

2012 AIA Baseball Rules Meetings



Syllabus for:

Rule One

Players Field & Equipment



Rule 1: Players, Field & Equipment.

10% of the test is on Rule 1

1-1-2: *The captain and head coach...duties shall include.. (Page5)*

Questions:

At the pregame conference the plate umpire asks both head coaches if they have listed all their substitutes on the lineup card. Visiting teams coach stated he did not have time but will provide them as the game progresses. The plate umpire will:

- a) Start the game and allow substitutes to be added
- b) Not allow substitutions for the game for the visitors
- c) Not accept the teams lineup card until all substitutes have been listed.
- b) Inform the coach that as a penalty he is restricted to the dugout.

Answer: C "...the umpire shall not accept the line-up card until all subs are listed"

****This answer is for test purposes only! We do not require the subs to be listed but it is recommended!**

Rule 1-1-2 continued



Question: In the 5th inning Smith reports to the plate umpire to pinch-hit for Jones. Smith is not listed on the line-up card as a substitute. The plate umpire will:

- A) Allow Smith to pinch hit for Jones.
- B) Not allow the substitution since Smith was not listed originally.
- C) Not allow the substitute and restrict the Head Coach.
- D) Allow Smith to pinch hit provided the opposing team does not object.

Answer: A Casebook 1-1-2 Situation A "...later, if team B wishes to substitute a player who was not listed on the line-up card they may do so without penalty."

Question: Lineups become official:

- A) When the head coaches present them to the plate umpire.
- B) When the head coaches exchange cards with each other.
- C) When the plate umpires announces "Play" to start the game.
- D) After line-up cards have been exchanged, verified and accepted by the umpire during pregame.

Answer: D "...line-ups become official after they have been exchanged, verified and accepted by the umpire during pregame."

1-3-2 d (page 10) “....beginning January 1, 2012, all bats....



Question: Beginning January 1, 2012, all bats not made of a single piece of wood shall:

- A) Meet BESR performance standard
- B) Be labeled “Approved for NFHS Play”.
- C) Meet the BBCOR performance standard.
- D) Be either BESR or BBCOR standard bats.

Answer: C *must be permanently attached, NO stickers, labels, or decals.

***Bats could possible have BBCOR and BESR certifications on one bat.**

Remainder of Rule 1 highlighted:

***Any defensive player may wear a glove OR mitt, as long as proper size (1-3-6).**

***Batters, runners, retired runners, batboys, non-adult coaches to wear approved NOCSAE helmets (1-5-1).**

**Penalty for not wearing or removing in live ball territory while ball is live is team warning, subsequent infractions result in ejection of individual.*

**A player protecting the bullpen catcher does NOT need a helmet but rather a glove (3-3-4)*

***Defensive players may use head/face protection, must be non-glare (not shiny) (1-5-5).**

***If a ball is touched with an illegal glove or mitt the Offensive team may take the play or have the proper award (8-3-3 a, b, c) for illegal glove or mitt. If a foul ball is caught the catch is nullified and it is treated as a foul ball (1-5-7).**

***Jewelry shall not be worn EXCEPT for religious medal which may be taped and worn under uniform. Medical alert items must be taped but may be visible. (1-5-12) (3-3-1d)**



2012 AIA Baseball Rules Meetings

Syllabus for:

***Rule Two
Definitions***

Rule 2: Playing Terms and definitions.



14% of the test is on rule 2.

2-4-3: (page 15)...an intentional base on balls may be given...

Question: Player White , the next batter, is 4 for 4 in the game and the defensive head coach wants to put him on base. In order to intentionally walk the batter:

- A) The pitcher must pitch four balls to the batter
- B) The head coach may request the umpire to award the batter first base on any ball / strike count.
- C) Only the catcher or pitcher may request the intentional walk.
- D) The request must be made prior to pitcher to the batter.

Answer: B *Please remember this is a dead-ball award. Call time first.

2-7-1 & 3: (page 16) ...the batter is ... a batter-runner is a player who has....

Question: A batter-runner is the player of the team at bat who is entitled to occupy either of the two batter's boxes.

A) True or B) False

Answer: False * the batter becomes the runner (batter-runner) the INSTANT ball four, dropped third strike, or a batted ball occurs. He is no longer the batter at that moment.

2-9-1: (page 16)...a catch is the act of a fielder in...

Question: *A fielder will be considered to have caught a ball in flight when:*

- A) He has secured the ball in something other than his hands or glove.
- B) He has the ball in his glove for 3 steps before dropping the ball.
- C) He has secured possession in foul ground and then steps with both feet into the dugout.
- D) The batted ball in flight caromed off a runner and was secured by the field before touching the ground.

Answer: C Key Points: * **Firm and secure possession and voluntary release.**

***A player must have both feet in dead ball territory to be considered in dead ball territory. (See casebook 2.9.1 Comment)**

2-16-2: (page 18) ...a foul tip is a batted ball that.....

Question: *A foul tip is a ball that goes directly to the catcher's hands and:*

- A) *Is legally caught by the pitcher.*
- B) *Is legally caught by the catcher.*
- C) *Is a strike and the ball is in play.*
- D) *Both B and C.*

Answer: D Key Point: * **Must first hit catcher's hands or glove and be caught by him. Playing action remains live.**

Rest of Rule 2 highlighted:

***A batted ball is determined fair or foul by where it lands, crosses , settles or is touched. The touching is relation to the ball and not the player (2-5-1).**

***An attempt or offer to bunt shall be ruled a strike. A bunt attempt foul with 2 strikes results in an out(2-8).**

***Pre-game conference shall take place 5 minutes before game time. Both umpires should be present. Both HEAD coaches must be present (if not present then they are restricted to dugout for remainder of game[3-4- Penalty]). Lineups are verified and exchanged, as well both Head Coaches will verify that all players are properly equipped and all equipment is legal. Ground rules are agreed upon. (2-10-2).**

***Umpires will NOT go into dugouts to check equipment. If a pre-game question arises about legality of equipment, have the item brought out the UIC.**

***If a batted ball is an infield fly, both umpires will announce and signal "Infield Fly, Batter is out". If the batted ball is near a foul line the Plate Umpire will announce and signal "Infield Fly if fair", the base umpire will signal infield fly. Ordinary effort by an infielder, not an ordinary catch on the infield (an outfielder can make the catch and still be Infield Fly). Ordinary effort is not subject to the sun but the wind can be factored (2-19).**

Rest of Rule 2 highlighted (con't):

Offensive Interference (2-21-1 a, b, c)

- *Always by the offense. *Verbal or Physical *Intentional or Unintentional
- *an act that hinders, impedes or confuses any fielder attempting to make a play.
- *Coach physically assisting a runner (3-2-2). *Can be delayed dead ball or dead ball.

