

2023-24
SOFTBALL
CCP

UIL Athletic Staff



Director of Athletics
Ray Zepeda



Assistant AD
Joseph Garmon



Assistant AD
AJ Martinez



Assistant AD
Grace McDowell





Athletic Staff Responsibilities

Joseph Garmon

Team
Tennis

Cross
Country

Basketball

Soccer

Spring
Tennis

Track &
Field

AJ Martinez

Football

Golf

Wrestling

Water Polo

Baseball

Grace McDowell

Volleyball

Spirit

Swim &
Dive

Basketball

Softball



CCP AGENDA

UIL Information

Coaching Reminders

Contest Regulations

General Regulations

Eligibility

Player Ejections

Sports Specific Information

LEAGUE GOVERNANCE

- **Legislative Council** – Rule making body, 32 superintendents, all regions, all conferences represented.
- **State Executive Committee (SEC)** – 12 school administrators appointed by the Commissioner of Education.
- **District Executive Committee (DEC)** – Consists of ONE voting member per school in a given UIL District.
- **Waiver Review Board** – 12 person committee, reviews decisions of the UIL Waiver Officer on appeals.



What's New For 2023-24...

- ◦ **6th Grade Participation** – Pilot program that allows 1A and 2A schools to use sixth graders to field as many as two (2) teams under this rule. This change allows schools, who qualify to use sixth graders based on participation levels already prescribed in the rule to field two teams. Be aware of first day participation levels prescribed for the allowance of sixth graders. **If you are at or above those standards, you cannot use 6th graders.** Also, once a school qualifies to use sixth graders under this rule, it would qualify to use sixth graders for any activities that follow on the calendar.
- **Baseball Post Season** – Pilot for post season in Conference 5A and 6A requiring a two-out-of-three series unless both schools agree to a single game. Applies to all post-season rounds prior to the state tournament.
- **Golf** – Allows the head golf coach and the assistant golf coach to actively coach during the course of play for all tournaments including district, regional, and state competition.
- **Junior High** – Amendment to junior high track meet start times that allows for two of the allowable six junior high meets to start no earlier than 2:00p.m.
- **Soccer** – Allows for 2A schools who sign up for participation in soccer to be placed in a 4A district for competition.
- **Flat Fee Schedule and Travel Reimbursement** – Effective 2023-24 a ten-year compensation plan for sports officials will begin. (fee increases every 3 years)



23-24 UIL Staff Study Items

From June 2023 Legislative Council

Standing Committee On Athletics approved the following proposal in Concept for Approval in October

- A proposal to allow coaches to coach their athletes in an All-Star game

Standing Committee On Athletics Authorized the Staff to Study the Following Proposals

- A proposal to extend the December game limitation rule to Thanksgiving break
- A proposal to increase the number of athletes from regional to state from two to three in Spring Tennis
- A proposal to add boys volleyball as a UIL sanctioned activity

Standing Committee On Athletics Authorized the Staff to Continue to Monitor the Following Proposals

- A proposal to allow 1A schools to participate in additional tournaments in exchange for individual games
- A proposal to allow the district champion home field advantage in the first round of soccer playoffs



2023-2024 COACHES REMINDERS

- **Coaches Certification Program (CCP)** – Coaches are required to have all CCP courses done by the start of their first practice or the start of school, whichever comes first.
- **Strength & Conditioning During Summer** – Monday-Friday, no more than two hours per day. A student shall attend no more than one session per day, plus 90 minutes of sport specific instruction, not to exceed 60 minutes of sport specific instruction in any one sport.
- **Strength & Conditioning During School Year** – Allows for 60 minutes of S&C outside the school day for sports that are in off-season. This time may be used all year. No sport specific instruction or equipment is allowed during this time. Skills instruction is only allowed during the athletic period for off-season sports.
- **Checklists** - Checklists for every sport have been created. All links are live and will take you right to the information you are looking for. Checklists are on each sports manual page.
- **Live streaming** - During the regular season, live streaming is permitted by mutual agreement of the two schools. During the postseason, the NFHS owns the rights to all games so a request form must be submitted and approved in order to be able to livestream a postseason contest.

