



MIAA Baseball Meeting Highlights May 17, 2022

The MIAA Baseball Committee meeting was conducted on Tuesday, May 17, 2022 in Franklin, MA. The meeting was attended by 15 voting committee members, tournament directors, media members, and MIAA staff.

2022 Baseball State Tournament Update

Mr. David Lezenski, Athletic Director at Lowell High School, provided an update to the MIAA Baseball Committee, highlighting the team of regional liaisons and all the work that has been done to this point in leading up to the tournament. A few items were requested in preparation for the tournament:

- Schools are urged to enter scores within 24 hours via Arbiter (Arbiter App).
- Please review MIAA Handbook Rule 65.6 – Suspended Game Policy – see below. All games must have a declared winner.
- Please ensure all games are coded correctly – Postpone, Forfeits, Cancelled, etc...
- Schools must exhaust all efforts/opportunities to replay a contest before it can be deemed a forfeit. The spring seeding committee will review all forfeits.
- Please review the 2022 [MIAA Baseball Format](#) for all tournament dates.

Suspended Game Policy – MIAA Handbook Rule 65.6 – For Regular Season & Tournament

- 65.6.1 - All games that are regulation games (games played through 4 ½ or five innings) which are stopped by the umpire in chief, are completed games, if not tied or if the home team has had an unequal amount of at bats. If tied or if the home team has had an unequal amount of at-bats, the game will be resumed at the point of stoppage. These games must complete a minimum of 6 ½ or 7 innings until a winner is declared.
- 65.6.2 All games played that are not regulation games (under 4 ½ innings) which are stopped by the umpire in chief are suspended games and will be resumed from the point of stoppage.

Rule Change Proposals

The Baseball Committee discussed potential rule change proposals such as amendments to the Suspended Game Policy, Game Suspension Policy (Rule 49) and Pitch Counts.

The Committee discussed the two-game disqualification for baseball in depth as it differs from all other sports (except hockey and soccer). The committee recommended edits to MIAA Rules 49.3 and 49.4, which would remove the two-game disqualifications and make it identical to many other sports.

Motion: The Baseball Committee supports the Ice Hockey Committee proposal regarding two-game disqualifications and recommends game disqualifications be identical among all sports.

APPROVED 15-0-0 (T. O'Brien/J. Costa)

Officials

The MBUA identified the growing shortage of officials in the sport of baseball. Several innovative ideas were discussed to help educate and grow the profession, including offering a certification class as an elective/credits to high school students, working with assigners to help certify faculty and staff that may be interested in officiating and working with local colleges who have intramural programs with students who may be interested in officiating.

