

2024-25 ACEL Baseball Plan & Schedule



The General Season Information

Read the ACEL Standing Rules

Make sure to read the ACEL Standing Rules available for download from theacel.com. It is vitally important that you read and understand all ACEL rules. Be aware that ACEL rules and procedures are tailored to the unique needs of our Member Organizations. Therefore, some ACEL rules are unlike those customarily found in other leagues. If you have any questions about ACEL rules or operating procedures, please ask your athletic director for clarification.

If any particular situation is not covered in the ACEL Standing Rules, the current NFHS (National Federation of State High School Associations) rules apply.

No Optional ACEL Rules

Some Members have recently expressed concern that all league rules are not enforced by the ACEL causing many rules to be treated as optional by some Members. To be clear, there are **NO OPTIONAL RULES** in the ACEL. While it is true that the ACEL does not have the manpower or resources to catch every error or even intentional violation, our **Christian** Membership should not need to be policed by the league and forced to follow the rules. It is the duty of every ACEL Member Organization to read, understand, and enforce all ACEL rules.

Points of Emphasis for 2024-25

1. Administrator on Duty (Section 2 of ACEL Rules)

The number of incidents and complaints about behavior has decreased substantially since Member Organizations have been appointing Administrators on Duty for each ACEL contest. While improvements have been made, please remain vigilant, and make sure your administrators on duty this season understand their responsibilities at ACEL events.

Each team is required to provide an Administrator on Duty at every ACEL event.

The Administrator on Duty:

- Must be capable and willing to fulfill the role of Administrator on Duty,
- Shall be responsible for the general organization, management and supervision of the Organization's student body, coaches and spectators before, during and after each event, (ACEL Rule 2.3)
- Shall work with the Administrator on Duty of the opposing team to handle any issue that arises beyond the scope of the officials' authority, (ACEL Rule 2.4)
- Is **NOT** responsible for the opposing team,
- May not be a coach or other individual participating in that event (scorekeeper, stat keeper, etc.),
- Must locate and introduce themselves to the Administrator on Duty of the opposing team prior to the beginning of the contest,
- Must report ACEL Rule infractions to the Executive Director via the incident report form located on the Forms and Downloads section of the ACEL website (theacel.com).

2. Behavior (Section 5 of ACEL Rules)

The standards listed in Section 5 of the ACEL Standing Rules are not optional and must be enforced by Administrators on Duty.

The goal is to have inappropriate behavior graciously corrected by the Administrators who have a relationship with the offender. Most of the issues we have had occurred because there was no one in authority with a relationship to the offender present to calm and diffuse the situation or were inflamed by adults from one team attempting the correct adults and students from the other team.

3. League Records

Rosters

Rosters must be completely filled out to include player numbers. Teams may not leave player numbers blank. Any rostered player with a blank player number will be ineligible.

Rosters must be uploaded by the Organization to the ACEL digital file collection system Revver (<https://login.revverdocs.com/?region=US&goTo=/>). Your AD has login information for accessing Revver. The fillable roster form, available from the forms and downloads section of the website, must be used for roster submissions. An instruction sheet explaining how to complete the updated roster form is available for download from the “forms and downloads” section of the website.

Student Birth Certificates and Grade Reports

Quarterly grade submissions are no longer required. Birth Certificates and transcripts/ grade reports are only required for newly rostered* athletes.

*A newly rostered athlete is a student that has never appeared on a roster for your organization and for whom no student records exist in Revver.

New ACEL Administrative Assistant

I'm very happy to report that we have been able to hire an Administrative Assistant for the Executive Director! Micah Walker, who is also one of our ACEL Board Members, has graciously agreed to fill this much needed role in the ACEL. Micah will be responsible for managing and maintaining Revver and all the documents (rosters and student records) stored there.

Any questions that you have about how to access Revver, or issues with uploading documents should be directed to Micah from now on. His email address is acelassist@gmail.com.

Micah will manage our document storage system. He will not handle questions of eligibility. Any questions or concerns regarding eligibility should be directed to the ACEL Executive Director.

The 2024-25 Baseball Schedule

Baseball has a 9-week regular season with an additional week for both playoffs and the state championship. For 2024-25, there are 14 varsity baseball teams. Please make a point to welcome the following new programs to ACEL Baseball: Alexandria Homeschool Arts & Athletics, Apostolic Restoration Church Academy, and Freedom Life Academy.

