



Section 6

The Pitcher



**Presented by
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Regulation VI



- Any player on the team roster may pitch.
- 15 year olds may **NOT** pitch in Juniors
- Pool Players can **NOT** pitch
- There is no limit to the number of pitchers a team may use in a game.



Regulation VI



There IS a limit to how many pitches each pitcher can throw in a day.

League Age:	13-16	95 pitches per day
	11-12	85 pitches per day

EXCEPTION: If a pitcher reaches the limit while facing a batter, the pitcher may continue to pitch until that batter finishes the at-bat...this is called the “THRESHOLD” – we’ll see more about this in a minute

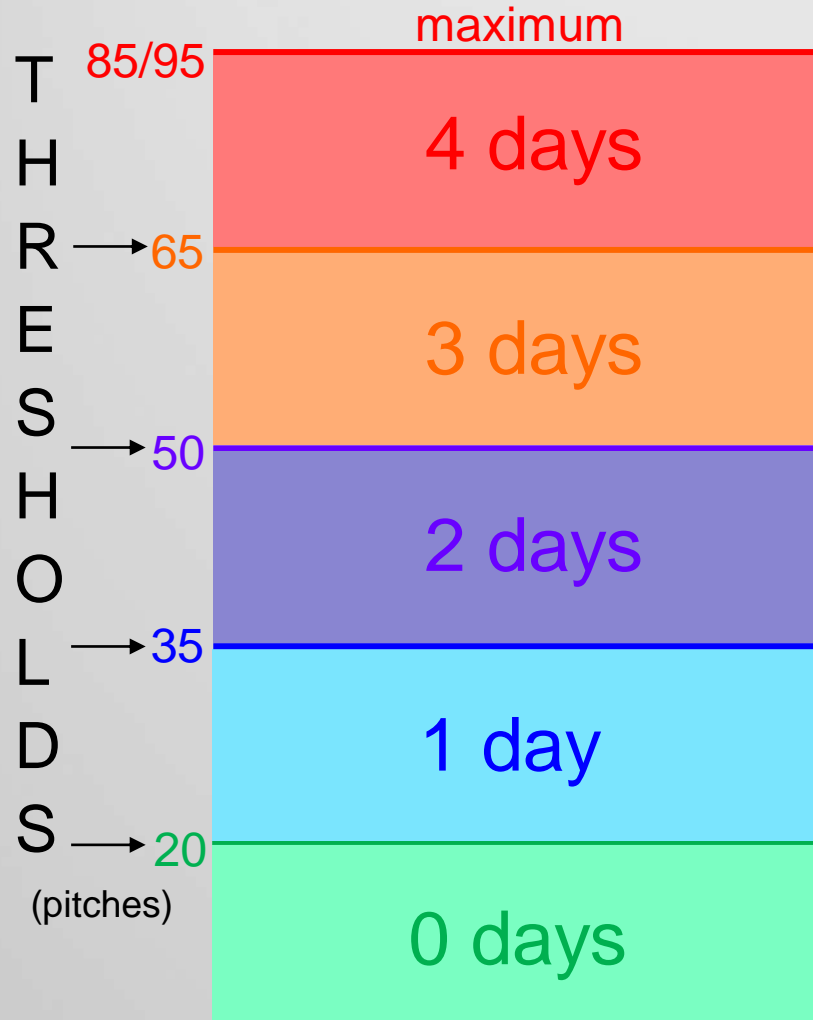
- Pitch Count is the manager’s responsibility but ...
- ...the umpire should know the pitch count, and can and should remove the pitcher when the pitcher reaches the limit



Regulation VI



Days of rest & THRESHOLD



- This chart shows the days of rest requirement for pitchers age 14 or under
- The numbers on the left are the “THRESHOLD” - pitchers may **complete** a batter after reaching each THRESHOLD, including the maximum pitch count threshold.