****Further details may be found on the UIL Athletic Homepage****



COACHES EDUCATION AND TRAINING: REQUIREMENTS

- **UIL Professional Acknowledgement Form**– On file with the district (C&CR 1202(j))
- **Coaches Certification Program (CCP)**– online / in-person training (C&CR 1208(i))
 - Constitution & Contest Rules
 - Ethics
 - UIL Steroid Education
 - Safety Training (state law)
 - Concussion Training (state law)
 - Sport Specific Training – each sport has a separate module
 - **Football Coaches ONLY** – **ATAVUS Best Practices in Tackling certification**
 - **First Year Coaches ONLY** - **Fundamentals of Coaching in Texas** (C&CR 1202 (L))
 - **Safety/Risk Minimization for Cheerleading Coaches** – local district determines the provider for training, and training must be completed prior to any student contact







COACHES EDUCATION AND TRAINING: REQUIREMENTS-STATE LAW

- **CPR and First Aid Training** – must have a current certification filed with the district
- **AED Training** – must have a current certification filed with the district
- **Safety Training** – training provided by UIL (CCP) program, and must be completed prior to any contact with students
- **Concussion Training** – training must be completed annually (2 hours every other year/1 hour annually)



UIL RULES / STATE LAW / SPORT PLAYING RULES

KNOW THE RULES

- Download or bookmark the **Constitution and Contest Rules** and **Side by Side Manual**
 - Will answer UIL eligibility questions no-pass / no-play, eligibility and more.
- Make sure you have a **sport rule book** ( ,  ,  , ).
 - Playing rules are not UIL rules, know the difference between playing rules and UIL eligibility and policy rules.
 - Make sure you have the appropriate playing rules book for your sport and know new rules each year.
- Bookmark your **SPORT MANUAL**
 - Manuals are digital and can be found on the left-side menu on your sports page.
 - Information is organized in an easy-to-find manner.



CONTEST REGULATIONS

- **High School** – one contest per ***school week***:
 - See specific sport for calendar week limits.
 - Per activity - per student
- **Junior High** – one contest per ***calendar week***:
 - See specific sport for week limits

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CALENDAR AND SCHOOL WEEK:

- **Calendar Week**: 12:01 am Sunday to Midnight Saturday
- **School Week**: 12:01 on 1st instructional day of the week to close of instruction on the last instructional day of the week



RESCHEDULING GAMES **DUE TO WEATHER**

- ***District varsity contests*** postponed by weather or public disaster, may be made up as an exception to the school week provided they are rescheduled and played on the next available date, other than Sunday, on which another district contest is not scheduled.
- Junior varsity, freshman and junior high teams ***may not*** play postponed matches / games as an exception to the school week.



GAMES RESCHEDULING: **EXAMPLE**

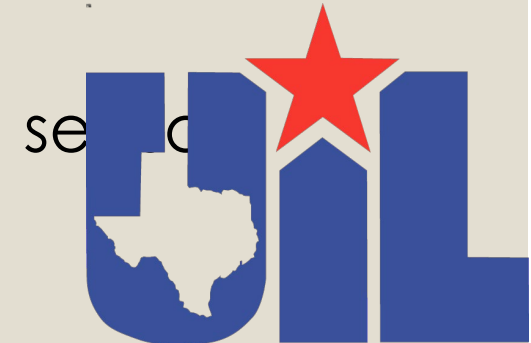
- Next available date (that another district game is not scheduled)
 - Game scheduled for Friday, postponed due to icy roads
 - Next available date is Saturday
 - Cannot automatically reschedule for Monday because you don't get the exception to school week if you don't try to play on next available date.
 - If weather still exists on Saturday, can push to Monday...district administration determines this.



GENERAL REGULATIONS

JUNIOR HIGH / MIDDLE SCHOOL

- **Scheduling**: No game, contest, scrimmage or tournament, including district competition, shall begin prior to the end of the academic school day for all participants (Exception: Amendment to junior high track meet start times that allows for two of the allowable six junior high meets to start no earlier than 2:00p.m.)
- **ONE** contest in a calendar week, can also play a tournament in same calendar week.
- **Length of Season**: Know the number of days to complete seasons. Days start counting on the first day of try-outs or practice, whichever is first. Section 1478.
- **No Post-District Competition**: There shall be no post-playoffs or competition in any athletic event.



