



MPSSAA BASEBALL BULLETIN

State Finals - May 26/27 2023

Regency Furniture Stadium

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 WTA1010BHS1SST. 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.

2023 BASEBALL TIME LINE		
	REGION TOURNAMENT	STATE TOURNAMENT
May 8Last play date for seeding consideration	May 11Region Quarterfinals	May 19.....Quarterfinals
May 9Tournament Seeding	May 13Region Semifinals	May 23.....Semifinals
	May 16Region Finals	May 26-27Finals
		June 20Reimbursement Deadline

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+
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 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 Region 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 tournament seeding will take place Tuesday, May 9 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., May 8, 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. 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 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.
6. 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.
 7. Postponed/suspended 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 WTA1010BHS1SST** 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. 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; however, the MPSSAA will pay for only two officials.

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 on May 19th.**
4. Schools hosting a State Quarterfinal game must be mindful of other school activities and provide appropriate travel time for any schools with students taking AP testing. 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 Tuesday, May 23. Schedules and times will be set after teams have advanced out of the State Quarterfinals. The MPSSAA and state baseball committee reserves the right to use alternative sites as deemed necessary for continuous operation of the tournament.**

Potential sites are as follows:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TENTATIVE SITES</u>
May 23	McCurdy Field
May 23	Regency Stadium
May 23	Joe Cannon Stadium
May 23	Shirley Povich Field

C. State Championships

1. The winners of the State Semifinal round shall advance to the State Championships.
2. 2023 Finals site: All four state final games will be played at Regency Furniture Stadium, 11765 St. Linus Drive, Waldorf, MD 20602.
3. The home team will sit on the third base side.
4. 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 Regency Stadium). The Baseball Committee will determine the order in which each team takes the field for warm-ups.

D. Playing Rules

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

E. 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 Regency 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.
7. Each coach advances to the State Semifinals and Finals must complete the Media Information Form (found at mpssaa.org's Baseball page) and bring 20 copies to the State Semifinals and Finals.

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

SEMIFINAL GAMES		FINAL GAMES - Regency Stadium	
DATE: MAY 23 RAIN DATE - May 24 4 or 7 p.m.		DATE: MAY 26 7:30 p.m.— Class 4A (RAIN DATE — May 27 at 10 a.m.)	
Site Shirley Povich FieldSean Davis & Jeff Rabberman Joe Cannon StadiumTony Maggard Regency StadiumGuy Smith McCurdy Field.....Fred Kreiger, Roger Dawson, & Mike DeSimone	Director(s)	DATE: MAY 27 1 p.m.— Class 1A 4 p.m.— Class 2A 7 p.m.— Class 3A	
		RAIN DATE: May 29 10 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m., 7 p.m.— TBA	

PROJECTED MPSSAA BASEBALL TOURNAMENT DATES		
2024 - May 24/25	2025 - May 23/24	2026 - May 22/23

STATE BASEBALL COMMITTEE AND REGIONAL DIRECTORS ARE LISTED ON MPSSAA.ORG

We are counting on the full cooperation of all to make our 48th annual Maryland State Baseball Tournament a most successful one.

