

Breakdown of Coaches who voted “No”

What is the Section # and Class of the School that you coach softball.									
Section									
Answer Options	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Response Count
Choose your Section and Class	25	19	23	12	19	15	11	14	138

Class				
Answer Options	A	AA	AAA	Response Count
Choose your Section and Class	59	48	31	138

Comments of Coaches voting “No”

1. I am not in favor of moving it ever....Leave it at 40'. Bats can already dominate a game, don't give them another reason to. It will completely change the high school game.
2. WE need more notification for the athletes to be prepared. All information up to this point has stated the change would be effective in the 2010-2011 season which would be one year from the spring. There is no definitive need to push this faster than what is anticipated. We have pitched at this distance since softball started. Since we have no other opportunity or means to provide input to change, I'd like to register a strong complaint for the limitation in the number of scrimmages for this season. I think this is short sighted given the fact that most of us are indoors for the first month of our season already. To take away the indoor scrimmage opportunities hinders the skill development for all kids involved. Why were we not afforded input in this very important matter?
3. Let the coaches and players have one year to adjust. If it's that important to change now, then we should have had this discussion a year ago.
4. The Federation I think is waiting until 2011, why would we want to beat them?
5. I think it would be good to have a year for all pitchers to adjust.
6. I feel that we need to get the mechanics of the step back and no step back with ASA and leave the distance for college to deal with. Softball game scores are suppose to be 1-0 not 14-10...this will generate a lot of walks in the beginning and a lot more hitting. The college level is not being challenged with anything new for their athletes coming in when we are making all the changes at our level. When this changes we also need to discuss at what levels we are going to do this because in smaller schools the Jr. High and JV's will be affected by this when sharing pitchers. Lets get our girls strong with reps this spring if the change is coming and let ASA make the changes this summer.
7. My girls have difficulty pitching from regulation in the first place.
8. I am in favor of 43 feet, and have been for a LONG TIME, but i'd like to give my pitchers a year to get used to the idea and the distance. I'm all for it in 2011!!!
9. I think waiting a year would be best, but I don't feel strongly either way.
10. I think that should be for only college players
11. If we were going to do it we should have stated the change last spring for this coming year. That way we could have worked on it during the summer and our pitchers would have more time to adapt
12. PITCHING QUALITY IS ALREADY AN ISSUE. MAKING A CHANGE IN ONE YEAR IS POOR IDEA.
13. Wait until the following year so they practice during the summer. My AD went to a meeting today and the MSHSL already thinks we have voted this in.....he was told 43 was a go for this year!!
14. Is it an all or nothing deal? Does this mean I have to have two pitching rubbers available - one at 40 and one at 43 so my JH athletes can pitch successfully too (they play on ours when we are away)? Lets decide either way ASAP - and get the word out there - I would like to reset my fields this fall so they have the winter to settle - please, before the snow flies!
15. We do not need to do everything the same as college softball. In larger schools AA and AAA they may have the pitching to do such things. We as a small school do not and this will adversely affect the play. Unless you want scores of 23-20.
16. What do we say we try something new, like leaving the game alone and quit trying to change the rules.

17. In our area it is hard enough to get quality pitching, now with the mound going BACK 3 feet I feel the scores will be inflated and the quality of the game will go down.
18. I haven't been coaching softball that long. It seems like it would be an injustice to to change the length to anything different than it has been.
19. Let high school kids e high school kids. If you go to 43 for class A it will hurt a lot of small schools. It is tough enough to get one pitcher to Throw in across the plate.
20. Pitchers have not been trained at this distance, if it is going to be changed this needs to be a 2-3 year head start
21. There are some pitchers who struggle at the distance it is now.
22. "Why? We don't see many games dominated by pitchers. If if AIN'T broken why fix it!
23. I feel that pitchers can leave highschool and adjust to the college length of 43 ft."
24. Give us a year to adjust!
25. It will change the game toward the hitters. Pitching dominance has been a fun aspect of the game and makes it a fast game.
26. too late. would have said yes if we would've had the past summer to work on it.
27. I've got enough things to worry about beside pitching distance with my team.
28. The extra 3 feet is a big adjustment. A lot of the girls aren't strong enough to make the adjustment. I'm in favor of leaving it at 40 feet.
29. I think girls already hit well enough and pitching is at a premium.
30. Too early notification. All other major rule changes coaches are given at least a year warning and I believe that should happen for this one. By starting it in 2011, coaches and players are given the summer of 2010 to prepare for the rule and adapt to the new distance.
31. I think we need some time to make the transition. I am in favor of starting this in the spring of 2011.
32. If it is safety we are concerned about that is a bat conversation , not pitching distance.
33. I don't believe that it is a factor. If the distance changes across the board ie nationwide, ASA, etc then there is no choice
34. It is difficult enough to teach young pitchers control at 40 ft. There arms are not developed to the point of getting accuracy at a further distance. there will be longger games with more walks. The games were rarely dominated by pitchers and if so those pitchers will now become more effective with there drop balls.
35. To many teams struggle with pitching the way it is. Move them back three feet and it will get worse. Good teams not a problem.
36. I don't feel pitchers have had enough time to adjust
37. It may give the pitchers time to react and the better pitchers will still be good, but the weaker pitchers will be at even greater risk when the hitters have 3 more feet to see the ball and tee-off on it even harder. I think a better option to protect pitchers is to make it manditiry for them to wear masks and keep the distance at 40 feet.
38. The game is a great game as it is. The increased distance is great for abilities higher than high school level.
39. "It would be fine had we the summer to prepare. I know it is going
40. to be here in a year but some coaches who had inside information and
41. didn't share it played their teams U-18A this summer and have an unfair
42. advantage."