2023-2024 **PLAYER EJECTIONS**

- Player Ejection. Any player ejected from a contest is subject to an automatic penalty. The automatic penalty for such an ejection is as follows:
 - (A) Football. Ejected player misses the rest of the game in which they were ejected plus the first half of the following game.
 - (B) Other Team Sports. Ejected player misses the rest of the game in which they were ejected plus all of the following game.
- Soccer Exception. This Section does not alter the current point penalty structure for soccer player ejections, as required by National Federation of State High School Associations soccer playing rules, that is outlined in the soccer coaches' manual.
- Any player ejected from a contest is subject to an automatic penalty as described above. Player ejections **cannot** be overturned by a game official and/or chapter. If a coach has a question following a contest with a player ejection, the coach should contact UIL.



2023-2024 SCHOOL SPONSORED CAMPS

School Year Limitations: For students in *grades six and below*: two camps are allowed, per sport, during the school year.

Summer Limitations: For all students with the exception of students entering their **second, third or fourth** year of high school may attend two school sponsored camps during the summer break.

- No more than six consecutive days for each camp.
- Schools cannot furnish / issue any individual player equipment
- Schools can furnish sport equipment (balls, standards, goals, football dummies, pitching machines, etc.)



ELIGIBILITY: **VARSITY ATHLETICS**

- Meets all requirements of Section 400 & 403
- Is an amateur
- Meets Parent Residence Rule
- Meets the Age Rule
- Has not changed schools for athletic purposes
- Previous Athletic Participation Form (If necessary)





ELIGIBILITY: 1st Six Weeks Of School Year

- Grades nine and below - promoted
- Second Year of High School – five accumulated credits
- Third Year of High School - ten accumulated credits or five credits within the last twelve months
- Fourth Year of High School - fifteen accumulated credits or five credits within the last twelve months

ELIGIBILITY: **PAPF** (Previous Athletic Participation Form)

- Required for **ALL NEW** students in grades 9-12 who have:
 - practiced or participated with a former school in grades 8-12 in any UIL athletic activity. If new but did not participate, page 1 only.
- **New school must verify that the student meets the parent residence rule.**
- **District Executive Committee** must determine that student did not move for athletic purposes and approve PAPF before a student is eligible to participate at the **varsity** level at the new school
- Submitted to the UIL office.

****A PAPF does not have to be 'filed' in the UIL office before a student can participate, it only needs approval from the DEC.****



ELIGIBILITY: **Sub-varsity & Junior High**

An individual is eligible to participate if they are...

Sub-Varsity Eligibility

- Full time student
- Academically eligible

Junior High Eligibility

- Full time student
- Academically eligible
- Age appropriate for JH athletic competition



STUDENT PARTICIPATION: REQUIRED FORMS

- Pre-Participation Physical Examination Form
- Medical History Form
- Rules Acknowledgment Form
- Parent or Guardian Permit
- Parent/Student Anabolic Steroid Use and Random Steroid Testing Form
- Concussion Acknowledgement Form
- Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Form






SOFTBALL

- Softball Dates
- Coaches Reminders
- Player Ejections
- Practice Regulations
- Scrimmage / Game Regulations
- Rescheduling Games
- Official UIL Softball
- Coaches Checklist

2023-2024: CHECKLISTS

 UIL Coaches Checklist Softball 2023-24			
	CHECKLIST	REFERENCE	COMPLETION DATE
✓	PRE-SEASON		
	Register/update profile in the UIL Portal	UIL Portal	Prior to 1 st Practice
	Review Softball Manual	Softball Manual	Prior to 1 st Practice
	Update Coach name in Max Preps	MaxPreps	Beginning of school year
	UIL yearly coaching requirements (CCP & TEC)	Coaching Requirements	Prior to 1 st Day of School
	Student participation required forms. Keep on file.	Athletic Forms	Prior to 1 st Practice
	Varsity participation required forms. Keep on file.	Athletic Forms	Prior to 1 st Practice
	Review rules regarding eligibility for athletic contests	C&CR Sec. 400 & 403	Prior to 1 st Practice
	Review Softball Plan	Softball Plan	Prior to 1 st Practice
	Review UIL rule changes	UIL Rule Changes	Prior to 1 st Practice
	Review NFHS rule change	NFHS	Prior to 1 st Practice
	Complete PAPFs and file with UIL Office <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply/Complete any necessary Waivers and file with UIL 	PAPF Process Waiver Information	Prior to 1 st Practice
	Submit Varsity Team Eligibility Form to district chair (UIL Portal)	UIL Portal	Prior to 1 st Contest
✓	REGULAR SEASON		
	First day of practice		January 12
	First day for interschool scrimmages		January 27
	First day for playing interschool games		February 12
	Update schedule and record on MaxPreps	MaxPreps	Ongoing
✓	POST-SEASON		
	Review Post Season Handbook	Post Season Handbook	
	District Certification by District Chair	Certification Instructions	April 23

- Checklists for every sport have been created. All links are live and will take you right to the information you are looking for.
- Will be on manual page.



