



2018 BASEBALL FORMAT

SPORT SPECIFIC INFORMATION

BASEBALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dist. A	Mr. Tom Murphy, Principal, Billerica Memorial HS	Dist. F	Mr. Anthony Papuga, Assistant Principal Pathfinder High School
	Mr. Tom O'Brien, Athletic Director Haverhill High School		Mr. Don Irzyk, Athletic Director Pathfinder High School
Dist. B	Mr. Phil Brangiforte, Headmaster East Boston High School	Dist. G	Mr. Henry Duval, Assistant Principal Pittsfield High School
	Mr. Michael Lahiff, Athletic Director Watertown High School		Mr. Jim Abel, Athletic Director Pittsfield High School
Dist. C	Mr. Marc Talbot, Principal Pembroke High School	Dist. H	Mr. Patrick Driscoll , Athletic Director Malden Catholic High School
	Mr. Mike Denise Braintree High School		Mr. Craig Najarian, Athletic Director Catholic Memorial High School
Dist. D	Dr. John Gould, Principal Dighton-Rehoboth's High School		MASS Representative Mr. Doug White
	Mr. Scott Ashworth, Athletic Director Bourne High School		MASC Mr. Tass Filledes
Dist. E.	Mr. Gerald O'Connell, Assistant Principal Shrewsbury High School		Coaches' Representative Mr. Justin Richards
	Mr. Keith Brouillard, Athletic Director St. Peter Marian High School		Officials' Representative Mr. Joseph Cacciatore
	Mr. Jay Costa, Athletic Director Shrewsbury High School		Athletic Director (at Large) Mr. Christopher Bishop
	Mr. William Beando, Principal Wachusett Regional High School		Mr. Ben Ivey
			MIAA Staff Liaison – Richard Pearson, Associate Director

2018 BASEBALL TOURNAMENT											
ENTRY REQUIREMENTS & INFORMATION	DATES	TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS									
Season Schedule & Commitment:	April 15, 2018	Tournament Director contact information is available in the "Members Only" section of the MIAA website									
Tournament Entry:	May 24, 2018 May 31, 2018										
Cut-Off Date:	1A – 5:00 PM Mon. May 28, 2018 Sunday, June 3, 2018 Teams under consideration for the 1A tournament must have games completed prior to seeding South, North, & Central West Monday, May 28, 2018 June 4, 2018	<p style="text-align: center;">North Mr. Dave Lezenski</p> <p style="text-align: center;">South Mr. Dan McGarry</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Central & State Mr. Robert McNamara</p> <p style="text-align: center;">West Mr. Dave King</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Div. 1A Mr. Don Fredericks</p>									
Seedings:	<p>1A seeding at the MIAA Office Monday, May 28, 2018 @ 6:00pm Sunday, June 3, 2018 @ 6:00pm</p> <p>North & South at the MIAA Office Tuesday, May 29, 2018 @ 9:00am Tuesday, June 5, 2018 @ 9:00am</p> <p>Central at Shrewsbury High School Tuesday, May 29, 2018 @ TBD Tuesday, June 5, 2018 @ 4:00pm</p> <p>West at Greenfield High School Tuesday, May 29, 2018 @ 5:30pm Tuesday, June 5, 2018 @ 5:30pm</p>										
Division 1A	See Brackets										
Preliminary Rounds and First Round Games Will Start no earlier than:	North, South, Central, West Thursday, May 31, 2018 June 7, 2018										
Quarter Finals:	*June 4 or 5, 2018 June 11 or 12, 2018*										
Semi-Finals:	*June 6 or 7, 2018 June 13 or 14, 2018*										
Sectional Finals:	*June 9 or 10, 2018 June 16 or 17, 2018*										
State Semi-Finals:	*June 12, 2018 June 19, 2018* <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><u>Division</u></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><u>Location</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>N/S Division 1 & 4</td> <td>South / TBD</td> </tr> <tr> <td>N/S Division 3</td> <td>North / TBD</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C/W Division 1 & 4</td> <td>West / TBD</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C/W Division 3</td> <td>Central / TBD</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Location</u>	N/S Division 1 & 4	South / TBD	N/S Division 3	North / TBD	C/W Division 1 & 4	West / TBD	C/W Division 3	Central / TBD
<u>Division</u>	<u>Location</u>										
N/S Division 1 & 4	South / TBD										
N/S Division 3	North / TBD										
C/W Division 1 & 4	West / TBD										
C/W Division 3	Central / TBD										
State Finals:	June 14 or 15, 2018 * June 21 or 22, 2018 * <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tbody> <tr> <td>N/S Division 2</td> <td>@Site TBD</td> </tr> <tr> <td>*June 16, 2018</td> <td>June 23, 2018</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Division 1, 3, 4</td> <td>@Holy Cross</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	N/S Division 2	@Site TBD	*June 16, 2018	June 23, 2018	Division 1, 3, 4	@Holy Cross				
N/S Division 2	@Site TBD										
*June 16, 2018	June 23, 2018										
Division 1, 3, 4	@Holy Cross										

