



Pitch Counts

New rule for 2017, which is mostly not in your rulebook (except for 6-1-6)

What it means to you on the field

Summary: **you have almost no role in counting pitches**

Counting pitches

- Both teams will be counting pitches, both using the official form
- The home team pitch counter (it may be the home team scorekeeper or a parent or a bench player) has the 'official' count
 - If there is a disagreement, let them figure it out without delaying things too much. If the disagreement is major, note on your lineup card when the disagreement occurred and when pitcher is substituted.
 - Bottom line: **they decide what the official count is and they decide if they want to dispute the count. You have no role in this.**
 - Both managers are supposed to sign both forms at game's end
- **Disagreements cannot be protested.**
 - They have a separate grievance process for resolving disagreements

Counting pitches: some rules you should know

- Warm-ups do not count; Pick-offs do not count
- If a pitch is thrown on **a balk call**, the pitch will NOT count for the purposes of this rule (a balk is immediate dead ball)
- There is a max threshold for each level (Varsity, JV, Modified):
 - **If a pitcher reaches the max threshold / pitch count limit in the middle of an at-bat, that pitcher will be allowed to finish that hitter** and those pitches count.
- Between innings, teams are to reconcile pitch counts
- They know the limit levels which require the specific rest nights (how many nights of rest); you do not need to memorize them
- You can expect they will change pitchers at some unusual points in the game

Pitch Counts Summary

- You have almost no role in this rule's execution (6-1-6).
 - They count pitches
 - They resolve discrepancies
 - Note the pitching change on your lineup card if things get testy
 - They resolve eligibility to pitch
 - If one team feels a pitcher is not eligible to pitch, the proper procedure for you is:
 - Let the team manager decide if he pitches or not
 - Protests are not allowed
 - Each state will set its own protocols and regulations for violation of Rule 6-1-6