

NYSPHSAA MODIFIED "MERCY RULE" 2009 SURVEY

Modified Baseball/Softball Coach's Report

All Sections requested and were granted approval by the NYSPHSAA Executive Committee to conduct a two-year "mercy rule" pilot program in modified boys' baseball and girls' softball during the 2008-09 and 2009-10 seasons, allowing a game to end after the fifth inning when a team at the short end of the 15 run rule has completed its fifth at-bat. At the conclusion of each season of the experiment, each participating school's baseball and softball coach is asked to return this survey to the coordinator of baseball or softball in your section and/or your Modified Sectional Representative to the NYSPHSAA. The due date of this survey is Friday, June 12, 2009. The NYSPHSAA Committee for Modified Athletics will review the survey information at its Fall 2009 meeting. Your input is valued and appreciated.

School: _____ Section _____
Submitted by: _____ Boys' Baseball/Girls' Softball Coach (Circle One)

Number of Teams that Your School Fields in this Sport: _____
Number of Games Played this Season Per Team _____
Number of Games Shortened this Season Per team _____
with the use of the mercy rule _____

Percentage of Games Shortened with the Mercy Rule _____ %

In general, did the experiment allowing the mercy rule result in positive outcomes for your sport?
_____ YES _____ NO

If YES, please list the positive impacts of use of the mercy rule:

Do you feel that the use of the "mercy rule" had a negative impact on your team, players or program?
_____ YES _____ NO

If YES, please list the negative impacts of use of the mercy rule:

Did you ever choose to play beyond the "mercy rule", and continue to play seven innings although the run differential was 15 runs at 5 innings?
_____ YES _____ NO

If YES, who made that decision?

____ Mutual agreement of both coaches ____ The coach whose team was behind ____ Officials

In what percentage of games did this happen? _____ %

Were there any additional injuries as a result of the mercy rule? _____ YES _____ NO

If YES, how many? _____

Do you recommend that the NYSPHSAA handbook include the mercy rule as a modified baseball/softball game rule?
_____ YES _____ NO

NYSPHSAA MODIFIED “MERCY RULE” 2009 SURVEY Sectional Representatives’ Summary Report

Submitted by: _____ Section _____

All Sections requested and were granted approval by the NYSPHSAA Executive Committee to conduct a two-year “mercy rule” pilot program in modified boys’ baseball and girls’ softball during the 2008-09 and 2009-10 seasons, allowing a game to end after the fifth inning when a team at the short end of the 15 run rule has completed it’s fifth at-bat. At the conclusion of each season of the experiment, each participating school’s baseball and softball coach were asked to return their baseball and softball surveys to the sectional coordinators of baseball or softball and/or sectional representatives. The NYSPHSAA Committee for Modified Athletics will review the survey information at its Fall 2009 meeting.

This summary of each section’s baseball and softball coaching surveys is to be sent to NYSPHSAA modified baseball coordinator Steve Nolan. All summary reports should be received by June 26, 2009. Please use numbers in reporting the results of each question, by tallying the total coaching survey responses per item, columns separate for baseball and softball. The percentage of your returns must also be calculated. Additional comments are welcome.

	BASEBALL	SOFTBALL
Total # of Schools that Participated in Mercy Rule Experiment:	_____	_____
Total # of Schools in Section that Returned Surveys:	_____	_____
Percentage of Return:	_____ %	_____ %

Number of Teams that Your Section Fields in this Sport:	_____	_____
Number of Games Played this Season Per Team	_____	_____
Number of Games Shortened this Season Per team with the use of the mercy rule	_____	_____
Percentage of Games Shortened with the Mercy Rule	_____ %	_____ %

In general, did your coaches feel that use of the mercy rule resulted in positive outcomes for baseball and softball?

Number of Coaches who reported YES	_____	_____
Number of Coaches who reported NO	_____	_____

Please list the most common reported positive responses to the “mercy rule”

Please list the most common reported negative responses to the “mercy rule”
