

Summary NJSIAA Baseball Pitch Count Rules – 2017

The Head Coach must remove the pitcher when said pitcher reaches the pitching limit below. Pitcher may remain or re-enter the game at another position per substitution rule.

If a pitcher reaches a pitch limit while facing a batter, the pitcher may continue to pitch until one of the following occurs.

- The batter reaches base,
 - That batter is retired, or
 - The third out is recorded to complete that half-inning or game.
- a. If a pitcher pitches 91-110 in a day, four calendar days of rest is required.
 - b. If a pitcher pitches 71-90 pitches in a day, three calendar days of rest is required.
 - c. If a pitcher pitches 51-70 pitches in a day, two calendar days of rest is required.
 - d. If a pitcher pitches 31-50 pitches in a day, one calendar days of rest is required.
 - e. If a pitcher pitches 1-30 pitches in a day, no (0) calendar day of rest is required.
 - A pitcher cannot pitch on 3 consecutive calendar days.
 - A pitcher cannot pitch more than 50 pitches in a two consecutive day calendar period.
 - A pitcher cannot exceed 140 pitches in a five day calendar period.

A player may be used as a pitcher in more than one game per day. The combined number of pitches per day will determine the amount of rest required.

In a NJSIAA State Tournament game suspended by darkness, weather or other cause resumed the next day, the pitcher of record may continue to pitch to the extent of his eligibility provided he has pitched less than 50 pitches.

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

Failure to remove a pitcher when he has reached the maximum number of pitches thrown is the basis for protest by the opposing coach. If the protest is upheld, the penalty shall be forfeiture of the game.

The use of a pitcher not observing the required rest period, is the basis for protest by the opposing coach. If the protest is upheld, the penalty shall be forfeiture of the game.

Before every game, both Head Coaches shall exchange their pitching logs as part of the pre-game conference with umpires. This shall include names, numbers and pitches thrown by each pitcher.

In addition, the name(s) and number(s) of all ineligible pitchers for that games shall be identified on each team's lineup card.

Umpires are reminded they are **not** to suspend or terminate any game for pitch count rule violation. Schools are responsible for reporting use of ineligible pitchers to the NJSIAA.

Disclosure to the umpire of an ineligible pitcher.

If a replacement pitcher is announced to the umpire-in-chief. Prior to or immediately after a newly announced pitcher has completed his authorized warm-up throws, if the head coach then informs the umpire-in-chief that the replacement pitcher is ineligible because he has not met the required period of rest, the umpire-in-chief is to allow the head coach to remove the ineligible relief pitcher without requiring the ineligible pitcher to pitch. If an ineligible pitcher is announced into the game, even if he has only thrown warm up pitches. Upon the disclosure by the head coach of the pitcher's ineligibility, the head coach and the ineligible pitcher **are ejected from the game**. The new substitute pitcher will be given his full warm-up throws prior to pitching. The pitcher who was replaced may not return to the pitching position until a new substitute pitcher has completed pitching to at least one batter or retired the side. If the replacement pitcher requires more than 8 warm-up throws, the pitcher originally replaced may not return as a pitcher but may play other positions.

NJSIAA Pitch Count Enforcement and Recording

The Home School shall provide and “Official Adult Pitch Counter” and this person shall count pitches for both schools. This count is official.

- The pitch counts are to be verified with representatives of both teams after each half-inning.
- If there is a discrepancy between the Official Pitch Counter and one or both team’s representatives, the following process shall be followed:
 1. If both teams agree on a pitch number, that number shall be recorded in place of the Official Pitch Counter.
 2. If both teams disagree on a pitch number, the Official Pitch Counter’s number shall be recorded.

When the home school is unable to provide an “Official Adult Pitch Counter”, the following process shall be followed:

- Both team’s pitch counter shall meet at the end of each half-inning to verify the pitch count. If there is no agreement among the team’s pitch counters, the following process shall be followed:
 1. Both team’s pitch counters and coaches shall consult with the game’s umpires. They have authority to rectify the pitch count issues if they have definite knowledge of the exact number of pitches thrown. Under no circumstances shall the umpires allow this to become a lengthy delay. The game is to be resumed as quickly as possible.
 2. If the umpires have no definite knowledge, the home school pitch count shall be the official number of pitches recorded.