards presented to the umpire-in-chief and to the official scorer.
DESIGNATED HITTER (DH)
RULE 3-1-4

- A team forfeits the use of a designated hitter if it fails to declare a designated hitter prior to the game. If a pinch hitter or pinch runner for the designated hitter is used, that player becomes the new designated hitter. The player who was the designated hitter may re-enter as the designated hitter under the re-entry rule. A designated hitter and the player for whom he is batting are locked into the batting order. No multiple substitutions may be made that will alter the batting rotation.
Rule Change

DESIGNATED HITTER (DH)
RULE 3-1-4

The role of the designated hitter is terminated for the remainder of the game when:

A designated hitter may be used in one of the two scenarios:

- a. The defensive player, or any previous defensive player for whom the designated hitter batted, subsequently bats, pinch-hits, or pinch-runs for the designated hitter; or

- a. The designated hitter may be a tenth starter hitting for any one of the nine starting defensive players. If the designated hitter (DH) is used in this manner, the role of the DH is terminated for the remainder of the game when:
DESIGNATED HITTER (DH) RULE 3-1-4

1. The defensive player, or any previous defensive player for whom the designated hitter batted, subsequently bats, pinch-hits, or pinch-runs for the designated hitter; or

2. The designated hitter or any previous designated hitter assumes a defensive position.
Rule Change

DESIGNATED HITTER (DH)
RULE 3-1-4

- **Rationale:**
  This rule change will provide coaches some options to strategize how to keep their better players in the game, to contribute to the offensive output of the team and give another player a chance to participate on defense. In addition, considering the pitch count rules, this change would help pitchers to keep their bat (because they are typically the best hitter) in the game, but can come out of the game to protect their arms from overuse.
POINTS OF EMPHASIS
There are now two options when using a designated hitter: the standard DH and the player/DH. Teams may also still choose to start the game without using a designated hitter (straight 9). All options must be declared prior to the start of the game.
The courtesy runner (CR) can never have any function with a designated hitter (DH). When a DH comes to bat, he is a DH (regardless of either lineup option); when at bat, he can never assume a defensive position. As a result, a CR is never a legal substitute for a DH.
If the DH is batting for another player, when he bats, he is a DH. As a result, if a runner comes in for him when he gets on base, it is a substitution, and that player is now the DH. If the DH is a Player/DH, he is batting as the DH. A substitution by an offensive player would eliminate the role of the DH.
A state association may adopt game-ending procedures that determine how games are ended, including suspended games. However, if a state does not adopt game-ending procedures, by mutual agreement of the opposing coaches and the umpire-in-chief, any remaining play may be shortened or the game terminated. If a state association has adopted game-ending procedures, only those game-ending procedures may be used, unless the opposing coaches wish to terminate the game (4-2-4).
Prior to the start of the game at the pre-game conference meeting, the (a) Home Team Coach presents the plate umpire a lineup card with Holaday as the DH for Feldhausen the RF and the (b) Visiting Team Coach presents a lineup card with Sullivan listed as RF/DH.

**RULING:** Legal in both (a) and (b). Teams may choose to use either DH option for a particular game as long as they declare their intentions prior to the start of the game.
CASEBOOK 3.1.4 SITUATION F

Sanders is listed as the P/DH, hitting in the third position in the batting order. In the fifth inning, McNeely enters the game as pitcher with Sanders reaching his pitch count limit. Sanders continues as DH for McNeely.

Ruling: Legal
CASEBOOK  3.1.4 SITUATION F

Sanders is listed as the P/DH, hitting in the third position in the batting order. In the fifth inning, McNeely enters the game as pitcher with Sanders reaching his pitch count limit. In the 6th inning, substitute Jackson enters to pitch replacing McNeely. Sanders remains the DH for Sanders.

Ruling: Legal
CASEBOOK  3.1.4 SITUATION F

Sanders is listed as the P/DH, hitting in the third position in the batting order. In the fifth inning, McNeely enters the game as pitcher with Sanders reaching his pitch count limit. In the 6th inning, substitute Jackson enters to pitch replacing McNeely and in the 7th inning, Sanders returns to defense as the catcher and is still listed as the DH.

**Ruling:** Legal

Sanders was a starter and is eligible to re-enter the game once.
Kruger is listed as the RF/DH, hitting third in the batting order. In the 5th inning, substitute Brodell enters as the right fielder with Kruger still the DH, hitting for Brodell.

**Ruling:** This is legal.
With Dolan listed in the starting lineup as the 2B/DH and batting 4th in the order, the coach wants to bring in Tatelman to hit for Dolan.

**Ruling:** If substitute Tatelman comes in to hit (or run) for Dolan, the role of the DH is terminated for the game. If eligible, Dolan may re-enter the game on defense and bat in the same spot in the batting order.
In the 4th inning, Montalbo replaces Colgate as the starting P/DH as pitcher. In the 5th inning, Colgate sprains his ankle as he slides into 2nd base on a double. Colgate cannot continue and requires a pinch-runner.

**Ruling:** If an eligible substitute enters the game to pinch run for Colgate, the role of the DH is terminated and Colgate is removed from the game. The coach may substitute another player, but this will end Montalbo as the pitcher since the substitute enters the game in the batting order spot already occupied by Montalbo. However, if the coach has Montalbo pinch run for Colgate, Montalbo may continue to pitch and hit for himself.
In the 4th inning, Federico, who is listed fourth in the batting order as P/DH, and hitting fourth, sprains his ankle running the bases and is taken out of the game replaced by McGinnis, who has an at bat. In the 6th inning, Federico re-enters to pinch hit for McGinnis.

