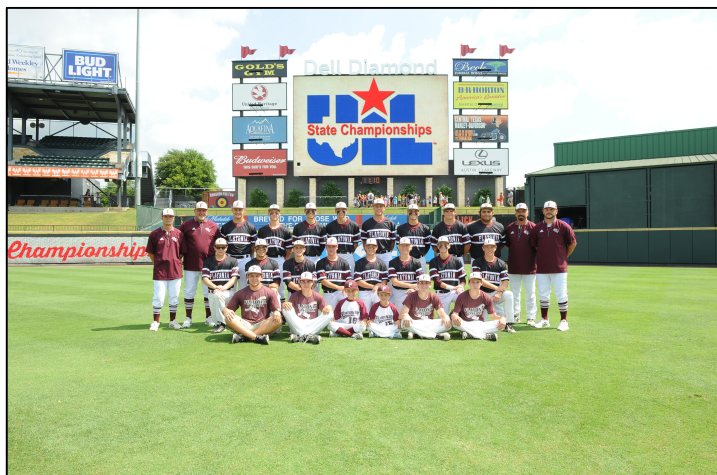




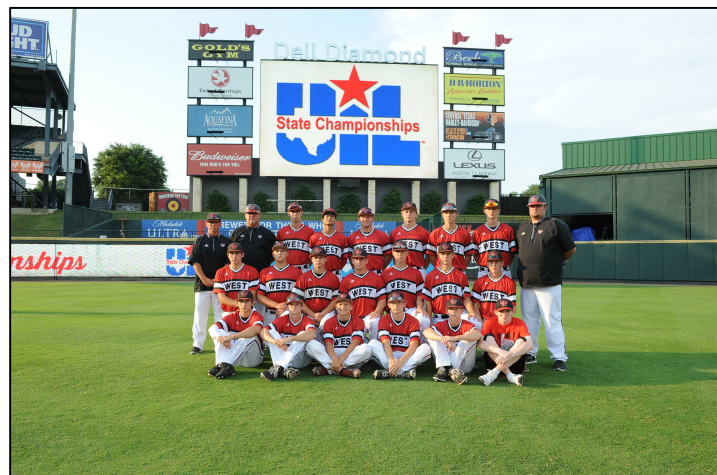
2016 • 2017
Baseball
Manual



~2015-16 BASEBALL STATE CHAMPIONS~



Flatonia
2A State Champions



West
3A State Champions



Abilene Wylie
4A State Champions



Grapevine
5A State Champions



Dallas Jesuit College Prep
6A State Champions

~UIL PERSONNEL~

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~ NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION ~

The University Interscholastic League (UIL) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs. See Section 360, Non-Discrimination Policy, UIL *Constitution and Contest*

Rules. <https://www.uiltexas.org/policy/constitution/general/nondiscrimination>

The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Dr. Mark Cousins

University Interscholastic League,

Director of Compliance and Education,

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For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit

<http://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm> or call 1-800-421-3481

or contact OCR in Dallas, Texas -

Office for Civil Rights

U.S. Department of Education

1999 Bryan Street, Texas 75201-6810

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Fax: 214-661-9587

TDD: 800-877-8339

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PURPOSE | To acquaint baseball coaches and administrators with the policies, rules, procedures, and forms necessary for proper enforcement of regulations for baseball, and to insure a better opportunity for coaches to have first-hand information.

LIMITATIONS | This manual does not cover all rules. The Constitution and Contest Rules is the official UIL rulebook and covers information more detailed than does this manual. Coaches should confer with their principals and superintendents if there are questions concerning the rules.

NOTE | Questions concerning the UIL Baseball Plan and eligibility requirements found in the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules should be directed to Brian Polk at the UIL office.

~BASEBALL CALENDAR & UIL RULE CHANGES~

2016-2017

January 27	First day for practice
February 6	First day for interschool scrimmages
February 20	First day for playing interschool games
May 2	<u>District Certification Deadline</u>
May 6	<u>Bi-District Deadline</u>
May 13	<u>Area Deadline</u>
May 20	<u>Regional Quarterfinal Deadline</u>
May 27	<u>Regional Semifinal Deadline</u>
June 3	<u>Regional Playoff Deadline</u>
June 7-10	<u>STATE TOURNAMENT</u>

UIL RULE CHANGES

GENERAL

- Alter the one-year consecutive enrollment exception to member charter school students who have been placed on a waiting list.
- Allow an exception to the 15-day rule for dependents of active duty military personnel.
- Set the number of teams advancing to the playoffs at two (2) teams per district for the smaller conference when two complete conferences are combined for play during the regular season and then advance to separate conference brackets for the playoffs. (1A Baseball and 1A Softball)
- Change to the athlete amateur rule to ease restrictions on athletes being able to receive reasonable fees for coaching, teaching, or officiating.
- Allow intra-district transfer participation opportunities when the school attended does not offer UIL participation opportunities.
- Allow a one-time only intra-district transfer students' immediate eligibility for one sport not offered at the previous school when transferring for athletic purposes.
- Provide Sports Officials an increase in the fee schedule.
- Allow schools to contribute to a second major award.
- Allow schools to provide transportation for college visits.
- Continue the pilot program for Spirit.
- Continue the pilot for 5A and 6A three-day tryout period in May for sixth graders.

BASEBALL

- Create a pilot program for 1A baseball and 1A softball. This pilot program would create a separate state championship bracket for Conference 1A baseball & 1A softball. 1A baseball and 1A softball will be in districted together for the regular season, but advance to separate brackets for the playoffs.
- Allow loss of school time in the post season for first game of two out three elimination series.

~BASEBALL RULES STATE ADOPTIONS~

UIL State Adoptions

1-4-4

To allow for special occasions, commemorative or memorial patches (not to exceed 2 1/4 square inches are allowed--UIL allows).

1-2-9

Double first base is permitted (UIL permits but does not require its use).

2-33-1

Suggested speed up rules (UIL allows use of Courtesy Runner).

4-2-2

Ten Run Rule (UIL utilizes 10 run rule in all games).

4-2-4

Game ending procedures (Unless District Executive Committee specified otherwise in writing prior to the season, UIL follows NFHS game ending procedures. In playoffs, all games will be played to completion).

4-3-1

A regulation game where a winner cannot be determined shall be counted as a 1/2 game won and 1/2 game lost for each team (UIL utilizes the NFHS rule unless District Executive Committee specified otherwise in writing prior to the season.)

4-4-1a

Time frame specified and/or circumstances necessary before a forfeit is declared for late arrival by a team (UIL leaves this to the discretion of the local District Executive Committee).

4-5-1

Protest procedure (UIL accepts no protests of an official's decision).

NEW 6-1-6

Pitching restriction policy (see p. 19, Regular Season)

~2016-2017 NFHS RULE CHANGES~

NFHS Rule Changes

2-32-2c: Clarified when a base runner can slide through home plate in a straight line.

3-2-2 PEN: Clarified when a coach-assisted runner is declared out.

3-3-1 PEN: Developed a three-step process when administering disciplinary action to a player(s) or coach(es) for inappropriate behavior on the bench and in the field.

6-2-6: Clarified that the pitching restriction is based on number of pitches thrown.

8-3-6: Clarified when an umpire hinders the actions of the catcher in a defensive attempt and how base-running awards are administered.

8-4-2s: A companion rule to support the above-mentioned 3-2-2 PEN modification regarding coaches' and players' conduct.

Points of Emphasis

1. Correct use of authenticated marked baseballs
2. Umpires asking assistance from partner on call
3. Positioning of team personnel
4. Legal slides

