




## 2022 NFHS BASEBALL RULES POWERPOINT

National Federation of State High School Associations



B. Elliot Hopkins, MLD, CAA  
NFHS Director of Sports, Sanctioning and Student Services

### ▶ 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)
- In-person Interpretation Meeting Date
  - January 19-20, 2022
- Mid-Season Webinar Date
  - April 22, 2022
- Rule Change Proposal Submission Dates
  - Open Date: September 1, 2021
  - Close Date: May 1, 2022
- Rules Committee Date
  - June 5-7, 2022



[www.nfhs.org](http://www.nfhs.org)

### ▶ NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

- NFHS (located in Indianapolis, IN – Est. 1920):
  - National leader and advocate for high school athletics and performing arts programs.
  - Serves 51 state associations, 19,500 high schools and 12 million student participants.
  - Writes playing rules for 17 high school sports for boys and girls.
  - Offers online education courses for high school coaches, officials, parents, students and others.
  - Ensures that students have opportunity to enjoy healthy participation, achievement and good sportsmanship in education-based athletics.

[www.nfhs.org](http://www.nfhs.org)

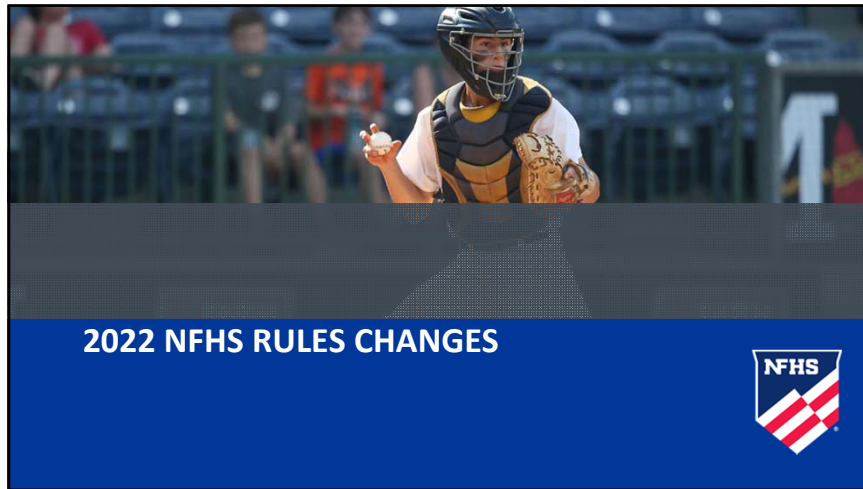
### ▶ NFHS RULES REVIEW COMMITTEE

- 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.

							
<small>Davis Whitfield Chief Operating Officer</small>	<small>Lindsey Atkinson Basketball, Girls Lacrosse and Volleyball</small>	<small>Bob Colgate Football and Sports Medicine</small>	<small>Sandy Seary Softball, Swimming &amp; Diving and Water Polo</small>	<small>Elliot Hopkins Baseball and Wrestling</small>	<small>Julie Cochran Cross Country, Gymnastics, Field Hockey, Soccer and Track &amp; Field</small>	<small>James Weaver Boys Lacrosse and Sprint</small>	<small>Dan Schuster Ice Hockey</small>



[www.nfhs.org](http://www.nfhs.org)




Editorial Change

**RULE 6-1-1  
PITCHING**

PlayPic® 1

PlayPic® 2




www.nfhs.org

Rule Change

**RULE 6-1-1**

**ART. 1 . . .** The pitcher shall pitch while facing the batter from either a windup position (Art.2) or set position (Art.3). The position of his feet determine whether he will pitch from the windup or the set position. He shall take or simulate taking his sign from the catcher with his pivot foot in contact with the pitcher's plate. The pitching regulations begin when he intentionally contacts the pitcher's plate. Turning the shoulders after bringing the hands together during or after the stretch is a balk. He shall not make a quick-return pitch in an attempt to catch a batter off balance. The catcher shall have both feet in the catcher's box at the time of the pitch. If a pitcher is ambidextrous, the umpire shall require the pitcher to face a batter as either a left-handed or right-handed pitcher, but not both.




