

Softball

Game Ending Procedures



General Rules

NFHS Rule 4-2-2: If a game ends because of weather conditions or darkness interferes with play so that the game is called (ended) by the umpire, it is a regulation game provided:

- a. Five full innings have been played; or if the home team has scored an equal or greater number of runs in four or four and a fraction turns at bat than the visiting team has scored in five turns.
- b. Play has gone beyond five full innings and is called when the teams have not had an equal number of completed turns at bat. The score shall be the same as it was at the end of the last completed inning; unless the home team, in its half of the incomplete inning, scores a run (or runs) which equals or exceeds the opponent's score, in which case, the final score shall be recorded when the game is called.

Regular Season

1. A regulation game consists of 7 innings unless extended because of a tie score or unless shortened during innings 5, 6 or 7 because the home team needs none of its half of the 7th inning or only a fraction of it; or because of weather, darkness, or similar conditions. If a game is halted before it is an official game, it must be started over. During season play, there are no suspended games except for conference games. Conferences may adopt the tournament procedure for suspended games.
2. A Regular Season Game Called With a Tie Score – Shall be a tie game. Batting and fielding records are counted but the game is not counted in computing percentages of games won and lost.
3. Tie-Breaker Procedures - Indiana has adopted the Tie-Breaker protocol for regular season tournaments only.
4. A game shall end when, after the completion of 5 innings, a team is 10 or more runs behind and has completed its turn at bat.
5. Doubleheaders: both games may be shortened to five innings, if both schools agree to the shortened contests before the contest begins.

Junior Varsity and Freshman Games

1. By prior mutual agreement of opposing schools, sub-varsity regular season games may be played to five innings.
2. By prior mutual agreement of opposing schools, sub-varsity regular season tournaments may be played to five innings.

IHSAA Tournament Series

1. A regulation game consists of 7 innings unless extended because of a tie score or unless shortened because the home team needs none or only a fraction of its 7th inning or unless 1 team is leading by 10 runs after 5 innings.
2. If a game in any tournament must be postponed because of rain or wet grounds, or if a game is called by the umpires because of rain, darkness or other reasons, it shall be ruled a suspended game and shall be continued from point of suspension at a later time. Any game that is not an official game will be considered a suspended game.
3. If a postponed or called game/s is an opening round game/s, the game/s must be rescheduled for the next scheduled date. If a champion cannot be determined by the designated date, the tournament director should contact the Association Office.
4. If a game is called with the score tied after enough innings have been played to constitute a regulation game, it shall be considered a suspended game and shall be continued from point of suspension. Play shall be resumed on the next playable date at the exact point where the game was terminated.
5. A game shall end when, after the completion of 5 innings, a team is 10 or more runs behind and has completed its turn at bat.

Game Ending Procedures For Junior Varsity and Freshman Games

1. By prior mutual agreement of opposing schools, sub-varsity regular season games may be played to five innings.
2. By prior mutual agreement of opposing schools, sub-varsity regular season tournaments may be played to five innings.