*Dates subject to change, but will not be played earlier than posted dates.

MIAA BASEBALL TOURNAMENT

CLASSIFICATION BY SECTION

Schools have been assigned by divisions based upon a 4-year alignment (2018-2021). North and South will be divided into four divisions. Central and West will be divided into three divisions (I, III & IV).

Please refer to the MIAA website for alignment information (www.miaa.net)

GENERAL TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

A. OFFICIALS

Umpires are assigned by the Official's Assigner. Recommended officials will become part of a pool of umpires that will receive consideration for tournament play. Tournament Directors will make the final decision with regard to assigning of umpires. *The MIAA Baseball Committee has recommended that tournament officials in baseball have 3 years experience and 45 games of High School Varsity experience.* The following number of umpires will be assigned for:

Sectional Quarter-final – two umpires

Sectional Semi-final and Sectional Final – three umpires

State Semi-final and Final - three umpires

** Please note - umpire fees for preliminary and Quarter-Final games are to be paid by the home team.

Division 1A

1st Round – Two Umpires; fees to be paid by home team

Beginning in 2nd Round – Three umpires; fees to be paid by MIAA (neutral sites)

Postponement of game, On-Site (All Divisions): After the teams arrive at the field, the plate umpire will decide if the game is to be postponed because of weather. The plate umpire will notify the Official's Assigner of the appropriate section if the decision is not to play.

B. SEEDING

The position of teams is determined by the percentage method, i.e. total number of games won divided by total number of games played, results in the percentage rating. ***Ties will be broken by head-to-head record first and then by lottery (more than 2 teams) or coin flip (2 teams only).*** In the event there is no head-to-head resolution (in cases of more than two teams tied), teams will be broken by lottery until a head-to-head record presents itself. In this case (more than 2 teams), if no head-to-head ever presents itself, ties will continue to be broken by lottery. In the West and Central, the Walker and Modified-Walker System will be used for seeding purposes.

Division 1A Selection/Seeding Procedure

The IA Tournament will consist of Eight MIAA baseball teams regardless of pre-season divisional classifications or geography. The eight teams will be selected by the Division 1A Selection Committee. The location of the seeding meeting will be the MIAA offices in Franklin. The eight teams selected will be considered the strongest teams in the state. Division IA teams will be power seeded. Each of the baseball teams selected must participate only in the Division IA Tournament. All games for this tournament will be 9-innings.

Games that have been excluded by schools that do NOT count for MIAA seeding won loss percentage records will be considered by the Division 1A selection committee.

The following Baseball Committee voting representatives will constitute the Division IA Selection Committee. Each member will also serve as a Game Observer.

1. MIAA Baseball Committee Chairman or designee
2. IA Tournament Director
3. President MBCA or designee

-
4. MBCA Representative (*MBCA representatives must be from different regions*)
 5. North Tournament Director
 6. South Tournament Director
 7. Central Tournament Director
 8. West Tournament Director
 9. Mass Baseball Umpires Association
 10. At - Large from MIAA Baseball Committee
 11. At - Large from MIAA Baseball Committee
 12. (alternate) At - Large from MIAA Baseball Committee

Selection Committee Member responsibilities:

- Committee members will email Baseball Committee Chair a preliminary list of teams to consider by May 1st. Selection Committee Members will meet 2nd week in May to review teams and schedules to start observing teams that are under consideration.
- Committee members should discourage phone calls from coaches lobbying for schools.
- Committee members are to consider: strength of team, depth of talent, strength of schedule, strength of league, overall record and performance toward the end of the season. Input from all members of the Selection Committee is vital to the success of the process.