*Interference can also be Umpire (2-21-2) or Spectator (2-21-3).

Obstruction (2-22-1, 2, 3)

- *an act by any member of defense. *Physical or Verbal *Intentional or Unintentional
- *hinders or impedes the runner (s) OR changes the pattern of a play.
- *hinders or impedes the batter (usually by the catcher hitting the bat)
- *Fake Tags (without the ball) are obstruction and warrant a warning to the offending defensive player (3-3-1b).
- *COMPLETELY blocking the base or plate WITHOUT the ball is obstruction unless the throw forces the defensive player to take that position.
- *Obstruction is ALWAYS delayed dead ball and ALWAYS a minimum award of 1 base.

Rest of Rule 2 highlighted (con't):

Slides (2-32-1, 2)

- *Can be head first or feet first. *Players are never required to slide.
- *Slide (feet first) must be with one leg and buttock on the ground.
- *A pop up slide is LEGAL unless they popup INTO the fielder.
- *All legal slides must be on the ground and not cross body or rolling.
- *The raised leg of runner may not be higher than the knee of the STANDING fielder.
- *Sliding past the base is legal unless they make contact or alter the play AFTER sliding by.
- *slashing or kicking at the fielder is illegal and can be merit for ejection.
- *Force play slides must be directly into the base or away from the fielder (2-36-22).

Substitutions (2-36-1, 2, 3) also (3-1-1)

- *A substitute is eligible to replace another player in the lineup.
- *An unreported substitute is considered reported the moment the umpire is alerted to his entry into the game. NO PENALTY for an unreported substitute.
- *An illegal substitute is someone who enters the game; without eligibility, in the wrong batting order, on defense at the same time the player they replaced is on defense, or who violates the courtesy runner rule.



2012 AIA Baseball Rules Meetings

Syllabus for:

Rule Three

Substituting, Coaching, Bench & Field Conduct, Charged Conferences

Rule 3: Substituting, Coaching, Bench & Field Conduct, Charged Conferences



18% of the test is on Rule 3

3-1-1 (page 25) ...after the umpire has received the official... (first paragraph thru Penalty)

Question: Smith, the starting pitcher for the Home team, hurts himself during warm-ups, and cannot pitch to the first batter of the game.

- A) Smith must face the first batter, if he cannot he is ejected.**
- B) Smith may later return to play any position other than pitcher**
- C) Smith is out for the duration of the game and may not return.**

Answer: B ..shall pitch until the 1st batter has been retired or reached 1st base...if starting pitcher does not face one batter.....he may not return to pitch.

Question: At the beginning of the 3rd inning the head coach tells the umpire that Baker will bat for the 3rd batter of the inning. Wilson comes to bat instead of Baker and does not tell the plate umpire. Wilson hits a double and is on 2nd base.

- A) Wilson is an illegal sub and is restricted to the bench.**
- B) Wilson is a substitute for Baker, Baker is no longer an eligible sub.**
- C) Wilson is an unreported sub, and umpire makes changes to lineup.**

Answer: C ...projected subs are not allowed...sub is in the game when ball is live and batter is in the box.

3-1-1 (con't): (page 25).....or discovery of an illegal player

Question: *An illegal sub on defense is involved in a play, the offense has the option to let the play stand or to all the batter to bat again if:*

- A) The infraction is discovered prior to next pitch to the next batter. Of either team**
- B) The infraction is discovered before all the infielder have crossed the foul lines.**
- C) The infraction is discovered before the next pitch to the next batter of the offensive team.**

Answer: A ...if an illegal player on defense is involved in a play and the infraction is discovered prior to the first pitch to the next batter of either team...

3-1-2: (page 26) ...if a pitcher is replaced while his team is on defense...

Question: *Assuming the pitcher has substitution eligibility:*

- *Can a removed pitcher return to pitch in the same inning?***
- *If injured, can the pitcher return to pitch the next inning?***
- *Does a relief pitcher always have to retire the first hitter they face?***
- *Can the starting pitcher, be replaced while on offense, before facing a batter?***

Answers: 1) True 2) True 3) False (they could allow a runner to reach base or retire the 3rd out of the inning) 4) True

3-1-4 The DH: (page 26)... a hitter may be designated...



Question- True or False:

**The starting pitcher may also be listed as the DH?*

False

**If a pinch hitter is used for the DH, is the DH terminated?*

False

**The player who was the starting DH may re-enter as the DH?*

True

**Can the player being DH'd for, enter the offensive lineup?*

True

If so, where?

Same spot as previous DH. They are locked together.

If so, is the use of the DH terminated?

True

3-1-6: (page 27) ...a player or coach who is bleeding...

- Remember:**
- *bleeding or open wounds must be treated
 - *they have to be replaced if treatment does not occur in a reasonable amount of time. Umpire's judgment.
 - *any amount blood on clothing must be cleaned or changed.

3-2-2 (page 27) ..no coach shall physically assist a runner during playing action.

Penalty: The ball is dead at the end of playing action. The involved runner is immediately out and any additional outs made on the play stand. Runners not put out return to the bases occupied at the time of the interference.

3-2-3 (page 27) ...no offensive team personnel, other than...

Remember: *Must vacate any area . *Interfere in fair territory is always an infraction *Intentional interference is always an infraction.

3-3-1g thru l (page 27) ...a coach, player or substitute...shall not: Commit any...

Question: *An assistant coach leaves his dugout to loudly argue a call by the umpire on a play at the plate.*

- A) The assistant coach and the head coach can be ejected.
- B) The assistant coach and the head coach can both be restricted.
- C) If actions are severe, he may be ejected and head coach restricted.
- D) All of the above.

