

1. The 2026 Points of Emphasis are:
 - a. Lineup Management, Sportsmanship, Illegal Pitches, Obstruction
 - b. Discipline, Sportsmanship (*Bench Jockeying and Props*), Proper Pitching Positions, and Running Lane Awareness
 - c. Strike Zone, Balks, Spectator Conduct, and Sportsmanship

Reference: 2026 Rule Book, 2026 NFHS Baseball Preseason Guide

2. Umpires are responsible for verifying and recording the pitch counts for all pitchers in each game.
 - a. True
 - b. False

Article 150 of the CIF-SS Blue Book

3. The head coach from Team A presents a lineup at the plate meeting, and it is reviewed, confirmed, and accepted as official by the plate umpire. In the 3rd inning the head coach from Team A tells the plate umpire that a player from his team that was not on the lineup has arrived at the field and he wants to add him to the lineup and insert him into the game.
 - a. Illegal. The late-arriving player cannot be added to the lineup once it has been accepted by the plate umpire.
 - b. Legal. The late arriving is added to the list of available substitutes, and then substituted into the game. The head coach for Team A is issued a written warning.
 - c. Legal. The late arriving is added to the list of available substitutes, and then substituted into the game. The head coach for Team A is ejected.
 - d. Legal. The late arriving is added to the list of available substitutes, and then substituted into the game without penalty to Team A.

Rule Reference: 1.1.2 and Case Play 1.1.2 Situations A & B

4. Team B is batting. Team B player Mike Smith is listed on the lineup as wearing jersey #18, but his jersey has the #12 on it. Smith completes an at bat when his spot in the lineup is due. The head coach for Team A appeals that Smith batted out of order.
 - a. This is batting out of order.
 - b. This is not batting out of order, as Smith batted when he was supposed to. There is no penalty.
 - c. This is not batting out of order, as Smith batted when he was supposed to. The head coach is restricted to the dugout for the lineup error.

Rule Reference: 1.1.3 and Case Play 1.1.3 Situation



5. The first baseman has one foot completely in fair territory and one foot partially in foul territory when the pitcher attempts to pick the runner off.
 - a. This is a balk. All fielders, except the catcher, must have both feet completely in fair territory.
 - b. This is a legal position by the first baseman. He is only required to have one foot completely in fair territory.

Rule Reference: 1.1.4, Case Play 1.1.4 Situation, and 2025 Rule Interpretations, Situation 7: <https://nfhs.org/resources/sports/baseball-rules-interpretations-2025>



6. The home team uses the dugout on the 3B side of the field. The home team has drawn a chalk line approximately parallel to the foul line towards the outfield fence to extend the dugout. The chalk line is closer to the foul line than the dugout itself.

- Legal
- Not legal

Rule Reference: 1.2.4 & Case Play 1.2.4 Situation B

7. The home team wants to designate a dead ball area in an area unlikely to interfere with play. The head coach of the visiting team objects to a media area being designated in what would otherwise be live-ball territory.

- It is up to the plate umpire to approve the area, as media areas are at the sole discretion of the umpire in chief.
- The area shall not be designated a media area unless both coaches agree.
- If the umpire agrees the proposed area is safely located and unlikely to be involved in play, the area shall be designated as a media area despite the visiting coach's objection.
- The area shall be designated as a media area at the sole discretion of the home coach.

Rule Reference: 1.2.8 and Case Play 1.2.8 Situation A

8. A double-first base is now mandatory for all baseball games.

- True
- False

Rule Reference: 1.2.9 and NFHS publication <https://nfhs.org/stories/double-first-base-introduced-into-high-school-baseball>



9. The double first base is correctly positioned relative to the foul line.

- True
- False

Rule Reference: 2.5.1(h)

10. Team A is the home team, and their home field is a public park. The park only offers a double first base. The new double first base rules must be used in this situation.