~BASEBALL PLAN~

Excerpt from the UIL Constitution & Contest Rules

Section 1220: BASEBALL PLAN

- (a) ATHLETIC PURPOSE, CODE, PLAN APPLICABLE. Rules in Sections 1200-1209 also apply to the Baseball Plan.
- (b) NUMBER OF GAMES, TOURNAMENTS AND SITES.
 - (1) *Violations/Penalties.* The District Executive Committee shall determine the penalty for violations of the regulations below.
 - (2) *Total Number of Games.* No team or student shall compete in more than two invitational tournaments plus 17 baseball games, in a season, including all games prior to the first playoff game. This shall include non-district and district games. If the district champions have a bye for the first round of the play-offs, those schools may schedule a warm-up game in addition to the game limits. This additional game shall be played on a non-school night with no loss of school time. Three games may be substituted in place of a tournament. A tournament may be substituted in place of three games. Schools can only utilize this exception to participate in one additional tournament.
 - (3) *Exception To Resolve District Ties.*
 - (A) *Two Schools Tied.* To resolve a two-way tie, the District Executive Committee may authorize a single elimination game. The tie breaking game may be in addition to the allowed number of games delineated above, but may not be played as an exception to the school week limitation.
 - (B) *Three or More Schools Tied.* If three or more schools are tied, the District Executive Committee may authorize a single elimination tournament in addition to the total number of games and tournaments allowed for the season.
 - (4) *Invitational Tournament Restriction.*
 - (A) No team shall participate in an invitational baseball tournament held on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday, except on school holidays. However, games in tournaments may be played after school on the last day of the school week prior to holidays.
 - (B) *Tournament Restriction.* Baseball teams shall play no more than six total games in a tournament and no more than three games in any one day.
 - (5) *Site of Game.* The District Executive Committee in arranging a schedule within the district shall determine the place of games in case of disagreement between the two teams.
 - (6) *Exception for Rescheduled Games.* District varsity baseball games postponed by weather or public disaster (not including illness) shall be rescheduled on the next date, other than Sunday, on which another district game is not scheduled. In the event weather or public disaster forces the makeup game to be rescheduled it shall be rescheduled on the next date as described earlier. These makeup games may be played as an exception to the school week limitation. District varsity games that are postponed by weather or public disaster, and not played on the next available date, shall be rescheduled and played on a date determined by the District Executive Committee, but may not be made up as an exception to the school week limitation.
- (c) PLAYING DATES.
 - (1) *Practice Dates.* There shall be no organized or formal school baseball practice for a contestant or a team, before or after school, until the 19th Friday prior to the State Baseball Tournament, and after the date for certifying district champions, except for teams that have not been eliminated from the playoffs.
 - (2) *Scrimmages.* Schools shall not scrimmage until the 18th Monday prior to the State Baseball Tournament, not to exceed two scrimmages per calendar week, Monday through Saturday. Scrimmages are subject to the one contest per school week limitation.
 - (3) *Games.* Schools shall not play their first game until the 16th Monday prior to the State Baseball Tournament.
 - (4) *School Equipment.* It will be considered a school game if a team is wearing school uniforms and/or using school equipment following the close of the regular UIL season.
 - (5) *Non-School Participation.* See Section 1209.

- (d) **TIES IN DISTRICT AND NON-DISTRICT GAMES.** Unless otherwise specified by district minutes prior to the beginning of season, a regulation district or non-district game called with a tie score after five innings have been played (and a winner cannot be determined) shall be counted as one-half game won and one-half game lost for each team. The game shall not be replayed provided five innings have been completed. If five innings have not been completed, the game shall be replayed from the start.
- (e) **GAME CALLED BEFORE COMPLETION.** If a district or non-district game is called before completion of the number of innings and conditions as specified in National Federation Baseball Rules, the umpire shall declare the contest "no game". Unless otherwise specified by district minutes prior to the season, the game will be replayed from the start. In games beyond the district level, a game begun, then suspended, shall continue at a later time from the point of suspension.
- (f) **GRADUATING SENIORS.** Sections 400 (a) and 405 of the *Constitution* shall not disqualify a contestant during the baseball season, who is eligible in all other respects at the time of spring graduation. This exception refers only to contestants whose playoff competition extends into the summer from the end of school.
- (g) **POST SEASON PLAYOFFS.**
 - (1) *Day of Playoff Game.* Playoffs games shall not be played before Wednesday of that week unless by mutual consent.
 - (2) *Playoffs.* Playoffs may be single elimination or two-out-of-three from bi-district to state. If neither method is mutually agreeable, a coin flip shall determine play-off format.
 - (3) *Two-out-of-Three Series.* If schools play a two-out-of-three elimination series, the first (and only the first) game may be played prior to Friday. Games 2 and /or 3 shall not be played until Friday. If one game is played and a second game cannot be played because of weather, then the winner of the one game advances to the next round. If two games are played (and split) and the third game cannot be played on Saturday because of weather conditions, the third and deciding game should be played on Monday of the next week.
 - (4) *State Tournament.* All conferences will be single elimination at the state tournament.
 - (4) *Disputes.* In case there is a dispute regarding a neutral or home site or time of a game it shall be settled by the flip of a coin. See Section 1208 (q).
 - (6) *Playoff Games.* In playoff games, a suspended game shall be continued from the point of suspension at a later time.
 - (7) *Gate Receipts From State Tournament.* The UIL office retains an annually determined percentage of gate receipts from the state baseball tournament.

~PRE-SEASON REGULATIONS~

High School Coaching Requirements

All high school coaches must be full-time employees of the school district. Coaches who knowingly and willfully violate rules may be penalized according to the Constitution and Contest Rules by the District Executive Committee (reprimand) or State Executive Committee (reprimand, public reprimand, suspension). **EXCEPTION:** A retired teacher/administrator who has 20 or more years of experience may serve as an assistant coach in all athletics and as a head coach for golf, tennis, team tennis, cross country, track and field, and swimming. (This rule shall not affect the status of a coach on a leave of absence attending college.) Also, student teachers, while they are assigned to a participant school to fulfill their student teaching requirements, may volunteer to serve as an assistant coach in all athletics. Schools shall not pay student teachers for assisting athletic coaches.

- TEC Chapter 33.086 - Certification - CPR and First Aid Training
 - Athletic coaches, athletic trainers, cheerleading sponsors and other head directors of UIL extra-curricular activities must have a current certification filed with the district.
- TEC Chapter 22.902 - Certification - AED Training
 - Athletic coaches and sponsors, school nurses, PE teachers, marching band directors, and students that serve as an athletic trainer must have a current certification filed with the district.
- TEC Chapter 33.202 - Annual Requirement – Safety Training
 - Training provided by UIL within the Rules Compliance Program (RCP).
 - Athletic coaches must complete prior to contact with students.
- TEC Chapter 38.158 - Annual Requirement - Concussion Training (2 hours every other year/1 hour annually)
 - Athletic coaches, athletic trainers and potential members of the Concussion Oversight Team must complete the training annually.

UIL Coach Education and Training Requirements

- C&CR 1202(j), UIL Professional Acknowledgment Form - completed and on file with district
- C&CR Section 1208(i), Annual Requirement - Rules Compliance Program (RCP)
 - Training available ONLY on the UIL website - www.uiltexas.org
 - Athletic coaches must complete prior to contact with students.
- C&CR 1209(k), One Time Requirement – National Federation of High Schools (NFHS): Fundamentals of Coaching
 - 6 hours course/\$35 - all first year coaches and any coach (or JH volunteer) who is not a full-time employee of the school district.
 - Available through a link on the UIL website or visit www.nfhslearn.org (Print certificate to verify completion)
- C&CR 1208(y), Cheerleading Program Coach/Sponsor– Safety/Risk Minimization for Cheerleading Course
 - Must have a current certification or annual training completed prior to contact with participants.
 - Districts shall determine the organization that will provide the certification or training. Resources are available but not limited to those on the link from UIL web site.
http://www.uiltexas.org/files/health/Cheerleading_Safety_FAQs.pdf
- C&CR 1208(j), Coach with Misconduct – Minimum Educational Requirement
 - Any coach ejected from a contest shall complete the NFHS Fundamentals of Coaching Course. The course is catalogued for a 6 hour course/\$35. <http://www.nfhslearn.com>
 - Any coach ejected from a contest shall complete the NFHS Teaching and Modeling Behavior Course. The course is catalogued for a 1.5 hour course/\$20. (<http://www.nfhslearn.com>).

Eligibility for Athletic Contests

Eligibility rules are found in Section 400 and 440 of the Constitution and Contest Rules. Any question regarding a student's eligibility, should be addressed to the school principal and/or superintendent. Residence requirements according to Sections 400 (d) 440, and 442 should be thoroughly investigated for any student new to school.

Students are eligible to represent their school in varsity interscholastic activities if they:

- are not 19 years of age or older on or before September 1 of the current scholastic year. (See 504 handicapped exception.)
- have not graduated from high school.
- are enrolled by the sixth class day of the current school year or have been in attendance for fifteen calendar days immediately preceding a varsity contest.
- are full-time day students in a participant high school.
- initially enrolled in the ninth grade not more than four calendar years ago.
- are meeting academic standards required by state law.
- live with their parents inside the school district attendance zone their first year of attendance. (Parent residence applies to varsity athletic eligibility only.) When the parents do not reside inside the district attendance zone the student could be eligible if: the student has been in continuous attendance for at least one calendar year and has not enrolled at another school; no inducement is given to the student to attend the school (for example: students or their parents must pay their room and board when they do not live with a relative; students driving back into the district should pay their own transportation costs); and it is not a violation of local school or TEA policies for the student to continue attending the school. Students placed by the Texas Youth Commission are covered under Custodial Residence (see Section 442 of the Constitution and Contest Rules).
- have observed all provisions of the Awards Rule.
- have not been recruited. (Does not apply to college recruiting as permitted by rule.)
- have not violated any provision of the summer camp rule, Section 1209.
- have observed all provisions of the Athletic Amateur Rule, Section 441.

