

2022 DSA Senior Division Rules

Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) rules shall be followed where not defined in this document.

GENERAL GAME RULES

1. All senior division players must be 15 years and under on April 30 of the current season. A younger player from the (12U) Major Division may play in the Senior Division provided the player's coach and league representative believe the player is capable of competing at the Senior Division level and it is safe for that player to do so. No such player can play in the Senior Division all season and then play in a (12U) Major Division post season tournament. Any player that is moved up from the (12U) major division to substitute for a team that is short of players may only do so 6 times total for a season.
2. Any players playing high school or JV baseball will not be permitted to play in this league.
3. Games will be 7 innings. In case of a rain-out, 4 completed innings will constitute a complete game. In the event the home team is winning after three and one-half (3 ½) innings, then three and one-half (3 ½) innings shall constitute a complete game.
4. No game shall start, or continue, unless each team can and does field and play eight (8) players. In the event a team fails to have eight (8) available players to start or continue a game, then a forfeiture shall be called, and the opposing team shall be declared the winner of the game, recording a score of one (1) to zero (0). If a shortage of players occurs for a game a replacement may be chosen from the (12U) Major Division (See General Game Rules 1). If a team starts a game with 8 players and that team is at bat, when the ninth players at bat is up an out shall be taken during tournament play only. This rule shall not apply during the regular season.
5. There is a two (2) minute time limit in between innings.
6. The base path shall be eighty (80) feet.
7. The distance from the back point of home plate to the front of the pitching rubber shall be fifty-four (54) feet.
8. Mercy rule:
 - A. If the winning team has 15 or greater more runs than the losing team, and the winning team is the home team, then the game is over after 3 ½ innings. If the winning team is the visiting team, then the game is over after 4 innings;
 - B. If the winning team has 10 or greater more runs than the losing team, and the winning team is the home team, then the game is over after 4 ½ innings. If the winning team is the visiting team, then the game is over after 5 innings.
 - C. The 10-run rule (section 6.B.) applies the same way for the 6th inning (i.e. game over after 5 ½ innings (winning team is home team) or 6 innings (winning team is visiting team)).
9. In the event a game is being played on a field that has another game scheduled on the same field immediately following the game being played, the game shall last one (1)

hour and forty-five (45) minutes, with a hard stop at (2) hours. In the event there is no game scheduled on the same field immediately following the game being played, the game shall last (1) hour and forty-five (45) minutes, with a hard stop at (2) hours and (15) minutes. If in either scenario the hard stop is used and the home team has not had a chance to bat, then the score will be used from the previous inning. Whichever team was in the lead at that point will be declared the winner. If the game was tied at that point, then, the game ends in a tie. No inning will be counted towards pitchers in the last inning played if the revert back rule is used. That includes an incomplete inning with the home team in the field. THIS RULE SHALL NOT APPLY DURING TOURNAMENT PLAY. This rule shall not impact the safety of the players and coaches. The umpires shall retain authority to end the game due to weather, lighting conditions or other safety concerns and General Rule 3 shall apply. Should the game end in this way and there remains a tied score, the game will be over and end in a tie. The umpires shall note the game start time after the first pitch in the top of the first inning. In the event that the umpires shall fail to note the time, it is the responsibility of each of the coaches, both home and visiting, to establish the start time by asking the umpires. In the event that there is a failure of the umpires and the coaches to note the start time of the game, then the scheduled start time of the game shall be used as the official start time of the game. For the purposes of this rule, an inning begins (starts) when the final out of the previous inning is made.

10. All rosters must be submitted before the first game and are final at this point. Any additions to rosters must be submitted to the senior trustee (Mike Mortimore or Joe Fuentes) for approval. Rosters should state a player's name and coaches. Coaches contact info should be on rosters as well. If the age of a kid is in question the towns commissioner will be asked to supply that information. Rosters will be available upon request.

11. Home team pays umpire fees.

12. The post season tournament shall consist of 3 separate single elimination brackets.

A. The Gold bracket shall be comprised of teams from each division with the highest winning percentage and will be seeded within the tournament by their winning percentage. In the event of a tie in winning percentages, the tie breaker rules (para. D) shall be used to break the tie. The number of teams in this first bracket will be dependent on the number of teams registered for the regular season. The commissioners of the respective participant leagues shall decide the number of teams for Bracket number 1.

B. The Silver bracket shall be comprised of the remaining teams not selected for the gold bracket. The teams playing in the silver bracket shall be assigned seeds based upon their winning percentage. In the event of a tie in winning percentages, the tie breaker rules (para. D) shall be used to break the tie.

C. The Bronze bracket shall be comprised of the remaining teams not selected for the gold or silver brackets. The teams playing in the bronze bracket shall be assigned seeds based upon their winning percentage. In the event of a tie in winning percentages, the tie breaker rules (para. D) shall be used to break the tie.

D. The tie breaker rules shall be applied in order, until the tie is broken.

- i. Head to head winning percentage
- ii. Margin of victory head to head
- iii. winning percentage within division
- iv. winning percentage in cross over division
- v. winning percentage against mutual opponents.

E. The regular season Pitching Rule 1 is adjusted for the tournament as follows:

1. Each pitcher is allowed 5 innings per game with a max of 10 innings within any three (3) calendar days.
2. Metal cleats allowed, except on portable pitching mounds.
3. Mound is set to 54 feet and bases at 80 feet
4. No infield practice before games. EXCEPTION: If both home and visiting head coaches agree AND both teams are granted equal access to the field for infield practice AND the game can begin at the time originally scheduled on the schedule (or any subsequent rescheduling occurring before the day of the game) following such practice, then infield practice is permitted.
5. It is requested that the coaches of all teams track the number of innings pitched in each week for their team. This data should be provided to the league facilitator weekly.

13. Any player or coach who is ejected from a game shall also be required to sit out their next scheduled game. Coaches are responsible for their teams' fans and shall suffer the same penalty for ejection if due to the behavior of those fans as if the behavior was their own. The Commissioners of the participating leagues shall meet to determine if General Game Rule 13 should be applied as written, or modified for a greater or lesser penalty, based upon the facts and circumstances of the particular event resulting in game ejection. The Commissioner of the league from which the offending coach or player originates shall recuse themselves from any vote associated with the enforcement and modification of General Game Rule.

THE PITCHER

1. Each pitcher is allowed 5 innings per day with a max of 8 innings per week. A week is defined as 12:01 am Monday to 12:00 am Sunday (Monday to Sunday).
2. If a pitcher throws a single pitch in an inning, that inning is counted as one inning against the daily and weekly maximum for that pitcher.
3. A pitcher may not re-enter the same game in the pitching position after substitution (relief) for said pitcher.
4. The pitcher shall be pulled from the pitcher's position after a coach (head or assistant coach) has made two (2) trips to the mound in the same inning.
5. A pitcher must be relieved by a different eligible pitcher following the striking of a batter or any combination of batters by a pitched ball for the third time in a single game.

THE BATTER

1. All bats shall display the USA Bat Stamp or BBCOR .50 Bat Stamp.
2. All bat's barrel diameter shall not exceed 2 5/8".
3. All players for a team that are available to play at the beginning of a game may bat and be in the line-up, regardless of whether the player is playing a defensive position, or what defensive position the player is playing.