

OHIO HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION

PROPOSAL:

- Extending the baseball season in length by 2 weeks but NOT amount of games
- Example of what it would look like for 2018:
 - Replace All Dates as follows:
 - Sectional: 5/21 – 5/26
 - District: 5/28 – 6/2
 - Regional: 6/7 – 6/8
 - State: 6/14 – 6/16
 - Regular Season Ends: 6/14

KEY POINTS:

1. Compared to surrounding states, Ohio has the shortest length of season to play the permitted number of contests and the earliest State Tournament. It would be impossible for us to start any sooner with our climate and weather. See below:

- **Ohio: *42 Days to play 27 games (2017 State Tournament 6/1-6/3)**
 - **Indiana: 59 Days to play 28 games (2017 State Tournament 6/16-6/17)**
 - **Kentucky: 74 days to play 36 games (2017 State Tournament 6/11-6/17)**
 - **Michigan: 69 days to play 38 games (2017 State Tournament 6/15-6/17)**
 - **Pennsylvania: 72 days to play 20 games (2017 State Tournament 6/12-6/16)**
- *Includes Sundays and Holidays which makes it actually less available dates**

2. Pitch count/Arm health:

- We agree that some sort of pitch count was needed but we feel "recovery time" is more important than amount of pitches on a given day
- Most pitchers also play another position so spreading games out would help with this situation
- Dr. James Onate, OSU

3. Less games in a week:

- Most schools average 5-7 games in a 6 day window per week
- Schools can play less games in a week which will help with pitching limitations and arm health
- Allows for more practice time through the week to work on baseball fundamentals

4. Quality of the game:

- Limiting the amount of pitches per game is going to require schools to develop and have more pitchers. This has the potential to especially affect smaller enrollment schools
- Forces younger or players who are not usually pitchers to pitch in Varsity games they simply are not ready for
- Increasing the number of play dates on the proposed schedule adjustment offers protection for players arms but also provides more opportunities for schools to utilize their pitchers while also developing younger ones.

5. Possibly losing JV and Freshman teams:

- Schools would need to carry more players on the Varsity team due to needing more pitchers because of the pitch count restrictions
- Players knowing they may not play a lot due to schools only having 1-2 teams may decide not to play baseball reducing overall participation numbers

6. Provides much better scheduling opportunities for Ohio schools due to potential inclement weather early in the season:

- Weather in the Spring in Ohio is at its best and most consistent at the beginning of May yet most schools play 80% of their games before that time
- A lot of schools are being forced to play on Sunday's just to get games in
- Schools get games backed up due to weather/rainouts and are forced to possibly play games everyday
- Schools are forced to choose between winning league games or tournament games due to makeup regular season games being completed during the tournament

7. Provides a much more accurate ability to seed teams for tournament:

- Often times teams only have 5-10 games in at the time of tournament draws
- Moving regular season back would allow for schools to get in more games before the tournament draw giving everyone a better sample size to seed teams on

8. Would allow for more College Baseball coaches to get out and actually see potential recruits play during the spring season and be able to interact with HS coaches:

- Most College Baseball conference tournaments are 5/24-5/28
- They would be able to come see our HS players in the District, Regional & State tournaments

9. Affects ⁶⁴32 out of 733 schools each year that advance to the Regional & State Baseball Tournaments:

- ⁶⁴32 schools for the 1st week at the Regional Tournament
- 16 schools for the 2nd week at the State Tournament

10. Eliminates possible conflicts during Regional and State tournaments due to graduations:

- District tournament would be completed through the week so less conflicts with graduation

11. Removes the current 6 state tournaments on the same weekend in June:

- Helps OHSAA officials
- Reduces possibly conflicts of schools having multiple teams in state tournaments the same weekend