Limitation on Awards. Schools may give one major award, not to exceed \$70.00 in value, to a student during high school enrollment at the same school for participation in one of the UIL interschool competitions listed in Section 380. One additional symbolic award, not to exceed \$10.00 in value, may be presented for participation in each additional UIL activity listed in Section 380. The \$10.00 award may be given to a student for an activity during the same year that the major award is given for that activity. *A school may contribute to major awards in honor of winning a UIL State Championship.*

Student-athletes shall be in compliance with the Athletic Amateur Rule from the first day of attendance in the ninth grade through their last day of UIL athletic competition in grade twelve. This includes during school and during non-school time and applies to all UIL competition and to non-school participation in the same sports sponsored by the UIL. (For instance, a race of six miles or longer is not considered to be a cross-country meet, so the Amateur Rule is not applicable to students participating in this type of race.)

Student-athletes in grades 9-12 shall not:

- Accept any valuable consideration as an award for winning or placing in an athletic contest. Valuable consideration is defined as anything wearable, usable or sellable, and includes such items as t-shirts, hamburger coupons, free or reduced rate tennis racquets, etc.
- Accept valuable consideration for teaching or coaching any UIL sport, except beginning swimming or lifesaving lessons.
- Accept valuable consideration for allowing their name to be used for advertisement of a product, plan or service.
- Accept any special service or benefit offered only to athletes or members of an athletic team.

Exception:

- Students may accept reasonable fees that do not exceed prevailing rates for teaching or coaching activities provided they confine the work to teaching or coaching skills.
- Students may accept reasonable fees that do not exceed prevailing rates for officiating athletic contests.

The penalty for violation of the Amateur Rule is forfeiture of varsity eligibility in the involved sport for at least one year from the date of the violation. *The Athletic Amateur Rule is sport specific, so a violation in one sport would make the student ineligible only in that sport, not in all UIL athletic activities.*

Student Participation Required Forms

It shall be the responsibility of each school to keep on file the following required annual forms for each student who participates in any practice, scrimmage, or game. Forms to be filed can be downloaded from the UIL website (www.uil texas.org/athletics/forms/).

- **Pre Participation Physical Examination Form.** As a minimum requirement, a Physical Examination Form must be completed prior to junior high athletic participation and again prior to first and third years of high school athletic participation. Local district policy may require an annual physical exam. The form must be filled in and signed by either a Physician, a Physician Assistant licensed by a State Board of Physician Assistant Examiners, a Registered Nurse recognized as an Advanced Practice Nurse by the Board of Nurse Examiners, or a Doctor of Chiropractic. Examination forms signed by any other health care practitioner, will not be accepted.
- **Medical History Form.** Each year prior to any practice or participation a UIL Medical History Form signed by both a student and a parent or guardian is required. A Medical History Form shall accompany each physical examination and shall be signed by both a student and a parent or guardian.
- **Parent or Guardian Permit.** Annual participation permit signed by the student's parent or guardian.
- **Rules Acknowledgment Form.** Annual UIL Rules Acknowledgment Form signed by the student and the student's parent or guardian.
- **Parent/Student Anabolic Steroid Use and Random Steroid Testing Form.** The parent/guardian of each high school athlete, along with each high school athlete, must annually sign the UIL Illegal Steroid Use and Random Steroid Testing Parent and Student Notification/Agreement Form.
- **Concussion Acknowledgement Form.** Annual UIL Concussion Acknowledgment Form signed by the student and the student's parent or guardian.
- **Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Form.** Annual UIL Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Form signed by the student and the student's parent or guardian.

Varsity Participation Required Forms

It shall be the responsibility of each school to keep on file the following required forms. Forms to be filed can be downloaded from the UIL website (www.uil texas.org/athletics/forms/).

- **Eligibility Form.** Schools must submit comprehensive eligibility blanks for football, basketball, volleyball, softball, baseball, and soccer. For all other athletic activities general alphabetical listing of eligible athletes is required. One copy shall be sent to the district executive committee chair and one copy shall be filed in the school's office. Completed eligibility forms are to be signed by the superintendent or a designated administrator and the coach. These forms are to be postmarked before a contestant is allowed to participate in a varsity contest. Failure to furnish correct and complete information may, upon request by the proper committee, constitute grounds for suspension.
- **Previous Athletic Participation Form.** New students in grades 9-12 who represented their former school in a varsity or sub-varsity athletic contest or practice in grades 8-12 in any previous school year must have a Previous Athletic Participation Form completed prior to participation in a varsity contest at the new school.
- **Late Forms.** If an eligibility form or a Previous Athletic Participation Form was not filed prior to competition, and it was an inadvertent error and the student is actually eligible under Subchapter M of the Constitution, the district executive committee is not required to demand forfeiture or to rule the student ineligible. They may assess the minimum penalty of private reprimand to the school.
- **Foreign Exchange Students.** Subject to the other eligibility rules of the Constitution, foreign exchange students in approved CSIET foreign exchange programs are allowed to apply for exceptions to the residence rule through the UIL waiver process. A waiver could be granted in certain activities if they have not received advanced training or have not had extensive experience in the activity of their choice. Foreign exchange students are not eligible for varsity athletic participation unless they are granted a Foreign Exchange Student Waiver.
- **Varsity Athletic Eligibility for Over-Age Student.** Subject to the other eligibility rules of the UIL Constitution, an individual is eligible to participate in a League varsity athletic contest as a representative of a participant school if that individual is less than 19 years old on September 1 preceding the contest; or has been granted eligibility based on a handicapping condition which delayed his or her education by at least one year and the student is currently in special education and under the auspices of an ARD Committee or has been identified as a 504 student prior to the end of their second year in high school (effective for entering ninth graders in the current school year).

Practice Regulations

- Pre-season practice regulations for sports that begin practice prior to the school year are as follows.
- Students-athletes shall not engage in more than three hours of practice activities on those days during which one practice is conducted.
- Student-athletes shall not engage in more than five hours of practice activities on those days during which more than one practice is conducted.
- The maximum length of any single practice session is three hours.
- On days when more than one practice is conducted, there shall be, at a minimum, TWO hours of rest/ recovery time between the end of one practice and the beginning of the next practice.
- **Schools shall not schedule more than one practice on consecutive days, and student-athletes shall not participate in multiple practices on consecutive days. (Exception - Volleyball)**

When determining how to count times spent as "practice activities" please consult the following chart:

<u>What Counts</u>	<u>What Doesn't Count</u>
Actual on field / court practice	Meetings
Sport specific skill instruction	Weight training*
Mandatory conditioning	Film study
Water breaks	Injury treatment
Rest breaks	Voluntary conditioning*

*Does not count towards practice time, but cannot be done during the two hour rest/recovery time.

In reference to the minimum TWO-hour rest/ recovery time between the end of one practice and the beginning of the next practice (on days when more than one practice is scheduled), there can be no practice activities at all during this time. This time is exclusively for students to rest/ recover for the following practice session, whether that session is an actual on field / court practice or a mandatory conditioning period.

Contest Schedule Rules

The following section combines State Law, State Board of Education regulations, and UIL rules. The Texas Education Agency defines participation as being involved with the activity, traveling with the team, or sitting on the bench. UIL defines participation of a student athlete as actually entering the contest as a player. Example: On a Tuesday night, the student's name is on the scorebook but she remains on the bench and does not actually enter the game. This counts as participation for TEA but not UIL. In other words, that student cannot participate again until Friday after school because of TEA regulations, however that game does not count as one of the allowable games as determined by UIL policy.

Constitution and Contest Rules: Section 5: Definitions

- **Calendar week** means 12:01 a.m. on Sunday through midnight on Saturday.
- **School week** means the week beginning at 12:01 a.m. on the first instructional day of a calendar week and ends at the close of instruction on the last instructional day of the calendar week, excluding holidays.
19 TAC 97.113 (K)(1)-
- **One contest per school week:** School districts shall adopt policies limiting extracurricular activities from the beginning of the school week through the end of the school week (excluding holidays) by scheduling no more than one contest or performance per activity per student. *Exception: Tournaments and post-season competition, as well as district varsity contests postponed by weather or public disaster, may also be scheduled during the school week.

- **Eight-hour practice rule:** School districts shall adopt policies limiting extracurricular activities from the beginning of the school week through the end of the school week (excluding holidays) by limiting practice outside the school day to a maximum of eight hours per school week per activity.

Participation.