Answer: D

Question: *Confronting or directing unsportsmanlike conduct to an umpire is permissible once the game has concluded and the umpires have left the field?*

Answer: False

3-3-1 m – q (page 29) ...coach, player, or bench personnel shall not:

- Throw Equipment = **EJECTION**
 - Commit an act causing a balk = **EJECTION**
 - Use tobacco = **EJECTION**
 - Leave their position during a fight/altercation = **EJECTION**
 - Malicious contact on Offense = ****OUT & EJECTION**
 - Malicious on defense = **EJECTION**
- **if the runner has scored then ejection only*

Please note: *The above are areas where we have to use good judgment & COMMON SENSE!*

3-4 (page 30) Charged Conferences:

Defensive- *Three charged conferences regulation game *One additional per extra inning

- unused Conferences during regulation DO NOT carry over to extra innings.*
- if the pitcher is removed then the conference is NOT CHARGED.*
- after 3rd charged (regulation) or 1st (extra inning) then pitcher MUST be removed.*
- *is concluded when the coach, on his return to dugout, crosses the foul line.*

Offensive- *One charged conference per inning

- is concluded when the coach initially starts to return to his previous position.*

Please note: *If a coach has been restricted to the dugout then the charged conference takes place in the dugout and is over when the player(s) initially return to their positions.*



2012 AIA Baseball Rules Meetings

Syllabus for:

Rule Four

Starting and Ending the Game

Rule 4: Starting and Ending Game (8% of test)



4-1-1...The home coach shall decide whether the grounds ...

4-1-2 *Ground Rules do not supersede book rules

4-1-3 a, b, & Penalty ...Before game time, the home team & visiting team shall...

Questions: *The visiting team traveled to the game by vans. Only one van managed to arrive on time, with eight players. The game may:*

- A) begin, as long as the coach places the missing starter in the line-up.
- b) begin, once the visiting team has 9 players.
- c) not begin and it is a forfeit automatically.

Answer: B

During the 1st inning of the game, the lead-off batter enters the box with an illegal bat. The batter:

- A) is warned and must get a new bat.
- B) is out and head coach ejected.
- C) is out and head coach restricted.

Answer: C *Please note that this implies that the illegal bat was noticed prior to completing the at-bat. If the at-bat is completed the defense can take the out or the result of the play.

Rule 4: Starting and Ending Game (con't.)



Discussion:

What happens if the offending team's head coach notifies the umpire about the illegal bat before anyone else's has noticed?

***You will still impose penalty as dictated by 7-4-1.**

What if the same player brings out an illegal bat for a 2nd time or a 3rd time?

***The rule is designed to keep the Head Coach responsible, that is why he is ejected and not the player. If the act by the player is extremely egregious, you could apply 3-3-g-4 or 10-2-3-g.**

4-2-2any game that is tied at the end of

**We play extra innings if light & weather allow.*

**AIA has adopted a 10 Run Rule.*

**Games that end in tie, see 4-2-4.*

4-2-3...if weather or darkness interfere with play...

**See 4-2-4*

4-2-4a state association may adopt game-ending procedures....

**AIA will continue "suspended games" when they have playoff implications.*

**AIA decides when a game has playoff implications not the umpires or teams.*

Rule 4: Starting and Ending Game (con't.)



4-3 Called games are “no contests” when the game does go 4 ½ innings (unless home team ahead). No contests are usually rescheduled but is a function of AIA.

4-4-1 f & Notesa game shall be forfeited ...when a team: ...

- * Can play with 8

- * Most recent batter not on base can run for a runner (who has reached base or been awarded a base) who's needs replacement but does not have a substitute.

Question: Smith, strains his knee and is not able to continue **A)** sliding into second base, **B)** on his way to 1st base after hitting a single to the outfield **C)** on his way to 2nd base after hitting a ground rule double. The offensive team has no legal substitutes, Smith can be legally replaced by the most recent batter not on base in which scenario?

Answer: **A = True**

B= False

C= True (case book 4.4.1.B Page 41)

4-4-2 : May return from 8 payers to nine players.

4-5: AIA does not allow protests.

2012 AIA Baseball Rules Meetings

Syllabus for:

Rule Five

Dead Ball- Suspension of Play

Rule 5: Dead Ball Suspension of Play (10% of test)



5-1-1 a thru c ...Ball becomes dead immediately when...

***5-1-1 C: How can the ball be immediately dead if NO one notices? How long do we have until the penalty cannot be effected? (7-4-1a)**

5-1-1-f **...ball becomes dead immediately when ...a fair batted ball ...**

*** Ball touches Runner before protected fielder has opportunity to field = dead ball. (Same idea for Umpire)**

***Ball touches Runner after all protected fielders have had opportunity to field = live ball. (Same idea for Umpire).**

***Ball is dead immediately when lodged in uniform or equipment.**

5-1-1-g-4 : Ball is dead immediately when it pitched or thrown and then lodges in umpire's , catchers or offensive players equipment.

5-1-1-h ...the umpire handles a live ball.....

5-1-1-j...an infielder intentionally drops a fair fly, fair line drive, fair bunt....

***The ball is dead and batter runner out with at least 1st base occupied**

Rule 5: Dead Ball Suspension of Play (con't)



Discussion Question: What if an infielder intentionally drops an infield fly by intentionally guiding it to the ground?

***Are we killing this play? Are we keeping it live?**

***Is it subject to Infield Fly or Intentionally dropping a batted by with at least 1st base occupied and less than 2 outs**

Support why you would kill this play and enforce an intentionally dropped ball.

Support why you would keep this play live and NOT determine an intentionally dropped ball.

See exception for 5-1-1j – there is no force of runners to advance, keep the ball live and in play.

Rule 5: Dead Ball Suspension of Play (con't)



5-1-1-l: A batted, thrown, or pitched ball touches a designated media area (anyone or anything) that is entirely or partially within = Dead Ball Immediately.

5-1-1-m: Malicious contact is immediately dead ball.

Delayed dead ball in the following:

5-1-2-a: It is delayed dead ball when batter interferes with catcher attempting a play on a runner.

5-1-2-b: During catchers obstruction or fielders obstruction or use of detached equipment.