SOFTBALL DATES 2024

January 12 - First day of practice.

January 27 - First day for interschool scrimmages, all conferences.

February 12 - First day for interschool games, all conferences.

April 23 - District Certification Deadline, All Conferences.

April 27 - Bi-district, All Conferences.

May 4 - Area (2A through 6A), Regional quarterfinals (1A).

May 11 - Regional quarterfinals (2A through 6A), Regional semifinals (1A)

May 18 - Regional semifinals (2A through 6A, *1A has 2 weeks for next deadline)

May 25 - Regional finals, All Conferences.

May 28-June 1 - *UIL Softball State Tournament, All Conferences*

ALLOWABLE CONTESTS

2023-24

- 0 Tournaments and 26 Games or
- 1 Tournament and 23 Games or
- 2 Tournaments and 20 Games or
- 3 Tournaments and 17 Games
- 3 games may be substituted for a tournament



SCRIMMAGE REGULATIONS

- Saturday, January 28th – first day allowed for scrimmages.
- Teams are **limited** to one scrimmage during the school week, and **one** additional scrimmage may be scheduled after the end of the school week. Two scrimmages per calendar week.
- Teams are limited to scrimmaging against 3 other schools at the same site, on the same day.
- After a team plays their first interschool game, scrimmages are no longer permitted.



GAME REGULATIONS: **SOFTBALL**

Games

- Season Limits – know Your limits
- School Week vs Calendar Week
- Double header – A student could play two back-to-back varsity games or in a varsity and junior varsity game, at the same site the same night. Each game counts as one of the student's total games for the season. A doubleheader can be played once during the school week and once after the end of the school week as games are unlimited.
- For softball and baseball, games are unlimited after the end of the school week





OFFICIAL SOFTBALL 2023-24

**Baden Perfection –
Used at the State
Tournament**



PERFECTION GAME SOFTBALL
2BSFPY

PRACTICE REGULATIONS **IN-SEASON**

School is In-Session

- **Eight Hour Rule** – Practice outside the school day, from the beginning of the school week through the end of the school week (excluding holidays), is limited to a maximum of eight hours per school week per activity
- The in-school athletic period does not count towards the allotted 8 hours
- Any time used in connection with a practice that is not part of the athletic period counts as part of the 8 hours.
(Dress, video/meetings, etc.)



2023-24 Softball Rule Changes

- **1-8-6:** Permits electronic information to be transmitted to the dugout from anywhere outside of live ball area.

Rationale: The rule change reflects current technology and still requires that electronic devices used for coaching purposes may only be used in the dugout but does not stipulate where the video is recorded or how it is transmitted.

- **3-2-2:** Beginning January 1, 2027, uniforms may only bear a single manufacturer's logo, school name, school logo, mascot and/or the participant's name. Advertisements, messages, team slogans, etc., will no longer be permitted.

Rationale: Consistent language has been established for NFHS sports that describe what information is permitted on the uniform. A player's name, school name, school nickname, school mascot and/or the school logo may be placed on the uniform.



2023-24 Softball Rule Changes

- **3-2-5:** Removes the color restriction for headbands and ribbons.
Rationale: Adds consistency amongst headwear requirements for other NFHS sports.
- **3-2-7:** Defines where a wristband with a playbook/playcard may be worn. If worn by the pitcher, the wristband with a playbook/playcard must be worn on the non-pitching wrist or arm.
Rationale: Clarifies where this equipment can be worn. This change will prohibit wristbands from being worn on the belt. It remains legal for players to keep the wristband with a playbook/playcard in their back pocket.