- (b) (b) **SUNDAY PROHIBITION.** A UIL member school shall not participate in any athletic contest or conduct any practice or teach any plays, formations or skills on Sunday.
 - (1) Violation. Any showing of films to or meetings of athletes for the purpose of instruction or reviewing of plays, formations or skills in any sport will be construed as a violation.
 - (2) Coaches Sunday Meetings. This does not prevent coaches from meeting on Sunday or from seeing films or planning an instructional program, provided no athletes are involved in this meeting.
 - (3) Exceptions.
 - (A) Golf. If the regional and/or state golf tournaments are scheduled on a Monday, the one 18-hole practice round allowed at the regional and/or state tournament site may be played on the Sunday afternoon preceding the meet (no earlier than 12:00 noon) if permitted by the regional or state meet director.
 - (B) Tennis. If the regional and/or state tennis tournaments are scheduled on a Monday, and if participants arrive at the site on the preceding Sunday because of travel distance, it will not be a violation of this rule if school district personnel accompany or transport participants to a tennis court for the purpose of practicing on their own, if permitted by the regional or state meet director.
 - (C) Cross Country. If the regional and/or state cross country meets are scheduled on a Monday, and if participants arrive at the site on the preceding Sunday because of travel distance, it will not be a violation of this rule if school district personnel accompany or transport participants to the course site for the purpose of practicing on their own, if permitted by the regional or state director.
- (c) **REGIONAL AND STATE TOURNAMENT COMPETITION ON SUNDAY.** Regional or state tournament directors may reschedule postponed or weather delayed tournaments on Sunday afternoon or evening with prior approval of the tournament director and the participating schools and with prior permission from the UIL Athletic Director.

District Executive Committee (DEC)

Jurisdiction. The DEC shall rule on protests and reports of violations concerning eligibility and other violations of the Constitution and Contest Rules (C&CR) that occur within its district.

Composition. The DEC is composed of the superintendents of participant schools competing in the assigned UIL Playing District. The superintendent may designate administrators to represent participant schools in a multi-high school district.

Responsibilities.

- The DEC shall arrange a schedule to determine district representatives prior to the deadline specified in the official calendar.
- The DEC shall certify in writing, eligible district representatives in all athletic activities.
- Pre-Season Regulations
- The DEC shall determine in writing, prior to the season, the method to determine the district representatives in the event two or more schools are tied in win/loss percentages. (NOTE: If a tie-breaker procedure is not provided prior to the season, the UIL tie-breaker will be used.)
- The DEC shall enforce all rules contained in the C&CR.
- The DEC shall investigate the eligibility of contestants.
- The DEC shall settle within the district all disputes.
- The DEC does not have the authority to require a school to purchase equipment, which is not required by rules stated in the C&CR.
- The DEC shall take such other action that is reasonable, necessary or desirable, and consistent with the UIL C&CR, the rules of the State Board of Education and the law.
- The DEC shall determine the place of games in the case there is a disagreement between two teams.
- The State Executive Committee shall have jurisdiction in all disputes arising between district winners that have been duly certified.

School Authority Responsible. The superintendent shall be responsible for the proper conduct of athletic contests in a school system.

Observe Rules. Each school shall abide by all rules contained in the Constitution. In case an ineligible contestant is used in any League game, knowingly or unknowingly, the minimum penalty shall be forfeiture of the game.

~REGULAR SEASON~

Baseball Game Regulations

Number of Contests Allowed (2016-17)

- 0 Tournaments and 23 Games or
- 1 Tournament and 20 Games or
- 2 Tournaments and 17 Games or
- 3 Tournaments and 14 Games

Playing Rules. All games will be for seven innings (unless tied). The National Federation Baseball Rules, published by the National Federation of State High School Associations shall govern all games. See UIL calendar for playoff dates. To order a rule book contact NFHS Customer Service, PO Box 361246, Indianapolis, IN 46236-5324; Phone 800-776-3462 or Fax 317-899-7496.

Practice/Game Balls. Each team is responsible for its own practice and game balls for the season. Teams are not required to use the state sponsored baseball (Baden 3B-PPRO) until the state tournament.

Coaching Boxes. Student players and coaches in uniform or coaching attire representing school colors, may occupy the coaching boxes.

Pregame Warm-up. It is recommended that batting practice be eliminated and that each team be given 10 minutes for infield and outfield workouts prior to each game.

Head Protectors. All players must wear head protectors when batting and when on the base paths.

Tie Games. National Federation Baseball Rule 4, Section 3, Article 1, Note 1: A regulation called game where a winner cannot be determined shall be counted as 1/2 game won and 1/2 game lost for each team and the game shall not be replayed, unless district minutes specify otherwise prior to the season.

Resolving Ties in Win-Loss Percentage. Districts should outline procedures (before the season begins) for determining playoff representatives in their district. Definite procedures should be outlined (in writing) to provide orderly facilitation for teams tied in win-loss percentage. Especially remember to outline a procedure to be used when three teams are tied for second and third place.

Game Called Before Completion. In district and nondistrict games if a game is called before completion of the number of innings and conditions as specified in Article 4 of the National Federation Baseball Rule Book, the umpire shall declare the contest "no game." Unless otherwise specified by district minutes prior to the season, the game will be replayed from the start.

Postponement. District varsity baseball games postponed by weather or public disaster (not including illness) shall be rescheduled on the next date, other than Sunday, on which another district game is not scheduled. In the event weather or public disaster forces the makeup game to be rescheduled it shall be rescheduled on the next date as described earlier. These makeup games may be played as an exception to the school week limitation. District varsity games that are postponed by weather or public disaster, and not played on the next available date, shall be rescheduled and played on a date determined by the district executive committee.

National Federation Courtesy Runner Regulations.

- The team at bat may use courtesy runners for the pitcher and/or the catcher as soon as they reach base. The same runner may not be used for both positions. Neither the pitcher nor the catcher will be required to leave the game under such circumstances.
- Players who have participated in the game in any other capacity are ineligible to serve as courtesy runners.
- A player may not run as a courtesy runner for the pitcher or the catcher and then be used as a substitute for another player in that half inning.

NOTE: An unreported courtesy runner is an illegal substitute. For illegal substitution, such substitute shall be ejected.

Ten-Run Rule. The ten-run rule will be in effect for all games. After five (5) innings of play, if one team is ten (10) or more runs ahead of its opponent, the game shall be over. (Or if 4 ½ innings have been completed and the home team is ten or more runs ahead.)

Scheduling on Nights Prior to Exams (STAAR). The League recommends not scheduling contests on nights prior to exams (STAAR).

Scheduling on Sunday. Schools shall not play or practice on Sunday. Do not begin a game that cannot be completed before midnight Saturday. Do not start an inning that cannot be finished before midnight Saturday.

Coach Ejection Penalty. See Section 1208 (j), in the Constitution and Contest Rules for automatic penalty for any coach ejected from a game.

NFHS Baseball Bat Standard. The bat, which may be a wood or non-wood product shall be a smooth cylinder implement with a knob that is permanently and securely fastened. All bats not made of a single piece of wood shall meet the Batted Ball Coefficient of Restitution (BBCOR) performance standard, and such bats shall be labeled with a silk screen or other permanent certification mark. No BBCOR label, sticker or decal will be accepted on any non-wood bat. The certification mark shall be rectangular, a minimum of one inch on each side and located on the barrel of the bat in any contrasting color to read: "BBCOR .50". There shall be no devices, attachments or wrappings that cause the handle to become flush with the knob. Molded grips are illegal. Only bats may be used in loosening up (including weighted bats for this purpose) at any location. Only bats and devices designed to remain part of the bat, such as weighted bats, batting donuts, and wind-resistant devices are legal at any location. A non-wood bat must have a safety grip of cork, tape, or composition material. The grip must extend a minimum of 10 inches, but not more than 18 inches, from the base of the knob. Slippery tape or similar material shall be prohibited. A bat made of a single piece of wood may be roughened or wound with tape not more than 18 inches from the handle end of the bat. No foreign substance may be added to the surface of the bat beyond 18 inches from the end of the handle. No foreign substance may be inserted into the bat. NOTE: Effective January 1, 2012 shall meet the Batted Ball Coefficient of Restitution (BBCOR).

NOCSAE Standard for Catcher's Headgear. The NOCSAE standard for a catcher's headgear is in effect. The NOCSAE standard for a catcher's helmet and mask only applies to products where the helmet and face guard (mask) are attached together by some means, either permanent means or something as simple as Velcro. It is not possible for a catcher's face guard (mask) or a catcher's helmet to be NOCSAE tested and certified as individual units. If however these individual units are used together in a combination intended by the manufacturer(s), they have to be tested together to the NOCSAE standard in that combination in order to be legal. Remember the face guard (mask) portion must attach to the helmet, and only the helmets will have the NOCSAE stamp. This means that it will be virtually impossible for umpires on the field to determine if different manufactured components have been tested and certified together.

If the umpires have any doubt regarding the legality of any combination, then the umpires shall require the head coach to provide written documentation verifying the legality of that combination in question. The written verification shall include a statement indicating that the individually manufactured components of the combination have been tested and certified together as called for in the standard. Any helmet and mask combination that has been manufactured together as a single unit (hockey style helmets) and has been certified to meet the NOCSAE standard will have their stamp on it. Umpires can then tell if it is a legal helmet by the identifying stamp. The stamp is depicted in the NFHS Baseball Rules Book and the NFHS Web site.