5-1-2-c: Umpire interference

5-1-2-d: Any game personnel who calls "time" or commits any unsportsmanlike act trying to cause the pitcher to commit a balk.

***These "actions" are delayed dead ball and then we EJECT the offender.**

5-1-2-e: Anyone who is required to wear a helmet and if they remove it in live ball territory while the ball is live is subject to penalty.

We know that the ball is delay dead, but what penalty? **1-5-1 Penalty*

Rule 5: Dead Ball Suspension of Play (con't)



Delayed Dead ball situations:

5-1-2-f: Coach assisting runner. Out immediately but keep playing action live (delayed dead ball). All outs on play stand, all runners who advance (after the infraction) are returned.

5-1-2-G: Delayed dead ball when illegal glove or mitt touches ball.

When does the ball become live again:

5-1-4: When the umpire puts the ball back in play by signaling "Play"

When play has been "suspended":

5-2-1: Play is suspended when:

****Inclement Weather – for a min of 30 minutes (after most recent lightening. Clock restarts if "new" lightening is observed.***

****Medical emergency exists or further play could jeopardize player's safety.***

5-2-2-b....when the ball becomes dead...a runner may return to a base...



2012 AIA Baseball Rules Meetings

Syllabus for:

Rule Six
Pitching

Rule 6: Pitching

(13% of the test)



6-1-1: The pitcher must pitch from a “Windup” or “Set” position.

** Their feet will determine which position they are in. (His non-pivot foot is key)*

**Take Signs from catcher while engaged with (touching) the pitcher’s plate.*

**The pitcher must adhere to pitching regulations once he INTENTIONALLY contacts the pitcher’s plate.*

**An ambidextrous pitcher must declare which hand they will pitch with to a hitter. Once they choose they cannot change until batter completes turn at-bat.*

Question: Can a pitcher, while engaged and in the windup, turn his shoulders to check a runner?

Answer: No or False but he can, while in the set position, prior to coming set.

6-1-2: The Windup Position...Hands can be together in front, at his sides or one in front and one at his side. His non-pivot foot shall be in any position on or behind a line extending through the front edge of the pitcher’s plate.

**Once he starts to pitch, he must continue without interruption. *Windup only allows for a pitch to be delivered OR stepping off backward with pivot foot first. (Cannot pick to a base)*

Discussion: Support, by rule, where the pitcher’s PIVOT foot must be while in the Windup position. (where in the rules does it cover or state)

6-1-3: The Set position.

- *Prior to coming set, the pitcher can have the ball in either his glove or hand.
- *His pitching hand shall be down at his side or behind his back.
- *Non pivot foot entirely in front of the line extending through the front edge of the pitching plate.
- *His entire Pivot foot in contact or directly in front of pitching plate.
- *Once he starts to come set, this movement must be continuous, until he is set.
- *Coming set is stopping all movement of his hands / body completely. (Discernable)
- *Setting of hands (hand & ball in glove) in front of body & at or below chin.

While in SET position, the pitcher while intentionally contacting pitcher's plate:

Prior to starting any movement to come set:

- 1) *Shall not bring hands together, remove ball from glove, place ball in glove from pitching hand. (if he is in the act of coming set he may/must bring hands together)*
- 2) *Shall not feint a throw to a base, unless he has stepped off backward prior to motion.*
- 3) *He may turn at shoulders , or head, but not at waist, to check runners.*
- 3) *He may step toward and throw to first base (step only required for 2nd and 3rd base).*
- 4) *He may step off backward, with his pivot foot, changing from a pitcher to a fielder at this moment. This is the only way to change from Set to Windup position.*
- 5) *He may adjust his feet by moving them closer or further apart.*
- 6) *He may shake his glove or pitching hand in an effort to gain a sign from catcher.*
- 7) *Swing his pitching hand / arm (Gorilla Stance).*

Rule 6-1-3: Set Position (con't)



Once he has started movement to come set:

- 1) *Shall bring his hands (ball, glove & hands) together.*
- 2) *He may turn at, shoulders (prior to hands touching) , or head to check runners.*
- 3) *He may step toward and throw to first base (step only required for 2nd and 3rd base).*
- 4) *He may step off backward, with his pivot foot, changing from a pitcher to a fielder at this moment. This is the only way to change from Set to Windup position.*
- 5) *He may adjust his feet by moving them closer or further apart.*
- 6) *He may not start movement and then stop, prior to hands being completely together or stepping off backwards off pitching plate.*
- 7) *Shall not feint any throw to any base.*
- 8) *He must come to a discernable stop after bringing hands together.*

Once he has come set:

- 1) *He may not make any movement other than stepping off backwards, picking to a base, or delivering a pitch to the batter. (Exception: Head movement)*
- 2) *He may not break his hands unless pitching or picking off. If he steps off backwards he must break his hands.*
- 3) *He may turn at the head to check runners.*
- 4) *He may not flinch, stagger, start and stop or break his knee prior to pitching. (He can BREATHE)*
- 5) *He may step toward and throw to first base (step only required for 2nd & 3rd base).*

Rule 6: Pitching (con't)



6-1-4: If while in the Windup or Set positions, if the pitcher drops the ball DURING delivery and if the ball-

-crosses a foul line or reaches plate = BALL in all situations.

-does not cross a foul line or reach the plate = NO PITCH w/ no runners & BALK w/ runners on base.

Discussion: Runners on base, pitcher while is not delivering a pitch but rather is looking into the catcher for signs, drops the ball (accidentally) and it rolls a) short of the foul line b) past a foul line. Support by rule what you will do-

-Think about: *Is a balk live ball or dead ball? *When does this become a balk?