- True
- False

Rule Reference: 1.2.9 and 2026 Coaches Memo

11. The head coach for Team B notices the distance between the bases is not exactly 90'. The host coach reports he is unable to correct the distance issue. Both coaches agree to play the game anyway. In the 4th inning the head coach for Team B wants to protest the game due to the non-regulation distance between the bases and to a just discovered issue with the distance from the pitching mound to the plate.

- The umpire shall not accept the protest. Once the game started, the opportunity to protest due to a non-regulation field has ended.
- The protest will be accepted, as one of the protested issues, the pitching distance, was not agreed to before the game started.
- The protest will be accepted. A non-regulation field is subject to protest at any time.

Rule Reference: 1.2.12 and Case Play 1.2.12 Situation

12. Non-wood bats must meet BBCOR standards and have a permanent BBCOR certification mark to be used in a game.

- True
- False

Rule Reference: 1.3.2 and Case Play 1.3.2 Situation A

13. A player steps into the batter's box with a cracked bat. The bat otherwise meets NFHS bat standards.

- a. This is simply a damaged bat. Once the crack is noticed, the bat is removed from the game without any penalty.
- b. The bat is illegal. The penalty for using an illegal bat applies.

Rule Reference: 1.3.5 & Case Play 1.3.5 Situation B



14. The pitcher for Team A is wearing the glove depicted above.

- a. Legal. The glove does not have white or gray.
- b. Not legal. Pitcher's gloves are restricted to two colors.

Rule Reference: 1.3.6 and Case Play 1.3.6 Situation A

15. The umpire notices a player is wearing an audio or video recording device while during the game.

- a. Legal.
- b. Not legal. The umpire shall direct the player to remove the illegal equipment.

Rule Reference: 1.6.3

16. A double first base is being used. The batter hits a ground ball down the 1B line. The ball bounces in fair territory several times as it travels down the line. Just before the ball reaches the 1B bag it curves and the entire baseball passes over the colored portion of the double first base.

- a. The ball is fair.
- b. The ball is foul.

Rule Reference: 2.5.1h and 2.16.1h

17. A pitcher throws two pitches to a batter. The catcher then tells the umpire that they want to intentionally walk the batter.

- a. The umpire should not allow the intentional base on balls after the first pitch to a batter.

b. The umpire should call time and award the batter first base.

Rule Reference: 2.4.3

18. In the 3rd inning the catcher is granted time to talk to the pitcher.

- This is a chargeable player to player defensive meeting.
- Player to player defensive conferences are not tracked or limited.

Rule Reference: 2.10.3

19. Team B is on defense. In the third inning the pitcher throws his warmup pitches. After his last warmup pitch, Team B throws the ball around the infield. All of the infielders and the catcher gather around the pitcher on the mound and briefly talk. The players then take their normal defensive positions. This is a chargeable player to player defensive meeting.

- True
- False

Rule Reference: 2.10.3, 2026 Coaches and Umpires Memo

20. Team B is on defense. The head coach for Team B meets with his pitcher, catcher, and infielders mid-inning and is charged for a defensive conference. The head coach ends the conference and walks towards his dugout. The head coach crosses the foul line, ending his conference. The catcher and infielders are still talking to the pitcher, and the umpire has to break up the discussion. This is a chargeable player to player meeting.

- True
- False

Rule Reference: 2.10.3

21. Each team has limit of three player to player defensive meetings per game.

- True
- False

Rule Reference: 2.10.3, 3.4.6, and 2026 NFHS Baseball Preseason Guide Meetings Section Summary

22. Team A uses a player to player meeting in third inning. Later in that same inning, the pitcher and catcher get crossed up on pitches. The catcher asks for time to go talk to the pitcher about their signals.

- a. The umpire should allow this. It is a safety issue.
- b. The umpire should deny this request. It would be the second player to player defensive meeting in the same inning, and that is not legal.