~PITCH COUNT IMPLEMENTATION~

Rest Chart

High School Pitch Count (Grades 9 through 12):

0-30 pitches	0 days rest
31-45 pitches	1 day rest
46-65 pitches	2 days rest
66-85 pitches	3 days rest
86-110 pitches	4 days rest

Junior High Pitch Count (Grades 7 and 8):

0-20 pitches	0 days rest
21- 35 pitches	1 day rest
36 - 50 pitches	2 days rest
51 – 65 pitches	3 days rest
66 - 85 pitches	4 days rest

General Expectations

During regular season, pitch count limit is determined after each single game appearance

Only official game pitches will count. (not warm up pitches)

Rest is defined as not using a pitcher in a contest.

Rest days are counted for the full day regardless of appearance start time. (ex: Varsity Pitcher throws 95 pitches on Friday. Rest days are Sat, Sun, Mon, and Tues. He is eligible to pitch on Wednesday, not Tuesday night.).

A pitcher will be allowed to complete current at-bat even if they hit pitch count max during the at-bat, but must exit as a pitcher after that hitter regardless of recording an out or number of outs in inning.

There are no restrictions on allowing any game day pitcher (starter or reliever) from resuming play in the field after being removed as a pitcher, regardless of pitch count.

There will be NO change to regulations in post-season play. (i.e.: no increase in pitch count max or leeway in rest days)

Tournaments or Series:

In multi game series or tournaments, pitch count can be divided into separate appearances as long as combined total does not exceed appropriate pitch count max. Days of rest will be determined by final pitch count of the series or tournament.

(ex: In post season series, starter goes (X) innings for a total pitch count of (X) (amount not exceeding max count) in first game of 3 game series. That same athlete can be used as short reliever in either of next 2 games of the same series, up to combined total pitch count max (85/110). At conclusion of series, combined total number of pitches will determine days of rest based on chart.

Back to Back Games due to postponement:

In the case of games that are rained out, and rescheduled on consecutive nights, pitch counts will follow the series protocol.

Double Header:

In the case of a doubleheader, the second game will not serve as a rest day for pitchers who threw in the first game. However, pitch count max can be split up between both games and total pitches after second appearance will determine rest day period.

****If pitcher is used twice in 3-day series, the rest day start period will begin after the second appearance even if there was a day of rest in between.

Pitch Count Accountability and Reporting

UIL Pitching Regulations and procedures apply to all levels of play. (Junior High, Freshman, JV, and Varsity)

Each game will need an official pitch counter provided by the home team. The official pitch counter will not be allowed to be in the dugout. Coaches/team representative will meet between innings to verify counts. Pitch counts will be verified at the conclusion of the game with a signature on a verification form.

DEC will establish the means for the record of tracking pitches and the protocol for game reporting for both pre-season and district play. DEC will maintain record of pitch counts and establish procedures accordingly.

The home team is responsible for submitting the verification form to their District Chair within 48 hours of the end of the contest for filing.

District Chairs are responsible for keeping the Certification and providing access to those numbers when requested.

In post season, official pitch counts MUST be entered in Max Preps after each game. The home team will provide the official pitch counter (the same as in regular season games).

Should any dispute arise, the primary source for final pitch count will be the official scoreboard/count of the home team.

Umpires will NOT have any kind of jurisdiction or involvement in pitch count.

Penalties

Alleged violations of the Pitch Count Rule occurring during the regular season will be handled by the District Executive Committee in accordance with section 29 of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules.

Alleged violations of the Pitch Count Rule occurring during the post season will be handled by the State Executive Committee in accordance with section 27 of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules.

*****Pending approval by the Commissioner of Education**

Allowable Contests

According to State Board of Education mandates, students may only participate on one day per activity during the school week. * Exception: District varsity contests postponed due to weather or public disaster may also be scheduled during the school week, but must be rescheduled and played on the next available date following the postponement in order to be played as an exception.

Post-season competition may also be scheduled as an exception to the one contest during the school week. **School week means the week beginning at 12:01 am on the first instructional day of a calendar week (defined as 12:01 am on Sunday through midnight on Saturday) and ends at the close of instruction on the last instructional day of the calendar week, excluding holidays.** Post-district play means competition in UIL playoff series or contests such as bi-district, area, regional, etc.

Scrimmages and Games. The school is limited to one scrimmage (with up to four participating schools) during the school week. Schools may also participate in an additional scrimmage with up to four participating schools at the end of the school week (Friday after school or Saturday).

Schools are limited to one contest (game or doubleheader) per school week. From Friday after school until Saturday midnight, schools are not limited in the number of games in which they participate. A school could play on Tuesday and after school on Friday, in addition to a Thursday/Friday/Saturday tournament during the same calendar week.

UIL/TEA Side-by-Side. UIL limits participation in contests per calendar week in some sports. For UIL, participation is defined as a student actually entering a contest. Example: On Tuesday night, the student's name is on the scorebook, but the student remains on the bench and does not actually enter the game. This does not count as participation in a UIL contest according to UIL (but does count according to state law. The student cannot participate again until Friday after school). The Tuesday game does not as one of the games UIL permits the student to participate in for that calendar week or for the season because the student did not enter the game.

Baseball/Softball:

- a single game: or
- a double header (a student could play two back-to-back varsity games or in a varsity and junior varsity game, at the same site same night).

Each game counts as one of the student's total games for the season. Students may play additional games at the conclusion of that school week because UIL does not limit the number of games per calendar week in these two team sports.

District Certification

- The DEC shall determine the place and/or time of matches in case of disagreement between two schools.
- If not previously scheduled, a district executive committee may authorize a single elimination match or tournament to resolve district ties. A one-match play-off could break a two-way tie. A single elimination tournament could resolve a tie between three or more schools.

NOTE: These matches must be completed by the district certification deadline and will not count against the allowable matches if not previously scheduled. Tie-breakers must be held in compliance with calendar week and school week restrictions. If the district executive committee schedules any other matches or tournaments as part of their method for determining play-off representatives, the matches played must count in the match or tournament limitation.

- The district executive committee may permit district varsity baseball matches postponed by weather or public disaster (not including illness), to be played as an exception to the two-matched-contests per-week rule, provided that they are rescheduled and played on the next available date, other than Sunday, on which another district match is not scheduled. Junior varsity, freshman and junior high teams may not play postponed matches as an exception.
- The State Executive Committee shall have jurisdiction in all disputes arising between districts.

Guarantees for Contests

- In district and non-district games/matches, unless there is mutual agreement or a district executive committee ruling, the home team is entitled to 100% of the gate receipts.
- In play-off games, the visiting team shall have a sufficient guarantee to cover expenses and also 50% of the net gate receipts unless mutually agreed upon by both schools.
- A demand of a flat guarantee, which is clearly in excess of expenses, shall upon action of the district or State Executive Committee, disqualify the offending team from further participation. A flat guarantee for a visiting team's expenses shall be in lieu of expenses and shall be calculated as expenses of the game, prior to division of the net gate receipts.
- Expenses of visiting team, officials, advertising, labor, services, and printing incidental to the contest, shall be considered as expenses of the game. The number of persons allowed upon expense accounts shall be agreed upon by school administrators of teams involved. Unless mutually agreeable otherwise, the home team shall furnish a playing field or court without cost to the visiting school.

Videotaping/Filming

Non-Conference and District Contests

- Videotaping/Filming by Schools.
 - It is a violation to film or videotape a non-conference or district athletic contest in which your school or team is not competing unless prior consent of the two schools involved has been obtained.
 - A school does not have to obtain permission to film or tape a NON-CONFERENCE OR DISTRICT contest in which it is competing. However, the film or videotape shall not be utilized until after the contest has been completed.
- Films and videotapes become the property of the school doing the filming unless by district rule or by consent of the schools involved in the contest.
- Videotaping/Filming by Individuals. Any individual (other than the officially designated school camera) taping or filming must have prior permission from the schools involved in the contest and may not obstruct the view of other spectators of the contest.
- Commercial Uses. The use of the films or tapes for commercial purposes must be approved by all schools involved in the contest.

Pep Bands

- The UIL does allow "pep" bands (up to 30 members) to play at baseball games during pre-game, during time outs and in between innings, and post-game. Musical instruments may not be used as noisemakers during the contest. The "pep" band shall not be located behind or near the opposition's dugout.
- If a "pep" band does perform the following guidelines should be followed to ensure a full appreciation of the group's performance. Band directors are reminded that as a courtesy to the teams and cheerleaders of both schools, performances by the band should be limited to appropriate times.
- Guidelines listed below indicate appropriate playing times for the band:
 - The band may play before the game begins. The director should coordinate the schedule so that the host school may introduce team members.
 - The band may play during time outs and in between innings of the contest.
 - The band may play at the end of the contest if desired.

