



# Tournament Rules, COVID-19 Guidelines, and Park Policies

July 26, 2020

# TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

## ADMISSION

There will be no charge for admission into any of the regional or playoff venues.

## PARKING

There will be no charge for parking cars at any of the regional or playoff venues. Some of the regional sites will require street parking. We ask that all participants, spectators, and staff are adhering to normal street parking regulations.

## CONTACTS

Dan Villanti, Tournament Director: 610-390-0137

Frank DeAngelo, Tournament Umpire Assignor: 610.737.4178

Field Directors and their contact information will be provided to the coaches relevant to each pool.

## FIELDS

The Event will use nine total field locations. The fields locations are as follows:

Bryfogle Park  
4582 Aspen Drive  
Walnutport, PA 18088

Fairview Park  
3501 Fairview Ave  
Palmer, PA 18045

Silver Creek Association  
2943 PA-212  
Hellertown, PA 18055

Coca Cola Park  
1050 Ironpigs Way  
Allentown, PA 18109

Limeport Stadium  
1488 Limeport Pike  
Coopersburg, PA 18036

Notre Dame High School  
3417 Church Road  
Easton, PA 18045

Freemansburg Baseball Field  
540 Chestnut Street  
Freemansburg, PA 18017

Nazareth Borough Park  
475 N Broad Street  
Nazareth, PA 18064

Sammy Balliet Stadium  
131 N 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Coplay, PA 18037

## **INSURANCE**

Insurance for all field sites, players, umpires, directors, and spectators will be covered under the tournament's insurance policy.

## **ROSTERS**

Rosters are limited to 20 players per roster unless a special request is made in advance of the tournament. Teams must reflect the school's High School roster from the 2020 Spring season. Future transfers, combining teams, or adding "guest" players is not allowed for this event.

## **UMPIRES**

Each field will have two umpires per game. Umpires will adhere to our COVID-19 rules and regulations. We will have four umpires in place for the championship game.

## **BASEBALLS AND EQUIPMENT**

Teams are responsible for providing baseballs during each game. We will ask each team to provide two new baseballs at the beginning of each game and replenish any lost balls throughout the game. Baseballs should be the standard Spalding High School game ball or Wilson A1010.

Field directors or township officials are not responsible for any lost, stolen, or unattended personal items or equipment. We ask that players, coaches, and fans keep personal items and equipment with them at all times in order to eliminate any issues that may arise in this manner.

## **BATTING CAGES/PRE-GAME**

There will be no use of batting cages before the games at any venue. There will also be no infield/outfield in between games. We will need to use the time between games to prepare the field.

## **UNIFORMS AND CLEATS**

Teams are not permitted to wear their High School jerseys during our tournament. This is a direct regulation from the PIAA. Teams are allowed to wear their team

hats as well as game pants. Teams are permitted to wear any color game pants they choose. Metal cleats are permitted at all fields.

## **FOUL BALLS**

All players, coaches, fans and parents should be aware of foul balls at all times. Since teams are supplying all baseballs for the event, we ask that teams aid in gathering foul balls.

## **FIRST AID**

There will be first aid kits on site for all of our tournament games. The local first aid squad for each regional site is on call in an event of injury. Each field director has been provided a list of emergency phone numbers in case of a serious injury.

## **CONCESSIONS AND BATHROOMS**

Concession stands will be open at the discretion of the host site. All proceeds from all concession sales will go directly to the host site. Bathrooms or Porta Potties will be available at all regional and playoff sites.

## **AWARDS**

A championship trophy will be presented to the winning team after the completion of the championship game at Coca Cola Park. The winning team will also choose an outstanding player to be named St. Luke's Most Valuable Player.

## **SUSPENSION**

Any player or coach that is ejected from a game will be subject to suspension upon review by the tournament director. If a team acts unruly or unsportsmanlike, our tournament director reserves the right to eject that team from the current tournament and possibly ban that team from future tournaments. (Umpires can text Dan with player's name and team)

**Sportsmanship:** In the interest of maintaining a quality event, the tournament director or field director reserves the right to eject any person from the site for unruly or unsportsmanlike behavior.