Rule Reference: 2.10.3, 3.4.6, and 2026 NFHS Baseball Preseason Guide

Meetings Section Plays 9 and 10

23. In the 7th inning, Team B holds a second player to player defensive meeting.

- a. The umpire shall direct the head coach of Team B to replace the pitcher.
- b. The umpire shall issue a sportsmanship warning to the player initiating the meeting. If a warning was previously issued, the player shall be ejected.
- c. The head coach for Team B is restricted to the dugout.
- d. There is no prescribed penalty. Having denied the meeting request, the umpire shall keep the ball live and if the pitcher does not start to pitch within 20 seconds, the batter shall be awarded a ball.

Rule Reference 2.10.3, 3.4.6, 6.2.2(c)

24. Team A has bases loaded with no outs. The batter bunts a ball into the air, in fair territory, that the pitcher can catch with ordinary effort. The pitcher allows the ball to fall to the ground untouched, then starts a double-play by throwing the ball to the catcher for a force play at the plate. The catcher in turn throws the ball to 3B for a force on the runner going from 2B to 3B and the play ends with a runner at 2B and a runner at 1B.

- a. This is an infield fly. The ball was immediately dead as soon as it was bunted. The batter is out and the runners are returned to their bases.
- b. This is an infield fly. The batter is out for the infield fly. The runners are safe at home and 3B because they were not tagged.
- c. This is not an infield fly because it was a bunt. The runners are out at home and 3B, and the runners at 2B and 1B remain. There are now two outs.

Rule Reference: 2.19



25. The NFHS expects umpires to immediately address bench jockeying and similar behavior.

- a. True
- b. False

Rule Reference: 3.3.1 and NFHS 2024 Baseball Rule Interpretations - Situation

17 <https://nfhs.org/resources/sports/baseball-rules-interpretations-2024>

26. Team A's lineup is presented and made official. The lineup lists Team A's starting pitcher as Paul Jones. When Team A takes the field on defense in the 1st inning, Jones does not warm up. Instead, Joe Smith takes the mound. The head coach for Team A reports Smith as a substitute for Jones as the pitcher.

- a. Legal.
- b. Not legal. The umpire shall require Jones to pitch unless he is injured.
- c. Not legal. The umpire shall allow Smith to replace Jones as the pitcher, but Jones cannot play in the game.
- d. Not legal. The umpire shall allow Smith to replace Jones as the pitcher, but Jones cannot pitch at any point in the game.

Rule Reference: 3.1.1 Penalty and Case Play 3.1.1 Situation K

27. Jones started as the pitcher for Team B and pitches the 1st and 2nd inning. When Team B takes the field in the 3rd inning, Smith goes to the mound and throws 8 warm-up pitches. The head coach from Team B notices Smith warming up and tells him to return to the dugout. Jones then takes the mound to pitch the 3rd inning. The umpire then puts the ball in play for the first time that half-inning.

- a. Once Smith stepped onto the pitcher's plate, he was an unreported substitute and became the pitcher of record.
- b. Once Smith started throwing warm-up pitches, he was an unreported substitute and became the pitcher of record.
- c. Just being on the mound and throwing warm-up pitches did not change anything. Since Jones was the player on the pitcher's plate when the ball was first put in play by the umpire, he remains the pitcher of record.

Rule Reference: 3.36.2 & 3.1.1b

28. Team B is on offense. #16 Martinez is the person scheduled to bat. #8 Wilkes, who was not in the game at all, steps into the batter's box and gets a hit. After Wilkes gets a hit, the head coach for Team A tells the umpire Wilkes was not reported and is an illegal substitute.

- The coach is correct. Wilkes is an illegal substitute. Wilkes is declared out and ejected. Martinez is the directed to bat.
- The coach is not correct. Wilkes is an unreported substitute. He is declared in the game and Martinez is out of the game. All action stands.

Rule Reference: 2.26.2 and 2.26.3

29. If a team uses a DH, the DH must bat for the pitcher.

- True
- False

Rule Reference: 3.1.4a

30. The same player can be both a defensive player and the DH at the same time.

- True
- False

Rule Reference: 3.1.4b

31. If a DH used, the team must have the DH in the lineup at the time the lineups are presented at the plate meeting. A DH cannot be inserted in the lineup later in the game.

