

100 Baseball

101 GOVERNING BODY

National Federation Rule book is the governing authority in baseball.
The State CIF, NCS or the MCAL may make modifications.

102 GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Baseball is a spring sport.
2. League play shall be a double round robin schedule.
3. Games will be played on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays for J.V.& varsity baseball, and Monday, Wednesday and Saturdays for freshman . League baseball games shall begin at 3:45 pm. with Saturday frosh games 11am. During DST games will begin at 4:30.
4. Cancelled, called or suspended games must be made up by the next available date & in the order they were cancelled. When a game is suspended and the game is a first round contest, it shall be finished prior to the second round contest. When a suspended contest is in the second round, it shall be made up on the next available date.* It is not necessary to make up non-varsity games after the season has officially ended (i.e., last varsity game date) unless they have a bearing on the league championship.
5. Inclement weather: Home teams will be responsible for canceling games due to inclement weather. All games must be canceled by 1:00.
6. **Only** the athletic director or a site administrator may cancel or reschedule a game.
7. A team shall play no more than four (4) contests in one week unless sanctioned by the MCAL Commissioner.
8. Use of Albert's Ball Park must be authorized by the school administration.

***Definition of the next available date:** The next available date is the next available day when both teams are without a contest. This means that if a game is canceled, called or suspended on Tuesday, it should be made up on Wednesday. If it can not be made up on Wednesday, it should be scheduled for Thursday. A day in which both teams are not playing should not be skipped unless officials can not be present. The next available date is the actual next day when neither team is playing, **NOT** the next convenient date. Monday – Saturday are potential game days.
If teams by pass the next available date the Commissioner may rule the contest a loss for both teams.

103 OFFICIALS

The Northeast Bay Umpires Association is the organization contracted by the league to assign officials for baseball in Marin County.

104 ADMISSION

Admission may be charged at any MCAL contest although it is not customary to charge for baseball games except those held at Albert's Ballpark. See general rules for admission price guidelines.

Once the Albert's schedule is determined, if a school plans on charging admission, they must immediately notify their opponent as BOTH schools must have an administrator present.

105 LEAGUE RULES & GUIDELINES

1. Prior to any game there shall be no batting practice for either team, even if the schools are not in session that day, but there may be a short infield practice. "Soft toss", T-Ball, "pepper" are permissible with the requirement that if a whiffle ball is not used, then a "golf net" must be utilized to prevent fence damage. If guilty of breaking the above rule, the game should be played under protest and reported to the league office within 24 hours following the complaint form protocol.
2. Adult coaches are permitted to work at first and/or third base but must be in uniform.
3. The home school must provide uniformed security personnel for night games at Alberts.
4. Two umpires are to be used for varsity league games. If only one umpire was to show up the game will be played.
5. The MCAL adheres and abides to the NCS and NFHS (Article 15 – 1500) pitching limitation rule.
6. Varsity Coaches are required to report game pitch counts to the MCAL.
7. The winner of the MCAL play-offs shall be the designated representative to NCS championship series.
8. Called or Suspended games: It is the umpires decision when to call a game due to inclement weather, darkness or in the case of lower levels, the ten run rule.

WEATHER/DARKNESS

- A. After 5 innings
A game is a legal regulation game once it has reached five full innings or 4 ½ if the home team is ahead. After 5 innings, if a game is called before a full inning is completed, the score reverts back to the last full innings.
- B. Before 5 innings
A game called by the umpire before 5 full innings or 4 ½ if the home team is ahead shall be ruled a **NO GAME** and be replayed in its entirety.
- C. Ties after 5 innings
A game which is tied after 5 full innings or tied after reverting back to the last full inning will be suspended and resume from the top of that inning.
- D. Restarting a called or suspended game
The players in the score book (same line up) must be on the field at the restart.

LOWER LEVEL TEN RUN RULE

After 5 innings (or 4 1/2 innings) if either team is ahead by 10 runs or more the game is over.

9. MCAL Play-offs:
 - A. Team should not enter the playing site earlier than one hour prior to the scheduled game time.
 - B. The home team (higher seed) will have the 3rd base dugout.
 - C. If a double header at the site, there will be an 8 minute warm up of only players who will start the game. The visiting team will take the field first.

106 PLAY-OFFS

4 schools are in the play-offs in sports with a double round format
#1 seed is the best league record
#2 seed is the second best league record
#3 seed is the third best league record, etc.
In case of a tie, tie-breaking criteria will be used.
All contests are held at Albert's Park in San Rafael after the first round.

