

March 17, 2025

### **Number of Games Allowed**

After our publication of the handbook and manual the KSHSAA Board of Directors made the change to allow 32 games per student. We still have 26 varsity games allowed to be scheduled and 20 subvarsity. Students may play in 32 of those games. This has been communicated in prior KSHSAA Weekly announcements and in the agenda minutes from the meeting. This was also communicated in the coach rules meeting.

### **No Participation on a Non-School Team**

During the school season a player may not also play on a non-school team in the same sport. School team membership is over when a player's school squad has completed their last game. At that point they can begin playing on a non-school team but are limited to no more than 5 from the same school squad playing or practicing together until the Saturday before Memorial Day.

### **Covering the Rules of Softball**

**Situation 1:** Team A is at bat with R1 on first base and no outs, B2 hits a pop fly in foul territory, after hitting the ball, B2 begins running to first base. F5 catches the ball near home plate and then throws the ball to first base in an attempt to make a live ball appeal on R1 leaving early on a caught fly ball. F5's throw hits B2 preventing the play at first base. Team B's coach insists this is interference by a retired runner and the runner closest to home, R1 in this case should be called out. **RULING:** Interference is a judgement call. If, in the umpire's judgement, B2 hindered F5's play on R1, R1 (the runner closest to home) would be declared out. (2-31-1, 8-6-16; Case Plays 8.6.16 Situation B&C)

**Situation 2:** In the second inning Team A's pitcher only takes one warm up pitch and is ready to start the inning. Team B's coach insists that their first batter gets 60 seconds to prepare to bat. **RULING:** The time between innings is governed by rule 6-4-10 that allows the pitcher to have not more than one minute to throw not more than five pitches. Although NFHS Softball Rules has no dictated time allotment for the batter to prepare, a batter typically has the same time allowed (one minute) for the pitcher to throw their warm up pitches. In a situation where the pitcher is prepared to begin prior to the one-minute mark, the umpire has the ability to allow the batter a reasonable amount of time to prepare to bat. Once the umpire judges that this reasonable amount of time has passed and all defensive players are on the field prepared to start the inning including the pitcher and catcher being in their positions, they should call for the batter. At this point, the ten second allowance for the batter to take their position within the batter's box begins. (6-2-3, 6-4-10, 7-3-1)