

**Coaches and Athletic Directors:**

**Very Important information:** Please take time and review the scores you have entered into the Member School Link on the IHSAA web site. As we start seeding the district tournaments in the coming weeks (Class 1A and 2A next week, Class 3A and 4A the week of July 1), it is imperative the information entered into the IHSAA Member School Link is correct. **There are a number of postponed and cancelled games listed on the weekly score list. If you have found a make-up date for a postponed game, please change the date of the originally scheduled game. If any games on your schedule are not going to be played, please delete the game from your schedule.**

An issue that we have come across is schools entering the score of a suspended game. **Please delete the scores from these suspended games.** The notations in the "Extra" box are fine such as Suspended in the 4<sup>th</sup> or Lightning, game to resume July 1. The database system does not recognize these as suspended games but rather full, 5/7 inning completed games. For the seeding process to go smoothly, we need these items to be addressed and cleaned up. Questions should be addressed to Jared or Bud@ 515-432-2011

**Ejections:** To date we have had 6 Coaches ejected and 18 players ejected (10 for malicious contact).

**Umpires and Coaches:** Umpires, we want you to remember, you can always restrict a coach to the dugout, before it goes too far and an ejection takes place. Coach, please understand if you are restricted to the dugout, you lose your opportunity to coach the bases or go to the mound for a conference or a pitching change. You can send an assistant out to the mound, if no assistant, the player would need to come to you in front of the dugout after being granted time. A restricted head coach, or assigned head coach, may leave the dugout for an injured or ill player. **Coach, please understand an umpire is not required to restrict a coach to the dugout before an ejection takes place.** Both parties in the best interest of the game, the players and yourselves, need to maintain your composure and work together, that will more times than not produce the best atmosphere for everyone involved.

If the restriction occurs in the first of two games that day, the restricted coach would be able to coach the bases the second game. A coach restriction to the dugout applies to that game only.

**Coaches:** I think for the sake of the game and your players 9-12, all baseball coaching staff members (9-12) need to take some time and visit with their players about the importance of good sportsmanship and their expectations as a coach. We definitely don't want our Board of Control to have to step in and enforce stricter regulations on ejections.

**Rule Book Page 13 Art. 4 Catchers Helmet:** A catcher's helmet or helmet and mask combination shall have full ear protection (dual ear flaps) NOCSAE approved. Otherwise it can be a NOCSAE approved hockey style mask/helmet (one piece unit). Coaches, please make sure your catcher is wearing proper equipment.

**Casebook Play 6.2.4 Situation B; Pitcher Throwing to an Unoccupied Base:** With R1 on third and R2 on first, F1 stretches and comes set. He then swings his entire non-pivot foot behind the back edge of the pitcher's plate, steps toward second and (a) throws the ball to second in an attempt to retire R2, who is advancing there or (b) feints throw to second to drive R2 back to first, who has neither attempted nor feinted an advance to second. **RULING:** In (a) this is legal. In (b), it is a balk.

**Coaches and Umpires:** With all the points of emphasis on keeping a flow to the game by the National Federation we want to emphasize that when an out is recorded with no runners on base it is fine to "throw the ball around the horn", but when doing so, we need all infielders to stay in their respective position and not have the first or third baseman go to the pitcher's mound following the infielders throwing the ball around. We should not delay the game by waiting for the third or first baseman to catch the ball in the grass area and eventually end up near the pitcher and then have to wait for either position player to return before continuing play. **Coaches please have your fielders stay in the vicinity of their position (dirt area with grass infields), and umpires please work with these players and emphasize this. We have a great game, this is just another opportunity to help move the game along.**

Best in Baseball,

Roger Barr