



## MPSSAA BASEBALL BULLETIN

State Finals - May 24/25, 2019

Ripken Stadium, Aberdeen

### I. GENERAL INFORMATION

- A. The Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association is the official governing body for the Baseball tournament. Plans for the tournament were formulated by the State Baseball Committee and approved by the Board of Control.
- B. Schools choosing to enter the tournament have the responsibility for reading and adhering to the rules and regulations stated in the front section of this publication as well as those appearing within this Baseball Bulletin. Unless specifically stated, all rules and regulations stipulated in the NFHS Baseball Rule Book will be followed.
- C. *Eligibility rules for all participants are defined* in MPSSAA Bylaw .02, found in the current Handbook.
- D. *General regulations for all state tournaments* are contained in MPSSAA Bylaw .07, found in both the current Handbook and in the front section of this publication.
- E. The official state baseball required for use during region AND state tournament games is the Wilson A1010BPROSST. It is highly recommended that this same ball be used during the regular season as well.
- F. Playing rules for regular season, region, and state tournament
  - 1. National Federation rules will be used.
  - 2. A regular season regulation game is seven innings (turns at bat) for each team unless shortened as in Rule 4-2-2 or unless extra innings are necessary to break a tie score.
    - a. By state adoption, all games that are tied or not considered a complete game will be a suspended game. A suspended game will be continued from the point of interruption unless the game is declared complete by mutual agreement between the two schools.
    - b. Any inning started must be completed to be considered a complete game. No innings will be reverted back to the previous inning to be considered a complete game.
  - 3. All region and state tournament games will be a minimum of seven innings unless the 10-run rule applies.
  - 4. All games, including doubleheaders, must be scheduled for seven innings.
  - 5. The National Federation 10-run rule is mandatory for all games.

#### 2019 BASEBALL TIME LINE

	REGION TOURNAMENT	STATE TOURNAMENT
<b>Mar. 21</b> ..First play date		
<b>May 6</b> .....Last play date for seeding consideration	<b>May 9</b> .....Sectional Quarterfinals (Rain date - May 10)	<b>May 21</b> .....Semifinals (RD-22)
<b>May 7</b> .....Seeding Meeting for bracket positions	<b>May 11</b> .....Sectional Semifinals (Rain date - May 13)	<b>May 24/25</b> ....Finals (RD-27)
<b>May 8</b> .....Last play date	<b>May 14</b> .....Sectional Finals (Rain date - May 15)	<b>June 20</b> .....Reimbursement request due
<b>May 15</b> ....Application deadline for tournament qualifiers	<b>May 17</b> .....Regional Finals (Rain date - May 18)	

6. The MPSSAA will use the National Federation suggested speed-up rules for courtesy runners.
7. Intentional walks: An intentional walk may be given by the defensive team by having their catcher or coach request such from the umpire. This may be done before pitching to the batter or on any ball-and-strike count.
8. Pitching Limitations (penalty for violation – forfeit game in which illegal pitcher was used):
  - a. The pitching limitations rule is in continuous effect between the regular season and playoffs.
  - b. All contests, including suspended games, shall use current pitching limitations.
  - c. It is the responsibility of the coach to have all pitchers, with their pitching limitations, listed on the lineup cards presented to the umpire and opposing coach at the beginning of the game.
  - d. The calendar rest begins on the day following the date on which the game began or a resumed game began regardless of the conclusion time of the game.
  - e. The pitch count is based on pitches thrown for strikes (including all foul balls); balls; balls in play and outs.
  - f. A pitcher at any level who reaches the daily pitch maximum limit in the middle of an at-bat will be allowed to finish that hitter.
  - g. Warm-up pitches allowed before each inning, warm up pitches allowed by the umpire in case of injury or game delay, and plays attempted against the batter-runner or any runner at first, second or third base do not count against the limit.
  - h. All NFHS Substitution and Pitching Rules must be followed.
  - i. The pitch count charts of both teams from prior contests are to be presented to the opposing coach BEFORE the game.
  - j. During the game, pitch counts will be recorded by an official Designated Pitch Count Recorder (DPCR) supplied by the home team. The visiting team has the option of providing an additional DPCR to sit with the official DCPR to assist in pitch count recording. Any discrepancy shall be settled by the DPCR and coaches without umpire involvement and that record shall be considered final.
  - k. The MPSSAA will supply a neutral DPCR for State Semifinal and State Championship contests.
  - l. At game's conclusion, the MPSSAA pitch count form will be signed by both head coaches or designated representatives.
  - m. Both schools have the responsibility to maintain every pitching chart form until the school season is complete.
  - n. Any discrepancy found during/after the game will be reported to the local school system for review.
  - o. A hard copy must be available upon Local School System or MPSSAA request at any point during and following the season.