- True
- False

Rule Reference: 3.1.4

32. Smith is legally in the lineup as the pitcher and the DH. Smith can be replaced on defense by a substitute and remain in the game as a DH only.

- True
- False

Rule Reference: 3.1.4(b)(2)

33. Smith is legally in the lineup as the pitcher and the DH. Smith can be replaced as a batter or runner by a substitute and remain in the game on defense only.

- True
- False

Rule Reference: 3.1.4(b)(2)

34. A player on Team A carelessly throws a bat.

- a. The player is declared out.
- b. The player is declared out and ejected.
- c. The player is declared out and the team is warned.
- d. The result of the play stand. The team is warned. The next offender is ejected.

Rule Reference: 3.3.1c Penalty

35. A coach is using a one-way electronic communication device to communicate with a runner.

- a. Legal
- b. Not legal

Rule Reference: 1-6-2, 3.2.5 and 2024 NFHS New Rule Announcement

<https://nfhs.org/resources/sports/baseball-rules-changes-2024>

36. Umpires are required, in all cases, to warn a team for misconduct before they can eject anyone.

- a. True
- b. False

Rule Reference: 3.3.1

37. In the third inning, the catcher for Team B is granted time to talk to the pitcher. Three pitches later, the catcher asks for time to talk to the pitcher for the second time in the same half inning.

- a. The umpire should grant time and allow the second player to player conference for that half-inning.
- b. The umpire should deny the request. Player to player defensive conferences are limited to one per inning.

Rule Reference: 3.4.6

38. A starter for Team A, Watkins, is legally replaced by a substitute, Adams in the 3rd inning. In the 5th inning, while Team A is on offense, Watkins steps into the batter's box instead of Adams, but is not reported as substitute. Watkins gets a base hit. The coach for Team B then appeals that Team A batted out of order.

- a. This batting out of order. Adams is called out and Watkins is returned to the dugout.
- b. This is an unreported substitute. Watkins is called out and restricted to the dugout.

c. This is an unreported substitute. There is no penalty. Watkins remains in the game, and the base hit stands.

Rule Reference: 3.1.1 and Case Play 3.1.1 Situation B

39. An umpiring crew is working two games scheduled back-to-back on the same day.

There are different teams playing in each game. Prior to the start of the first game there it rains, but the game is played anyway, despite the rain. The decision whether to start play in the second game rests with the umpires.

- a. True
- b. False

Rule Reference: 4.1.1

40. Prior to the start of the game, it rains. The head coach for the home team evaluates the condition of the field and decides the field is suitable for play. The visiting coach disagrees and says he does not believe the field is suitable for play.

- a. The umpire shall start the game.
- b. Since the coaches do not agree, the umpire shall make the final decision.
- c. Both coaches do not agree, so the game shall be delayed until both coaches agree to play, cancel, or reschedule.

Rule Reference: 4.1.1



41. A player is using an electronic display to signal plays to the entire team on defense.

- a. Legal.
- b. Not legal.

Rule Reference: 1.6.1, 3.2.5 and NFHS 2024 Baseball Rule Interpretations – Situation 14 <https://nfhs.org/resources/sports/baseball-rules-interpretations-2024>

42. Player Smith for Team A is a legal substitute on the lineup presented at the plate meeting. In the 2nd inning Smith is restricted to the dugout by the umpire. In the 4th inning the head coach for Team A attempts to enter Smith as substitute.

- a. Legal.
- b. Not legal.

Rule Reference: 2.36.3 and 3.1.1

43. Team A starts the game with nine players. In the 2nd inning the head coach for Team A says one of his players cannot continue and he will only have eight players remaining.

- a. The game will continue with eight players. If the now missing player can't play due to injury, his turn in the batting order will be skipped without penalty.
- b. The game will continue with eight players. An out will be declared each time the missing player's spot in the lineup is due to bat, regardless of the reason why he is unable to continue.

