

**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. **All information found in the MPSSAA Spring Bulletins for COVID-19 mitigation and the MPSSAA Return To Play Guidance are incorporated by reference into this document and shall be utilized to minimize the spread of COVID-19 during the Baseball Tournaments.**
- C. 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.
- D. **School systems choosing not to enter the tournament, or schools eliminated during the course of the tournament, may continue with seasonal competitions under the direction of their local school system and in compliance with the weekly and seasonal limitations found in COMAR 13A.06.03.03.**
- E. *Eligibility rules for all participants are defined* in MPSSAA Bylaw .02, found in the current Handbook.
- F. *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.
- G. 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.
- H. **Classificaitons and Regions: In order to adminsiter opening round contests, the MPSSAA reserves the right in consultation with local school systems to divide certain regions into smaller pods of teams to ensure participation in the first two rounds remain in smaller geographic areas.**
- I. Playing rules for region and state tournament
  - 1. National Federation rules will be used.
  - 2. All region and state tournament games will be a minimum of seven innings unless the 10-run rule applies.
  - 3. Region games must be played on the dates provided in the timeline with inclement weather and graduation as the only exception.

2021 BASEBALL TIME LINE		
	REGION TOURNAMENT	STATE TOURNAMENT
<b>June 3</b> ....Last play date for seeding consideration	<b>June 7</b> .....Region Quarterfinals	<b>June 14</b> .....Quarterfinals
<b>June 4</b> ....Tournament Seeding	<b>June 9</b> .....Region Semifinals	<b>June 16</b> .....Semifinals
	<b>June 11</b> ....Region Finals	<b>June 18</b> .....Finals

3. The MPSSAA will use the National Federation suggested speed-up rules for courtesy runners.
4. 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.
5. 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 DPCR 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+
SOPHOMORE	105	1-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76+
FRESHMAN	95	1-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76+

## 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 submitted by the local supervisor of athletics.
2. Each region will conduct a single elimination tournament, with the champion advancing to state play.
3. The tournament seeding will take place Friday, June 4 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 Committee Director by 9 p.m., June 3, the official records of all teams for regular season games played through that day.
  - b. All teams in each **region** will be seeded as determined by regular season winning percentage, excluding the one additional tournament and any city, county, or conference championship.
  - c. **There will be NO minimum divisor for seeding purposes.**
  - d. Ties among teams in a **region** 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.
4. Unless a specific alternative plan has been approved, all teams in regional play will abide by the following guidelines.
  - a. All **region** games will be played at the site of the higher seed throughout the tournament.
  - b. All region championship games will be held at the home site of the school with the higher regular season winning percentage.
  - c. If circumstances render a home site unplayable and the game is scheduled at any alternate site, the designated home team will remain unchanged.
5. Postponed/suspended region games may be required by the State Baseball Committee to be made up as part of a doubleheader.

### B. General Policies

1. The home team will provide **Wilson A1010BPROSST** baseballs for their games.

2. Admission and number of spectators are subject to the local hosting jurisdiction.
3. A plaque and 25 individual certificates will be presented to the region champion.
4. 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.
5. 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.

### III. STATE TOURNAMENT

A. State Quarterfinals

1. The region champions from each classification shall advance to a State Quarterfinal round.
2. The eight region champions will be seeded 1-8 based on their regular season winning percentage used to seed each region. Ties among teams in the State Quarterfinals 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.
3. Unless a specific alternate plan has been approved, all State Quarterfinal games will be played at the site of the higher seed.
4. Schools hosting a State Quarterfinal game must be mindful of other school activities and provide appropriate travel time. Local Supervisors of Athletics shall be contacted and make the final decision when conflicts occur.
5. A three-person officiating crew from the association local to the higher seeded team will be assigned to the State Quarterfinal contest.
6. 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.