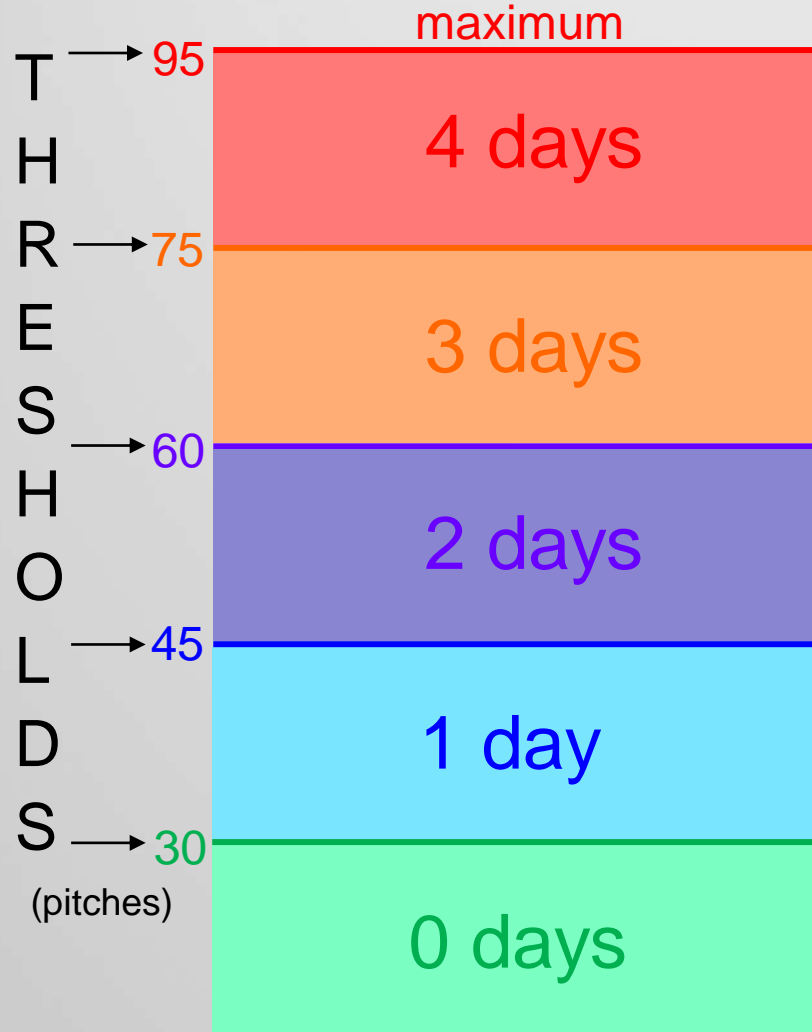
Thresholds shown for pitcher age 14 or under
Maximum: 85 for 11-12, 95 for 13-14



Regulation VI



Days of rest & THRESHOLD



- This chart shows the days of rest requirement for pitchers age 15-16
- Threshold works exactly the same way as for pitchers 14 and under
- The first pitch to a batter determines the pitcher's threshold

Thresholds shown for pitcher age 15-16

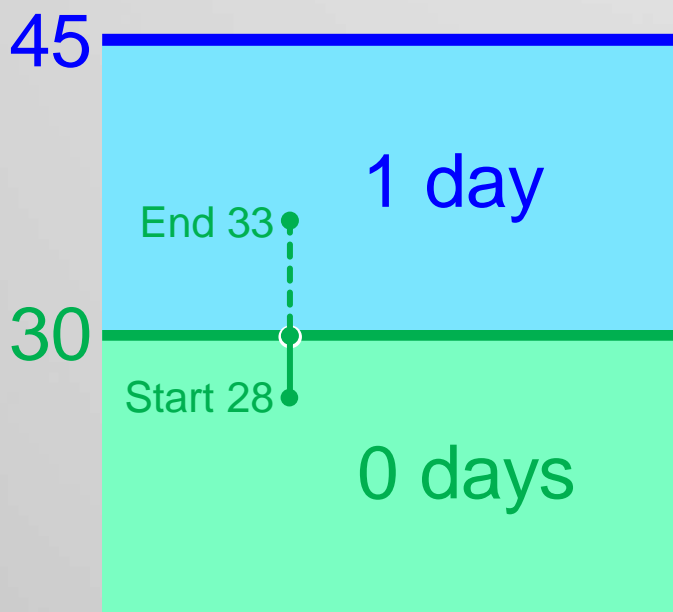


Regulation VI



Days of rest & THRESHOLD

- **Regulation VI D: NOTE 2:** A pitcher's pitch count for the purposes of day(s) rest threshold is determined by the first pitch thrown to a batter.



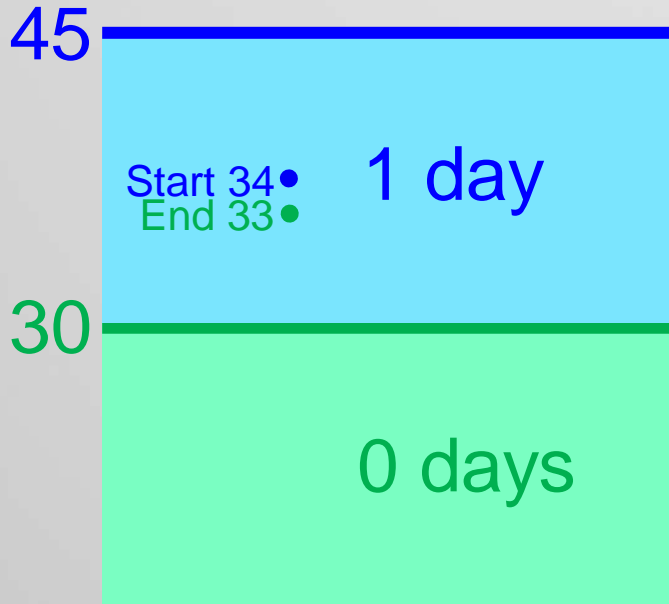
- So let's say William has thrown 27 pitches and now a new batter comes up
- The first pitch to the new batter is number 28. So William's threshold is 30, meaning 0 days rest.
- If the first pitch had been number 30, his threshold would still have been 30.
- It does not matter how many pitches he throws to the new batter, his threshold is still 30
- If he is lifted after this batter, he can pitch again tomorrow



Regulation VI THRESHOLD



- So let's say William finished the batter with 33 pitches
- If William pitches to the next batter, the first pitch will be number 34, making his threshold 45, and now he needs 1 day of rest before he can pitch again.
- So if he pitched on Monday he can't pitch again until Wednesday



NOTE that under no circumstances shall a player pitch in three (3) consecutive days.



