
After the umpire has received the official lineup card prior to the game, the player listed as the pitcher shall pitch until the first opposing batter has been put out or has advanced to first base. (Exception: Illness, injury or disqualification)

A batter becomes a runner with the right to attempt to score when he is charged with a third strike.

A box designed to warm bats is illegal and neither can a player use an electric heater to warm the bat.

A delayed dead-ball is declared immediately any time a runner dives over a fielder and interference is determined.

A player with any amount of blood on his uniform shall not be allowed to play until the uniform has been changed or washed. The uniform number must remain the same.

A slide is illegal if the runner, on a double play, does not slide on the ground, in a direct line between the two bases or away from the fielder.

After the pitcher has placed his pivot foot on the ground behind the pitcher's plate, he can throw or feint a throw to a base the same as any infielder.

An appeal must be honored even if the base missed was before or after an award.

An illegal pitch that occurs with a runner on third base only is always ruled a balk.

An improper batter is considered to be at bat as soon as he takes his place in the batter's box.

Any question regarding the legality of a player's equipment shall be resolved by the head coach.

Bases are full with no outs when runner at 1st base is picked off by the pitcher. At the same time, all other runners attempt to advance. The retired runner at first intentionally trips the first baseman following the interference and all runners advance one base. The umpire, uncertain as to who would have been played on, should return all runners to their original base and declare the runner at 3rd base out.

Bases full with one out when Baker bats out of order in Adams position. Baker hits a double scoring two runs. The defensive team appeals the batting out of order. The umpire should call Baker out and have the batter that appears in the lineup after Baker to be the next batter.

For intentionally pitching close to a batter, the pitcher shall be ejected. NFHS rules do not require that the coach be ejected with the pitcher for this offense.

For the second violation of the illegal bat rule, the head coach is restricted to the dugout and the batter is called out. On each subsequent violation of this rule, a coach is ejected.

From the windup position, the pitcher must hold the ball in his throwing hand.

Ground rules not formulated by the umpires must be sanctioned by the visiting team.

If an appeal is made on a runner leaving the base too soon on a caught fly ball, all runs scored in advance of the appealed runner and scored ahead of the legal appeal would count, including appeals made that result in the third out.

In some circumstances, obstruction of the batter is ignored.

It is a balk when the pitcher, while touching the pitcher's plate, fails to pitch to the batter when his entire non-pivot foot passes behind the perpendicular plane of the front edge of the pitcher's plate, except when feinting or throwing to second base in an attempt to put out a runner.

It is a dead ball when any player, who is required to wear a batting helmet, removes their helmet while the ball is live.

It is an immediate dead ball when any member of the offensive team commits any act attempting to cause the pitcher to balk.

It is not a balk when a pitch is dropped during delivery that does not cross the foul line and when there are no runners on base.

On a batted ball, the runner from 1st misses second and, before touching 3rd, makes an attempt to return to second. Before the runner can return to 2nd base, the shortstop tells the umpire that the runner missed 2nd base. No ruling is issued on the appeal from the shortstop.

On a batted fly ball, the 3rd baseman, while standing in live-ball territory, reaches over the fence into the spectator area in an attempt to catch the fly ball. A spectator bumps the fielder's glove causing the fielder to drop the ball. The ball becomes dead immediately and the umpire shall issue necessary awards for spectator interference.

On a squeeze play the runner at third begins running with the start of the pitcher's motion. The batter steps from the batter's box with both feet prior to the delivery. The pitcher hesitates then stops his motion and delivery. The umpire shall call a strike on the batter and the ball remains alive, permitting the runner to score.

Once a ball goes out of play, base runners must be allowed to complete their base-running responsibilities before a dead-ball appeal is made.

Runners are never required to slide.

Study Guide

Smith replaces Jones in the 3rd inning. In the 7th inning with two outs, and runners on 2nd and 3rd, Jones bats instead of Smith, hitting a base hit to left field advancing all runners one base. The defensive coach appeals that Jones did not report as a re-entry. The umpire should rule that Jones is a legal substitute even though he did not report.

