

2025 SIJHSAA SOFTBALL ACTIVITY UPDATE

NFHS Rule Changes

1-8-6: Exception & Penalty: A high school / jr. high coach is now able to use electronic devices in the dugout for one-way communication to the catcher while the team is on defense. The penalty from Rule 3-6-11 was added to Rule 1-8-6 as well, with violators subjected to ejection unless the offense is ruled to be a minor nature.

3-6-11: This rule change specifies that coaches are prohibited from using devices to communicate with any other team member while on defense or any team member while on offense and the coach cannot use the device outside of the dugout/bench area.

9-3-2b: When a baserunner who is declared out for being hit by a fair batted ball, the batter-runner is credited with a fielder's choice in the scorebook.

NFHS Uniform Change for Uniforms in 2027

3-2-3: Uniforms may only bear a single manufacturer's logo, school name, school logo, mascot and/or the participant's name. Advertisements, messages, team slogans, etc. will no longer be permitted.

SIJHSAA State Tournament Site Changes for 2025

Class L & S Softball & Baseball: Oasis Sports Complex, Marion, IL

Class M Softball & Baseball: Perry County Fairgrounds, Pinckneyville, IL

Run Rules

15-run after 3 innings

12-run after 4 innings

10-run after 5 innings

SIJHSAA Recommendations, but not required

***Time Limits:** No inning should start after 2 hours

***International Tie-Breaker:** May be instituted starting the top of the 8th inning.

****Time Limits and International Tie-Breaker will not be used in the SIJHSAA Softball State Series.**

Commonly Asked Questions

Q1 – Can a softball player on my junior high team also play on a travel team at the same time?

A – This is a local school decision. Coaches, students, and families need to check with the school administration regarding the school's policy on participation on a school team and a non-school team at the same time.

Q2 – Can a softball player wear jewelry?

A – Yes – umpires still have the authority to rule on anything they deem dangerous.

Q3 – Do schools have to use a time limit or international tiebreaker softball games?

A – Competing schools may use either as long as both schools are in agreement previous to the start of the contest.

Official Rawlings Softballs for State Series Play

Model Number: RSIJHSAASB (No NFHS Logo Required)

Regional Officials Pay

Regional officials are each paid \$70 per game. The cost of which is split by the schools participating in the given contest(s).

Sportsmanship

A player ejected from a contest must serve a 2-game suspension and complete the NFHS Sportsmanship Course. A player ejected a second time during the school year must serve a 4-game suspension.

A coach ejected from a contest must serve a 2-game suspension and complete the NFHS Sportsmanship Course. A coach ejected a second time during the school year must serve a 4-game suspension.

A fan ejected from a contest must serve a 3-game suspension and complete the NFHS Sportsmanship Course. A fan ejected a second time during the school year will be banned from attending any further SIJHSAA Contests.

***Note all player/coach/fan ejection consequences must be met, documented and confirmed by the SIJHSAA previous to eligibility and or attendance is reinstated.**

****Additional penalties may be assessed by the school and/or the SIJHSAA.**