Rule Reference: 4.4.1(f) Note 1

44. Team A starts the game with nine players. In the 3rd inning Team A's batter in the #9 spot in the lineup hits a double. The player is injured sliding safely into 2B and cannot continue the game.

- a. The game continues with eight players. The injured player that was on 2B is removed from the game, and 2B is now vacant because Team A has no eligible substitutes.
- b. The game continues with eight players. The injured player that was on 2B is declared out because Team A has no eligible substitutes.
- c. The game continues with eight players. The injured player that was on 2B is removed from the game. The most recent batter not on base replaces the injured player at 2B as a courtesy runner.

Rule Reference: 4.4.1(f) Note 1 and Case Play 4.4.1 Situation B



45. On a pickoff attempt the pitcher errantly throws the ball. The thrown ball hits the umpire.

- a. This is interference by the umpire. The ball is immediately dead. The runner is returned to the base he was legally at when the throw was released.
- b. This is interference by the umpire. The ball is immediately dead. The runner is awarded one base beyond the base he was legally at when the throw was released.
- c. This is interference by the umpire. The ball is immediately dead. The runner is awarded the base(s) the umpire judges he would have attained had there not been interference.
- d. This is not interference. The ball remains live and the result of the action during the live ball stands.

Rule Reference: 3.2.3 and 5.1.1(f)



46. Following a home run, the batter and/or his teammates display a lack of sportsmanship.

- It is a home run. The sportsmanship standards are suspended following a home run.
- The umpire must issue a warning to the offending player(s).
- The umpire must eject the offending player(s).
- The umpire shall warn the offending player(s), unless the conduct is judged to be major. If judged to be major, the umpire shall eject the offending player(s).

Rule Reference: 3.3.1(f) PENALTY

47. The umpire makes a call that the head coach of Team A does not agree with. The coach of Team A tells the umpire his team has video of the play available and asks the umpire to review the video and change the call.

- The umpire must review the video and if appropriate, change the call.
- The umpire has the option to review the video and, if appropriate, change the call.
- The umpire cannot view the video. The umpire should tell the head coach to return to the dugout. If the coach does not immediately return to the dugout, the umpire must restrict him to the dugout or eject him.
- The umpire must immediately restrict the coach to the dugout or eject him.

Rule Reference: 3.3.1 and Case Play 3.1.1 Situation W

48. When a coach or player is issued a verbal warning, the warned coach or player is restricted to the dugout.

- True
- False

Rule Reference: 3.3.1(f) Penalty



49. In the 2nd inning the umpire verbally warns a coach regarding arguing about balls and strikes, but does not issue a written warning. The coach complains about balls and strikes in the 4th inning. The arguing is not judged to be major.

- a. Since the coach had already been warned, he must be ejected.
- b. Since the first warning was only verbal, the umpire must issue a written warning for the complaining in the 4th inning because it was not “major.”
- c. The umpire has the option to issue a written warning or eject the coach for the complaining in the 4th inning.

Rule Reference: 3.3.1(f) PENALTY, 10.2.3(j), and 2016 Rule Interpretations

Situation 5

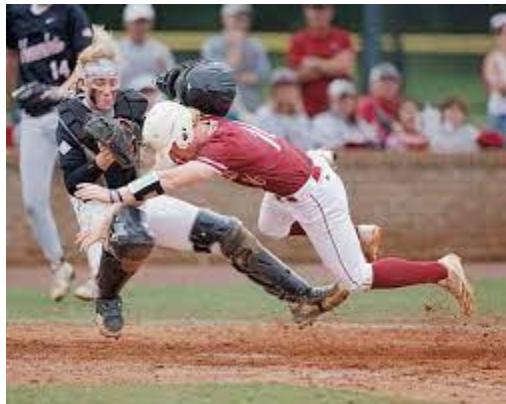
[\(http://www.rgvbb.com/2016_NFHS_Baseball_Rules_Interpretations_.pdf\)](http://www.rgvbb.com/2016_NFHS_Baseball_Rules_Interpretations_.pdf)



50. A batter for Team B carelessly and unintentionally loses control of his bat.

- a. The batter is out
- b. The batter is ejected.
- c. The batter is warned. If the same batter carelessly loses control of his bat again, he is ejected.
- d. The head coach for Team B is warned. The next player that carelessly loses control of the bat is ejected.