Starting the 2012 season, a bat marked with both the BBCOR and BESR certification is legal. It may also have only the BBCOR certification to be legal.

The ball is dead immediately when a batter interferes with the catcher attempting to make a play on a runner.

The ball is not dead immediately when a base coach physically assists a runner during play.

The batter is out when any member of the offensive team interferes with a fielder who is attempting to field a foul fly ball.

The batter-runner is out when, after hitting or bunting the ball, he intentionally contacts the ball with the bat a second time in fair or foul territory.

The defensive team shall be charged with a defensive conference when an assistant coach confers with the second baseman in the middle of an inning.

The offensive coach calls time and comes from the 3rd base box to confer with the batter. During this time-out, the offensive coach runs to the mound and confers with the pitcher, ending the conference on the mound and returning to the dugout before the defensive coach completes his conference. No conference (trip to the mound) is charged to the offensive coach.

The penalty for batting out of order supersedes the penalty for illegal substitution.

The role of the designated hitter is terminated for the remainder of the game when the designated hitter assumes a defensive position

When a violation occurs that results in a dead ball and the violation occurs before the pitcher is in a position for the next pitch and before any throw by the defensive team, base running awards are made from the time of the infraction.

When the ball becomes dead, no action by the defensive team can cause a player to be put out.

When the winning run is scored in the last half inning of a regulation game as the result of any action that would force a runner at third base to advance, the game shall not be declared over until all runners have advanced to the next base.

With a runner at 2nd base, the batter hits a ground ball to the shortstop. At the same time, the bat slips from the batter's hands and flies toward the shortstop. The shortstop is prevented from fielding the ball to avoid being hit by the bat. The umpire shall call the batter out and return all runners. It is a delayed dead-ball.

With a runner at 3rd, the pitcher comes set with both hands in front of his body. The runner from 3rd breaks towards home and the pitcher takes a step backwards off the pitcher's plate, runs several feet towards the plate and throws the ball to the catcher to make a play on the runner from 3rd. The ball goes over the backstop. The umpire should award all runners one base.

With a runner on 1st and 2nd, the batter flies out to left field. The runner from 2nd leaves before the catch and goes to 3rd. The runner from 1st tags and advances to 2nd. Realizing that he left early, the runner from 2nd returns to 2nd to tag up and the runner from 1st runs back to 1st. A play is made on the runner going back to 1st base and the first baseman obstructs the runner going into 1st base. Since the runner from 1st had reached 2nd and returned and reached the base to which he was advancing, the runner at 1st is awarded 1st base.

With bases loaded and one out, the batter hits a high fair fly ball that is intentionally dropped by the pitcher. The umpire should rule an immediate dead ball and declare the batter out, returning all runners to their respective base.

With no runner on base and in the event of an illegal pitch, a delayed dead ball is called and a ball is awarded the batter.

With runners on 2nd and 3rd and a base hit to center field, the runner from 3rd base initiates malicious contact with the catcher. There was no play at the plate and the catcher is standing outside the baseline in foul territory. The runner from 2nd had touched 3rd base before the malicious contact. The runner from 3rd is called out and ejected and the runner from 2nd is returned to 2nd base.

With runners on 2nd and 3rd, the batter bunts in a squeeze play. The catcher fields the ball and overthrows 1st base as the runner from 3rd reaches the plate. On the overthrow, the runner from 2nd scores. Realizing that he failed to touch the plate, the runner from 3rd returns and touches home plate. After all play has stopped, the defensive team appeals the runner from third missing the plate. The umpire should declare the runner out on proper appeal.

With two outs and a runner at 3rd, the batter receives ball four for a base on balls. The batter throws his bat towards his dugout (on the 3rd base side) as the catcher throws the ball to make a play on the runner attempting to get back into 3rd base. The umpire calls interference on the batter and calls the runner at 3rd base out.

With two outs and a runner on 1st, the batter strikes out but the ball gets by the catcher and rolls towards the dugout. The catcher chases the ball down and stops the rolling ball with his mask. This is a delayed dead-ball and the runner at 1st base is awarded two bases from the time of the infraction after playing action stops.
