

## **SAFETY EMPHASIS BULLETIN**

1. Through BASE, SafeSport and other health and safety initiatives, USA Baseball is working with our organization to make the game of baseball a positive and safe experience at all levels of play. Visit the USA Baseball Sport Development Resource site at: [www.usabdevelops.com/base](http://www.usabdevelops.com/base)
2. The Board of Directors extensively discussed concerns about the overuse of pitchers in youth baseball. Every effort must be made to ensure that coaches exercise good judgment and that extreme care is taken to protect the arms of all youth participants. Pitch counts as well as an innings per week limit (league play) are used to determine pitcher eligibility.  
**DBB is recognized as being "Fully Compliant" with the MLB/USA Baseball program "PitchSmart."**
3. The National Federation of High School rulebook contains various rules that will serve to help protect participants in our program from injury. Please review their book and website for details.
4. Jewelry shall not be worn except for religious or medical medals. A religious medal must be taped and worn under a uniform. A medical medal must be taped and may be visible.
5. Rule 1.90: It is strongly recommended that only players warm up pitchers. No other person is allowed to warm up a pitcher without an approved catcher's mask and throat protector.
6. The Board of Directors implemented a policy that host teams as well as all teams traveling to a tournament have the following level of insurance:
  - a. Excess accident insurance with a medical limit of at least \$50,000. Coverage must include all participants, volunteers, and employees.
  - b. General liability insurance on an occurrence form (not claims made) that has a per occurrence limit of at least \$1,000,000 combined single limits and does not exclude "athletic participants" (see your insurance carrier for further details). In addition, DBB, Inc. must be named as "additional insured" if the policy is not purchased through the endorsed insurance program. (see rule book ad) Proof of insurance is required of all teams involved in tournament play.  
**Leagues should secure adequate liability/accident coverage beginning with the local league season.**
7. It is strongly recommended that leagues require waiver/release forms for all participants. A sample waiver/release recommended by the endorsed insurance carrier and DBB can be downloaded at [www.sadlersports.com/dixie](http://www.sadlersports.com/dixie) under the Risk Management Section.
8. DBB issues a warning in regard to the danger of the use of 15 passenger vans. It is recommended that leagues seek the most acceptable mode of transportation for travel.
9. DBB emphasizes all franchised leagues **must** adopt and implement a child abuse risk management program. Visit: [www.dbbusa.org](http://www.dbbusa.org) under the Risk Management Section for information. **Endorsed General Liability policy contains the following provision:** "Coverage for sexual abuse or molestation will not apply unless there is a system in place to perform at least the three items: (1) Criminal Background Checks on paid and volunteer staff (2) Written Procedures on sexual abuse and molestation prevention (3) Written Procedures on response plans for sexual abuse molestation including a requirement that law enforcement must be contacted in the event of an allegation.
10. Local programs **must implement a background check** that complements their local league Child Abuse Risk Management Program. All leagues must certify that all of their tournament coaches successfully completed a background check!
11. It is important for athletes, coaches, and parents to be aware of signs and symptoms of a concussion, as well as how to prevent concussion. Visit: [www.cdc.gov/heads-up](http://www.cdc.gov/heads-up)