

NEW JERSEY STATE INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

1161 Route 130 North, P.O. Box 487, Robbinsville, NJ 08691

Phone 609-259-2776 ~ Fax 609-259-3047

TO: Baseball Coaches, Athletic Directors and Umpires
FROM: Tony Maselli, Assistant Director
DATE: January 2020
RE: NJSIAA Adopted Baseball Policies

NJSIAA RULES INTERPRETER

Craig Yetman

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Lineup Cards

Based on the recommendation of coaches at the 2015 baseball committee meeting, the lineup card will revert back to pre-2013 regulations.

It is recommended that the lineup card presented to the umpire be in a 5" X 7" card stock form meeting all requirements of Rule 1-1-2.

The designated hitter (DH) shall be listed immediately above the player he is batting for and in the proper batting position on the lineup card.

	Starter	Number	Position	Substitute	Substitute	Substitute
1	Adams	17	SS			
2	Coleman	45	P	Fox #18	Coleman #45	
3	Fitzsimmons	8	2B			
4	Carter	43	LF			
5	Santos	19	CF			
6	Johnson	6	DH			
	Baker	27	1B			
7	Sadowski	29	RF			
8	Martin	41	C			
9	DeMarini	38	3B			

The recommended format above allows for tracking the re-entry rule. Other lineup card forms are appropriate for levels of play without re-entry.

Umpires shall not talk to Media or post on Social Media comments on rulings.

After officiating a high school baseball game, any questions from the media are to be referred to Tony Maselli, NJSIAA Assistant Director. Game officials shall respond, "NO Comment", when asked a question about a ruling or play.

Officials shall refrain from commenting or offering a ruling on a play situation in a game that they were not involved in. This includes posting comments on social media sites as well.

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Adult Coaches must wear a Helmet in the Coach's Box

Any adult coaching in the first or third base coach's box shall wear a helmet. The helmet may be:

- Tradition hard shell with a visor and no ear flaps.
- Single ear flap.
- Double ear flap.

No plastic hat liners or inserts may be worn within a cloth hat to meet this requirement.

All baseball officials are required to enforce this policy and shall not start ANY inning until ALL coaches on the field are in compliance with this NJSIAA safety policy

The NJSIAA is highly recommending that all Middle Schools adopt this safety policy for coaches.

Chrome Helmets

Batting helmets that have mirror like finish are prohibited by rule. Officials shall not allow any chrome or colored helmets with a mirror like finish to be used in NJSIAA baseball games.

Sunglasses

Any sunglasses are permissible as long as in the judgement of the umpire there is no potential danger to the player or creates a safety issue for another player. (complaint driven, example: sun glare is creating an issue for the opponent). High School baseball is an extra-curricular activity and an extension of the classroom. There is no allowance for styling that may be appropriate for other levels of the game. Sunglasses are to be worn as designed by players, coaches and umpires. They are not be worn on the bill of the cap or dangled below the face. If observed, the violator shall be directed to wear the sunglasses appropriately. Failure to comply shall be reported to the Head Coach for corrective action. Umpires choosing to wear sunglasses shall select a conservative style and not draw attention.

Eye Black

Only one Straight Line or Strip of Eye Black is permitted under each eye. If the strip has the maker's name displayed when applied, it is legal.

High School baseball is an extension of the classroom and a valuable learning experience in good sportsmanship. Wearing eye black in "War Paint" style is a form of intimidation and not to be allowed.

If observed during a game, the official:

- Shall stop the contest and inform the Head Coach of the violation.
- Player shall immediately remove the eye black and wear appropriately. There is no penalty if the violation can be addressed without undue delay.
- If removal causes an undue delay, the Head Coach shall announce a substitute and the game resumes. If a starter, player retains re-entry eligibility. If a substitute, he no longer is eligible to re-enter the game.

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Faceguard/Head Protection

Defensive players are permitted to wear face/head protection in the field. If a pitcher or any defensive player wears face/head protection, its outer covering shall have a non-glare (not Mirror-like) surface.

Bench / Dugout Area

The primary responsibility of officials, athletic directors and coaches is safety of participants. This includes adult coaches as well as student-athletes.

NFHS rules require players and coaches to be within the confines of the bench/dugout area while the ball is live. It is recommended that the bench/dugout area be protected by a fence. No one shall be permitted to stand in the open area that serves as an entrance to the bench/dugout area.

If the bench/dugout area is not protected by a fence, coaches may utilize a temporary protective device, i.e., a batting practice screen, to sit behind. The bench/dugout area may only be extended away from home plate; not toward home plate.

Coaches may not create a dead ball area and sit in front of the bench/dugout area's protective fence even if protected by the backstop fencing.

Full compliance is expected from all umpires. If a coach gives you an argument about this policy, tell him you are following NJSIAA policy.

NJSIAA will monitor enforcement of this policy. If observed and reported to the Chapter:

- The chapter shall issue a written warning to officials involved on a first offense.
- On a second offense, the Chapter Secretary shall forward a written report to the NJSIAA detailing both offenses and develop a corrective action plan that at a minimum contains an educational component for all chapter officials.
- A third offense shall mandate the baseball assigning committee consider this in assigning State Tournament games.