www.nfhs.org

Rule Change

**RULE 6-1-1**

**Rationale:**  
The pitcher acquiring the sign from the catcher is one of the fundamental rules of baseball. It not only signals the defensive team that action is about to be initiated, but it also establishes when an offensive base runner(s) can take a lead-off from his/her base. That simple act has evolved over the last decade but was not supported by an accompanying rule. This change validates the pitcher taking the sign from the dugout/bench via "call" signs, numbers, colors, or an arm wristband/placard that contains printed cards where the defensive set up/pitching repertoire is located. This aspect of the game has become more sophisticated to match the skill level and ability of today's high school baseball player.



www.nfhs.org



Points of Emphasis

**EXCESSIVE CELEBRATION**





www.nfhs.org

Points of Emphasis

**EXCESSIVE CELEBRATION**

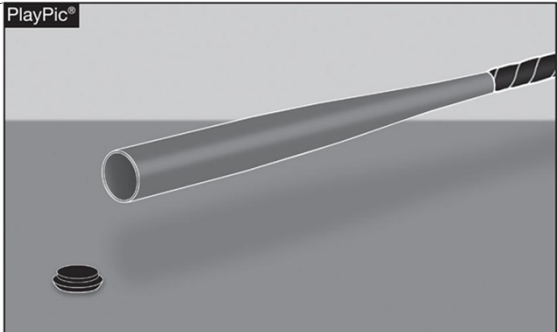

- The game has evolved from celebratory high-fives and cheers to choreographed celebrations that include props and players being assigned specific roles.
- If coaches are unable to manage the emotions of their players or the theatrics of celebration, then the game umpires have existing rules that provide warnings, possible restrictions and ultimately ejections from the contest.



www.nfhs.org

Points of Emphasis

**PROPER USE OF EQUIPMENT**

www.nfhs.org

## Points of Emphasis

## PROPER USE OF EQUIPMENT

- Equipment manufacturers spend millions of dollars to ensure that their products are held to high industry standards. Most products are tested as to how they are supposed to be worn or used. When someone alters that product, it violates the equipment's warranty and leaves the end-user uncertain that the product will perform...or protect the wearer from injury or harm.
- Bats, helmets, chest and chin protectors should not be modified or used in a way that it was not designed by the manufacturer.
- Doing so violates the equipment's warranty and creates a product that may not perform as intended nor protect the user from injury or harm.



www.nfhs.org

## Points of Emphasis

## SITTING ON BUCKETS (COACHES)



www.nfhs.org

## Points of Emphasis

## SITTING ON BUCKETS (COACHES)

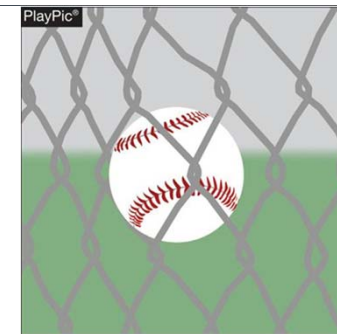
- Coaches, players, substitutes, attendants or other bench personnel shall not leave the dugout during live ball for any unauthorized purpose.
- Coaches or team personnel may not sit outside the dugout/bench on buckets or stools.
- We have an obligation to protect and set a good example for the students we coach and care about; not to entice them to break the rules. High school sports have always been about teaching skill and work ethic while modeling appropriate behavior. Staying in the dugout/bench area is another example of showing our students the "right" way to do things.



www.nfhs.org

## Points of Emphasis

## LODGED BALL PROCEDURE



www.nfhs.org

## Points of Emphasis

## LODGED BALL PROCEDURE

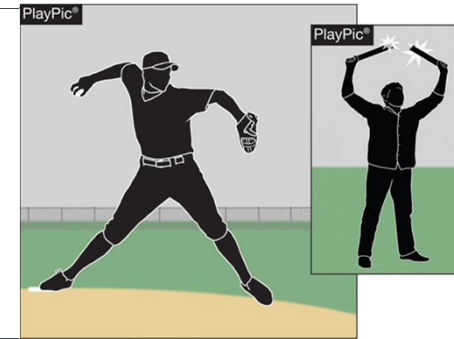
- When a lodged ball situation occurs, there is always a lot of energy behind if the ball is truly lodged or is the defensive player practicing gamesmanship. We have seen at different levels that when a ball gets lodged in a glove the quick-thinking fielder removes his glove and throws it to the respective base to register the force out. While it is an exciting play that takes skill and a little bit of luck to accomplish, we do not have that many lodged balls in high school baseball.
  - A baseball that remains on the playing field but has become wedged, stuck, lost, unreachable, is defined to be a lodged ball.
- If the ball impacts something, stops abruptly, and does not fall or roll immediately, it is considered lodged.