Division 1A nominating procedure:

- All members of the Selection Committee will submit one list of nominees (no more than 10) to the Baseball Committee Chair by ~~Saturday, before Memorial Day~~ **Saturday, June 2, 2018**. Each of these teams will be discussed and reviewed at the meeting that will be held on the seeding day.
- Selection Committee members will:
 - (a) nominate top 8
 - (b) power seed the 8 teams selected.

Nominations and voting:

- Any Selection Committee member may nominate a school for consideration.
- The school's nomination will be discussed and reviewed.
- A hand vote will be taken - no abstentions. A majority vote is needed in order to remain in consideration. Teams failing to receive a majority vote will not be reconsidered.
- This nomination procedure will continue until there are no more nominations.

Selection of top eight teams:

- After all nominations are completed, the Selection Committee will vote to select the top eight teams.
- Teams that receive a unanimous vote will be automatically placed and selected as one of the eight. Rank order to be determined by power seeding stated below.
- After all unanimous vote teams are placed, teams that did not receive a unanimous vote will be considered for placement in the remaining top eight slots. Each voting member will vote for one of the remaining teams- no abstentions. A majority vote is required for placement in the top eight teams. Rank order to be determined by seeding procedure stated below. Any team failing to receive majority vote will be placed back in the pool for future consideration.
- This voting procedure will continue until eight teams are placed.

Power Seeding:

- Teams will be power seeded starting with the # 1 seed and ending with the # 8 seed. The power seeding is as follows:
 - a) The # 1 seed position will be voted. Each Selection Committee member will vote for one team - no abstentions. A majority vote is required for placement.

b) This power seeding process will continue until all eight teams have been placed.

C. SITE SELECTION, HOME TEAM, PLAYING FIELD, SELECTION OF BENCH

Preliminary and Quarter-final games

- The higher seeded team will be the home team, have the option of playing at their home site and select bench. If the higher seeded team has an unacceptable home site, it may choose one alternate site if approved by the Tournament Director. If a suitable alternate site cannot be immediately procured, the game will be played at the site of the lower seed team, provided that site is approved by the Tournament Director. If that site is not acceptable, the Tournament Director shall select a neutral site for the game.
- For games prior to sectional semi-final games, schools who mutually agree to and have received the approval of the Tournament Director may schedule a night game.
- Games played during school days will start at 4:00 P.M. unless both schools and the Tournament Director mutually agree to an earlier or later starting time.

Sectional Semi-final and Sectional Final games

- Tournament Directors will assign playing sites. Higher seeded team has choice of being home team or selecting bench. These games must be scheduled at a neutral site if at all possible. Efforts will be made to schedule the same division on the same day if possible.
- Teams shall not take batting practice at game site on day of game.
- Teams designated as home team shall take infield first.
- Teams may be scheduled for a night game by the Tournament Director.

State Semi-final and State Final games

- Starting times will be decided by the Tournament Director. The Tournament Director will notify schools and the media of starting times.
- A coin flip will decide the higher seeded team. The team that travels the furthest calls the flip. The winner of the flip has the choice of home/away or which dugout their team will have. The other coach makes his call accordingly.
- Teams may be scheduled for a night game by the Tournament Director.
- Teams shall not take batting practice at game site on day of game.

Division 1A

1st Round

- The higher seeded team will be the home team, have the option of playing at their home site and select bench. (other information consistent with full tournament format)

2nd Round – 6th Round

- Tournament Director will assign playing sites. These games will be scheduled at a neutral site. Higher seeded team has choice of being home team or selecting bench.

7TH Round (if necessary)

- The visiting team from Round 6 has the choice of home/away or which dugout their team will have. The other coach makes his call accordingly.

D. BASEBALLS

- The only baseballs that can be used for Tournament games, prior to the Sectional Semi-final games, are those approved by individual MIAA member leagues.
- The home team shall provide the game balls for each game through the sectional Quarter-final.
- From the Sectional Semi-finals on, the approved baseball for 2018 is the Spalding Pro NFHS Baseball (41-100HS)

Division 1A

1st Round – Approved league baseball's supplied by home team

Beginning in the 2nd Round - the approved baseball for 2018 is Spalding Pro NFHS Baseball (41-100HS)

E. **ELIGIBLE TOURNAMENT PLAYERS** (Baseball Form Roster, ref. members only)

The Baseball Committee has established a 20 player limit for tournament eligible teams. In the event a team that qualifies for the tournament has 21-25 bona fide players on its roster who dressed and practiced with the team from the start of the season, that team may exceed the 20 player limit only with the approval of their tournament director.