Baseball Districts

North District

CHA Northeast
Psalms Christian Academy
Apostolic Restoration Church Academy*
Freedom Life Academy*

Southeast District

Christian Academy of Louisiana
Chef of Baton Rouge

Southwest District

Good Samaritan Fellowship
Faith Training Christian Academy
Southwest Louisiana Homeschool Athletics
Alexandria Homeschool Arts & Athletics

South Central District

Acadiana Christian Athletics
Acadiana Christian School
First Baptist Christian School
John Paul the Great Academy

*Probationary team

Teams are still districted according to geography per current ACEL policy and are scheduled to play all in-district opponents twice and most out-of-district opponents once as time in the schedule allows. Teams are scheduled for 11-15 games depending on district. The South-Central District has the highest game totals due to its easy accessibility to all other districts.

Divisions

Before a sport moves to a division structure, it must be reasonably demonstrated that the sport can maintain enough teams to support that system. ACEL Baseball needs to add a couple more teams and be able to sustain those teams year to year before a move to divisions is made.

All games must be completed

All scheduled games must be completed. Any game that can not be completed will be subject to a \$500 fine.

If a weather related game cancellation can not be made up, the ACEL Executive Board will consider how to handle those games on a case-by-case basis. Teams will be required to provide detailed documentation explaining why the games could not be reasonably made-up.

Good Friday

Good Friday falls during playoff week this year. Therefore, playoff dates will be extended. Playoffs shall take place between April 14-22.

All-State Voting

All organizations participating in baseball/softball are required to attend All-State Voting even if no player is nominated for all-state from the organization. There is a \$500 fine for failure to attend. The Baseball/Softball All-State Voting meeting will be via Zoom, Saturday, April 19th.

Playoffs

Top 6 teams by regular season power points will advance to playoffs with #1 and #2 earning byes to the state semi-finals. Highest seed will host playoff games for seeds 3-6.

Official Playoff Dates

The following dates are official ACEL playoff dates. Flexibility in playoff scheduling is intended to assist the host Organization secure facilities and officials for the playoff game. Playoff schedule changes should not be made to accommodate personal conflicts or other extra-curricular activities. Earlier dates during playoff week have been chosen as the official dates reserving later dates for weather adjustments.

To change an official playoff date, both teams must agree to the change and both teams must submit a schedule change form to the ACEL.

1st Round Playoff Dates
Baseball
Tuesday, April 15, 2025
Softball
Monday, April 14, 2025

State Championship

The 2024-25 ACEL Baseball/Softball State Championship is scheduled for Friday & Saturday, April 25-26 in Alexandria/ Pineville.

Reminders

Administrator Required at Each Game

An administrator or a designated representative for each team must be in attendance at all ACEL events. The administrator may NOT be the team's coach nor may they sit on the bench. The purpose of the administrator is to handle issues that may arise with the fans, players, or coaches of their organization. The administrator must locate and introduce themselves to the administrator of the opposing team prior to the beginning of the game. Administrators for each team will work together to handle any issue that arises beyond the scope of the officials' authority.

Update Your Coach Information

Please check the members' section of the ACEL website (theacel.com) to confirm that the contact information for your coach and the location of your facility are correct. (The members' section of the website is password protected. Your administrator and athletic director have the password.) To update your information, use the "Information Update Form" available from the forms and downloads section of the website.

MaxPreps

The use of MaxPreps to report player stats for all-state consideration in the ACEL is mandatory. No all-state nomination will be accepted without an accompanying MaxPreps stat report.

Please do not underestimate the time that it can take MaxPreps to approve new organizations or to fix problems within existing accounts. ***If you are new to MaxPreps or are having issues with your MaxPreps account, NOW is the time to get those fixed.***

In order for MaxPreps to work for us as it is intended, player stats must be uploaded for each ACEL game in which an all-state nominated player participates. Stats should be uploaded routinely throughout the season. Waiting until the end of the season makes it difficult for our other teams to link to your schedule and for stat reporting to be transparent.

Follow the ACEL on Facebook

Make sure to follow the ACEL on Facebook @ACELathletics and make sure your families follow the ACEL too! Loads of ACEL information and state championship PICTURES are posted throughout the year!

Revver

Rosters, birth certificates, and grades reports must be uploaded to your organization's drawer in Revver by the dates listed on the baseball/softball page of the ACEL website. Your administrator and/or athletic director have log-in information and password for Revver.

Please be aware that members cannot delete files nor can they add folders to Revver. After your roster is uploaded to Revver, the ACEL Executive Assistant will make student folders for each of your athletes and notify you when those folder are ready for birth certificate and grade report uploads.

A fillable roster form is located in the athletics folder of your efilecabinet drawer or is available for download from the forms and downloads section of the website.

AED

Be aware that Louisiana law has changed. Elementary, middle, and high schools are required to have an AED on its premises in an easily accessible location. See statue LSA-R.S. 40:1137.3 for more information and requirements.