www.nfhs.org

## Points of Emphasis

## SPORTSMANSHIP



www.nfhs.org

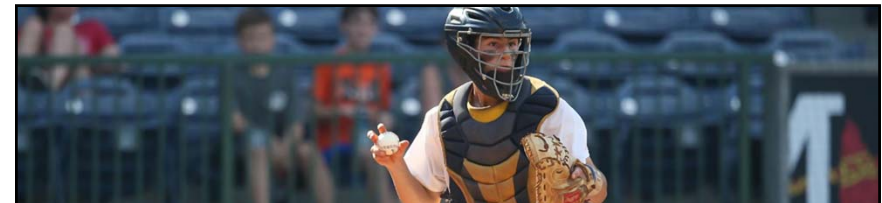
## Points of Emphasis

## SPORTSMANSHIP

- Chants/intentional distractions/loud noises (natural or artificial) directed at the opponent's pitcher prior to his pitching, the batter preparing to hit, or a fielder getting ready to make a play is not good sportsmanship and should not be accepted.
- Players are not allowed to stand or kneel outside their dugout/bench and make "cat-calls" or any other disparaging remarks to the other team. Rooting for your team is an integral part of high school baseball. Supporting your teammates is extremely important and encouraged, however, making disparaging remarks toward your opponent is not part of the game, in fact it detracts from the contest. The purpose of interscholastic sports is educational.



www.nfhs.org




## RULES REMINDERS



www.nfhs.org

Rule Change

## DESIGNATED HITTER RULE 3-1-4a2




14	Daniels	6
32	Edwards	3
17	Franklin	6
24	George	2
2	Hamilton	9
19	Irwin	5
10	Stewart	7
SUBSTITUTES		
11	Knutson	
22	Larson	
33	Matthewson	
1	Nelson	

- While there is no change from the previous DH rule.
- 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.

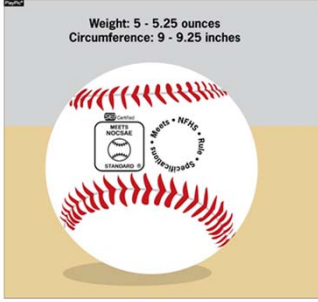
www.nfhs.org

Points of Emphasis

## COMPLIANT BASEBALL



Weight: 5 - 5.25 ounces  
Circumference: 9 - 9.25 inches


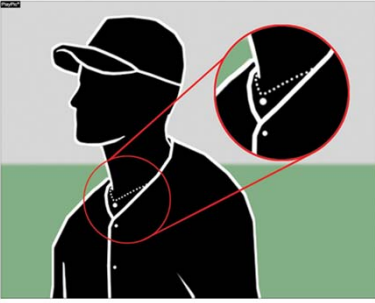


The ball shall meet the current NOCSAE standard for baseball effective January 1, 2020. The NFHS authentication mark and the NOCSAE mark shall both be visible on the ball.

www.nfhs.org

Points of Emphasis


## ENFORCEMENT OF NFHS JEWELRY RULE

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.