Regulation VI THRESHOLD



- For the maximum pitches in a day, the threshold also applies
- The pitcher may not start a new batter once the limit imposed in Regulation VI(c) has been met
- Meaning if William's first pitch to a batter is pitch number 95 or less he can pitch to that batter
- But if the first pitch would be greater than 95, he cannot
- If his pitch count is right at 95 when the next batter comes up, he is done.





Regulation VI

THRESHOLD



Here is the official wording of the Regulation – note this defines what it means to “complete a batter”:

If a pitcher reaches a day(s) of rest threshold while facing a batter, the pitcher may continue to pitch until any one of the following conditions occurs:

- 1. That batter reaches base;**
- 2. That batter is retired;**
- 3. The third out is made to complete the half-inning.**
- 4. The pitcher is removed from the mound prior to the batter completing his/her at bat (added 2022)**

(The change in 2022 makes it explicit that the Threshold applies if the pitcher continues a batter across the Threshold but does not complete that batter – this closes a loophole in the rules)

The pitcher will only be required to observe the calendar day(s) of rest for the threshold he/she reached during that at-bat, provided that pitcher is removed before delivering a pitch to another batter.



Regulation VI



(K) Pitching in more than one game in a day:

- Intermediate (50-70) League- A player may NOT pitch in more than one game in a day. This is true even if the first game is a makeup game or a continuation of a game that got called
- Junior League & Senior League- A player may be used as a pitcher in up to (2) two games in a day as long as they remain in the “0 days of rest” region.
- Exception: 12-year-olds cannot pitch in 2 games in the same day
- Threshold is in effect. If a pitcher reaches **30** while facing a batter in the first game, they may continue to pitch and maintain their eligibility to pitch again that day as long as they do not start another batter.



Rule 3.03(c)



- Pitchers removed from the mound may not return as pitchers, except:

50/70-JR-SENIOR ONLY

- A pitcher remaining in the game, but moving to a different defensive position, can return as a pitcher anytime in the remainder of the game, but only once per game
- But once you take that pitcher out of the game that pitcher cannot return as a pitcher in that game



Rule 3.03(c)



50/70-JR-SENIOR ONLY

PITCHER RETURNING

- **EXCEPTION:** A player who has met the mandatory play requirements, and is a pitcher at the time he/she is removed, may be removed for a substitute batter and re-enter the game as a pitcher once, provided the pitcher was not physically replaced on the mound.



Regulation VI



Catcher <-> Pitcher

- Any player who has played the position of catcher in (4) four or more innings in a game, is NOT eligible to pitch on that calendar day.
(NOTE: 1 pitch counts as an inning, so this really means “more than 3 innings” – this includes warmups)
- (c) **Note 1: A pitcher that delivers 41 or more pitches in a game (meaning anything more than 40) can NOT play the position of catcher for the remainder of that day.**
- So if you plan to catch a player for awhile, then put him in as pitcher, or if you have a pitcher who you want to put in as catcher after he's done pitching, you need to be aware of this

Threshold in effect – meaning if he goes past 40 while pitching to a batter, it's treated as 40 if he pitches to no more batters



Regulation VI



Catcher <-> Pitcher

- A player who played the position of catcher for three (3) innings or less, moves to the pitcher position, and delivers 21 pitches or more -- meaning anything more than 20 -- in the same day, may not return to the catcher position on that calendar day
- **15- and 16-year-olds:** 31 pitches or more, meaning anything more than 30
- So if you plan to catch a player for awhile, then put him in as pitcher, then put him back as catcher, you need to be aware of this

Threshold in effect – meaning if he goes past 20 while pitching to a batter, it's treated as 20 if he pitches to no more batters



Rule 8.06(a)



DEFENSIVE VISITS

- One (1) visits per INNING
- Second (2nd) visit in an inning – Pitcher must be replaced.
- Third (3rd) visit in a game – Pitcher must be replaced.



Rule 5.10(d)



OFFENSIVE VISIT

When a manager on offense requests “Time”...

- The ball becomes dead when the umpire calls ‘time’
- Only one (1) offensive time-out per inning for the purpose of a visit or conference.
- If defense calls time to talk to pitcher, its OK for offensive manager to talk to his batter and it won’t count as a visit, as long as you don’t finish later than the defense



Pitching and Balks



CA DISTRICT 35
PITCHING and BALKS TRAINING