2023 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. Arundel	AA
2. Richard Montgomery	Mtg	2. Dulaney	B Co	2. Duval	PG	2. Glen Burnie	AA
3. Thomas S. Wootton	Mtg	3. Dundalk	B Co	3. High Point	PG	3. Meade	AA
4. Walt Whitman	Mtg	4. Parkville	B Co	4. Laurel	PG	4. North County	AA
5. Walter Johnson	Mtg	5. Perry Hall	B Co	5. Northwestern (PG)	PG	5. Old Mill	AA
6. Winston Churchill	Mtg	6. Mergenthaler	Balt	6. Parkdale	PG		
REGION II		REGION II		REGION II		REGION II	
1. Urbana	Fre	1. Albert Einstein	Mtg	1. Bowie	PG	1. Annapolis	AA
2. Clarksburg	Mtg	2. James Blake	Mtg	2. C H Flowers	PG	2. Broadneck	AA
3. Gaithersburg	Mtg	3. Montgomery Blair	Mtg	3. Dr. Henry A Wise Jr	PG	3. Severna Park	AA
4. Northwest	Mtg	4. Northwood	Mtg	4. Eleanor Roosevelt	PG	4. South River	AA
5. Quince Orchard	Mtg	5. Paint Branch	Mtg	5. Suitland	PG	5. North Point	Cha
6. Seneca Valley	Mtg	6. Sherwood	Mtg			6. Leonardtown	StM
		7. Wheaton	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. Franklin	B Co	1. Huntingtown	Cal	1. Manchester Valley	Car
2. Linganore	Fre	2. Towson	B Co	2. Northern (Cal.)	Cal	2. Westminster	Car
3. Oakdale	Fre	3. Woodlawn	B Co	3. St. Charles	Cha	3. Centennial	How
4. Thomas Johnson	Fre	4. City	Balt	4. Chopticon	StM	4. Howard	How
5. Tuscarora	Fre	5. Digital Harbor	Balt	5. Great Mills	StM	5. Marriotts Ridge	How
6. North Hagerstown	Was	6. Poly	Balt			6. Mt. Hebron	How
7. South Hagerstown	Was						
REGION II		REGION II		REGION II		REGION II	
1. Col. Zadok Magruder	Mtg	1. Kenwood	B Co	1. Chesapeake	AA	1. Atholton	How
2. Damascus	Mtg	2. Patapsco	B Co	2. Crofton	AA	2. Long Reach	How
3. John F. Kennedy	Mtg	3. Aberdeen	Hfd	3. Northeast (AA)	AA	3. Reservoir	How
4. Rockville	Mtg	4. Bel Air	Hfd	4. Oxon Hill	PG	4. River Hill	How
5. Springbrook	Mtg	5. C. Milton Wright	Hfd	5. J. M. Bennett	Wic	5. Wilde Lake	How
6. Watkins Mill	Mtg	6. Edgewood	Hfd	6. Stephen Decatur	Wor		
CLASS 2A-WEST		CLASS 2A-NORTH		CLASS 2A-SOUTH		CLASS 2A-EAST	
REGION I		REGION I		REGION I		REGION I	
1. Southern (AA)	AA	1. Carver A&T	B Co	1. Fairmont Heights	PG	1. Elkton	Cec
2. Century	Car	2. Herford	B Co	2. Frederick Douglass	PG	2. North East (Cecil)	Cec
3. Liberty	Car	3. Lansdowne	B Co	3. Friendly	PG	3. Rising Sun	Cec
4. Winters Mill	Car	4. Milford Mill Academy	B Co	4. Gwynn Park	PG	4. Fallston	Hfd
		5. New Town	B Co	5. Potomac	PG	5. Harford Tech	Hfd
		6. Owings Mills	B Co			6. North Harford	Hfd
		7. Randallstown	B Co				
REGION II		REGION II		REGION II		REGION II	
1. Middletown	Fre	1. Chesapeake	B Co	1. Calvert	Cal	1. North Caroline	Cin
2. Walkersville	Fre	2. Eastern Technical	B Co	2. Patuxent	Cal	2. Kent Island	Qa
3. Glenelg	How	3. Overlea	B Co	3. La Plata	Cha	3. Queen Anne's	Qa
4. Hammond	How	4. Sparrows Point	B Co	4. Lackey	Cha	4. Easton	Tal
5. Oakland Mills	How	5. Carver Vo-Tech	Balt	5. McDonough	Cha	5. Parkside	Wic
6. Poolesville	Mtg	6. Dunbar	Balt	6. Thomas Stone	Cha	6. Wicomico	Wic
		7. Patterson	Balt	7. Westlake	Cha		
CLASS 1A-WEST		CLASS 1A-NORTH		CLASS 1A-SOUTH		CLASS 1A-EAST	
REGION I		REGION I		REGION I		REGION I	
1. Allegany	All	1. Francis Scott Key	Car	1. Bohemia Manor	Cec	1. Colonel Richardson	Cin
2. Fort Hill	All	2. South Carroll	Car	2. Perryville	Cec	2. Cambridge-SD	Dor
3. Mountain Ridge	All	3. Loch Raven	B Co	3. Havre de Grace	Hfd	3. North Dorchester	Dor
4. Northern	G	4. Pikesville	B Co	4. Joppatowne	Hfd	4. Kent County	K
5. Southern	G	5. Western STES	B Co	5. Patterson Mill	Hfd	5. St. Michaels	Tal
		6. Benjamin Franklin	Balt				
REGION II		REGION II		REGION II		REGION II	
1. Boonsboro	Was	11. ACCE	Balt	11. Central	PG	1. Crisfield	Som
2. Clear Spring	Was	2. Edmondson/Westside	Balt	2. CMIT North	PG	2. Washington	Som
3. Hancock	Was	3. Forest Park	Balt	3. Crossland	PG	3. Mardela	Wic
4. Smithsburg	Was	4. Coppin Academy	Balt	4. Int. School at Langley Park	PG	4. Pocomoke	Wor
5. Williamsport	Was	5. Frederick Douglass-B	Balt	5. Int. School at Largo	PG	5. Snow Hill	Wor
6. Brunswick	Fre	6. Lake Clifton	Balt	6. Largo	PG		
7. Catoclin	Fre	7. New Era Academy	Balt	7. Surrattsville	PG		
		8. Reginald Lewis	Balt				