www.nfhs.org

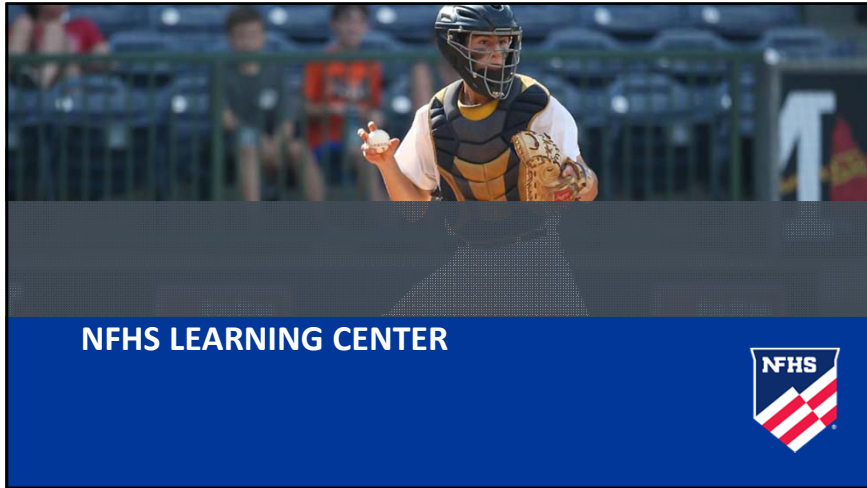
GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOLS AND STATE ASSOCIATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION OF ACCOMMODATIONS



```

    graph TD
      A[Request from Student to School for Accommodation(s)] --> B[School Conducts Individual Student Assessment]
      B --> C[Request from School for Accommodation(s) to State Association]
      C --> D[Notice and Opportunity to be Heard]
      D --> E[State Association Review of Request]
      E --> F[State Association Provides Written Determination for Accommodation(s) to School]
      F --> G[If appropriate, School Provides Letter of Authorization to Head Official for Local Contest Allowing Competition with Accommodation(s)]
    
```

www.nfhs.org



## NFHS LEARNING CENTER



### 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](http://www.nfhs.org/erules) for more information

www.nfhs.org

**80+**  
COURSES

**50+**  
FREE COURSES

**13,000,000+**  
COURSES DELIVERED

#### COURSES FOR EVERYONE

- Coaches
- Students
- Administrators
- Parents
- Officials
- Performing Arts

### SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

**LEVEL 1 COURSES**

- Fundamentals of Coaching
- Concussion in Sports
- Sudden Cardiac Arrest
- Protecting Students from Abuse

**NFHS**

# OFFICIALS EDUCATION CONTENT IS NOW FREE

TEACHING AIDS    RULES CHANGES    DIAGRAMS    VIDEO LIBRARY    OFFICIALS COURSES

**NFHS NETWORK** THE PLACE FOR **HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS**

**NFHS LEARNING CENTER**  
NFHSLearn.com

**NFHS**

## CENTER FOR OFFICIALS SERVICES

Powered by: **DRAGONFLY**

### Year One Accomplishments

- 10** States Registering Officials
- 23,800** Contests Assigned
- \$2.2M** Payments Sent to Officials

#### Future Developments

- Distance Calculations
- Ranking of Officials
- Game Counts
- Enhanced Blocking
- Rules and Case Books
- Exam Center

**100% FREE to your state as a NFHS-Member Benefit.**

## NFHS OFFICIALS EDUCATION SPORT-SPECIFIC COURSES

- Courses Available**
  - Officiating Football
  - Soccer – Fouls and Misconduct
  - Swimming and Diving
  - Officiating Wrestling
  - Officiating Basketball
  - Umpiring Softball
  - Officiating Volleyball – Ball Handling
- Future Courses**
  - Officiating Baseball
  - Basketball – Three-Person Mechanics
  - Field Hockey
  - Track and Field
  - Volleyball – Overlapping
  - Softball – Mechanics
  - Communication Among Officials and Coaches
  - Soccer - Offside

**NFHS** [www.nfhs.org](http://www.nfhs.org)

**NFHS LEARNING CENTER**

DASHBOARD    COURSES    NFHSLearn FOR YOU    USER LOOKUP    VIDEO    HELP

Welcome To The New NFHS Video Library!  
Search For Your Sport Below

Video Filters

Sort By: [Dropdown]    Select Categories: [Dropdown]    Select Sports: [Dropdown]    Search our videos... [Search Icon]

Total videos: 373

3-Man Mechanics - Runners Re... [Video Thumbnail]

U.S. Court Coverage - Year Of... [Video Thumbnail]

Final Run Out Before Start [Video Thumbnail]

Football Mechanics: Gain Tack... [Video Thumbnail]

Ice Hockey Rules Concepts - B... [Video Thumbnail]

NFHS Soccer Rules: Referee Me... [Video Thumbnail]



