

2023-2024 Softball Advisory Agenda
September 13, 2023 @ 10:30 a.m. CT
Zoom meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89594233859?pwd=V05SK3MzTDhFbVMYSWpsa2Ftb1FBUT09>

“AA” Coach:	Cassidy Neer, Aberdeen Central	2025 (1)
“A” Coach:	TC Weinandt, Dakota Valley	2025 (1)
“B” Coach:	Amber Sayler, Freeman	2025 (1)
Athletic Director:	Bill Freking, Brandon Valley	2025 (1)
Principal:	Pete Wilson, Sturgis	2025 (1)
Official:	Brett Distel, Box Elder	2025 (1)
Native Am. Rep:	TBD	2025 (2)

1. Welcome
2. Approve agenda
3. Procedure for the meeting
4. Select a Recording Secretary
5. Review Advisory Committee membership, terms, duties and responsibilities.
6. State Tournament Review
7. Committee Reports
 - a. AA Coach
 - i. Keep times at 2.5 hours at NSU
 - ii. Could we have two different time schedules for Players and NSU?
 - iii. Hitting Fungo at NSU
 - iv. Seed system change- use only AA seed points to establish SoDak 16 seeding and not give full points for beating an A or B school **Proposal #1- Attached**
 - v. JV changes (see handbook suggestions)
 1. Unlimited batters
 2. Time limit/# of innings (see handbook suggestions)
 - vi. Play Varsity contests first then JV to follow
 - vii. Thoughts to limiting pitchers from throwing both JV and Varsity contests.
 - b. A Coach
 - c. B Coach
 - d. AD
 - i. In the interest of increasing participation in the JV games, we would like free substitution and to be able to bat the entire line-up (JV games only). **(Later Proposal)**
 - ii. More games for new teams
 - iii. Shorten games in a triangular like can be done for double-headers and tournaments. **(Later Proposal)**
 - iv. A maximum runs/inning rule should be discussed/added. Coaches and AD's having the ability to alter the format of the lower-level games (limited innings or time).
 - v. Start with recommending breakaway bases for SDHSAA softball games.

Rationale: Safety of players. We had a girl break her lower leg last season on a slide.

- vi. Our coach is concerned about the short amount of time to get pitchers ready for the season. From the start of the first allowable practice there is only 5 days before the first allowable games. Maybe allowing pitchers and catchers to start practice the week before. I know this could be a temptation for a coach to cheat and have all players come in early, but he feels we need more time to prepare pitchers. **(SDHSAA has added a week. Practice this year may begin on Monday, Wk. 37 March 11)**
- vii. Location of the state tournament **(Site Selection Committee item)**
- viii. Taking all teams to state tournament and adding another week to the season. First day of state would be all teams and only the teams that win stay for day two and three.
- e. Principal
 - i. Change in qualifying for state- top six automatically qualify and then have a 7 vs. 10 and 8 vs. 9 contest to see who the final two teams would be for state competition.
 - ii. Finding another date for SoDak contests as semester tests are involved at that time.
- f. Official
- g. SDHSAA
 - i. Review Softball handbook
 - 1. Move start date up one week- March 11 (pitchers/catchers)
 - 2. Classifications-
 - 3. Regulation Contests verbiage: Proposal

Regulation Contests (changes in red) PROPOSAL #2 attached

1. Tournament – Tournament is defined as an event with a minimum of 4 teams participating. The tournament may be scheduled over more than one day. Host schools have the option to use one of the following formats for tournament play during the regular season (based on the above definition). Host schools must communicate which format will be used PRIOR to the start of the tournament.

a. Tournament game maybe shortened to a minimum of 5 innings for a regulation game. (run rules remain in effect)

b. Tournament games may use a “90-minute” game time limit for each contest. When the third out of the home team is recorded, this will determine if another inning will be played. If time is left on the clock, another inning will be played. If time has expired, the game is over.

c. Tournament games may play 7 innings for a regulation contest.

2. Doubleheader- defined as two varsity games on the same date against the same opponent, games may be shortened to any combination with a minimum of two 5 inning games and count as regulation games. Doubleheaders count as two games toward the allowable number of contests listed above.

3. Triangulars- may be played to 5 innings.

4. JV/subvarsity contests- Each host school will determine the length of their sub-varsity contests. Suggested length of contests is 5 innings or a 60-90 minute time limit. Contests may be played with free substitution, or batting as many as you would like, etc. Contests should stay within the rules as much as possible with some allowances for more players the ability to play without specific restrictions as there are in the varsity contest.