Baseball Rules, Procedures & Policies

The ACEL follows the rules and regulations set by the National Federation of State High Schools (NFHS) for all sanctioned ACEL sports. ACEL supplemental policies and exceptions to NFHS rules are listed below.

ACEL Specific Rules and Policies for Baseball 2024-25

Schedule Changes

The ACEL allows organizations to easily change their schedules as necessary. Both the home and the away team must submit the schedule change form located on the website to change the date of a game.

Score Reporting

Scores must be reported by both the home and away teams by noon the following day. Failure to report the score will result in a fine.

Physicals and Coaches' Concussion Course

All athletes participating in league competition (boys/girls) are required to take and pass a physical examination. These physicals are good for one calendar year. Physicals must be kept on-hand by athletic directors and coaches at all ACEL events and must be presented immediately upon request.

All ACEL coaches are required to take a concussion course and be able to provide evidence/certificate of completion upon request.

Game Day Rosters

A Game Day Roster will be supplied to the opposing team from each team that exceeds 27 players on their official roster. Only players that appear on a team's official roster may be used on the game day roster. Only players listed on the game day roster are eligible to dress out for that game.

Baseball Pitch Limits

ACEL Rule 10.2.1. The maximum number of baseball pitches allowed in a game is 110. 1-35 no rest required; 36-60 pitches, 1 day of rest is required; 61-85 pitches, 2 days of rest; 86-110, 3 days of rest. The maximum 110 pitch count limit will be allowed after completion of rest periods. Pitch count limits are the same for playoffs and the state championship tournament. During the state tournament, pitch count limit can be divided into separate appearances not to exceed 110 pitches over both days. (ex. Pitcher throws 60 pitches on day 1. Pitcher is eligible to throw 50 pitches on day 2.)

Clarification of ACEL Rule 4.26

ACEL Rule 4.26

No ACEL Member Organization or varsity student-athlete can be a member of another athletic association having regular season games during the school year. This rule does not apply to JV student-athletes.

4.26.1 ACEL Member Organizations or student-athletes may participate in other athletic associations in sports not sanctioned by the ACEL.

4.26.2 Multi-league game participation for sanctioned scheduled sports is not allowed. This does not include scrimmage games and tournaments.

4.26.3 The ACEL defines a league as any group of teams playing each other over a determined period of time that culminates in a championship.

The intent of ACEL Rule 4.26 is to encourage students to commit to and support their ACEL private school or homeschool organization and for ACEL organizations to commit to and support the ACEL. The terms "athletic association" and "league" refer to the same type of organization in which team participation is based on school identity. Teams in these athletic associations or leagues will be from public schools, private schools, or homeschool organizations. The ACEL, LHSAA, MAIS, TCAL, and any similar association is an example of a school identity based athletic association.

Therefore, per ACEL Rule 4.26, no ACEL Member Organization or varsity student-athlete can participate in multiple leagues in sports sanctioned by the ACEL. For example, an ACEL athlete competing in ACEL varsity volleyball cannot also compete in volleyball or any other sport with a private school, public school or homeschool organization outside the ACEL that participates LHSAA, MIAA, TCAL or any similar association.

Club and Recreation Teams

This rule is NOT intended to prevent participation with private club/select teams or local recreation leagues. Club/select teams and recreation teams are not based on school identity. They are open to students from all educational types—private school, public school, and homeschool—participating on a single team.

JV Students/Teams Exemption

Because the ACEL cannot guarantee a sufficient JV schedule for most sports, JV teams and students are exempted from ACEL rule 4.26. It is in the best interest of our members AND our high school league to allow these younger teams to utilize local opportunities in other leagues to advance their skill level and promote the success of their athletic program. In the ACEL JV is defined as less than 16 years of age as of Sept. 1. Therefore, any student 15 years old or less on Sept. 1 may participate in multiple leagues as long they are not also listed on an ACEL varsity roster in the same sport. Many ACEL teams have JV aged students on their varsity roster and/or roster JV aged students on both their JV and Varsity rosters. Be aware that appearance on a varsity roster signifies that the younger student is a varsity level player regardless of age and, therefore, is not allowed to participate in multiple leagues.

About unofficial/ vs official teams

Unofficial teams are teams that are NOT committed to any league. The ACEL does not regulate unofficial teams. Because these teams are not committed to a sport in a league, all games played are essentially scrimmage games—they do not count toward rankings or post-season in any league. ACEL members can have unofficial teams in sanctioned ACEL sports and can arrange for as many scrimmage games for those teams as they wish at both the JV and varsity level. Official ACEL JV and varsity teams can also schedule scrimmage games with teams outside the ACEL.