#### DAILY LIMITATION

The limit on the number of pitches is based on the level of pitching. Specific rest periods are in place when a pitcher reaches a threshold of pitches delivered in a day. The rest periods required during the regular and postseason are listed in the table that follows.

## MPSSAA PITCH COUNT LIMITS AND REQUIRED REST REQUIREMENTS

Grade	Daily Max (Pitches in Game)	Required Days Rest (Pitches)				
		0 Days	1 Day	2 Days	3 Days	4 Days
SENIOR	105	1-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76+
JUNIOR	105	1-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76+
<i>SOPHOMORE</i>	<i>105</i>	<i>1-30</i>	<i>31-45</i>	<i>46-60</i>	<i>61-75</i>	<i>76+</i>
<i>FRESHMAN</i>	<i>95</i>	<i>1-30</i>	<i>31-45</i>	<i>46-60</i>	<i>61-75</i>	<i>76+</i>

## II. REGION TOURNAMENT

### A. Tournament Organization

1. Every school is automatically entered into the region tournament unless the MPSSAA office receives written notification to the contrary. Request for withdrawal shall be by letter, signed by the school principal.
2. A TEAM ENTRY FORM utilized for State Semifinals and Finals must be filled out by teams winning their Section Final. The TEAM ENTRY FORM is available on the “Members” page of mpssaa.org.
3. Each region will conduct a single elimination tournament, with the champion advancing to state play.
4. Responsibilities of region director:
  - a. Notify schools as to their bracket position, site of upcoming contest, and starting time.
  - b. Schedule the local officials board that services the designated home team.
  - c. Inform the state committee director and MPSSAA of the schedule established for competition.
5. The **seeding meeting** for bracket positions will take place Tuesday, May 7 in the MPSSAA office via conference call with the State Committee Director. Tournament pairings will appear on the MPSSAA web site <mpssaa.org> later that day.
  - a. Region directors will verify and submit to the state tournament chair by 9 p.m., May 6, the official records of all teams for regular season games played through that day.
  - b. All teams in each section will be seeded as determined by regular season winning percentage, excluding the one additional tournament and any city, county, or conference championship.
  - c. Teams with less than 14 varsity games played will be seeded based on a regular season winning percentage using a divisor of 14 games.
  - d. Ties among teams in a section will be first broken by head-to-head competition to determine the higher seed. This applies if all tied teams meet the criteria. If head-to-head does not break the tie, a coin toss will be used to determine the order of seeding.
  - e. The higher-placed team is defined as one who occupies the lower-numbered line position, (the favored position), on the bracket in any given round.
6. Unless a specific alternative plan has been approved, all teams in sectional and regional play will abide by the following guidelines.
  - a. All sectional games will be played at the site of the higher seed throughout the tournament.