****What would runners do if the ball is slowly rolling to the foul line?***

****What is the intent or spirit of the rule?***

Approved Ruling: He is the pitcher and subject to the pitching regulations. It would be treated the same as 6-1-4. Covered in 6-2-4-a

6-1-5: A Player is the pitcher when intentionally engages with pitching plate versus when he clearly steps off the plate he is now considered a fielder for the purposes of fielding or throwing. This is important when he picks (pitcher) or throws (fielder) to a base to retire a runner (ball is thrown out of play or he feints a throw vs. feinting a pick)

****Remember that even though he is a fielder (off the pitching plate) if a batted ball passes him and hits an umpire the ball could be dead (if another fielder has opportunity).***

Rule 6: Pitching (con't)



6-2-1: Infractions by the Pitcher and Illegal acts include:

- *Spitting on ball or glove = Dead ball immediately, Umpire may eject. (Warn first!)*
- *Discoloring the ball w/dirt = Dead ball immediately, Umpire may eject. (Warn first!)*
- *Bringing pitching hand in contact with MOUTH & not wiping = BALL if he engages plate.*
- *Wearing any items that are distracting to the batter = Umpire has jurisdiction to decide.*
- *Wearing tape (or other material) on palm or fingers of pitching hand = Must fix before next pitch.*
- *Wearing a glove with white or gray coloring = Must fix before next pitch.*
- *Wearing exposed under sleeves that are white or gray = Must fix before next pitch.*

6-2-2c: Must pitch or attempt to make a play (legal feint included) within 20 seconds.

- *We will give leniency w/ runners on base. Please don't be "rule book Ricky". COMMON SENSE prevails!*

6-2 -2 Exception: Umpire may allow for more warm-up throws during inclement weather.

6-2-3: Pitcher may not intentionally pitch close to batter. Eject if you are positive this has happened. IF not 100% positive then warnings are issued.

Rule 6: Pitching (con't)



6-2-4: Pitcher has BALKED if with runners on base:

While in contact with pitching plate-

- feinting toward batter or first base.
- dropping of the ball (provided it does not cross foul line).
- failing to step with non-pivot directly toward a base prior to throwing or feinting.
- delivers an illegal pitch
- after committing to pitch, he does not do so in a continuous motion (stops)*

***Exception: Unless the batter's actions cause the stop (hand up for time, stepping out etc)**

- taking either hand off the ball (set position) unless pitching to batter or picking to base.
- failing to pitch to batter when entire non- pivot foot passes behind the perpendicular plane of the back edge of pitching plate (except to step to 2nd base for a potential play / pick off.)

6-2-5: Pitcher has balked if with runners on base:

While NOT in contact with rubber (but in a near enough vicinity to deceive runner)-

- with or without the ball, make any motion naturally associated with his pitch.
- without the ball, places his feet on or astride the pitching plate.
- places himself within 5 feet of pitching plate w/out baseball (hidden ball trick)



2012 AIA Baseball Rules Meetings

Syllabus for:

Rule Seven Batting

Rule 7: Batting (7% of the test)



7-1-1: Position & Batting Order:

***Batting Order follows NAME not numbers. Numbers must be listed, but only used as an aid to identify. A player with an incorrect number will not be penalized.**

***Proper Batter = if he is batting and he follows the previous batter, whose name precedes his name in the lineup-**

*- he is still proper even if such proceeding batter batted out of order**

**Unless the proceeding improper batter is properly appealed.*

***Improper Batter = is batting & his name does NOT follow the name of the preceding proper batter-**

- as soon as he enters the box and ball is live, he is improper

-anytime during at bat (before becoming batter –runner) he can be replaced with the proper batter (assumes count). Either team can notice this and have him replaced.

***Improper becomes Proper = no legal appeal is made. The next proper (legal) batter is the name of the batter who follows the legalized improper batter.**

Rule 7: Batting con't.



Penalty: *if improper batter is putout or reaches base, and then is noticed (defensive team only) before next pitch (includes intentional walk), play or attempted play by the defense, or before the infielders leave the infield-*

-Umpire shall declare PROPER BATTER OUT. Any runners who advanced because of Improper batter becoming a batter –runner, they return to T.O.P. bases.

-Advancing DURING at-bat is legal (steals, wild pitches, balks etc.)

....any outs on the play stand.

....bring the proper batter to bat.

....Appealing the Proper Batter out, supersedes any out made by the improper batter on the play.

7.1.5 Note: If player is on base and becomes the next proper batter due to a legalized improper batter, they stay on base, and his turn at-bat is skipped with no penalty.

7.2.1.b: A strike is charged when a pitch is swung at & missed (even if it touches the batter)

7.3.1: Batter shall not, delay to take his position in the box within 20 seconds, or fail to keep one foot in the box

Exceptions are after a swing, pitch forces him out, he bunts, defensive play on runner, time is given, pitcher leaves the dirt circle or he must vacate for play at plate. **PENALTY: Strike shall be charged to batter (We will warn him first!)*

Rule 7: Batting con't. "The batter shall not":

7.3.2 : Hit the ball while a foot or knee, is COMPLETELY outside the lines of the batters box and touching the ground or touching the plate.

7.3.3: Step from one batters box to the other while the pitcher is in position to pitch.

***7.3.2 & 7.3.3 result in dead ball and batter is out**

7.3.4: Permit a pitched ball to touch him

**Freezing in the box is NOT permitting a ball to touch him.*

** If the pitch is over the batters box area, penalize the pitcher.*

**As long as the batter does not move towards the ball intentionally (stick elbow out, move knee over).*

Penalty: if batter allows the ball to touch him, batter stays at plate unless pitch was ruled ball four or strike three.

7.3.6: If a WHOLE bat is thrown and interferes with a defensive player attempting a play – Batter is out, Runners return. (do not confuse this with throwing the bat to ground near the catching who is running to back up first base)

7.4.1.a: Batter is out if he enter the box with illegal bat or discovered having used an illegal bat before next pitch to a teammate ****Defense can take result of play****

NOTE: Broken, cracked or dented bats are removed without PENALTY.

7.4.1.f: Batter is out if any member of the offensive team (other than a runner) interferes with a fielder attempting to field a foul fly ball

Question: Why do they specifically mention "other than a runner" in above?

Rule 7: Batting con't. "The batter is out":



7.4.1.g: Team is playing with one less than the starting number and that turn to bat is reached. That spot in the batting order is an out each time (unless returning to 9)

7.4.1i: Batter is out if he intentionally deflects a batted ball that has a chance to be fair.

Discussion: Coach calls time and pinch hits for a player. That player enters the box with an illegal bat. It is noticed prior to putting the ball in play. What are we going to do in this situation? *Support by rule *What kind of rule is it

The batter actions are ILLEGAL the moment they step in the box with illegal bat. He would be out upon discovery, regardless of the ball being live. This is a safety rule.

