



2025-2026 SEASON BASEBALL RULES CLARIFICATIONS

This document is intended to provide both coaches and umpires with the most up-to-date information on a variety of topics. This is not meant to cover all questions or concerns that the MHSAA baseball community might have, but it should clear up several topics for the start of the season. As always, please feel free to contact me anytime (best by email – brad@mhsaa.com) for any further questions or concerns.

BASEBALLS

A NOCSAE certification is required to be stamped on all baseballs used in MHSAA games. This stamp certifies that the ball has met certain safety standards and must be on the baseball used for competitions. The Rawlings approved baseball must be used for all state tournament games. Host sites are provided with baseballs by Rawlings for the state tournament.

LINEUPS AND WEATHER

If the game is suspended (postponed) after lineups have been exchanged at the plate meeting, but before a pitch is thrown, teams may use a new lineup when the game is ultimately started without any substitutions. Once a pitch has been thrown, the lineups are locked into place. For state tournament games, the results of the coin toss conducted remain in place.

DOUBLE FIRST BASE

The use of a double first base will become a rule in the 2027 season. The use of a double first base is NOT allowed in the 2026 season. As the season goes on look for more information related to the implementation of this rule. The purpose of the rule is risk minimization related to plays at first base and possible collisions.

UNIFORMS

Starting in 2027 a school's uniform shall include the school's name, nickname, logo, or mascot, and/or a player's name. This rule matches the same rule used in other sports. Please keep this in mind when ordering new uniforms.

PLAYER TO PLAYER DEFENSIVE MEETINGS

A defensive player to player meeting includes two or more players. Each team, on defense, may be granted not more than one player to player meeting during an inning.