B. State Semifinals

1. The winners of the State Quarterfinal round shall advance to the State Semifinals.
  - a. The winners of the No. 1 versus No. 8 seeded game will play the winners of the No. 4 versus No. 5 seeded game.
  - b. The winners of the No. 2 versus No. 7 seeded game will play the winners of the No. 3 versus No. 6 seeded game.
2. Semifinal games will be played on Wednesday, June 16. Schedules and times will be set after teams have advanced out of the State Quarterfinals. Tentative locations for each classification will be the remaining higher seed.

### C. State Championships

1. The winners of the State Semifinal round shall advance to the State Championships.
2. **2021 Finals site:** All four state final games will be played at Regency Furniture Stadium, 11765 St. Linus Drive, Waldorf, MD 20602. Game times will be 10 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Classifications for each game time are TBA.
3. In the event of inclement weather on June 18th, games will be played on June 19th at a site TBA.
4. *The home team* will sit on the third base side.
5. 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. General Policies

1. The MPSSAA will provide one dozen baseballs for each game.
2. Admission and spectator capacity will be determined by the MPSSAA in consultation with the facility and in compliance with local and state policies.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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.

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

**We are counting on the full cooperation of all to make our 46th annual Maryland State Baseball Tournament a most successful one.**

# 2021 ALIGNMENT FOR BASEBALL

CLASS 4A-WEST		CLASS 4A-NORTH		CLASS 4A-SOUTH		CLASS 4A-EAST	
REGION I		REGION I		REGION I		REGION I	
1. Bethesda-Chevy Chase	Mtg	1. Catonsville	B Co	1. Bladensburg	PG	1. Howard	How
2. Winston Churchill	Mtg	2. Dulaney	B Co	2. DuVal	PG	2. Arundel	AA
3. Albert Einstein	Mtg	3. Parkville	B Co	3. High Point	PG	3. Glen Burnie	AA
4. Walter Johnson	Mtg	4. Perry Hall	B Co	4. Laurel	PG	4. Meade	AA
5. Wheaton	Mtg	5. Mergenthaler Vo-Tech	Balt	5. Northwestern	PG	5. North County	AA
6. Walt Whitman	Mtg			6. Parkdale	PG	6. Old Mill	AA
7. Thomas Wootton	Mtg						
REGION II		REGION II		REGION II		REGION II	
1. Urbana	Fre	1. Montgomery Blair	Mtg	1. Bowie	PG	1. Annapolis	AA
2. Clarksburg	Mtg	2. James Hubert Blake	Mtg	2. Charles H. Flowers	PG	2. Broadneck	AA
3. Gaithersburg	Mtg	3. John F. Kennedy	Mtg	3. Eleanor Roosevelt	PG	3. Severna Park	AA
4. Richard Montgomery	Mtg	4. Northwood	Mtg	4. Suitland	PG	4. South River	AA
5. Northwest	Mtg	5. Paint Branch	Mtg	5. Dr. Henry A. Wise, Jr.	PG	5. Leonardtown	StM
6. Quince Orchard	Mtg	6. Sherwood	Mtg				
		7. Springbrook	Mtg				
CLASS 3A-WEST		CLASS 3A-NORTH		CLASS 3A-SOUTH		CLASS 3A-EAST	
REGION I		REGION I		REGION I		REGION I	
1. Frederick	Fre	1. City College	Balt	1. Huntingtown	Cal	1. Manchester Valley	Car
2. Gov. Thomas Johnson	Fre	2. Baltimore Polytechnic	Balt	2. Northern	Cal	2. Westminster	Car
