



Mercy Rule by Sport – As of 10/1/2025

SPORT	GUIDELINES/RULE
1A Baseball	Run Rule: The fifteen (15) run rule after four(4) innings and the ten (10) run rule after five (5) innings.
Baseball	Run Rule: The fifteen (15) run rule after four(4) innings and the ten (10) run rule after five (5) innings.
Basketball (Boys & Girls)	35 Point Rule: An alternate timing rule is in effect for all levels (ie; varsity, junior varsity, sophomore, freshmen) of Utah high school basketball games when after the third quarter is over, a team's lead exceeds 34 points. Modified Rule: The clock shall run continuously for the remainder of the game, except for the following reasons: a. An official's time-out b. A charged team time-out c. Free throws are taken If the differential drops below 35 points, the clock still runs continuously until the game is over, except for the stated three reasons. The shot clock will still be utilized regardless of the score differential.
Football	35 Point Rule: An alternate timing rule is in effect for all levels (i.e. varsity, junior varsity, sophomore, freshman) of Utah high school football games when after halftime, a team's lead exceeds 34 points. Modified rule: The clock shall be stopped as per Rule 3-4-4. In effect the clock will be stopped as current NFHS rules require. However, the clock will start on the ready for play signal in all situations until the point differential reaches 21 points or less. At that point, all NFHS timing rules listed in Rule 3 will be followed.
Golf – (Boys & Girls)	MAXIMUM STROKE PLAY SCORING FORMAT: 1. ALL UHSAA Golf Championships (boys and girls) will use a Maximum Stroke Play Scoring System. Contestants will PICK UP after reaching a maximum score of nine (9) strokes on any hole of a competition. 2. Markers will record a 9 on any hole where the maximum score is scored and then it will be circled on the card for easy identification of that score. 3. All designated Region events should use this scoring system. This will provide consistent and fair qualifications for the state competitions and All-State considerations. 4. The advantages of using this system are increased speed of play and less pressure to finish a very bad hole.

	This system will also use the modification for penalties and disqualification penalties that are listed under USGA Rules of Golf; Rule 21.2.
Lacrosse – Boys & Girls	NONE
Soccer (Boys & Girls)	Goal Differential Rule A match will end and the team which has scored the most goals declared the winner when there is an 8 goal differential after 10 minutes have elapsed in the second half of the match.
Softball	Fifteen Run Rule & Ten Run Rule A fifteen (15) run rule will be used after three innings of play. A ten (10) run rule is in effect after five innings of play. A game will end any time after 4 1/2 innings or 5 innings when a team is 10 or more runs behind and has completed its term at bat. .
Swimming (Boys & Girls)	NONE
Tennis (Boys and Girls)	NONE
Volleyball (Boys & Girls)	NONE
Wrestling (Boys & Girls)	NONE
XC – Track & Field	NONE