

NORTHWEST DIAMOND SERIES / 2025 RULES

- ***Please host all post-game meetings outside the field of play after your game is done.***
 - Teams are required to vacate dugouts immediately after their game. Please assign players to pick up their own garbage. The next team should not be responsible for cleaning up after the previous team.
- **METAL SPIKES ARE NOT ALLOWED** on all AstroTurf fields. Teams must wear molded cleats or tennis shoes. Players must be removed from game if seen wearing metal cleats and are subject to substitution rules once removed.
- **NO Sunflower Seeds, Grinds, Chewing Gum or Tobacco** products are allowed on the field or in the dugout at all fields.
 - A \$100, non-negotiable, fine will be imposed if any of the above are found in a team's dugout, on the field in front of the dugout, or if a player is witnessed to be spitting seeds or tobacco product. The fee must be paid before the offending team's next game. No warning is necessary.
- **6 Game Balls** will be provided for each game. Teams are responsible for the retrieval of foul balls, and should more than 6 balls be needed, must provide balls from their own supply.
- All games are scheduled for 7 innings.
 - All games will be subject to a drop-dead time of 2 hours 30 minutes. If drop-dead is imposed, scoring will revert back to the last fully completed inning. Coaches must meet with umpires to confirm time-limit has elapsed. Umpires will announce game start time at the plate meeting. ***Umpires and tournament directors are not responsible for keeping track of time elapsed.***
 - A ten-run rule will be imposed after 5 innings of play, or 4 1/2 if the home team is winning by ten runs or greater.
 - Games will start at scheduled time to allow families and other attendees an exact start time each game.
 - Should the previous game impose on the next game's start time, the game will begin 30 minutes after the previous game's conclusion.
- GameChanger will be used for all games and scoring, including pitch count.
- USA Pitch Smart Guidelines will be in effect. Opposing teams have the right to protest the use of a pitcher based on the pitch count from previous games. If found to be in violation of Pitch Smart guidelines, team will need to make a pitching change and the new pitcher will be given as much time as needed to warmup.
 - 1-30 Pitches = No Rest Day
 - 31-45 pitches = 1 Days Rest
 - 46-60 Pitches = 2 Days Rest
 - 61-75 Pitches = 3 Days Rest
 - 76+ Pitches = 4 Days Rest
 - 105 Pitches = Max Pitches in a Game (may finish the hitter if started at bat prior to pitch 105)
- NFHS Book will be the official rule book for all games. ***All scoring decisions by umpires will be official. Protests are not allowed.***
 - **EXCEPTIONS:**
 - DH for the Pitcher Only. Teams cannot DH for a position player as allowed in HS.
 - EH allowed. Teams may use an Extra Hitter.
 - 3rd to 1st Moves Not Allowed
 - Electronic Communication systems can be used by the defense and offense.
 - Two Piece Catcher Mask allowed.
 - Balks will be Live – teams can either take the balk or the result of the play.
 - Other Rules
 - 90 Seconds between innings – clock starts when last defensive player crosses the foul line in front of their dugout. Violation of the 90 second rule may result in a ball for the batter (if the pitcher is not ready) or a strike for the pitcher (if the batter is not ready).
 - No time limit on Championship Sunday.
 - Winner of coin toss has choice of home or visitors.
 - Extra Innings
 - Should time limit allow extra innings, the MLB extra inning rule will be in effect.
 - The last out of the previous inning will start at 2nd base.
 - ***Coaches may replace the runner at 2nd base as per regular substitution rules. If the removed runner has already been substituted for, they will no longer be eligible to re-enter the game.***
- ***Player or Coach Ejections = 1 game suspension.***
 - Ejection rules are in place as a detriment to coach/umpire conflicts that result in ejection.
 - Any ejection must be reported to the facility supervisor by the umpire, including name and number of coach/player ejected.
 - Ejected player may be in the dugout for the game they are suspended, but they cannot be in uniform.
 - Ejected coach may not be in the dugout for the game they are suspended, but they can be in the facility.
 - Suspended coach may perform pre-game duties but must leave the field once the plate meeting begins.
- Pool Play Tie breakers to reach Championship Sunday:
 - Head to Head
 - Fewest Runs Allowed per Defensive Outs (Runs Allowed / Defensive Outs)
 - Run Differential (Runs Scored / Runs Allowed)
 - Coin Toss
- All bats must be either -3 BBCOR certified or wood bats.
- Coaches – please wear baseball pants as part of your on-field uniform.

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