- b. All regional championship games will be held at the home site of the school with the higher regular season winning percentage. Ties between section champions will be first broken by head-to-head competition. If head-to-head does not break the tie, a coin toss will be used to determine the order of seeding.
  - c. The MPSSAA Executive Director may grant permission for sectional and region games to be scheduled at a site other than the higher seed. This may be done upon a written request of the region director, with approval by a two-thirds representative vote of athletic supervisors of schools in that region. Each athletic supervisor's vote will be weighed proportionally to the number of schools he or she represents in that region/section. The request must be received prior to April 10.
  - d. If circumstances render a home site unplayable and the game is scheduled at any alternate site, the designated home team will remain unchanged.
7. Postponed/suspended sectional/region games may be required by the State Baseball Committee to be made up as part of a doubleheader.
  8. The Head Coach of each region winner must complete the Media Information Form found on the Baseball page of MPSSAA.org and bring 20 copies each to the State Semifinals and Finals.
- B. Playing Rules
1. All region games will be a minimum of seven innings unless the 10-run rule applies.
  2. The starting time for weekday contests will be 4 p.m. and the starting time for Saturday contests will be 1 p.m. unless, due to extenuating circumstances, both schools agree to modify the starting time. Schools with lights may start a contest up until 7 p.m. Any changes to the start time must be approved by the region director and sport committee chair.
  3. Region games must be played on the dates provided in the timeline with inclement weather as the only exception.
  4. Guidelines for Region Games And Prom Dates
    - a. When one team has a prom on a Friday night, the game should be scheduled for no earlier than 2 PM on Saturday.
    - b. When the traveling team has a prom on a Saturday night, the game should be scheduled for 10 AM on Saturday. If the home team has the Saturday night prom, the game should be scheduled for no later than 12 Noon, but can be as early as 10 AM.
    - c. When one team has a prom on Friday night and the other team on Saturday night, the game should be scheduled for 12 Noon on Saturday.
- C. General Policies
1. The home team will provide **Wilson A1010BPROSST** baseballs for their games.
  2. Individuals 7 years of age and older will be charged an admission of \$6.
  3. A plaque and 25 individual certificates will be presented to the region champion.
  4. Each coach who wins a region championship and advances to state play must complete the Media Information Form (found at mpssaa.org's Baseball page) and bring 20 copies to the State Semifinals and Finals.
  5. Local MPSSAA districts will collect all revenue and pay all expenses. Site directors shall pay officials and required workers. When funds are not available, fees should be referred to the host district.

6. The use of noisemakers and other distractions that disrupts the orderly progress of the game, (i.e., use of noisemakers coinciding with a pitch being delivered), are prohibited.

D. Officials

1. Two MPSSAA-certified officials will be assigned to each game.
2. More than two umpires may be assigned if this is consistent with the normal and ordinary practice of the home team during the regular season; however, the MPSSAA will pay for only two officials.

### III. STATE TOURNAMENT

A. Tournament Organization

1. **2019 Finals site:** Ripken Stadium, Aberdeen. Directions from I-95 North: Exit 85 (MD Rte. 85 toward Aberdeen/Churchville). Keep left at the fork in the ramp. Turn left on MD-22 W/Aberdeen Trwy/Churchville Rd.) MD-22 W/Aberdeen Trwy/Churchville Rd. becomes MD-22/Churchville Rd. Turn right onto Long Drive.
2. Format and schedule
  - a. 2019 semifinal pairings: **No. 1 South vs. No. 4 North, No. 2 East vs. No. 3 West**
  - b. *The home team* will sit on the third base side.
  - c. Each team will have a 20-minute warm-up period prior to the game starting time. Each team may use the 20-minute warm-up in any way it may choose following the host stadium's guidelines (example: no live batting practice on field at Ripken Stadium). The Baseball Committee will determine the order in which each team takes the field for warm-ups.

B. Playing Rules

Semifinal and final games must complete a minimum of seven innings unless the 10-run rule applies.

C. General Policies

1. The MPSSAA will provide one dozen baseballs for each game.
2. Individuals 7 years and older will be charged an admission of \$8 to the Semifinals and \$10 to the Finals at Ripken Stadium.
3. Complimentary passes given out by MPSSAA will be honored when presented with proper identification, such as a valid driver's license and will admit the bearer only.
4. Awards will be presented at the conclusion of the tournament. The championship team and finalist team will each be awarded a team plaque and 25 individual awards.
5. The State Baseball Committee will recognize the school which displays the best overall sportsmanship while participating in the baseball state tournament. The Paul Fahrner Sportsmanship Award will be presented to the principal of the school achieving the best overall sportsmanship of coaches, players and spectators at the completion of the tournament.
6. The use of noisemakers and other distractions that disrupts the orderly progress of the game, (i.e., use of noisemakers coinciding with a pitch being delivered), are prohibited.