43. This will only decrease the quality of pitching...we are already lacking quality pitching throughout the western half of the state... They need more time to develop consistency and strength at a closer distance...
44. If this was going into effect it should have been decided before the summer season so players could have been working in the off season.
45. I believe we need one summer at 43 for pitchers to adapt.
46. Our pitching staff has difficulties throwing strikes at a distance of 40 feet.
47. I would like to see it at the JV levels this year and leave the varsity until next year once the younger girls get a chance to throw.
48. Most of the pitchers arms are not developed enough to throw the needed pitches from 43 feet.
49. Leave the game the way it is.
50. My pitchers need more than the winter to be able to adjust.
51. "I believe that if this change is going to take place we should allow two years to work with our incoming freshmen at the 43 foot distance. Thus, when they are juniors is when the new rule would take effect.
52. This seems like a metro rule that is going to be imposed upon the whole state. I am not sure if our pitchers in this area are dominant enough at the 40 foot distance to justify the change."
53. I am not in favor of the change, PERIOD! This will lessen the impact of a good pitcher. How many girls out there can throw 60plus? This is simply the influence of the college game. How come no one suggest moving the pitching rubber back in high school baseball? Because the boys association is not going to bend over backwards for some of this junk. Hence' When was the last time you saw boys wearing facemasks on their helmets? How come? Thanks for hearing me out.
54. Most of my pitchers are younger and smaller and I am sure haven't been practicing for the 43 feet.
55. I feel we should wait one more year.
56. I think the athletes need the appropriate time to adjust to the distance and pushing this up a year might not be the best for the pitchers.
57. If AAA schools are the one's asking for this, don't forget the small schools who usually have 8 - 12th graders on roster not just 10-12. High school is not college ball.
58. I think this will put some of our pitchers at a disadvantage. Some pitchers are still developing even though they are participating at a varsity level. There are some pitchers that can handle this change, but I believe not every school is at the same playing level. It might create an uneven playing field for teams.
59. There should be some time for players to adjust to the distance change. If it is changed for this spring it doesn't allow players time to adjust.
60. I don't like it, period.
61. "I would like to see it used on experimental basis, for non conference games only
62. during the 2010 season."
63. As a pitcher myself, I noticed a big difference in going from pitching high school at 40' & then 43' in college. I'm only 5'2" & found on double headers that it was very difficult to go more than a game & be effective. I coach at a smaller school with not much depth in pitchers. It would be very difficult to have them pitch 3-5 games per week at that distance, non-the-less 2 games in a 3 game tourney & still be effective.
64. Time is needed to work with the pitchers to make the adjustment. Since we are not allowed to work with our pitchers during the school year, we should wait until we have a summer to do so.
65. No, lets go with the NFHS mandatory 2011 date!

66. I am VERY happy we are going to 43 feet in 2011, as I had my pitcher break her jaw this year from a line drive, but I don't believe it is fair to do it this season. Although it seems early enough to give players time to adjust I believe if we were going to make the change it should have been decided prior to the summer. Had my pitchers known about it earlier they may have made different choices about the summer or fall league they played in. The girls would appreciate game experience at 43 feet before coming into the short school season. With only 20 league games in the school season it doesn't give them much room for adjustment whereas in the summer they play 60 games and have plenty of time to get adjusted. Also, now with the weather turning the girls would not have much time to practice at 43 feet off of a real rubber in the dirt. As much as our pitchers practice in the winter, in -door facilities are no comparison to the real deal in the dirt.
67. We have had no practicing at this distance. I read in the "Prep Coach" paper that it was going to change in 2011.
68. "I really don't think it will matter all that much but at least our summer teams
69. will have the time to work on the change to adjust if needed."
70. We have a hard enough time throwing strikes @ 40ft...
71. Short season, Less specialization
72. Too many walks, and high scoring games already.
73. We have not gotten enough notice if we go to 43 feet the 16 year old summer programs should also. We need to prepare for this we may be better off starting our freshman at it and move on from there.