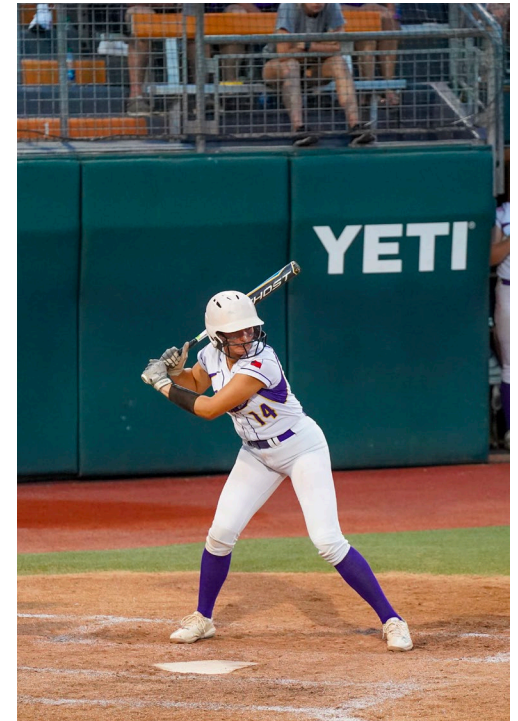
2023-24 Softball Rule Changes

- **4-2-7, 10-2-3e, h:** The umpire may call (end) a game if playing conditions in or around the facility become unacceptable to safely continue the game.
Rationale: Provides rule justification when an umpire ends a contest due to unacceptable playing conditions to continue play in addition to weather.
- **6-1-2c, 2-47:** The pitcher may now have both feet off the ground at the same time as long as both feet remain within the 24-inch width of the pitching plate and the pitcher does not replant the pivot foot. A definition for a replant was added.
Rationale: The rule change permits both feet to disengage from the playing surface while delivering a pitch. The addition of Rule 2-47 defines that a replant of the pivot foot occurs when the pitcher pushes off the playing surface from anywhere other than the pitcher's plate prior to the act of delivering the pitch.



2023-24 Softball Rule Changes

- **6-2-2:** Pitchers can only use dirt, powdered rosin or comparable drying agents that are listed on the USA Softball's certified equipment webpage to dry the hand. Rationale: Clarifies the difference between tape and other non-approved substances on the pitching hand or fingers versus the use of approved substances under the supervision and control of the umpire.
- **2024 SOFTBALL EDITORIAL CHANGES**
1-5-1c, 1-6-1, 1-7-1, 2-4-3, 1-6-1b, 7-1-2 PENALTIES 2 & 3, 7-4-4





2023-24 SOFTBALL POINTS OF EMPHASIS:

- Game Management
- Unacceptable Conditions
- Unreported vs. Illegal Substitutions
- Pitching Mechanics:
Replant

SPORTSMANSHIP

- **Starts with the COACH**
 - Power of your personal example
 - Athletes and Spectators will take your lead.
 - Have a plan and be strategic in coaching good sportsmanship
 - Student-Athletes
 - Parents
- **Athletes**
 - Appropriate sportsmanship is a requirement.
 - Instill a respect for game officials and opponents
- **Spectators/Parents**
 - Cannot selectively ignore issues with spectators/parents.
 - Requires effective game administrators.



AREAS OF FOCUS (COACHES)

1. Increase Understanding of and Compliance to UIL Rules and Procedures

- Read UIL/TEA Side-by-Side prior to your sports season (All coaches)
- Read Sports Manual
- Removal of situational ethics

2. Focus on preseason & in-season eligibility processes

- 2 coaches verify all eligibility processes
- PAPF's first year of attendance
- Thoroughly verifying residence & contact previous school
- Appropriate use of automatic bypass (Must do due diligence)
- Factually & fully complete the PAPF when sending school
- DEC Appropriate Utilization

3. Sportsmanship Improvement

- Starts with coach
- Focus on athlete conduct-Supervision
- Parents/Spectators
- Effective Game Administration
- Ejection # Improvement



AREAS OF FOCUS (UIL STAFF)

Collaboration, Communication & Consistency

- Regular communication and collaboration with coaching associations & coaches
- Be consistent within our communication (Coaches will get the same answer regardless of which UIL staff member they call)
- Clearly communicate processes, rules, and areas of needed attention

****If we are not meeting your needs, call us on it. We want to hear from you and support you in the best way that we can.***

GOOD LUCK & HAVE A GREAT YEAR!!!!







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Athletic Staff Contacts