## **INCLEMENT WEATHER**

If there is inclement weather, we will use the judgement of the umpires and field directors to pursue the best course of action for each site. If games are cancelled, we will postpone them to the next day. Field sites may change if games are postponed.

## **GAME RULES**

### **NFHS BASEBALL**

The tournament director reserves the right to amend the following rules at any time for specific tournament play. National High School Federation Baseball Rules will be enforced with the following exceptions.

### **TIME LIMIT**

There will be a strict 2 hours and 15-minute time limit for each Pool Play game. No new inning will get started after the time limit expires. If the time limit expires, the full inning will be finished. There will be no time limit for playoff games. We will play all games in full.

Official time will be kept by the umpires. The time will start immediately after the conclusion of the pre-game meeting. Base umpire will be the official timer for each game.

If the home team is batting and is ahead as the time limit is reached, the game will end immediately (player at-bat can finish his at-bat). If there is a tie and the time limit is reached, the game will go directly to extra innings after the current inning is complete. Extra innings will be MLB rules, which will have each team start with a runner on second and no outs. The runner can be any player who is not in the current lineup or the last batted out.

### **HOME TEAM SELECTION – TOURNEY MACHINE APP**

For the event, we will be using the Tourney Machine app that can be accessed on any smart phone or web browser using the link:

<https://admin.tourneymachine.com/Public/Results/Tournament.aspx?IDTournament=h20200711004233791ecbb94b425604f>

For scheduling purposes, the AWAY team will be the first team listed on the schedule and the HOME team will be the second team listed on the schedule.

## **PITCHING RESTRICTIONS**

<b>Total Number of Pitches Thrown</b>	<b>Required Days Rest</b>
70-80	3 Calendar Days
51-69	2 Calendar Days
26-50	1 Calendar Day
1-25	No Rest Required

A pitcher reaching the maximum pitch count for any level of rest during an at bat may continue to pitch to that batter, or any substitute for that batter, until such batter is put out or reaches first base, or until a third out has been made prior to the end of that at bat. The pitcher will be credited with the maximum number of pitches for that level.

Pitchers who throw in the 1-25 limit are allowed to throw in a second game of a doubleheader, but must adhere to the 25 pitch limit in both games. If a pitcher goes above 25 pitches at any point in the first game, he would not be available to pitch later in the day.

No pitcher may appear on more than two consecutive days of competition. A pitcher is limited to no more than 175 pitches in a Calendar Week (Sunday through Saturday).

During Pool Play, pitch counts will be held by the individual teams. Our goal is to provide the safest environment both on a health standpoint as well as an injury standpoint. The above restrictions are more so limits, but we expect teams to consider the amount of time off and common sense.

Umpires are not responsible for pitch count or any interpretation of any pitch count rules.

## **STARTING THE GAME**

All games must be started with at least 8 players. If a team does not have at least 8 players at the start of the game, then the result is a forfeit. If a team starts with 8 players, then an automatic out will be called every time the 9th slot in the batting lineup comes up.

If and when a 9th player arrives at any time during the game, that player is to be inserted immediately into the lineup in the 9th spot and placed into the game (even if the team is on defense). Any other player(s) that arrive after the 9th player can only be used as a legal substitute.

The tournament director will determine if a start time can be delayed from its original time or a situation occurs regarding the number of players attending.  
NOTE: All teams should be prepared to start their game 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start time.

## **HITTING LINE UP**

In Pool Play, teams are allowed to bat as many players as they would like using both the DH and EH designations. It is the team's responsibility to verify the accuracy of the opposing team's lineup prior to the first pitch of the game. The Head coach must bring up any issues to the attention of the field director.

The DH can bat anywhere in the lineup and can hit for anyone. If the pitcher leaves the mound but stays in the game, then that player hits and the DH is eliminated for the remainder of the game. Any EH may bat anywhere in the lineup. The EH are considered defensive positions for substitution purposes.

There is free defensive substitution for all pool play games. If one of the players gets hurt while batting the entire lineup, that player's spot becomes skipped unless it moves the lineup to less than nine total. Any protests on the hitting lineup must be brought to the field director's attention at the time it occurs.