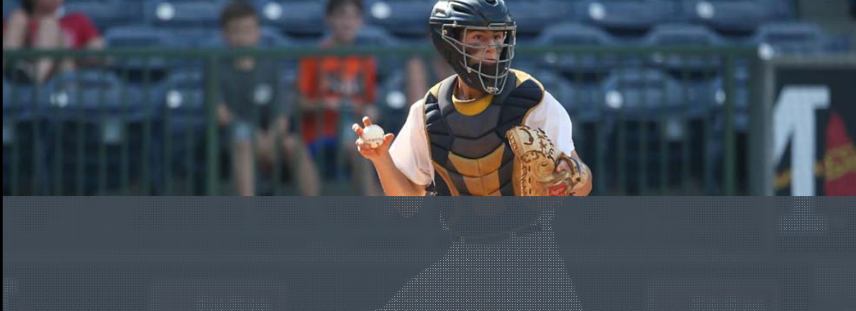
**NFHS LEARNING CENTER**  
**WWW.NFHSLearn.COM**

- Professional Development For ALL
  - Coaches
  - Officials
  - Administrators
  - Parents
  - Students
  - Performing Arts



**NFHS**

[www.nfhs.org](http://www.nfhs.org)




**NFHS NETWORK**

**NFHS**

**NFHS NETWORK**

- By 2025, every high school sporting event in America will be streamed live.
- The NFHS Network will be THE DESTINATION for fans to view these broadcasts.
- 27 Different Sports and Activities



**NFHS NETWORK**

[www.NFHSnetwork.com](http://www.NFHSnetwork.com)

**NFHS**

**27 DIFFERENT SPORTS AND ACTIVITIES**



[www.nfhs.org](http://www.nfhs.org)



## What's New for 2022

Team Schedules (*all games at all levels*)

Email alert to visiting team of submitted game report

Email alert to home team of missing game report (*9 am morning after*)

Email system for disputed game reports

Two sub-varsity levels (*Sub-Varsity JV & Sub-Varsity 9<sup>th</sup> Grade*)

"Within Last Batter" designation automated

Ineligible pitchers can be added to the game report (*highlighted in red*)

Game reports pre-populated from the schedule (*less data input*)

Team scores on the game report

Free, public view of pitching reports at PitchKount.com

## 2022 Pricing

\$135 through February 1<sup>st</sup> (*Coupon Code: ghsa22*)

\$150 from February 2<sup>nd</sup> through March 1<sup>st</sup>

\$160 from March 2<sup>nd</sup> through April 1<sup>st</sup>

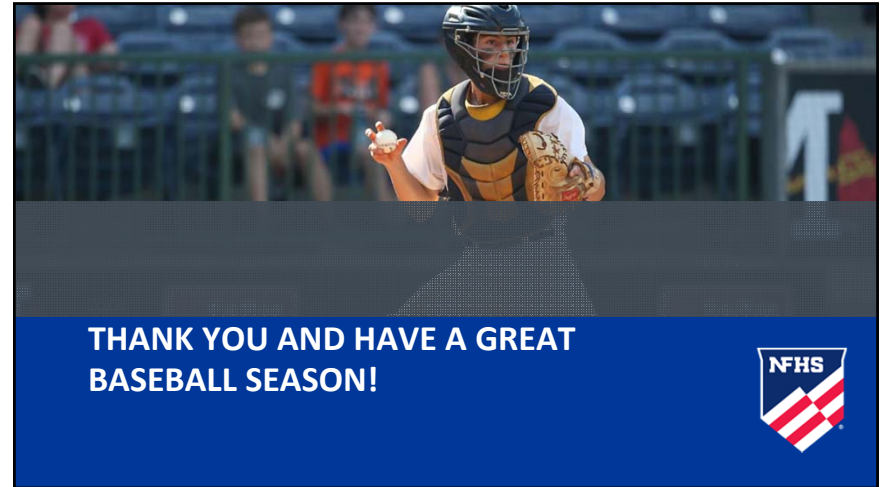
\$170 on April 2<sup>nd</sup>

Email [Support@PitchKount.com](mailto:Support@PitchKount.com) if you need an invoice

Informational website for GHSA coaches at:

[www.pitchkountghsa.weebly.com](http://www.pitchkountghsa.weebly.com)

Password (case sensitive): *GHSA2022*



**THANK YOU AND HAVE A GREAT  
BASEBALL SEASON!**