Question: When an improper batter has completed his time at bat and is on first base:

- a. only the umpire may discover the infraction*
- b. the offense may appeal*
- c. Only the defense may appeal*

***Answer C**

Question: When an improper batter reaches first base, he becomes the proper batter when no appeal is made and:

- a. a pitch or illegal pitch has been delivered to the succeeding batter.*
- b. An intentional walk is awarded.*
- c. all the infielders have left the diamond when the half-inning ended.*
- d. all of the above.*

***Answer D**



2012 AIA Baseball Rules Meetings

Syllabus for:

Rule Eight

Base running

Rule 8: Base running

(16% of test)



8.1.1 d-2 ...a pitched ball hits his person or clothing provided he does not strike at the ball or ...if batters loose garment, such as shirt that is not worn properly then he is not awarded first base. *(Do not confuse an un-tucked shirt with a bloused shirt)*

Catcher's Obstruction...

8.1.1e – the batter becomes a runner with the right to attempt to score by advancing to first.....when the catcher or any defensive player obstructs him.....

**obstruction is ignored if the batter-runner reaches 1st base and all runners advance at least one base...if obstruction is not enforced runners advance at own risk*

**any runner attempting to advance (i.e. steal or squeeze) on a catcher's obstruction of the batter shall be awarded the base he is attempting....*

**a runner not attempting to advance....shall not be entitled to the next base...unless forced by the award of first to the batter runner...all other runners return*

**the coach or captain of the team at bat, after being informed of the obstruction, shall indicate whether or not he elects to decline the penalty and accept the resulting play. Such election must be made before next pitch, award of intentional walk, or infielders leave the diamond.*

***We will not stop the game and go to the coach to notify them of the obstruction. Their notification comes in the form of the umpire stating "That's obstruction" and pointing at catcher. We will continue the game and if properly appealed....**

Rule 8: Base running - Appeals con't

When Can the Defense Appeal

*Live Ball- immediately following the play and by a fielder in possession of ball, either by tagging the runner or the base...

*Dead Ball- any coach or defensive player with or without the ball by verbally stating.....

When can't the Defense Appeal

*After next Pitch or Play.....with exception to Offense Initiated

*Before Pitcher and ALL infielders have left fair territory

*After an Intentional Base on Balls is granted

*After game ending play and Umpires have left field of Play

8.2.4: Base runners must re-touch his base after batted ball has touched fielder...

*Unless it is a foul tip that touches the catcher, runners do not need to re-touch

8.2.5: When can't a runner retouch- a runner may not return to touch a missed base or one left too soon on a caught fly ball if he is on or beyond a succeeding base when the ball becomes dead. He is subject to being declared out upon proper appeal.

8.2.6 d : A runner may not return to touch or retouch if he has left the field of play or a following runner has scored.

Rule 8: Base running - Appeals con't

Multiple Appeals

- Multiple appeals are permitted as long as they do not become a travesty... however one appeal per runner per base.

Discussion: Does the order in which they appeal matter?

Can they make multiple appeals to the same base?

Question: Runner at first, Pitcher steps off rubber and attempts pickoff but throws the ball out of play. Umpire calls time and awards runner third base. Runner goes directly to 3rd base without touching 2nd base.

- *Can the runner go back and touch 2nd base?*
 - » **Yes he can go back and touch.**
- *Can the runner be out upon proper appeal if he does not touch 2nd base?*
 - » **Yes he would be out if he did not touch the base and proper appeal is made**

Rule 8: Base running con't

8.2.6 h: Tag-Ups

- If a runner leaves a base too soon or caught fly and returns in attempt to retag, **this is a time play not a force out.** If appeal is third out, you will count the runs scored **ahead of appeal.** Hence the "timing" of the 3rd out.

8.2.6 i: an appeal may be made after the third out as long as it is made properly and the resulting appeal is an apparent fourth out

- **Base loaded and 2 outs, batter hits an extra base hit, scoring R3. R2 from 2nd is thrown out at home for the 3rd out of the inning. R1 advanced to 3rd base but missed 2nd base. With teams changing sides, but prior to the defensive shortstop leaving the infield he verbally tells the umpire that R1 missed 2nd base. Is the appeal legal?**
 - **Answer: Honor the appeal as though it were a dead ball appeal, if all runners had completed their advancement and R1 had abandoned any effort to return to re-touch. The idea that all playing action has stopped and the offensive team has gone to the dugout or to their defensive positions makes them subject to proper appeal.**

Rule 8: Base running con't

- 8.2.6j: Any situation which could lead to an appeal on the last play of a game, the appeal must be made while an umpire is still on the field
- 8.2.6k: If base running infraction is third out, runs scored by following runners won't count. If the base missed was the first to which a runner or batter is forced then no runs would score.
- 8.2.6l: Last time by- if a runner correctly touches a base that was previously missed (either advancing or returning) the last time he was by the base, that last touch corrects previous mistakes (unless ball has become dead and he is beyond missed base).
- 8.2.8a: if two runners are on the same base, at the same time, and both are tagged, the following runner is out. On a force play, the runner who is forced to advance shall be declared out when tagged on the base or the base to which he is forced is touched by a fielder in possession of the ball.

Base running Awards

One Base (**Runner**):

- Pitch from pitcher's plate Pitch
- Throw from pitcher's plate Throw
- Unintentional Catch & Carry Pitch
- Catcher obstruction (If advancing) Pitch
- Pitch strikes runner Pitch

Base running Awards

One Base (**Batter**):

- Batter obstructed Pitch
- Runner interference Pitch
- Umpire interference (batted ball) Pitch
- Pitch lodges in defensive
player/umpire uniform Pitch

Base running Awards

Two Bases (**Batter & Runners**):

- Fair batted ball past fence Pitch
- Fair batted ball or throw lodge in defensive player/umpire uniform Pitch
- Live thrown ball/pitch touched illegal mitt Infraction
- Live thrown ball/pitch touched detached player equipment Infraction
- First throw by infielder goes out of play Pitch
- Subsequent play by infielder or any throw by outfielder goes out of play Throw
- Intentional catch and carry (runners only) Pitch

Base running Awards

Three Bases (Batter & Runners)

- Fair ball contacted w/detached equipment Infraction
 *delay dead ball for detached or illegal glove

Four Bases (Batter & Runners)

- Fair ball prevented from homerun by
 detached player equipment Pitch

Umpire Judgment

- Spectator interference Infraction
- Runner obstruction Infraction
- Defensive malicious contact Infraction

Force Play Slide Rule...