For the playoffs, teams must follow all PIAA baseball rules in regards to both the hitting lineup and defensive substitutions.

Lineups and changes will be held between coaches and scorekeepers. Since there is free defensive substitution in Pool Play, teams do not need to check in on anything besides batting lineup changes.

For fields with PA announcers, we do ask that you include the PA announcer for all lineup changes.

## **RE-ENTRY RULE**

If a team does not bat the entire lineup and substitutes are available, we use the standard NFHS re-entry rule.

Starters may be reentered once (including the DH and EH), as long as the player occupies their original position in the batting order.

If a pitcher is removed after throwing a pitch and goes to another defensive position, they may return as a pitcher after one batter or one out is recorded. If a team substitutes for the pitcher while on defense, that pitcher is no longer able to pitch in the game. If a team substitutes for the pitcher when on offense, but then re-enters the pitcher before going out on defense, that pitcher is still the 'pitcher of record' and can continue to pitch in the game.

## **COURTESY RUNNER**

Pitcher and catcher only. May be at any time. If you have substitutes they will be your courtesy runner. If you don't, then use the player who made the last batted out. If pitcher and catcher are on base at the same time, then the courtesy runners must be two separate players.

## **INTENTIONAL WALK**

In all games, coaches can call for an intentional walk and pitchers do not need to throw any pitches and they will not count against the pitcher's pitch count.

## **OFFICIAL GAME**

Any games called due to the weather by the umpires or the tournament director that cannot be resumed will be considered complete after 5 innings or 4 ½ innings

if the home team is ahead. If after 5 complete innings there is a tie score, then it will be suspended until it can be finished.

At times the tournament committee will suspend/cancel games due to weather. All suspended/cancelled games will be subject to the approval of the tournament committee.

NOTE: No special request will be honored if rescheduling becomes necessary.

## **SCORING**

We recommend that all teams (home and visitors) keep a scorebook. The Home team will be the official scorebook. We recommend coaches checking in each half inning to confirm score. It is the team's responsibility to check the score of the game.

## **DUGOUT RULE**

All players and coaches must be completely inside the dugout; however, ALL COVID-19 regulations supersede any regulations or guidelines in place from field venues. No players are permitted to sit on the concrete blocks or in front of a dugout fence in the field of play.

Coaches are responsible for their player's safety around the dugout area. Players must stay on their respected sides when on deck. No buckets or chairs are permitted on the turf.

## **JEWELRY**

No metal jewelry is permitted to be worn during the game. No stickers may be worn on any part of the hat. Non-metal necklaces and bracelets may be worn, but pitchers are not permitted to wear bracelets when pitching.

## **NOT COVERED IN THE RULES**

In the event any item is not covered in the playing rules, the tournament committee will make the fairest possible ruling and that ruling will be final!

## PLAYOFFS

The top two teams in each pool will advance to a 16-team single elimination bracket. Pool winners will advance to the playoffs and be seeded #1-#8 using the model below and seeds #9-#16 will be set as well based on the following tie breaking model of:

1. Overall record
2. Runs Against
3. Runs Scored
4. Coin Flip

## COVID-19 RECOMMENDATIONS AND GUIDELINES

### PREPARING TO ATTEND THE EVENT

All players, coaches, fans, vendors and officials should adhere to the guidelines from the CDC, state, and/or local authorities.

We will share current recommended guidelines, if any, to individual team representatives in advance of an event to share with players, coaches and families with updated state and local guidelines.

**All players, coaches, tournament staff, umpires and media members must fill out our Tournament COVID-19 Health Screening Form prior to playing on all days of games. The form can be accessed at the following link:**

<https://forms.gle/EjJea7UByN2Q8E7ZA>

Coaches are responsible to check with their players before they arrive at the field to make sure all players completed the Health Screening Form. If players do not fill out the form, they will be dismissed from the tournament immediately.

We will also have a link on our tournament homepage [www.lvrisingstars.com/tournament](http://www.lvrisingstars.com/tournament) and documents tab through the event's mobile app, which will provide any updated information. Any information pertaining to the event will also be sent directly to the team contacts to distribute to their players. Our Health Screening Form is also located on the web page for instant access.