F. **POSTPONEMENT BECAUSE OF WEATHER**

- For all games prior to Sectional Semi-finals, the home team will decide, three hours before game time, if the game is to be postponed to the following day. If a game cannot be rescheduled to the following day the Tournament Director reserves the right to select location, time and/or date of the game.
- From the Sectional Semi-final on, the Site Director will notify the teams involved, newspapers, and the Official's Assigner, three hours before game time, if the game is postponed. Postponed games are to be played the following day.
- A postponed game can be played on a Sunday.
- Once the teams arrive at the field the plate umpire will make all postponement decisions. If a game is postponed on-site, the Site Director will notify the Official's Assigner, the Tournament Director and newspapers.

Division 1A

- For all games in Round 1, the home team will decide, three hours before game time, if the game is to be postponed to the following day.
- Beginning in Round 2, the Tournament Director will notify the teams involved, newspapers, and the Official's Assigner, three hours before game time, if the game is postponed. Postponed games are to be played the following day.
- A postponed game can be played on a Sunday.
- Once the teams arrive at the field the plate umpire will make all postponement decisions. If a game is postponed on-site, the Site Director will notify the Official's Assigner, the Tournament Director and newspapers.

G. **ADJUSTMENTS OF DATES, LOCATION OF GAMES**

The Principal of a school, who has a special function(s) which conflicts with the tournament, may make a scheduling adjustment **request** of the Tournament Director. In all cases graduation conflicts will be honored. With respect to special functions Tournament Directors will attempt to adhere to the schedule date while assessing the extenuating circumstances presented. All requests cannot be satisfied, however, all will be addressed sensitively and fairly. A playing date change or change of playing location must be requested and confirmed **immediately** with the Tournament Director who will notify the Official's Assigner and schools involved.

H. **TIES, SUSPENDED AND/OR OFFICIAL GAMES**

1. For all games played prior to Sectional Finals
 - a. All games played that are official (games played through 4 1/2 or 5 innings) which are stopped by the umpire-in-chief, are completed games, if not tied. If tied, the game will be resumed at the point of stoppage.
 - b. All games played that are not official which are stopped by the umpire-in-chief are suspended games and will be resumed at the point of stoppage.
2. Game played from Sectional Finals through State Finals
 - a. All games played which are stopped by the umpire-in-chief, regardless of innings played or score, will be resumed at the point of stoppage. These games must complete 6 1/2 or 7 innings.

Division 1A

All games will be 9 innings in length

1. Games in Rounds 1-3
 - a. All games played that are official (games played through 4 1/2 or 5 innings) which are stopped by the umpire-in-chief, are completed games, if not tied. If tied, the game will be resumed at the point of stoppage.

-
- b. All games played that are not official which are stopped by the umpire-in-chief are suspended games and will be resumed at the point of stoppage.
 2. Beginning in Round 4
 - a. All games played which are stopped by the umpire-in-chief, regardless of innings played or score, will be resumed at the point of stoppage. These games must complete 8 1/2 or 9 innings.