Ruling: Legal
In the 4th inning, Federico, who is listed fourth in the batting order as P/DH, and hitting fourth, sprains his ankle running the bases and is taken out of the game replaced by McGinnis, who has an at bat. In the 6th inning, Federico re-enters to play defense for Russell at first base with McGinnis still pitching.

**Ruling:** Illegal. Federico and McGinnis are locked into the same lineup spot and cannot be in the game on defense at the same time.
Runners are never required to slide, but if a runner elects to slide at any base, it must be legal. A legal slide can either be feet first or head first. If a runner slides feet first, at least one leg and buttock shall be on the ground.
Runners may not pop-up into the fielder.
Runners may not have a leg raised higher than the fielder’s knee.
Except at home plate, runners may not slide through or beyond the base.
Runners may not slide away from a base in the direction of the fielder. But a runner may slide in a direction away from a fielder to avoid making contact or altering the play of the fielder.
The runner is out when he illegally slides. On a force play, the runner is also guilty of interference. The batter-runner is also declared out and all other runners must return to the base occupied at the time of the pitch.
The ball shall meet the current NOCSAE standard for baseball effective January 1, 2020. The NFHS authentication mark and the NOCSAE mark shall both be visible on the ball.
BASEBALLS
RULE 1-3-1

Effective January 1, 2020 the SEI/NOCSAE mark is required on all baseballs that meet the NOCSAE standard that will be used in high school competition. Baseballs shall have the SEI/NOCSAE mark along with the NFHS Authenticating Mark.

Rationale:
To maintain a consistent and uniform standard for high school competition. To ensure that every baseball manufactured meets the same level of quality and playability.
The catcher’s body/chest protector shall meet the NOCSAE standard effective Jan. 1, 2020.
The catcher shall wear, in addition to a head protector, a mask with a throat protector, body/chest protector that meets the NOCSAE standard at the time of manufacture (Effective January 1, 2020), protective cup (male only), and baseball protective shin guards. The SEI/NOCSAE mark is required on all body/chest protectors that meets the NOCSAE standard at the time of manufacture that will be used in high school competition.
CHEST AND BODY PROTECTOR
RULE 1-5-3

- **Rationale:**
A SEI/NOCSAE standard has been developed to protect the heart and the cardiac silhouette from commotio cordis. The NOCSAE standard could be included in a product that is either a separate device/apparel or a device constructed into a traditional chest protector. This proposal is recommended and endorsed by the NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC) to minimize risk. The catcher has to wear either a chest protector that meets the NOCSAE standard or a body protector that meets the NOCSAE standard underneath a traditional chest protector. It is the responsibility of the coach to verify that his/her players are properly equipped and in uniform.
This NOCSAE approved attachment fits over an existing chest protector and is legal.
Designed to meet the new mandatory NCAA and NFHS guidelines, the EvoShield NOCSAE® Protective Chest Guard and Shirt is designed for athletes of all ages who want unrivaled protection without sacrificing mobility or performance.

Unlike other cumbersome chest protectors designed to meet the NOCSAE® Chest Protector Standard for Commotio Cordis, our protection is an easy-to-wear compression shirt that features a removable guard. This guard is made of SAS-TEC™ material created specifically to absorb impact - while giving athletes an ergonomically contoured fit on the field.
A face mask/guard specifically designed for a particular helmet model may be attached after manufacture, provided that procedure is approved by the manufacturer and meets the SEI/NOCSAE standard at the time of manufacture.
Points of Emphasis

PROPER PITCHING POSITIONS

Enforcement of legal pitching positions continues to be lacking in certain parts of the country.

Coaches are pushing for the Hybrid position to be legal.

Rules Committee is adamant that there are only 2 legal positions. Permitting the Hybrid is a disservice to the offensive team.

NFHS Baseball Webinar    January 23, 2020
The windup is one of two legal pitching positions. For the windup, the pitcher’s non-pivot foot shall be in any position on or behind a line extending through the front edge of the pitcher’s plate.
The set is one of two legal pitching positions. For the set position, a pitcher shall stand with his entire non-pivot foot in front of a line extending through the front edge of the pitcher’s plate and with his pivot foot in contact with or directly in front of and parallel to the pitcher’s plate.
Pitchers are no longer required to have their entire pivot foot in contact with the pitcher’s plate. This recognizes that many mounds are such that it is problematic for the pitcher to have his entire pivot foot in contact with the pitcher’s plate.
The so-called hybrid stance is illegal as it does not meet the requirements of either the windup or set positions.
Jewelry, including necklaces, bracelets and earrings, shall not be worn except for religious or medical medals. A religious medal must be taped and worn under the uniform. A medical alert must be taped and may be visible.
2 HOUR TIME LIMIT FOR SUB-VARSITY GAMES

NJSIAA Baseball Rules Committee recommended that all conferences adopt this rule.

NJSIAA will post conferences that adopt the rule on their website as information becomes available.

Umpires and Coaches will identify the official time piece at pre-game conference.
- Clock begins with the umpire announcing “PLAY”.
- The third out of the bottom half of an inning begins the new inning.
- If the third out occurs at 1:58, the next inning shall be played to completion.

10 Run rule will still apply if it occurs prior to the 2 hour time limit is reached.
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  - Officiating Volleyball – Ball Handling

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  - Track and Field
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  - Softball – Mechanics
  - Communication Among Officials and Coaches
  - Soccer - Offside

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Introduction to skills and concepts used as an official

Ideal for new officials or those in first few years of officiating

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Topics include: basics of becoming and staying an official, science of officiating, art of officiating, how to combine these skills for successful officiating

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