- 8.4.2b- runner is out when...does not slide legally and causes illegal contact AND/OR illegally alters the actions of a fielder in the immediate act of making a play or on a force play does not slide directly into the base (***see exceptions**)

Penalty: The runner is out, the ball is dead immediately, and interference is called. On a force play slide with less than two outs, the runner is declared out, as well as the batter-runner. Runners (other) shall return to the bases occupied at T.O.P. With two outs the runner is declared out and the batter is credited with a fielder's choice.

KEY IDEAS ABOVE-

- slide legally causing illegal contact.
- illegally alters the play
- slide directly into base; his whole trunk, arms, legs. (Can be away from fielder)

Runner CANNOT:

➤ Slide illegally to include-

- away from the base in the direction of the fielder involved in the play
- beyond (past) the base and THEN make contact or alter the play
- use a rolling, cross body or popup into the fielder
- slashes or kicks at the fielder (raised leg above knee)
- illegally alters the action of the fielder (throwing arms up into or grabbing)
- Continue to run without sliding and create illegal contact with or illegally alter the play of the fielder







Key Concepts.....

- Players are not required to slide.
- All slides must be legal.
- Sliding directly into the base requires the player (trunk, legs & arms) to be in a direct path to the base (15 inches).
- May give up and go away from the fielder making the play.

Key Concepts cont.

- Not all contact is illegal
 - hard legal slides will probably result in LEGAL contact.....
 - fielder must be involved in making a play
 - receiving a throw
 - making a throw
 - completing a throw

Key Concepts cont.

- Contact is NOT required.....
 - a runner may still interfere with the play and not necessarily make contact with the fielder (sliding away from base towards the fielder..)
 - contact beyond the base is illegal however simply sliding past the base without altering the play or contacting the fielder is NOT interference.
 - contact helps sell close or gray area plays

Obstruction can be....

- Catcher's Obstruction
 - during a pitched ball
 - typically on the batter's swing or a steal of home.....

- Fielder's Obstruction
 - hinders runners ability to advance or retreat the bases
 - often happens after batted balls, pickoff attempts, or during rundowns

- Verbal Obstruction
 - the fielder hinders the runner with words

- Fake Tags
 - during steal attempts, as runners near bases, during rundowns...

- Defensive Teammates or personnel

Obstruction of a runner...

- 8.3.2- ...when a runner is obstructed...the umpire shall award the obstructed runner and each other runner AFFECTED by the obstruction the bases they would have reached...obstructed runner is awarded a minimum of one base beyond his position on the bases.....
- 2.22.3- fielder without possession of the ball denies access to the base the runner is attempting to achieve has committed obstruction.

Key Ideas:

-denies access completely, if the runner has any part of the base open to them then the fielder cannot be guilty of obstruction.

***dropping to a knee, prior to receiving the ball, directly in front of a base is probably obstruction**

- malicious contact supersedes obstruction.

-safety rule.



When obstruction occurs...

- What is the mechanic for signaling Obstruction.....
 - *Point at the offender and verbalize “that’s obstruction”
-we will not use the NFHS signal
- What is the minimum penalty.....
- What tools / ideas / philosophies do you use to place runners properly.....
 - *Where did the obstruction occur? *How “big” was the obstruction?
 - *Did the runner stop running or give up?
 - *What happened after the obstruction (bad throws etc.)
 - *If the runner is out at a base, how close was the play?

Fake Tag (2.22.2)

- A fake tag is an act by a defensive player without the ball that simulates a tag.
- A fake tag is considered obstruction.



Obstruction

Key Concepts

- **Delayed Dead Ball**
- **Minimum of 1 base award, in advance of his position on bases**
- **Catcher's obstruction is ignored if all runners, including batter reach advance base. Offensive team has option of taking play.**
- **Umpire's judgment where to place all AFFECTED runners**
- **If obstruction is not enforced runners can be in jeopardy past advance base.**
- **Fielder must be POSSESSION of the ball before blocking base**

Topic: Offensive Interference

2.21, 5.1.1e, 7.3.5, 8.4.1a, 8.4.2g & I

Interference defined....



➤ 7.3.5- a batter shall not...interfere with catcher's fielding or throwing...

➤ 8.4.2g- any runner is out when he...intentionally interferes with a throw or a thrown ball; or he hinders a fielder on his initial attempt to field a batted ball **((Protected Fielder))**...fielder is not protected, except from intentional contact if he misplays the ball and has to move from original location

➤ 8.4.2g-1 if two fielders try to field a batted ball...the umpire shall decide which one is...entitled to protection...if a fielder drops a batted ball and contact occurs during a subsequent attempt..the fielder has greater responsibility for avoiding contact

When Interference occurs...

dead ball or delayed dead ball?

Can be both.....

➤ Dead Ball-

- Runner interference
- Retired Runner interference
- Malicious Contact by runner
- Interference with fielder attempting to catch a fair foul fly ball
- Interference by team personnel
- Interference by batter who hits THROW from pitcher when runner advance homes

➤ Delayed Dead Ball-

- Coach physically assists runner
- Interference by umpire with catcher's attempt to retire runner
- Offensive team personnel calls time for purposes of causing a balk
- Interference by batter on catcher's attempt to retire runner

Runners Interference

8.4.1h, 8.4.2g & I

Running lane violation



*Three-Foot Running
Lane*



8.4.2g- a runner is out when...intentionally interferes with a throw or a thrown ball....

Interference with a Protected Fielder....