I. PLAYING RULES

- RULES are those of the latest Official Rules of Major League Baseball (http://mlb.mlb.com/mlb/official_info/official_rules/foreword.jsp) available through Triumph Books with the following MIAA modifications:
 1. All games in Division I, II, III and IV are scheduled for 7 innings. Division IA games are scheduled for 9 innings.
 2. All players must wear batting helmets of the full protection type, including double ear flaps and visor, while at bat, or while coaching the bases.
 3. Catcher MUST wear full crown protective helmet.
 4. Adult coaches *may* coach at first and third bases.
 - a. Adult coaches/managers may serve as base coaches as long as they are in coordinating and matching school colors with those of their uniformed players. Full uniforms are recommended. It is further recommended that coaches working as base coaches wear matching "team uniform" pants as a minimum to assist officials and tournament organizers in identifying assigned coaches
 - b. An adult coach approved by the school's administration must remain on the team bench at all times.
 - c. On-field adult base coaches will be required to wear a protective helmet. The adult protective helmet can be a hard liner shell that fits inside the baseball cap (skull cap), a one flap, two flaps or no flap batting helmet.
 5. MIAA will follow the baseball bat standards established by the NFHS Baseball Rules Committee. "Bats that are not made of a single piece of wood shall meet the Batted Ball Coefficient of Restitution (BBCOR) performance standard, and such bats shall be labeled with a silkscreen or other permanent certification mark" (**Reference:** NFHS Rules 1-3-2 through 1-3-5). **Penalty for using an illegal bat:** "A batter is out if he enters the batter's box with an illegal bat or is discovered having used an illegal bat. If the infraction is discovered before the next pitch following the turn at bat of the player who used an illegal bat, the defense may take the penalty or the result of the play (NFHS Rule 7-4-1-a).
 6. A designated hitter can be used for any player. (See N below)
 7. When a coach goes to the pitcher's mound twice in one inning the pitcher must be removed from pitching duties for the rest of the game. He may remain in the game at another position.
 8. The NFHS re-entry rule (reference NFHS Rules 3-1-1 through 3-1-6) will be in effect for the entire tournament. Any of the starting players may be withdrawn and re-entered once, provided such player occupies the same batting position whenever he is in the lineup. The DH is considered the 10th starter and can also be re-entered (**See N. for the new DH rule**). **Exception to NFHS re-entry rule:** In the event a pitcher is substituted with a pinch runner or a pinch hitter, the pitcher may reenter the game as a pitcher immediately, as long as no other pitcher has thrown a pitch from the mound. However, the pitcher can re-enter as a positional player if the re-entry rule is followed. A substitute who is withdrawn may not re-enter. After the umpire has received the official lineup card prior to the game, the player listed as the pitcher shall pitch until the first opposing batter has been put out or has advanced to first base.
 9. Coaches are responsible to present to the umpire and opposing coach at the home plate pre-game meeting a line-up card to include the starting line-up and eligible players with their number.
 10. The "Strike Two" Rule will be included for Tournament Play. (MIAA Handbook Rule 65.13)
 11. The NCAA Force-Play-Slide Rule and NCAA Collision Rule will be in effect for all tournament games. (See sections H and I below)
 12. Prior to Sectional Semi-final rounds (Round 4 games in the Division 1A Tournament) a regulation game shall be declared, if a team is leading by 15 or more runs after 5 complete innings (or 4 1/2 if the home team is ahead). (MIAA Handbook Rule 65.14)
 13. Catch and Carry rule will be determined at home plate prior to the beginning of each contest.
-

J. NCAA FORCE-PLAY-SLIDE RULE (NCAA Rule 8, Section 4):

The intent of the force-play-slide rule is to ensure the safety of all players. This is a safety and an interference rule. Whether the defense could have completed the double play has no bearing on the applicability of this rule. This rule pertains to a force-play situation at any base, regardless of the number of outs.

a. On any force play, the runner must slide on the ground before the base and in a direct line between the two bases. It is permissible for the slider's momentum to carry him through the base in the baseline extended.

Exception - A runner need not slide directly into a base as long as the runner slides or runs in a direction away from the fielder to avoid making contact or altering the play of the fielder. Interference shall not be called.

1. "On the ground" means either a head-first slide or a slide with one leg and buttock on the ground before the base.

2. "Directly into a base" means the runner's entire body (feet, legs, trunk and arms) must stay in a straight line between the bases.

b. Contact with a fielder is legal and interference shall not be called if the runner makes a legal slide directly to the base and in the baseline extended.

A.R. - If contact occurs on top of the base as a result of a "pop-up" slide, this contact is legal.

c. Actions by a runner are illegal and interference shall be called if:

1. The runner slides or runs out of the base line in the direction of the fielder and alters the play of a fielder (with or without contact).

2. The runner uses a rolling or cross-body slide and either makes contact with or alters the play of a fielder;

3. The runner's raised leg makes contact higher than the fielder's knee when in a standing position;

4. The runner slashes or kicks the fielder with either leg; or

5. The runner illegally slides toward or contacts the fielder even if the fielder makes no attempt to throw to complete a play.