~ BASEBALL TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS ~

	<u>Traditional</u>	<u>Pool Play</u>	<u>Round Robin</u>
Number of Teams:	No limit	No limit	No Limit
Site:	Host ISD or adjoining ISD (If no more than 8 schools in tournament, prelim round matches may be played at home site of any school in tourney.)	Host ISD or adjoining ISD (If no more than 8 schools in tournament, prelim round matches may be played at home site of any school in tourney.)	Same or adjoining ISD unless additional sites are needed for prelims.
Days:	Thursday, Friday, Saturday (unless school is not in session) A two-day tournament shall not be scheduled on Thursday and Friday. One-day tournaments shall be scheduled on Saturday.	Thursday, Friday, Saturday (unless school is not in session) A two-day tournament shall not be scheduled on Thursday and Friday. One-day tournaments shall be scheduled on Saturday.	Thursday, Friday, Saturday (unless school is not in session) A two-day tournament shall not be scheduled on Thursday and Friday. One-day tournaments shall be scheduled on Saturday.
Game Limit/Make-ups:	If a semifinal Game is played, count as tournament. If not reaching semifinals, early games could count on season game and tournament limit if less than 3 games are played. • 1 GAME PLAYED – Teams will count game towards season total and add a tournament • 2 GAMES PLAYED – Teams will count the tournament and add 1 game to season limit. If Final game is played later, it must be counted on a season game and tournament limit.	If three or more games are played, count as tournament. If not reaching three games, early games could count on season game and tournament limit. • 1 GAME PLAYED – Teams will count game towards season total and add a tournament • 2 GAMES PLAYED – Teams will count the tournament and add 1 game to season limit.	Maximum: 6
Contests per Day:	Three games	No Limit	Three games
Length of Matches:	Regulation	4-inning in pools, extra inning for ties only (Regulation after advancing from pool.)	Regulation
Count per UIL Season Limitation:	One of the allowed tournaments	One of the allowed tournaments	One of the allowed tournaments
Place Standing in Tournament:	N/A	Determined by win-loss record during which each team in pool plays each other	Win-loss record
Effects on Win-Loss Record:	Count all regulation matches	Only count regulation games in single elimination bracket. (Pool games do not count on season record if they are only 4 innings).	Count all regulation games
Round Robin Ties:	N/A	N/A	Ties will be broken by sudden death as determined by director.

~POST SEASON~

Playoff Information

Certification of District Representatives. The last dates for certifying the district champions to the League office is **May 2, 2017**. It is mandatory that the District Chair certifies the district representatives on the UIL website at <https://www.uiltexas.org/machform/view.php?id=36> as soon as they are determined.

Pre-Planning.

- Details of all play-off games from bi-district to state shall be arranged by the two teams involved. This includes site selection. In case there is a dispute regarding a neutral or home site or time of a game, it shall be settled by the flip of a coin (Note: Unless mutually agreed, all games shall be played at a midpoint site for schools located more than 100 miles apart.)
- Bi-district games may not be played until after the final date for district certification in that respective conference, unless permission is granted by all possible next round opponents. All other playoff games may not be played until after the final date for completion of the prior round championships.
- Play-off games may not be played until after the final date for completion of the prior round championships, exception bi-district.

UIL Playoff Reporting – Teams Advancing.

- Coaches are required to submit playoff results immediately following their contest. The winning school should submit playoff game results and next round information via MaxPreps through the assigned coach/admin account. The score reported by a coach on a team's page will automatically fill in the bracket.
- The completeness of the data presented on the UIL Texas Scoreboard will be dependent upon the participation of schools and coaches. For more information, please see www.uiltexas.org/athletics/uil-maxpreps.

Team Information & Pictures. Teams winning the regional quarterfinal game must submit the following materials to the UIL no later than **Wednesday, May 24th, 2017**:

- Team Information Form (list of players, coaches, etc.; and list of all games played) – fill out online on the UIL website at <https://www.uiltexas.org/baseball/forms>
- Team Picture – 1MB, color, email to pictures@uiltexas.org
- Picture of Head Coach (head and shoulder shot) – 1 MB, email to pictures@uiltexas.org
- School's Mascot (camera ready art work if possible, if not a copy of the mascot from your letterhead, etc.) – 1MB email to pictures@uiltexas.org

Failure to submit this information could result in a range of penalties as described in Section 27 (b) of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules or your team not appearing in the State Tournament program.

Contracts. All playoff arrangements between two schools should be made in writing and signed to protect both parties.

Sites. Sites for all rounds of playoffs prior to the regional tournament are to be selected by the teams involved. See Section 1208 (q) of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules. If schools cannot agree, they must flip a coin.

- **Neutral Sites:** A site mid-point or near mid-point, or a site agreed on by both schools as neutral, is a neutral site. Unless mutually agreeable, a site cannot be neutral if its distance from either school is more than two-thirds the total distance between the two schools.
- **Home and Home Basis:** Are those sites near home schools selected by the two schools involved OR the actual home playing court. A court selected as the home site, other than the actual home court, should not be an unreasonable distance from the visiting school's home court.
- **Mid-Point Sites:** Unless mutually agreed otherwise, post-district contests in the team sports of baseball, basketball, soccer, softball and volleyball shall be at a mid-point site for schools located more than 100 miles apart.

Post-Season Warm-up Games. Teams can schedule a warm-up game after district certification and before their first playoff game if they have not reached their allowable season limit. This game can be scheduled like any other regular season match. Teams that have exhausted their allowable season limit are given a UIL one game exception under the following conditions:

- The one-game exception only applies if you have a first round bye.
- The one-game exception can be played only at the end of your school day on Friday, last day of instruction (**with no loss of school time**) or anytime on Saturday.

Playoff Game Regulations

Suspended Games in Playoffs.

- National Federation Baseball Rule 4, Section 3, Article 1, Note 2: In playoff games past the district level, any suspended game shall be continued from the point of suspension at a later time.

Ten-Run Rule. The ten-run rule will be in effect for all playoff games. After five (5) innings of play, if one team is ten (10) or more runs ahead of its opponent, the game shall be over. (Or if 4 ½ innings have been completed and the home team is ten or more runs ahead.)

Single elimination or two-out-of-three series.

- Play-off games may be single elimination or two-out-of-three from bi-district to state. If neither method is mutually agreeable, a coin flip shall determine play-off format.
- If a schools play a two-out-of-three elimination series, the first (and only the first) game may be played prior to Friday. Please refer to the C&CR, Section 1220 (h) for rules regarding two-out-of-three game series.
- Schools playing a two-out-of-three series should set parameters for the series prior to the first game. The parameters should include, but not limited to the following areas: how the schools will handle weather problems and delays, how far schools will travel to find an available field, giving up home field advantage and securing officials must be discussed before one team gains a position of advantage after the first game is completed and the weather is a factor.
- A two-out-of-three series that does not get a complete game in by the end of the day Friday automatically reverts to a one game series.
- If one game is played and a second game cannot be played on Saturday because of weather, then the winner of the game advances to the next round.
- If two games are played (and split) and the third game cannot be played on Saturday because of weather conditions, then the third and deciding game should be played on Monday of the next week.

Rain (bad weather policy).

- Every effort must be made by both teams to determine the winner before the certification deadline. This includes obtaining neutral sites and securing any available field. This could mean giving up a home field advantage if another field is playable.
- If weather conditions make it impossible to determine a winner before certification, UIL must be contacted for an extension. The next round opponent(s) must also be contacted to inform them that the deadline will be extended.
- Extreme scheduling difficulties such as those mentioned above could result in a coin flip which would determine the representatives to the next round.
- A playoff game suspended/delayed by rain shall be restarted from the point of suspension as soon as possible as outlined in rule 4-3-1-2 of the National Federation Baseball Rules.

Police protection. Adequate police protection should be provided for all playoff games, whether the game is played at a neutral site or on the home court of one of the teams.

Officials. In all conferences at all playoff levels, except regional tournaments and state tournaments, officials are to be obtained by the two schools involved. If neutral officials are requested through UIL, the **home team** must make the request. Schools must go to the UIL website to request officials online at <https://www.uiltexas.org/form/officials-request/baseball.php>.

Certification of Regional Champion. The last dates for certifying the regional champions to the UIL office is **June 3, 2017**. A representative from each winning team should text the scores of their games to Brian Polk at (903) 821-4242 immediately after their regional final.

State Tournament

Schools Eligible to Compete. Only the teams qualifying through the regional tournament are eligible to compete in the state tournament.

Sites. UFCU Disch-Falk Field, University of Texas at Austin and Dell Diamond, Round Rock.

Certification. Please contact Brian Polk (cell: (903) 821-4242) immediately after the regional tournament to let him know that your team has qualified for state.

Pairings for the Tournament. *The UIL staff will be calling or emailing coaches on Sunday morning with pairings and tournament information. Be sure and fill out the team information form on the UIL website. The coach's home and/or cell number from the team information form will be used to contact the coach.* Pairings will not be released until 9:00 a.m. on Sunday. This information will be posted on the UIL website via a press release as well. Teams will be placed in the bracket according to their win/loss record. The two best records will be placed in opposite halves of the bracket and the third best record will be placed up or down as determined by a coin flip.

No Workouts. There will be no workouts permitted at the state baseball tournament fields prior to the tournament.