- interferes with, obstructs, impedes, hinders or confuses any fielder attempting to make a play



Batter's Interference

- 7.3.5- A batter shall not interfere with the catcher's fielding or throwing by:
 - Leaning over home plate
 - Stepping out of the batters box
 - Making any other movement which hinders actions at home plate or the catcher's attempt to play on a runner
 - Failing to make a reasonable effort to vacate a congested area when there is a throw to home plate and there is time for the batter to move

Penalty: *when there are 2 outs, the batter is out. Less than 2 outs and the runner is advancing to home, if tagged out the interference is ignored and ball remains alive. Otherwise the ball is dead and the runner is called out (8.4.2I). An attempt at any other base (unsuccessful) and the batter is out and ALL runners return to TOP bases. If the pitch is a third strike, and in umpires judgment the interference prevented a double play then an additional out may be awarded.*

- 8.4.1a- batter-runner is out when...he intentionally interferes with the catcher's attempt to field the ball after a dropped third strike.

Interference

Key Concepts

- Can be delayed dead or dead ball
- Defensive player must be involved with a play (except Malicious Contact)
- Fielder is protected when in the act of fielding the ball
- Runner may not interfere w/ throw or thrown ball
- No runners may advance as a result of interference
- Batter may not lean over ,or step out of the box or make any movement that hinders the catchers attempt to play on a runner



2012 AIA Baseball Rules Meetings

Syllabus for:

Rule Nine

Scoring – Record Keeping

Rule 9- Scoring- Record Keeping (1% of test)

9-1-1a: A runner scores a run each time he legally advances to...and touches home plate before there are 3 outs to end the inning with exceptions:

- Exceptions- a run does not score during action in which the third out is made-
-by Batter-runner before he touches first base (meaning his not safe at 1st)

2012 AIA Baseball Rules Meetings

**This is the last meeting.*

**Test is due March 16th*

**Working Sub-varsity games- give feed back to new / younger officials.*

**Availability Forms.....*

**Email Rob with any comments for improving our training etc.*



2012 AIA Baseball Rules Meetings

Syllabus for:

Rule Ten

Umpiring

Rule Ten- Umpiring (2% of test)



10-1-1: Any umpire has the authority to order any player, coach or team attendant to do or refrain from doing anything that affects the administration of rules and enforce of penalties.

**Please note, this does not speak about fans (directly). Ignore fans. Just in case you missed that “ignore fans”. In the event that a fan is so egregious that you cannot execute your duties, then utilize the head coach of the team the fan is from or rooting for, to get rid of them. Ignore FANaticS if at all possible.*

10-1-2: Umpires have jurisdiction once they arrive to the confines of the field and maintain it until they leave the playing field upon completion of the game. They maintain clerical authority through the completion of any reports.

10-1-3: ...if there is only one umpire, he has complete jurisdiction in administering the rules and he may take any position he desires, preferably behind the plate.

**We will always take a position behind the plate with 1 umpire.*

10-1-4: Umpire’s judgment on plays is final, it cannot be argued. However should the umpire making the call, upon being asked by a coach or captain, the umpire may ask for help from his partner.

**We will not go for help unless asked.*

**100% sure of call = we will not go for help.*

**If presented with a question that introduces an element of the play that we were not aware of (pulled foot, bobbled ball etc.) then we will go for help.*

**Umpires get together and speak privately. No coaches or players involved*

**Upon receiving information from umpire partner, calling umpire will make their decision final. If the call is not changed then no further discussion is allowed by coach or captain.*



Rule Ten- con't:

10-1-8: NO TOBACCO

Umpire in Chief (UIC) shall:

10-2:always be the plate umpire and:

*Sole authority to forfeit game.

*Receives batting order.

*Designates official scorer

*Inspects the condition of field.

*Announce special ground rules.

*Make ALL decisions on the batter.

10-2-3g: UIC will make FINAL decisions on points NOT covered by the rules.

10-2-3l: Rectify any situation in which an umpires' decision that was reversed had placed either team at a disadvantage.

10-2-3m: Correct any scorekeeping error if brought to an umpire's attention before the umpires leave the field when the game is over.

10-2-3n: Order the lights turned on whenever he believes darkness could make further play hazardous. Whenever possible, lights should be turned on at the start of an inning.

**If a field has lights, the home team's Head Coach shall indicate to the umpire at the plate meeting, if the lights will be used for the game. If no agreement about lights then they will NOT be used. Make sure we ask about lights at the plate meeting. Use common sense, if both coaches want the lights on then continue play.*

Rule Ten- con't:



Speed-Up Rules:

Courtesy Runner may run for pitcher or catcher but:

***Must have eligibility, but does not lose eligibility by courtesy running.**

-a starter, who has left game but has eligibility, may NOT courtesy run.

***Each individual may only courtesy run for one position, not both.**

***Multiple players may courtesy run for each position.**

***If a player is a courtesy runner, they may not substitute in that same half inning.**

-unless for injury, illness or ejection and no other player is available to substitute.

***Should injury, illness or ejection occur to the courtesy runner, another courtesy runner for the pitcher or catcher may run.**

-while a courtesy runner is on base, they may substitute for him at any time

***A player who violates the courtesy-runner rule is considered to be an illegal substitute.**

Penalty for an improper courtesy runner = Illegal Substitute = Out and Restricted.

***Umpire, defense or offense may discover illegal substitute.**

MAKE SURE WE RECORD ALL COURTESY RUNNERS AS THEY HAPPEN!

General Ideas and Points of Emphasis:



Pace of Play-

- 8 & 5 warm up throws between innings or 1 minute. Keep the game moving, make sure the catcher knows your expectations about number of warm up throws.
- keep the batter in the box.
- do NOT give TIME to the batter unless for safety.
 - *use common sense, if pitcher “freezes” hitter then we may grant time.
 - *If pitcher has started motion then do NOT grant time.
 - *If you grant time, then immediately order the batter back in box and “play”

Ejections- must be reported immediately after contest to Dennis Meadows or Jeanie Kosower. An ejection form must be completed as well, the form is available online.

- *when completing the ejection form please only include facts, not speculation
- *If the offender use profane or foul language you must write the exact words used

Jewelry: Get rid of the rubber bracelets, and necklaces. Mention this at plate meeting.

Dugouts: Keep them in the dugouts.

- *Extensions away from home plate are OK but must have a line of demarcation.
- *Permanent Extensions closer to home plate are OK for equipment only.



2012 AIA Baseball Rules Meetings

2 Man Mechanics with Diagrams



2012 AIA Baseball Rules Meetings

Test Review.



2012 AIA Baseball Rules Meetings

Have a great Season