Penalty for 1-5

1. With less than two outs, the batter-runner, as well as the interfering runner, shall be declared out and no other runner (s) shall advance.

2. With two outs, the interfering runner shall be declared out and no other runner(s) shall advance.

3. If the runner's slide or collision is flagrant, the runner shall be ejected from the contest.

A.R. - If the bases are loaded with no outs, a double-play attempt is made, and interference is called, all other runners must return to their original bases.

K. NCAA COLLISION RULE (NCAA Rule 8, Section 7):

*****with the exception of home plate, where MLB rule 7.13 will be followed (See section L)**

The rules committee is concerned about unnecessary and violent collisions with infielders at all bases. The intent of this rule is to encourage base runners and defensive players to avoid such collisions whenever possible. When there is a collision between a runner and a fielder who clearly is in possession of the ball, the umpire shall judge:

If the defensive player blocks the base or base line with clear possession of the ball, the runner may make contact, slide into or make contact with a fielder as long as the runner is making a legitimate attempt to reach the base. Contact above the waist that was initiated by the base runner shall not be judged as an attempt to reach the base or plate.

1. The runner must make an actual attempt to reach the base.

Penalty – If the runner attempts to dislodge the ball or initiates an avoidable collision, the runner shall be declared out, even if the fielder loses possession of the ball. The ball is dead and all other base runners shall return to the last base touched at the time of the interference.

2. The runner may not attempt to dislodge the ball from the fielder. Contact above the waist shall be judged by the umpire as an attempt by the runner to dislodge the ball.

Penalty – If the contact is flagrant or malicious before the runner touches the plate, the runner shall be declared out and also ejected from the contest. The ball is immediately dead and all other base runners shall return to the last base touched at the time of the interference.

-
3. The runner must attempt to avoid a collision if he can reach the base without colliding.
Penalty – If the contact is flagrant or malicious after the runner touches the base (plate), the runner is safe, but is ejected from the contest. The ball is immediately dead and all other base runners shall return to the last base touched at the time of the interference. If this occurs at any base other than home, the offending team may replace the runner.
If the contact occurs after the preceding runner touches home plate, the preceding runner is safe. The ball is immediately dead and all other base runners shall return to the last base touched at the time of the contact.
 4. If the runner's path to the base is blocked and 1, 2 and 3 are fulfilled, it is considered unavoidable contact.

L. MLB collision rule applies to home plate ONLY, rule 7.13

1. A runner attempting to score may not deviate from his direct pathway to the plate in order to initiate contact with the catcher (or other player covering home plate). If, in the judgment of the Umpire, a runner attempting to score initiates contact with the catcher (or other player covering home plate) in such a manner, the Umpire shall declare the runner out (even if the player covering home plate loses possession of the ball). In such circumstances, the Umpire shall call the ball dead, and all other base runners shall return to the last base touched at the time of the collision.
Rule 7.13 Comment: The failure by the runner to make an effort to touch the plate, the runner's lowering of the shoulder, or the runner's pushing through with his hands, elbows or arms, would support a determination that the runner deviated from the pathway in order to initiate contact with the catcher in violation of Rule 7.13. If the runner slides into the plate in an appropriate manner, he shall not be adjudged to have violated Rule 7.13. A slide shall be deemed appropriate, in the case of a feet first slide, if the runner's buttocks and legs should hit the ground before contact with the catcher. In the case of a head first slide, a runner shall be deemed to have slid appropriately if his body should hit the ground before contact with the catcher.
2. Unless the catcher is in possession of the ball, the catcher cannot block the pathway of the runner as he is attempting to score. If, in the judgment of the Umpire, the catcher without possession of the ball blocks the pathway of the runner, the Umpire shall call or signal the runner safe. Notwithstanding the above, it shall not be considered a violation of this Rule 7.13 if the catcher blocks the pathway of the runner in order to field a throw, and the Umpire determines that the catcher could not have fielded the ball without blocking the pathway of the runner and that contact with the runner was unavoidable.

M. PROTEST OF A MISAPPLIED RULE

Protests must be settled on the playing field by the crew of officials.

