

# 2021 MPA Baseball Committee Meeting



Dan Deshaies  
207.576.5835  
Ny31955@aol.com

## Rule Changes

2021

- Baseballs NOCSEA + NFHS
  - All levels of High School baseball must have the NOCSEA + NFHS stamped balls
- Catcher Chest protector NOCSEA
  - All chest protectors in 2020 must have the NOCSEA stamp
- Pitching Positions
  - Pivot foot + free foot
  - Ex. Rule NFHS; a pitcher working from the set must stop regardless if runners are on base or not
- The new DH rule
  - Any position player may also be listed as a DH
  - Ex: Deshaies RF/DH
    - This must be listed as so on the line-up card given to umpire in pre-game meeting
      1. Must be listed on P.U., line-up card, the official one.
      2. Only the original player/fielder/DH can be used in this position
      3. Once substituted for offensively the DH position is eliminated
      4. If substituted for defensively he may come back one time defensively

## Points of Emphasis

1. Ten run rule
2. Force play slide rule
3. Enforcement of NFHS jewelry rule
4. Compliance of players equipment
5. Restriction to dugout
  - a. Assistant coach restricted
  - b. Restriction requirements

## MPA Bulletin

1. Thunder/Lightening
2. Pitching rule
  - a. Pitches reverting back
3. Catcher's mask/throat protector
4. Post-game ejections
5. Varsity JV batting orders

## Other Situations

1. Taunting
2. Coaches umpire discussions on rules misinterpretations

## Warn/Restrict/Eject

## Travel

- umpires traveling alone
- MPA can't mandate this but AD can work with assignor

## Lineup cards

- coaches exchange ahead of time

## HP conference

- umpires, head coach, one captain
- no handshakes, mask worn, social distance
- take lineup cards and check, PU lineup card is official card
- ask: sportsmanship, legal equipment, trainer on site, and do you have person supplying legal NOCSEA baseballs to the PU?

Baseballs: must have NOCSEA and NFHS stamps on them

- supplied by the home team
  - home team gets balls to PU, replenish at end of each inning and after 3-4 foul balls
  - PU gets balls to pitcher

## Dugouts

- may be extended by rule book regulations

- no coaches outside dugout closer to hp
- if chairs are outside of extended dugout there must be a chalked line
- teams may extend dugout towards hp if personnel is protected by screen

## Mask

- Must be worn by all participants, including umpires
  - umpire mask must be medical mask or dark one solid color
  - pitchers mask may not be white or gray

## Coaches questions with umpires

- coaches may come to foul line to ask for:
  - 1.possible pulled foot situation, request may or may not be granted
  - 2.question of possible missed rule interpretation
- coaches may not come out to discuss a judgement call, by NFHS rule book

## Pitcher wet cloth in pocket

- pitchers may have a water based wet cloth in their back pocket to moisten their fingers but must wipe fingers off before touching the ball

- penalty: call time and award one ball to the batter for each offense, no warnings
- the cloth may not be white or gray if it shows in any way

### Disinfectant

- bats and helmets shared by players must be disinfected between uses
  - having a disinfectant in the on-deck circle may help enforce this protocol

### Two umpire system

PU out by pitcher and second umpire on first base line

- a two-umpire system with the above positioning was developed by:
  1. officials commissioner: Jeff Benson
  2. State of Maine baseball rules interpreter: Dan

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3. MPA liaison: Kevin Joyce

This two-man system will be used by all SMUA baseball boards in all MPA sponsored games. All SMUA baseball boards interpreters are given the challenge to make sure that we are all doing it the same way state-wide.

Dan Deshaies: State Interpreter  
March 27, 2021