Tickets and Programs. Teams will be provided passes for each person included on the team information form. These passes are to be used by team members, coaches and managers only. Please remind all your supporters everyone must pay to enter. Schools will also be provided two programs. If more programs are needed they may be purchased from tournament program sellers.

Cheerleaders in uniform will be allowed in with free admission. The sponsor must buy a ticket.

Supervision of Students. Each school is responsible for their students and behavior exhibited during all contests.

Coaches' Meeting. All information concerning the state tournament will be sent to winning coaches via email Sunday morning. Medal and awards forms should be given to UIL staff prior to the state tournament. There will not be a coaches' meeting at the state tournament.

Lodging Instructions. The UIL will block fifteen (15) rooms per school. A UIL Staff member will contact you with additional details and hotel assignments on Sunday prior to the tournament. Schools should contact the UIL assigned hotel by 10 am on Monday prior to the tournament to avoid loss of rooms.

The League cannot guarantee rooms for cheerleaders, administrators, fans, etc. Please bring your tax-exempt number to avoid paying tax. Please settle your lodging before checking out. Coaches are responsible for the proper conduct of their players at the hotels.

Filming. The UIL will contract with a video production company and schools will receive a free videotape of games. Extra copies may be purchased. No schools and/or individuals will be allowed to film and/or videotape. Still cameras will be permitted.

Team Pictures. Team pictures will be taken prior to the semifinal games. Players' numbers should correspond with the program roster. If there are errors, please contact the tournament director before the pictures are taken. Order forms will be given to coaches for ordering team pictures.

Awards. Teams in the tournament will be asked to participate in the presentation of trophies and medals. Medals are given to each team. Extra medals may be ordered at the tournament by filling out the form in the coaches' packet.

Officials. The UIL staff will select the referees for the state tournament.

State Equipment. The official game ball for the State Baseball Tournament will be the Baden 3B-PPRO.

Rebate to State Tournament. All funds collected from admissions at the state tournament in excess of the amount necessary to defray the incidental expenses of the meet shall be prorated up to 100 percent to the contesting teams on the basis of mileage, both ways.

Radio Broadcasting and Telecasting. The UIL media department will be in charge of broadcasting and telecasting rights for the state tournament games and may be contacted at 512-471-5883.

Courtesy Runners.

- At any time, the team at bat may use courtesy runners for the pitcher and/or the catcher.
- The same individual runner may not be used for both positions (pitcher and catcher) during the same game.
- Neither the pitcher nor the catcher will be required to leave the game under such circumstances.
- Players who have participated in the game in any other capacity are ineligible to serve as courtesy runners.
- A player may not run as a courtesy runner for the pitcher or the catcher and then be used as a substitute for another player in that half-inning. If an injury, illness or ejection occurs and no other runners are available, the courtesy runner may be used as a substitute.
- The umpire-in-chief shall record and announce to the scorer courtesy runner participation.
- A player who violates the courtesy runner rule is considered to be an illegal substitute.

Ten-Run Rule. In the State Tournament, the ten-run rule will be in effect. After five (5) innings of play, if one team is ten (10) or more runs ahead of its opponent, the game shall be over. (Or if 4 1/2 innings have been completed and the home team is ten or more runs ahead.)

Pitching Limitation. A pitcher may pitch one game each day in an unlimited number of innings. If he pitches in more than one game during a day, he will be limited to a total of ten innings each day. It is strongly recommended that a player who has pitched a full game the previous day not be used as a pitcher the following day.

2017 UIL Baseball State Tournament Schedule. The schedule will be posted on the UIL website at <http://www.uiltexas.org/baseball/state> once finalized.

~OFF-SEASON REGULATIONS~

Off-Season Regulations

Team Practice. School teams shall be prohibited from practicing team skills before or after school except during the specified practice dates and during the one allowable period during the school day.

Off-Season Participation. Varsity or non-varsity athletes shall not be required to participate in an off-season program on the day of an in-season competition.

Participation Requirement. Students shall not be required to participate in one school sport as a prerequisite for participation in another school sport.

Policies. Written school policies for use of facilities during the off-season, outside the school day, and during the summer months should be approved by the school administration and dispersed to all staff and students.

Off-Season Period Limits. Off-season activities are limited to one regular classroom period (max. 60 minutes) per day within which all suiting out, related activity, and redressing must occur. (See Side-by-Side Manual for block schedules, etc.)

Power and/or Weight Lifting. Off-season athletes whose schools have an athletic period during the school day may not participate on power lifting teams unless weight training is provided for off-season athletes during the in-school-day athletic period. It would also make it a violation for power lifting teams to be limited to athletes or to be required as part of an athlete's off-season program.

- A number of member schools have power lifting or weight lifting clubs. These clubs are involved in weight lifting tournaments or contests throughout the academic year. These guidelines are intended to control a problem that now exists as opposed to encouraging or requiring year-round workouts. It is the intent to insure that the use of summer weight rooms is a strictly voluntary activity on the part of any athlete.
 - Schools may open weight-training facilities for general student body use. Schools may NOT open weight-training facilities for members of athletic teams only.
 - Supervision of the facility by faculty members is permitted for safety and security purposes. Supervisors may NOT provide specific sport team skills instruction for members of school athletic teams.
 - A schedule of when the weight training facility will be open should be publicized. Schools may NOT set a schedule for members of athletic teams to appear at the facility at a particular time or have a sign-in sheet or check-in list for athletes.
 - It is permissible to have a supervisor of the facility provide instruction for proper lifting, spotting, care of and placement of weight apparatuses. The supervisor of a facility may NOT require athletes to lift specified amounts of weight or require that they complete prescribed sets.
 - Schools may hire a coach or another faculty member to supervise the facility as outlined in #2. This hiring or appointment must be approved by the superintendent or his/her designee. Schools may have more than one school employee in a supervisory capacity at any one time.
 - Schools may provide a general weight schedule for students, but may NOT provide athletes' individual workout schedules which require activities to be at specified hours, specify a number of workouts, or designate specified groups of students to be involved at a certain time.
 - Weight training schedules provided to students may be sequential. Schedules may NOT be provided that include calendar designations requiring specific days for certain sequential activities such as July 1 upper body, July 2 lower body, etc.
 - Students may keep progress charts but shall NOT be required to turn them in to coaches.
 - If there is a report of a violation, the burden of proof to the contrary rests with the school or school employee.
 - If a large majority of a team is working out together, it could be considered strong evidence that it is a team workout and a possible violation.
 - All weight training facility use and policies must be approved by the superintendent or his/her designee.

Off-Season Open Facilities

Schools may make available to the general student body any and all recreational facilities according to local school board policies. Coaches shall not require or coerce members of athletic teams to workout at these facilities at times other than specifically listed in their respective sport plans in the Constitution and Contest Rules. Below are clarifications of permissible activities. If a particular situation is not covered, please contact the UIL office.

- Facilities if open, must be open to members of the general student body. Facilities may not be reserved at specific times for members of athletic teams outside the school day.
- Equipment (excluding uniforms or wearing apparel) may be used by the general student body. This equipment may not be available exclusively to athletes or members of athletic teams.
- Supervision of facilities for safety and security may be provided by a faculty member or non-faculty member approved by school administrator or school board. Supervisors shall not provide skill instruction to members of school athletic teams.
- If the majority of a school team is using the facility at the same time, participating in any team skill activity, it indicates a violation has taken place even though a coach is not present. Students may train on their own, but a member of a team shall not be required to perform a prescribed set of skills on a weekly or daily basis. It is not necessary for a coach to be present in order for a workout to be judged as "organized."
- The presence of a coach or coaches at a facility where members of their team(s) are participating in activities usually is an indication that an activity is an organized workout.
- If there is a report of a possible violation, the burden of proof rests with the school or school employee.
- The dates and times of operation shall be announced, posted, or publicized so that every student attending that school is aware of the opportunity.
- Each activity is based on a first come, first served basis.
- School coaches are responsible for notifying student athletes in their sport that their off season and summer participation is on their own, not required or checked, and is in no way a prerequisite for making the team or getting more playing time.
- Coaches should not participate with their athletes in the athletes' sport. Such actions place the responsibility on the coach and school to prove they are not violating Sunday and off-season regulations.
- Varsity or non-varsity athletes may not be required to participate in an off-season program on the day of an in-season competition.
- Students may not be required to participate in one school sport as a prerequisite for participation in another sport.
- Required attendance in an off-season program is prohibited. Attendance sheets could be a strong indication that a violation has occurred.
- School teams shall be prohibited from practicing team skills before or after school except during the specified practice dates and during the one allowable period during the school day. During this period, all suiting out, related activity and re-dressing must occur.

Summer Strength and Conditioning Programs

School coaches may conduct strength and conditioning programs for students in grades 7-12 from their attendance zone for a total of six weeks under the following conditions:

Limitations. Sessions may be conducted from the first day of summer vacation until the second Monday in August. A session shall be no more than two consecutive hours per day, Monday through Thursday only, and a student shall attend no more than one session of supervised instruction per day for a total of six weeks.