N. DESIGNATED HITTER RULE FOR PITCHER AND DEFENSIVE PLAYER

NFHS Rule 3-1-4. A hitter may be (not mandatory) designated for any one starting player (not just pitchers) and all subsequent substitutes for that player in the game. A starting defensive player can't be listed as the DH in the starting lineup. A DH for said player shall be selected prior to the start of the game, and his name shall be included on the lineup cards presented to the umpire-in-chief, and to the official scorer. Failure to declare a DH prior to the game precludes the use of the DH in that game. If a pinch hitter or pinch runner for the DH is used, that player becomes the new DH. The player who was the DH may re-enter as the DH under the re-entry rule. A DH and the player for whom he is batting are locked into the batting order. No multiple substitutions may be made that will alter the batting rotation. The role of the DH is terminated for the remainder of the game when:

- a. The defensive player, or any previous defensive player for whom the designated hitter batted, subsequently bats, pinch-hits or pinch-runs for the DH: or
- b. The DH or any previous DH assumes a defensive position.

******* For Cases and Examples related to this Section N, please visit the MIAA Baseball Page or at this link: [MIAA Tournament DH/ Re- Entry Rule Guidelines](#)**

O. MEDICAL COVERAGE

A licensed athletic trainer, physician, physician's assistant, certified EMT, or nurse practitioner will be available at all contests. This coverage will be provided and paid for by the Host School in tournament rounds which are usually at the site of the higher seeded team. The MIAA will provide for this coverage at MIAA designated neutral sites.

P. SAT/SAT SUBJECT TESTS AND ACT:

1. Baseball Tournament Games may be scheduled for June 2, the same date of the SAT and SAT Subject Tests. Baseball Tournament Games may also be scheduled for June 9, the same date of the ACT. Please inform all coaches & student-athletes well in advance of the June 2018 timeframe so alternative plans may be made. A listing of all dates and sports that may take place on scheduled College Board and ACT exam dates can be found on the MIAA website.
2. The College Board offers a SAT Program Alternate Test Date Policy. As stated in their published material: "The SAT Program will consider granting an alternate test date when the following criteria are met:"
 - a. The conflicting event must be unexpected. Regularly scheduled sporting events or previously scheduled school activities, such as a prom, are not considered unexpected. An event such as an academic or athletic competition, in which students have advanced through the competition or into post-regular season competition, can be considered an unexpected event.
3. SAT School Day: Allows high schools to administer the SAT to students during the school day, thus avoiding weekend athletic conflicts. To date, the MA school districts that participate are Plymouth, Springfield, Revere, and most recently Fitchburg. SAT School Day is contracted through the College Board with participating districts. Contact Info: **Alan Bernstein, Senior District Director**, K-12 Services, New England Regional Office, The College Board, 1601 Trapelo Road, Suite 12, Waltham, MA 02451;

Q. MIAA DRONE POLICY - Prohibiting the Use of Drones (Unmanned Aircraft Systems or UAS's).

Unless granted special permission by the MIAA Executive Director, the use of drones (UAS), for any purpose, is not permitted at any MIAA tournament event. This prohibition applies to all fields of play, courts, arena, mats, gym floor or pool, and covers a ban on the entire facility being used as part of the MIAA event, including the spectator stands and parking areas.



Baseball Team Sportsmanship Award

The MIAA Tournament Management Committee has approved an Annual Sportsmanship Award to be presented to one school in every sport. The MIAA Team Sportsmanship Award will be presented at the State Championships.

We would like to encourage you to nominate a baseball team for consideration by the MIAA Baseball Committee for recognition at the MIAA Baseball Championships. Nominated teams do not have to be tournament teams but should exemplify the tenets of good sportsmanship to the highest degree. Criteria to include: Teamwork, Fair play/respect for opponents, Ethics and Citizenship. Self nominations are acceptable.

I would like to nominate the following team for consideration of the MIAA Team Baseball Sportsmanship Award:

School: _____ Division: _____

City/Town: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Principal: _____

Athletic Director: _____ School Phone: _____

Home Phone: _____

Coach: _____ Home Phone: _____

Captain(s) names: _____

Number of Games Played _____

Please provide a brief statement with regard to the reasons for this nomination below!

Your Name _____ **Signature** _____

Position _____ **School** _____

Date _____ **Phone** _____

Send to: MIAA, Attn: Baseball Committee
33 Forge Parkway
Franklin, MA 02038

Fax: 508-541-9888

APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY June 2, 2018