D. Officials - Three MPSSAA-certified officials will be assigned to each game.

**We are counting on the full cooperation of all to make our 45th annual Maryland State Baseball Tournament a most successful one.**

### MPSSAA Baseball Region Directors

Region	Director	School	Office	Other
4A West	Sean Davis	Sherwood	301-924-3222	240-744-6069
4A North	Rich Hambor	Catonsville	443-809-0808	443-632-5525
4A South	Donald Cleveland	Laurel	301-497-2025, x84359	518-727-3944
4A East	Dave Lanham	Severna Park	410-544-0900	443-336-2424
3A West	Phil Rhodes	Frederick	240-236-7000	301-471-8939
3A North	Tony Maggard	Patapsco	443-809-7060, x502	410-935-7573
3A South	Guy Smith, Jr.	Huntingtown	443-550-8810	301-922-3787
3A East	Casey Medairy	Hammond	410-313-7605	443-538-5565
2A West	Greg Blake	Damascus		301-367-0018
2A North	Dave Deutsch	Eastern Technical	443-809-0330	216-570-1449
2A South	Matthew Sillers	Oakland Mills	410-313-6945	443-832-7955
2A East	Tim Larrimore	North Harford	410-638-3699	410-652-2527
1A West	Fred Kreiger	Washington Co. (Retired)		301-730-6223
1A North	Todd Henning	ACCE	410-396-7907	585-278-3361
1A South	Tim McGlenn	Henry E. Lackey		607-425-0979
1A East	Todd Lampman	Snow Hill	410-632-5270	410-430-5677

Email addresses for regional directors can be found on the Baseball page of mpssaa.org.

BASEBALL

### SEMIFINAL GAMES

### FINAL GAMES - Ripken Stadium

**DATE: MAY 21**

**RAIN DATE - May 22**

#1 (H) vs. #4 (V) 4 or 7 p.m.

#2 (H) vs. #3 (V) 4 or 7 p.m.

**DATE: MAY 24**

7:30 p.m.— Class 4A

(RAIN DATE — May 25 at 10 a.m.)

**DATE: MAY 25**

1 p.m.— Class 1A

4 p.m.— Class 2A

7 p.m.— Class 3A

**RAIN DATE: May 27**

10 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m., 7 p.m.— TBA

Site	Director(s)
4A Shirley Povich Field	Sean Davis & Jeff Rabberman
3A Joe Cannon Stadium	Tony Maggard
2A Harford Community College	Tim Larrimore
1A McCurdy Field	Fred Kreiger, Roger Dawson, & Mike DeSimone

### PROJECTED MPSSAA BASEBALL TOURNAMENT DATES

2020 - May 22/23

2021 - May 28/29

2022 - May 27/28

### STATE BASEBALL COMMITTEE

	Director	Office	Other
DIRECTOR	Jason Woodward	Sherwood	301-924-3230
DISTRICT 1	Phil Rhodes	Frederick	240-236-7185
DISTRICT 2	Sean Davis	Sherwood	301-924-3222
DISTRICT 3	Donald Cleveland	Laurel	301-497-2025, x84359
DISTRICT 4	Guy Smith, Jr.	Huntingtown	443-550-8810
DISTRICT 5	Matthew Sillers	Oakland Mills	410-313-6945
	Wayne Feuerherd	North County	410-222-6970
DISTRICT 6	Jeff Markle	Parkville	443-809-5430
DISTRICT 7	Tim Larrimore	North Harford	410-638-3699
DISTRICT 8	Todd Lampman	Snow Hill	410-632-5284
DISTRICT 9	Todd Henning	ACCE	410-396-7907

#### RULES INTERPRETER

Tom O'Hara .....410-344-1801 .....443-617-7548

Email addresses for committee members can be found on the Baseball page of mpssaa.org.

