

2021 Softball

Classification — based on grades 9-12

5A	1,280 and over	2A	319-160
4A	1,279-640	1A	159 and under
3A	639-320		

2021 Softball Season

Instruction Throwing Program	February 12
First day of practice	February 26
First game	March 10
Dist. completion date	May 15
State Play-ins	May 15
State Tournament	May 21-22

*All teams will be required to enter rosters, schedules and scores on MaxPreps.

Game Limitations

A team or individual is limited to 22 games or 20 games plus one tournament, not to exceed 24 games. If a school loses a scheduled tournament game or a school is unable to attend a tournament due to reasons beyond their control, the school can reschedule lost games. A contestant who exceeds the limitations of regular season participation will become ineligible for district, state or any other additional IHSAA sponsored competition of that sport.

Rules

All Idaho contests will be played under National Federation (NFHS) Softball Rules. Rules books and case books will be distributed to school representatives at the district rules clinics.

Idaho Rules Modifications

NFHS rules shall be followed, except as modified by the IHSAA Board of Directors. IHSAA modifications:

- Length of game:** This rule is in effect at the state tournament except during 5A, 4A, 3A 2A games #14 and #15 and 1A games #6 and #7. All varsity games shall be seven innings with the exception of the 10/15-run rule. A game shall end any time after the fifth inning when a team is 10 or more runs behind and has completed its turn at bat. Fast pitch games may also be terminated by mutual agreement of both coaches prior to the start of the contest and acknowledged by the umpire-in-chief under the following conditions:
 - When a team is ahead by 15 runs after three innings of play.
 - When a game exceeds the time limit of 1 ½ hours.
- Called game:** If weather or darkness causes a tied game to be called, such game shall be considered a suspended game and shall be continued from the point of suspension at a later time.
 - If a game is called before five full innings have been played and the score is not tied, such game shall also be considered a suspended game, unless the home team has scored a greater number of runs in four or four-and-a-fraction turns at bat than the visiting team has scored in five turns at bat, in which case it is a regulation game.
- Baseline:** The baseline shall be 60 feet.
- Ball:** A 12" ball shall be used. The yellow optic ball may be used in fast pitch for league play and district tournaments, and the official ball – Dudley Thunder Heat WT-12-Y-FP. – will be used at all play-in and state tournament competition.
- Tie-Break procedure:** Each half-inning begins by placing a runner on second base. That runner is the player in the batting order who precedes the lead-off batter in the inning. The game then proceeds a full inning or until a winner is determined in

that inning. This procedure shall start at the beginning of the eighth inning or at the game time limit previously agreed upon by both coaches.

Umpires

IHSAA certified umpires must be used for all interscholastic contests. Two umpires should be used at all games.

2021 State Tournament

Dates:	May 21-22
Sites:	5A Mountain View High School
	4A Skyview Park, Nampa
	3A Timberline High School
	2A Nampa High School
	1A Quad Park, Caldwell

Number of Participants

At play-in and state tournament games, a maximum of seventeen players may be in uniform at the start of the contest. Violation of this rule will result in the school being assessed a maximum fine for dressing more than the approved number of players at a state play-in or tournament game with forfeiture of the game if excess numbers play. All classifications will be allowed four coaches and three support personnel to be admitted without an IHSAA card or tournament pass. Any coaches or support personnel exceeding that number must have either an IHSAA card or purchase a tournament pass.

Determining Home Team

At state play-in games, the home team shall be determined by the flip of a coin. At the state tournament, the home team for round one games shall be the team on the top of the bracket. In subsequent rounds, the home team shall be determined by the flip of a coin. The home team dugout shall be on the first base side.

Home Run Fence

When state fast pitch tournaments are held at fields that do not meet NFHS standard distance for the home run fence, a fence shall be installed at 210', if possible.

Play-in Game Option

Play-in games may be played just prior to the first game of the state tournament. The winner of that game qualifies as one of the eight teams in the state tournament. The loser is eliminated from further state competition.

Inclement Weather Procedure for State

In the event the state tournament cannot take place in its scheduled format, the following procedure will be used:

- All modifications will be handled in accordance with IHSAA Rule 20.
- Alternate sites, if available, must be within reasonable distance to the original site so as not to incur additional travel/lodging costs for teams that have traveled.
- Games will be shortened to 5 innings until the original game schedule can be resumed.
- All games on the consolation side of the bracket will be cancelled. Championship semifinal games will be 5 innings.
- The length of championship games will be determined by the host site manager and the IHSAA.
- If more than 4 teams remain in the tournament, and it is not possible to get the games in, the tournament may be cancelled.

NOTE: It is very possible that not all classifications will make the same decisions at each step of the protocol above.

2021 Softball Representation

5A		4A		3A	
I-II	1.5	I-II	1	I	2
III	4.5	III	2.5	III	2
V-VI	2	IV	2	IV	1.5
		V	1	V	1.25
		VI	1.5	VI	1.25
2A		1A			
I-II	1.5	II	3		
III	2	III	3		
IV	1				
V	1.5				
VI	2				

State Play-ins

5A Play-in

3E Prairie HS
 1-2B 1:00 p.m.
 Sat., May 15

4A Play-in

3C OK Ward Field, Pocatello
 6B 1:00 p.m.
 Sat., May 15

3A Play-in

4B OK Ward Field, Pocatello
 5B/6B 1:00 p.m.
 Sat., May 15

2A Play-in

1-2B Timberline HS
 5B 1:00 p.m.
 Sat., May 15

2021 State Tournament Pairings

5A		4A			
5-6A		6A			
3D		4A			
3A		1-2A			
3E/1-2B		3B			
1-2A		3A			
3B		4B			
5-6B		5A			
3C		3C/6B			
3A		2A		1A	
1A		1-2A		BYE	2A
4B/5-6B		5A		3B	
4A		6A		2C	
3B		3B		BYE	3A
6A		3A		2B	
1B		1-2B/5B		3C	
5A		4A			
3A		6B			