- 8. State Tournament Planning- Aberdeen (3 fields)
 - a. Schedule
 - b. Game times – Last year game times were: 10:00-12:30-3:00- 5:30
 - i. Potential – 10:00 – 12:00 – 2:00 – 4:00
 - ii. Potential – 10:00 – 12:15 – 2:30 – 5:00
 - c. High Seed is home and has 3rd base dugout- no coin flip
 - d. Motel Rooms – SDHSAA reserves rooms for you- potential to stay on campus (dorm rooms)
 - e. Warm-up time

f. Schedule plate umpire meeting 10-15 minutes before game time.

9. Review Softball Handbook

- a. Any issues with Game Ending Procedures
 - i. End of regulation game
 - ii. Tie Breaking Rule
 - iii. Run Rules- Use some common sense when games get out of hand (mercy rule)
 - iv. Called game due to weather/darkness
 - v. Suspended game
- b. Sub-state tournament policies
- c. Qualifying for state tournament

10. Other items to be discussed

- a. Games played on regulation fields with regulation fences
- b. Encourage schools to get break away bases

11. Adjournment



ADVISORY RULE PROPOSAL CHANGE

Proposal #1

Schools wishing to make a rules proposal change for the advisory committee to consider shall complete this form and submit to the SDHSAA office preferably two weeks PRIOR to the meeting date so the proposal may be added to the agenda.

Please select the sport in which the rules proposal is being submitted.

- | | | | |
|---|---|----------------------------------|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Basketball | <input type="radio"/> Cross Country/Track & Field | <input type="radio"/> Gymnastics | <input type="radio"/> Volleyball |
| <input type="radio"/> Comp. Cheer | <input type="radio"/> Football | <input type="radio"/> Soccer | <input type="radio"/> Wrestling |
| <input type="radio"/> Comp. Dance | <input type="radio"/> Golf | <input type="radio"/> Tennis | <input type="radio"/> In-/Out-of-Season |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> Softball | | | |

Title of Proposal: Seed points

Proposal will affect the following classes (please check all that apply):

- ☒ Class B
☒ Class A
☒ Class AA

Proposed Rule Change:

Currently, AA schools get the same amount of state tournament seed points for playing class A and class B schools as they do for playing class AA schools. Also, class A schools get the same amount of seed points for playing class B schools as they do for playing class A schools. Class A & B schools get bonus points for "playing up".

My proposal is to only count seed points for games against teams you are actually competing against for your state championship. In other words, AA schools only get seed points for games they play against other AA schools. They can play A or B schools if they choose, they just won't get seed points for that.

Alternately, if we have to award seed points for those games, I propose awarding fewer seed points than a team would get for playing a team in their own class.

Rationale for Rule Change:

We already acknowledge there is a difference in the classes or we wouldn't be awarding bonus points for the lower classes when they "play up." If we are playing the regular season in order to determine seeding for the state tournament, games against teams that are not going to be in our state tournament shouldn't be counted at all, or at least they shouldn't be counted with as much weight as games within our own class.

Trent Plough
Print Coach Name

Sioux Falls Lincoln
Member School

[Signature]
Coach Signature

David Maxwell
Print Athletic Director Name

Sioux Falls Lincoln
Member School

[Signature]
Athletic Director Signature



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| | | | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Softball |

Title of Proposal: Regulation Contests

Proposal will affect the following classes (please check all that apply):

- ☒ Class B
☒ Class A
☒ Class AA

Proposed Rule Change:

Regulation Contests

Tournament was already defined last year and in the handbook. These changes are to doubleheaders, triangulars and subvarsity contests.

2. Doubleheader- defined as two varsity games on the same date against the same opponent, games may be shortened to any combination with a minimum of two 5 inning games and count as regulation games. Doubleheaders count as two games toward the allowable number of contests listed above.

3. Triangulars- may be played to 5 innings.

4. JV/subvarsity contests- Each host school will determine the length of their sub-varsity contests. Suggested length of contests is 5 innings or a 60-90 minute time limit. Contests may be played with free substitution, or batting as many as you would like, etc. Contests should stay within the rules as much as possible with some allowances for more players the ability to play without specific restrictions as there are in the varsity contest.

Rationale for Rule Change:

Coaches are asking for a means to pay sub varsity contests to the format in which they choose, to determine how many innings, or with a time limit. They also have asked for free substitution and the potential to bat everyone to give the younger kids more opportunity to participate in an already limited schedule.

With Triangulars, if we are able to play tournaments to 5 innings, then in the interest of time we should be able to play triangulars to that length as well.

<u>SD HSAA</u>	<u>Jo Arch</u>	<u>Jo Arch</u>
Print Coach Name	Member School	Coach Signature

_____	_____	_____
Print Athletic Director Name	Member School	Athletic Director Signature