Format:

Day One @ highest seed	Day Two @ Albert's Park
Tuesday	Friday
Game One #1 vs #4	Game Three winner Game #1
Game Two #2 vs #3	vs winner Game #2
Game time 4:30	Game time 7:00

- Administrators need to check in at the main gate 15 minutes prior to the game. The game may not start without an administrator from each school being present.
- Administrators from each school are asked to deal with supervision of their fans.
- Baseball teams may not be on the field until one hour prior to game time. If softball game is still going on, baseball teams must wait to enter facility.

107 TIE-BREAKING INFORMATION

Basic format used in the order that it appears:

1. **Head to head competition (Winning percentage)**
2. **Record above the tie (Winning percentage)**
3. **If a tie still exists between any two places. ...use numbers drawn for place***

If two teams are tied for a play-off position EXCEPT for 4th place, the above criteria is used.

If more than two teams are tied for a play-off position EXCEPT for the 4th place, the above criteria will be used to seed a team. Once a team is seeded, the above criteria will start over between the remaining tied teams.

For the final play-off spot if two teams are tied:

There will be a play in game to the play-offs if there is no head to head (2-0) advantage except in single round sports, where the one head to head will be used.

- a. **host is the highest draw number**
- b. **admission would be charged as it is a play-off contest**

If more than two teams are tied for the last positions, 1 & 2 above will be used to break the three way tie to qualify the first play in game team. If the tie is not broken between the three teams using 1 & 2 above, then the draw numbers will be used to place the first team into the play in game.

The criteria will start OVER to determine the second play in team.

In the case of more than three way tie for more than one spot which includes the 4th position. The criteria will be used to break the tie seeding one team. The criteria will start OVER again to complete the tournament using the criteria as stated previously.

- **Numbers are drawn each spring for each school for each season of sport. It has been determined that a low number (1,2,3...) would be the top. The top number has priority!**

108 AWARDS & PENNANTS

After completion of the regular season play, the team with the best record will receive a pennant. If the winner of the play-offs is a different team than the round robin winner, a pennant will be awarded to that winner also.

109 ALL LEAGUE

Baseball all-league team shall consist of:

- Most Valuable Player and Most Valuable Pitcher
 - 4 Infielders
 - 3 Outfielders
 - 2 Pitchers, 1 Catcher, 1 Designated Hitter or Utility
1. Each coach may nominate players from his own team for Player/Pitcher of the Year* as well as any and all positions according to the formula presented in #15 & #16 to follow.
 - These nominations are to be presented (preferably via email) **no later** than the date announced at the preseason meeting. **Failure to comply with this deadline will result in a coach only receiving four nominations if done before the meeting. Any coach who does not submit their nominations 24 hours before the meeting, will receive one honorable mention position ONLY!**
 - Coaches are asked that they submit the following information when submitting their nominations: **A roster of all players on their team listing:**
A. Player's name B. Year in school C. Position
 2. No nominations will be honored at the all leagues selection meeting.
 3. For Player and Pitcher of the Year---if there are more then 4 nominees, a pre-vote will be done where all coaches would rank the players nominated and the top 2 will be eligible for the honor.
 4. The Player & Pitcher of the Year shall be voted on first prior to any other voting. No discussion, just a vote.
 5. After the Player of the Year vote, each coach will be given 1 minute to speak about his players.
 6. Each coach ranks the nominated players at each position on a ballot presented to them at the meeting.
 7. The top-ranked player(s) in each position is (are) first team all league according to the formula above. The next ranked player(s) in each position is (are) the second team all league. The next player in rank order for each position is Honorable Mention. (Note: there is only one honorable mention per position.) If a school does not have a player on 1st, 2nd or honorable mention, they will be allowed to submit a name for HM in any position the coach wishes.
 8. Coaches voting for Player & Pitcher of the Year* **MAY** vote for their own players.
 9. Coaches when ranking players **MAY NOT** vote for their own players.
 10. Students are not to be penalized or omitted from consideration on All-League teams because the coach is not present at the meeting.
 11. A coach should send a substitute he can not attend the meeting.
 12. Players will be honored for only one position.
 13. All league lists will not be released until the last school in the league has completed their season.
 14. All-League athletes will receive certificates.
 15. Nomination formula (maximum a coach **may** nominate per position):
6 Infielders 5 Outfielders 3 Pitchers 1 Catcher 2 DH/Utility
 16. *Player of the Year---Pitcher of the Year: If you feel you have a player who is qualified to be considered for top honors:
 - A. Coaches nominate their own player
 - B. Nominations are due the day you submit your position nominations. Please make sure that you also nominate this player for the position they would be nominated for. If selected the P of Y, the player's name will be removed from the original ballot.
 17. Results of All league balloting will be released by the Commissioner of the League via the MCAL website.