3. Linganore	Fre	3. Franklin	B Co	3. North Point	Cha	3. Centennial	How
4. North Hagerstown	Was	4. Hereford	B Co	4. St. Charles	Cha	4. Marriotts Ridge	How
5. South Hagerstown	Was	5. Lansdowne	B Co	5. Chopticon	StM	5. Mount Hebron	How
6. Tuscarora	Fre	6. Towson	B Co	6. Great Mills	StM		
		7. Woodlawn	B Co				
REGION II		REGION II		REGION II		REGION II	
1. Damascus	Mtg	1. Dundalk	B Co	1. Chesapeake	AA	1. Atholton	How
2. Col. Zadok Magruder	Mtg	2. Kenwood	B Co	2. Northeast	AA	2. Hammond	How
3. Rockville	Mtg	3. Patapsco	B Co	3. Oxon Hill	PG	3. Long Reach	How
4. Watkins Mill	Mtg	4. Aberdeen	Hfd	4. Easton	Tal	4. Reservoir	How
		5. Bel Air	Hfd	5. James M. Bennett	Wic	5. River Hill	How
		6. Edgewood	Hfd	6. Stephen Decatur	Wor	6. Wilde Lake	How
		7. C. Milton Wright	Hfd				
CLASS 2A-WEST		CLASS 2A-NORTH		CLASS 2A-SOUTH		CLASS 2A-EAST	
REGION I		REGION I		REGION I		REGION I	
1. Century	Car	1. Carver A&T	B Co	1. Southern	AA	1. Elkton	Cec
2. Francis Scott Key	Car	2. Eastern Technical	B Co	2. Henry E. Lackey	Cha	2. North East	Cec
3. Liberty	Car	3. Milford Mill Academy	B Co	3. La Plata	Cha	3. Rising Sun	Cec
4. South Carroll	Car	4. New Town	B Co	4. Thomas Stone	Cha	4. Fallston	Hfd
5. Winters Mill	Car	5. Overlea	B Co	5. Westlake	Cha	5. Harford Technical	Hfd
6. Glenelg	How	6. Owings Mills	B Co			6. North Harford	Hfd
7. Oakland Mills	How	7. Randallstown	B Co				
REGION II		REGION II		REGION II		REGION II	
1. Middletown	Fre	1. Carver Vo-Tech	Balt	1. Calvert	Cal	1. North Caroline	Cin
2. Oakdale	Fre	2. Digital Harbor	Balt	2. Patuxent	Cal	2. Kent Island	QA
3. Walkersville	Fre	3. Patterson	Balt	3. Crossland	PG	3. Queen Anne's	QA
4. Poolesville	Mtg	4. Southwestern	Balt	4. Frederick Douglass	PG	4. Parkside	Wic
5. Seneca Valley	Mtg	5. Chesapeake	B Co	5. Potomac	PG	5. Wicomico	Wic
6. Boonsboro	Was	6. Sparrows Point	B Co				
7. Williamsport	Was						
CLASS 1A-WEST		CLASS 1A-NORTH		CLASS 1A-SOUTH		CLASS 1A-EAST	
REGION I		REGION I		REGION I		REGION I	
1. Allegany	All	1. ACCE	Balt	1. Fairmont Heights	PG	1. Bohemia Manor	Cec
2. Fort Hill	All	2. Edmondson-Westside	Balt	2. Intnatl. School at Langley Pk.	PG	2. Perryville	Cec
3. Mountain Ridge	All	3. Forest Park	Balt	3. Internatl. School at Largo	PG	3. Havre de Grace	Hfd
4. Northern	G	4. Natl. Academy Found.	Balt	4. Largo	PG	4. Joppatowne	Hfd
5. Southern	G	5. Loch Raven	B Co	5. CMIT North	PG	5. Patterson Mill	Hfd
		6. Pikesville	B Co			6. Colonel Richardson	Cin
		7. Western STES	B Co			7. Kent County	K
REGION II		REGION II		REGION II		REGION II	
1. Brunswick	Fre	1. Coppin Academy	Balt	1. Maurice J. McDonough	Cha	1. Cambridge-SD	Dor
2. Catocin	Fre	2. Frederick Douglass	Balt	2. Central	PG	2. North Dorchester	Dor
3. Clear Spring	Was	3. Paul Laurence Dunbar	Balt	3. Friendly	PG	3. Crisfield	Som
4. Hancock	Was	4. Benjamin Franklin	Balt	4. Gwynn Park	PG	4. Washington	Som
5. Smithsburg	Was	5. Lake Clifton	Balt	5. Surrattsville	PG	5. St. Michaels	Tal
		6. Reginald Lewis	Balt			6. Mardela	Wic
		7. New Era Academy	Balt			7. Pocomoke	Wor
						8. Snow Hill	Wor