Communicate with your Executive Director

Most problems and misunderstandings can be avoided simply through communication. Coaches, if you have a league concern please discuss it with your athletic director ASAP. In many instances athletic directors will already have related information from the ACEL. Athletic directors, please do not hesitate to contact me with any league issue you may have. The more you all communicate with me, the better I understand what is actually happening within our league, making me better able to act in the best interest of all our organizations. I cannot address what I do not know.

Sandra Merrow
ACEL Executive Director
admin@theacel.com
337-366-1394
(Leave a message, and I will get back to you.)

2024-25 ACEL Baseball Schedule

North District

Apolstolic Restoration Church Academy Warriors*—West Monroe
CHA Northeast Flames—West Monroe
Freedom Life Academy Patriots*—Natchitoches
Psalms Christian Academy Ambassadors—Natchitoches

South-Central District

Acadiana Christian Athletics Defenders—Lafayette
Acadiana Christian School Lions—New Iberia
First Baptist Christian School Eagles—Lafayette
John Paul the Great Academy Guardians—Lafayette

Southeast District

CHEF of Baton Rouge Patriots—Baton Rouge
Christian Academy of Louisiana Crusaders—Addis

Southwest District

Alexandria Homeschool Arts & Athletics Storm—Alexandria
Good Samaritan Fellowship Hornets—Fred, TX
Faith Training Christian Academy Patriots—Leesville
Southwest Louisiana Homeschool Athletics Knights—Lake Charles

Tuesday, February 11

CHA@Psalms
ARCA@Freedom
FBCS@JPG
ACS@ACA
CHEF@CAL
SWLA@AHAA
GSF@FTCA

Friday, February 14

CHA@CHEF
Psalms@FBCS
ACA@CAL
AHAA@JPG
SWLA@ARCA
FTCA@Freedom
GSF@ACS

Tuesday, February 18

Psalms@ARCA
Freedom@CHA
JPG@ACA
ACS@FBCS
FTCA@AHAA
GSF@SWLA

Friday, February 21

Freedom@ACS
ARCA@FTCA
JPG@SWLA
FBCS@AHAA
CAL@Psalms
CHEF@ACA

Tuesday, February 25

Freedom@Psalms
ARCA@CHA
ACA@FBCS
ACS@JPG
SWLA@FTCA
GSF@AHAA

Tuesday, March 4

Bye

Tuesday, March 11

FBCS@CHEF
CAL@JPG

Tuesday, March 18

Psalms@CHA
Freedom@ARCA
JPG@FBCS
ACA@ACS
CAL@CHEF
AHAA@SWLA
FTCA@GSF

Tuesday, March 25

CHA@Freedom
ARCA@Psalms
FBCS@ACS
ACA@JPG
AHAA@FTCA
SWLA@GSF

Tuesday, April 1

CHA@ARCA
Psalms@Freedom
JPG@ACS
FBCS@ACA
AHAA@GSF
FTCA@SWLA

Friday, February 28

JPG@FTCA
ACA@GSF
ACS@CHEF
CAL@Freedom
AHAA@ARCA
SWLA@FBCS

Friday, March 7

Psalms@CHEF
Freedom@JPG
ARCA@CAL
FBCS@FTCA
ACA@SWLA
ACS@AHAA
GSF@CHA

Friday, March 14

CHA@FBCS
JPG@Psalms
CHEF@GSF
AHAA@CAL
SWLA@ACS
FTCA@ACA

Friday, March 21

CHA@ACA
Psalms@AHAA
FBCS@Freedom
ACS@FTCA
CAL@SWLA
CHEF@JPG

Friday, March 28

Freedom@AHAA
JPG@ARCA
ACA@Psalms
ACS@CHA
CHEF@SWLA
FTCA@CAL
GSF@FBCS

Friday, April 4

Psalms@ACS
ARCA@ACA
JPG@GSF
FBCS@CAL
SWLA@CHA
FTCA@CHEF

Tuesday, April 8

Bye

Friday, April 11

Bye

All Games must be completed by April 11

Baseball All-State Voting

Saturday,
April 19th (via Zoom)

Playoffs

Top 6 teams by regular season power points advance to playoffs with #1 and #2 earning byes to the state semi-finals. Highest seed will host playoff games for seeds 3-6.

**Official ACEL Baseball 1st Round Playoff Date:
Tuesday, April 15, 2024**

(To change an official playoff date, both teams must agree to the change and both teams must submit a schedule change form to the ACEL.)

**ACEL Baseball State Championship
in Alexandria/Pineville**

Friday, April 25
Semifinals

Saturday, April 26
State Championship
Consolation game