Adults 65 years and older and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions are strongly encouraged not to attend any game during the event at this time.

**Do not come to any game in the event if you or any *household* member is not feeling well.**

**Do not come to any game in the event if you or any household member has been exposed to a person with COVID-19 within the past 14 days.**

**Do not attend any games in the event if you are not comfortable with measures being taken at a facility.**

We recommend players, coaches, fans, and officials bring personal hand sanitizer, chairs, and antibacterial wipes to events for personal use.

Field directors will place a 32 oz. bottle of Hand Sanitizer in each dugout prior to each game. We will follow the CDC guidelines and will use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60 percent alcohol (also referred to as ethanol or ethyl alcohol).

Masks **must** be worn by all players, spectators, team personnel, and tournament officials at all times when entering the facility and when social distancing regulations cannot be followed.

Players **must** wear a mask when they are in the dugout and not in the field of play. Players who are in the field of play, including the batter and on deck batter do not need to wear a mask.

Coaches will make certain that all player and team waiver forms are signed as well as making sure all players have filled out the event's Health Screening Form before play.

All coaches must attend our pre-event Coach's Zoom call that will go over all guidelines and recommendations regarding the event, while coaching their

respective teams. The Zoom call will be recorded for those who may not be able to attend.

All field directors must attend our pre-event Field Director's Zoom call that will cover all guidelines and recommendations regarding the event, while overseeing activity on each field site. The Zoom call will be recorded for those who may not be able to attend.

## **ENTRY INTO EVENTS**

Our event will partner with a number of community fields to host games. Guidelines may be different based on facility requirements and guidelines will be sent out to the teams at those host sites prior to the start of our event.

If a game is currently being played on the field, all spectators including families for the next game should remain in their cars until the game on the field is over and the team leaving the field has exited. Players are allowed to enter complex upon arrival.

Team that play a double-header, will stay in the same dugout for both games. The new team coming onto the field of play is not allowed in the dugout until all players and team personnel have exited and the field director provides a welcoming for the team to enter.

We will post all health and safety guidelines upon entry into venues that will be presentable upon arrival.

There will be no entry fee for any of our venues.

Items not allowed into facilities include team coolers (players must have individual drinks clearly labelled with their name), sunflower seeds, and chewing gum.

Players should not share the following items: helmets, bats, gloves, bags, catcher's gear, towels, uniforms, or food/drinks.

Everyone should follow the recommended social distancing guidelines.

## **DURING EVENTS**

Wash hands with soap and water as often as possible. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water not available.

Cover mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing.

Avoid touching mouth/nose. Avoid shaking hands or touching. Instead, we recommend foot shakes for players on the same team and a tip of the cap postgame to acknowledge a game well played.

We recommend teams to clean and sanitize dugouts and bleachers before and after their game slot.

Bring your own individual player/coach water as none will be provided in the dugouts. Use of drinking fountains is strictly prohibited.

Dog piling or celebrating a home run at home plate is prohibited. Umpires are to strictly enforce the bench conduct rule.

At fields with a PA system, our PA announcer will be reading our pregame statement regarding the COVID-19 guidelines and recommendations as well as inserting a reminder in between each inning.

## **GAME RULE ADJUSTMENTS**

Game time limits will be set to 2:15 to limit the interaction between games. This will allow for teams to leave the venues prior to another team coming in.

Please follow the state/local guidelines for number of people in the dugout at a time. Only players and coaches allowed in dugouts. Masks must be worn at all times when not on the field of play.

No contact allowed between players, including handshakes, high fives, hugs, chest bumps. Instead, we are promoting players to foot shake instead.

Base coaches should maintain 6-foot social distance from players at all times.

Teams are asked to clean all trash from dugout prior to leaving facility. If a dugout is not clean on arrival, please notify facility staff before entering.

Pitchers are allowed to bring moist cloths in their back pocket in lieu of touching their mouth.

## **UMPIRING**

Umpires will position themselves where they see fit.

Conversations between coach and umpire must maintain 6-foot distance.

Pregame coaches meeting will occur with all coaches and umpires wearing masks and standing six feet apart.

Umpires do not need lineup cards.