Activities Allowed. The sessions shall include only strength and conditioning instruction and exercises. No specific sports skills shall be taught and no specific sports equipment, such as balls, dummies, sleds, contact equipment, etc., shall be used. School shorts, shirts and shoes may be provided by the school (local school option).

Attendance. Attendance in a maximum of one session per day shall be voluntary and not required in order to try out for or participate in any UIL activity. Attendance records shall be kept, however, students shall not be required or allowed to make up missed days or workouts.

Fees. Fees, if any, shall be established by the superintendent and collected by the school. Any payment to coaches shall be from the school and from no other source.

Important points to remember for coaches, athletes and parents are as follows:

- Strength and conditioning sessions may be held after the last official day of school until the second Monday in August.
- School coaches may conduct sessions only on Monday through Thursday of each week.
- Sessions conducted by coaches shall be no more than two consecutive hours per day.
- A student shall not attend more than one two-hour session (conducted by a school coach) per day.
- Sessions conducted by school coaches shall only include students who are incoming seventh graders or above from their attendance zone.
- Sessions shall include only strength and conditioning instruction and exercises.
- Sport specific skill instruction is prohibited.
- Sports specific equipment (balls, dummies, sleds, contact equipment) is prohibited.
- The school (local school option) may provide school shirts, shorts and shoes.
- Attendance shall be voluntary. Coaches shall not require athletes to attend in order to try out for or participate in any UIL sport.
- Attendance records shall be kept, however students shall not be required or allowed to make up missed days. Students may work out on their own without direction from the school coach.
- Fees, if any, shall be established and approved by the superintendent and collected by the school.
- Any payment for conducting strength and conditioning sessions to school coaches who instruct students from their attendance zone in grades 7-12 shall be from the school and no other source.
- Schools must take administrative care to prohibit an athlete from working with one school coach for two hours and a separate school coach for another two hours.

Non-School Activities

I. The Constitution and Contest Rules state:

Section 1209

- (a) **REQUIRED PARTICIPATION PROHIBITED.** Students shall not be required to play on a non-school team in any sport as a prerequisite to playing on a school team.
- (b) **OFF-SEASON SCHOOL FACILITY USE.** See Section 1206.
- (c) **BASEBALL, BASKETBALL, FOOTBALL, SOCCER, SOFTBALL AND VOLLEYBALL CAMPS WHERE SCHOOL PERSONNEL WORK WITH THEIR OWN STUDENTS.** After the last day of the school year in May, June, July and prior to the second Monday in August, on non-school days, all students other than students who will be in their second, third or fourth year of high school may attend one camp in each team sport, held within the boundaries of their school district, in which instruction is given in that team sport, and in which a 7th-12th grade coach from their school district attendance zone works with them, under the following conditions:
 - (1) **Number of Days.** Attendance at each type of sports camp is limited to no more than six consecutive days.
 - (2) **Prohibited Activities.** Students shall not attend football camps where contact activities are permitted.
 - (3) **Fees.** The superintendent or a designee shall approve the schedule of fees prior to the announcement or release of any information about the camp. The Texas Education Code requires school districts to adopt procedures for waiving fees charged for participation if a student is unable to pay the fee, and the procedures must be made known to the public. Fees for all other students shall be paid by the students and/or their parents.
 - (4) **School Equipment.** Schools may furnish, in accordance with local school district policies, school-owned equipment, with the following restrictions:
 - (A) Schools may not furnish any individual baseball, basketball, football, soccer, softball or volleyball player equipment, including uniforms, shoes, caps, gloves, etc., but may furnish balls and court equipment including nets, standards, goals, etc., for volleyball, basketball and soccer camps.
 - (B) For football camps, schools may furnish hand dummies, stand-up dummies, passing and kicking machines and footballs. Use of any other football equipment, including contact equipment, is prohibited.
 - (C) For baseball and softball camps, schools may furnish balls, bats, bases, pitching and batting machines, batting helmets and catcher protective equipment. Use of any other baseball and/or softball equipment is prohibited.
- (d) **BONA FIDE SUMMER CAMPS.** The provisions of the summer camp rules do not apply to bona fide summer

camps giving an overall activity program to the participants.

- (e) **CHANGE OF RESIDENCE FROM OUT OF STATE.** The provisions of the summer camp rules do not apply in the case of a person who attends an athletic training camp which is allowed under the rules of the state in which the student then lives, and then makes a bona fide change of residence to Texas, provided that there has been no deliberate attempt to circumvent the rule.
- (f) **OFF-SEASON PARTICIPATION IN NON-SCHOOL TEAM SPORTS.**
- (1) School coaches shall not coach 7-12 grade students from their own attendance zone on a non-school team or in a non school camp or clinic, with the exception of their own adopted or birth children.
 - (2) School equipment shall not be used for non-school teams/leagues.
- (g) **COACHING RESTRICTIONS.** For non-school competition, school coaches shall not schedule matched games for students in grades 7-12 from their attendance zone. School coaches may assist in organizing, selecting players and coaches, and may supervise school facilities for non-school league play. School coaches shall not coach or instruct 7-12 grade students from their school district attendance zone in the team sports of baseball, basketball, football, soccer, softball or volleyball. School coaches shall not supervise facilities for non-school activities on school time. See Section 1201.

Team Sports

Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Soccer, Baseball, Softball

In accordance to Section 1201, 1206 and 1209 regarding non-school competition (leagues, camps, clinics, clubs, tournaments, 7 on 7, lineman challenges) coaches:

The C&CR prohibits the following:

- Shall not instruct any student in 7th – 12th grade from his/her own attendance zone unless the student is his/her own biological or adopted child.
- Shall not schedule matched games/scrimmages, practices, or contests.
- Shall not transport students.
- Shall not use school athletic equipment, school uniforms and school health/first aid supplies.
- Shall not use school or booster funds for any expenses associated with the activity.
- Shall not be the primary director.
- Shall abstain from any practice which would bring financial gain to the coach by using a student's participation in a camp, clinic, league, or other non-school athletic event, such as a rebate for each player sent to a particular camp or from each player using a particular product (Section 1201 [b, 9]).
- Shall abstain from any practice that makes a student feel pressured to participate in non-school activities (Section 1201 [b, 10]).
- Should not participate with their athletes in the athlete's sport (Section 1206 [i]).

In accordance to Section 1209 regarding non-school competition (leagues, camps, clinics, clubs, tournaments, 7 on 7) coaches or a group of coaches:

The C&CR allows the following:

- Can supervise facilities.
- Can assist with organization to include, but not limited to: assignment of officials, helping to secure facilities, development of schedules, scheduling of facilities, assisting with registration process, helping to secure equipment.
- Can assist the primary coordinator or point of contact with the selection of coaches, but cannot assign coaches to teams.
- Can assist the primary coordinator or point of contact with the selection of players, but cannot determine who can play on what teams.
- Can distribute information regarding the details of the non-school event for informational purposes. Distribution of such materials should be in accordance to the policies and procedures of the local school district regarding non-school activities.
- Can collect registration fees for coordination purposes only. No checks may be made payable to the school or the coach and no funds shall be deposited in any school or coaches account.

~QUICK LINKS~

Below are links to help you find information pertaining to UIL Rules and Regulations.

Constitution and Contest Rules (C&CR). The UIL Constitution and Contest Rules are the official rules that govern all UIL-sponsored activities and also define the direction, function and purpose of the League.

- [Constitution & Contest Rules](#)

TEA-UIL Side-by-Side. The UIL publishes this document to provide member schools notice of the Texas Education Agency, which relate to UIL and all other extracurricular activities sponsored or sanctioned by the school district.

- [Download the 2015-2016 TEA-UIL Side-by-Side](#)

Booster Club Guidelines. This document provides guidelines, which govern all booster club activities related to UIL-sponsored competition. Since the UIL regulates and governs what participants, sponsors, and coaches may and may not accept, it is very important booster club members and parents are aware of these guidelines.

- [Download the UIL Booster Club Guidelines](#)

Baseball Plan – Section 1280 of the C&CR

- [Baseball Plan](#)

Employment of Coaches – Section 1202 of the C&CR

- [Sections 1200 - 1203](#)
- [Required Training](#)

Athletic Eligibility – Section 1205 the C&CR

- [Sections 1205 - 1206](#)
- [Eligibility Standards for UIL Contests](#)

School Practice and Game Restrictions – Section 1206 of the C&CR

- [Sections 1205 - 1206](#)
- [Summer Strength and Conditioning Program Regulations](#)
- [Off Season and Non-School Participation Regulations](#)
- [Preseason Practice Regulations Activities Outside the School Year \(updated\)](#)

Rules Violations and Penalties – Section 1207 of the C&CR

- [Sections 1207 - 1210](#)

Athletic Regulations – Section 1208 of the C&CR

- [Sections 1207 - 1210](#)



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