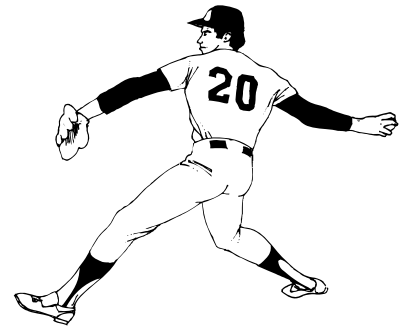




VIRGINIA HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE, INC.
1642 State Farm Blvd.
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22911-8609
www.vhsl.org



TO: District Baseball Tournament or Playoff Director or District Chairman
FROM: Tom Dolan, Assistant Director
RE: District Baseball Tournament Information
DATE: May 2009

- I. League regulations provide that each district shall determine a district baseball champion by the following deadline date for all Group Classification - May 23. The district championship may be determined by either a district tournament or regular season champion(s) may be designed as champion and the district representative(s) to the Regional Tournament. Each district is responsible for establishing a method of determining its champions and advising all district schools.

Included on this website is information for your district baseball tournament or playoff game if your district has designated this method for selecting its representative(s) to the Regional Tournament. Please see that competing teams receive the following information.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Site (tournament or playoff game) | 6. Entry Forms - http://www.vhsl.org/files/base-disregsta-entry.doc |
| 2. Date (include rain date) | 7. Admissions |
| 3. Game Time (include batting & infield schedule) | 8. Awards - set by district |
| 4. Pairings - designated home & visitors | 9. Expenses - set by district |
| 5. Home Team - usually sits on first base side | |

II. The following are VHSL regulations and policies which apply to district, regional and state baseball tournament or playoff games designated by districts to determine the champion.

Rules - National Federation Rules - Coaches in uniform may occupy **coaches' box** - local park "ground rules" will be observed.

- 56-5-1 Ending a Tournament Game**-If during a district, regional or state tournament game, darkness, rain or other cause interferes with play so that the game is called (ended) by the umpire, it is a regulation game if:
- (1) five full innings have been played or if the team second at bat has scored a greater number of runs in 4 or in 4 and a fraction terms at bat than the opponent has scored in 5 terms at bat; or
 - (2) play has gone beyond five full innings. However, if play has gone beyond five full innings and the game is called before both teams have had an equal number of completed terms at bat, the score shall be the same as it was at the end of the last completed inning; except that if the home team in its half of the uncompleted inning scores a run(s) which exceeds the opponent's score, the final score shall be as recorded when the game is called.
 - (3) The Ten-Run Rule required for regular season contests is optional by district adoption for district tournament games and is not in effect for region and state tournament games.

56-5-2 It is not a regulation game if the game is called before completion of the number of innings and conditions specified in (1) and (2) above, in which case the game shall be a suspended game and shall be continued from the point of interruption at the time, date and site designated by the tournament director. The lineup and batting order of each team shall be exactly the same as the lineup and batting order at the moment of suspension, subject to the rules governing the game.

- a. **"Speed-Up" Rules** - Please note that all sections of the speed-up rules on of the 2009 National Federation Baseball Rule Book are mandatory. **56-1-2 Speed-Up Rules**-The suggested speed-up rules as listed in the National Federation Baseball Rule Book shall be used in all VHSL baseball contests.
- b. **Re-entry Rule – NFHS Baseball Rule book (3-1-3)** - It should be noted that no agreement is necessary for the Re-entry Rule. This is not decided by the home team or the district. If either team wishes to use the provisions of 3-1-3 they are permitted to do so, regardless of what the other does.

- c. **VHSL Pitching Regulation** - VHSL Handbook, 56-1-1. Make sure pitchers mound is of proper height and specifications.

56-1-1 Pitching Regulations-A pitcher shall not pitch in more than ten (10) innings in any two consecutive calendar days. Pitching one ball or more in any one inning is considered as having pitched an inning. If a game is called due to weather or any other reason, innings pitched by any player in such game shall be counted. **Exception**-If a player is pitching in a district, region or state tournament game that is tied at the end of regulation play, he may finish such a tie game regardless of the number of innings, provided (1) he did not pitch the previous day or in the first game of a double header on the same day and (2) the tie game does not extend into a subsequent day.

56-2-1 Light Failure-Any regular season or tournament game terminated by artificial light failure shall be considered a suspended game and shall be continued from the point of suspension at a later time, unless the two teams involved mutually agree otherwise.

- d. **Umpires** - To be selected by the tournament director from the click here> <http://www.vhsl.org/files/base-officials-approved.pdf> List of Eligible Tournament Umpires. A minimum of three umpires is required for tournament play.
- e. **Rosters** - 25 is limit for entire participating team group players coaches managers, scorers, etc.) - No one else permitted on field or dugouts.
- g. **Equipment** - Each team is responsible for providing all necessary equipment including towels, practice balls, and catchers' protective equipment. Directors provide game balls.

IV. **IMPORTANT**

- (a) **District Directors** - Call/email/fax Tom Dolan tdolan@vhsl.org or Carolyn Shifflett cshifflett@vhsl.org at the VHSL Office - 434-977-8475 – Fax 434-977-5943 as soon as you have complete information on the regional tournament - by May 23 - pairings (include record if available), sites, dates and time.
- (b) **Report of Games** - Directors must call their local paper and the Associated Press (1-800-552-9935) or FAX - 804-643-6223 with the results of your tournament. AP is a toll free number.
- (c) **CHAMPION REPORT FORM** <http://www.vhsl.org/files/athletics-championreport-form.doc> for you to fill out and FAX/EMAIL the information requested to:
- A. **VHSL OFFICE** (434-977-5943) – FAX (434-977-5943) or cshifflett@vhsl.org or tdolan@vhsl.org
- B. **Associated Press FAX** (888-832-0338) or apcores@ap.org

Thank You!

TD/cs