

**Proposed Amendment to the  
University Interscholastic League Constitution and Contest Rules**

**A. Brief Explanation of Proposed Amendment**

This amendment establishes pitch count limitations as required by the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) baseball rules.

**B. Factual and Policy Justifications**

NFHS has mandated a requirement for all states who participate under the NFHS baseball rule structure to implement a requirement for a pitch count restriction effective for the 2016-17 school year.

**C. Proposed Amendment**

The UIL Baseball Manual would be amended as follows:

**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.~~

HIGH SCHOOL PITCHERS WILL BE LIMITED TO NO MORE THAN 110 PITCHES PER DAY. JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL PITCHERS WILL BE LIMITED TO NO MORE THAN 85 PITCHES PER DAY. REQUIRED REST DAYS BETWEEN PARTICIPATION AS A PITCHER ARE AS OUTLINED IN THE CHARTS BELOW.

**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

During regular season, pitch count total 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: Pitcher throws 95 or 97 pitches (this is based on pitch count limit selected) on Friday morning of tournament. 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 game 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 second appearance, 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 getting the signed 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 scorebook/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.

### ***D. Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools***

This proposal has no fiscal impact.

### ***E. Legislative Council Consideration; Effective Date***

If approved by the Legislative Council and the Commissioner of Education, this amendment shall be effective for implementation immediately.