Rule Reference: 3.3.1(c) PENALTY and Case Play 3.3.1 Situation EE



51. This slide is illegal.

- a. True
- b. False

2-32-2(e)



52. This slide is illegal.

- a. True
- b. False

Rule Reference: 2-32-2(d)



53. This slide is illegal.

- a. True
- b. False

Rule Reference: 2.32.2(a)



54. This slide is illegal.

- a. True
- b. False

Rule Reference: 2.32.2(a)

55. The pitcher commits a balk and the umpire calls it.

- a. The ball status is immediately dead. The balk penalty is enforced.
- b. The ball remains live. The coach on offense has the option of the play or the penalty.

Rule Reference: 5.1.1(k)

56. Team A has a runner at 2B. The catcher for Team B tells the umpire they want to intentionally walk the batter without throwing any pitches. The umpire awards the

batter 1B. As the batter is jogging to 1B, the runner from 2B attempts to steal 3B and is apparently thrown out.

- a. The ball remains live. The runner at 2B attempted to advance at his own risk. The play stands and the runner is out. The batter remains at 1B.
- b. As soon as the request to intentionally walk the batter was granted, the ball status was dead. The runner could neither advance, nor be put out, and is returned to 2B. The batter-runner remains at 1B.

Rule Reference: 5-1-3

57. Team B has a runner at 1B. Following a time out for an offensive conference, the pitcher takes a legal position on the pitcher's plate with the ball in his hand. The batter has one foot in the batter's box and is setting his grip on the bat. The pitcher then spins and makes a pickoff attempt at 1B. The runner is tagged before getting back to the base.

- a. The runner is out. The ball was live as soon as the pitcher took a legal position on the pitcher's plate with the ball.
- b. The runner is not out. The ball was not yet live.

Rule Reference: 5.1.4

58. Team A has a runner at 2B. The batter hits a fly ball that is caught by the right-fielder. The runner at 2B advances to 3B, rounds the bag, then returns to 3B. The coach at third realizes the runner left 2B before the ball is touched by the defense and tells the runner to go back to 2B at the same time the right fielder is throwing the ball back into the infield. The runner does what he is told, and makes it back to 2B, moments before the defense makes a legal live-ball appeal.

- a. The runner legally retouched the base and remains at 2B.
- b. The runner cannot legally return to touch 2B because he had already passed 3B. The runner is out on the appeal.

Rule Reference: 5.2.2(b)(1)

59. The batter is legally in the batter's box, apparently ready to hit. The pitcher starts his delivery. The batter backs up and now has one foot completely out of the batter's box. The pitcher completes a legal delivery of the pitch, which is well outside of the strike zone.

- a. The pitch shall be called a strike.
- b. The pitch shall be called a ball.

Rule Reference: 5.2.1 and Case Play 5.2.1 Situation A

60. The batter is hit by a pitch in the knee area and is unable to walk.

- Since the batter cannot complete his baserunning responsibilities, he shall be declared out.
- The on-deck batter can help the batter get to 1B, where he can then be substituted for.
- The injured player does not need to touch 1B. He can be immediately substituted for and the substitute can complete the baserunning responsibilities related to the award.

Rule Reference: 5.2.1(d) and Case Play 5.2.1 Situation C



61. The batter hits a ball to right-center field that one-hops the fence. The runner attempts to reach second base and beats the throw. The runner is injured on the slide and rolls over, losing contact with the base. The runner is then tagged by the defense.

- The runner is out. The umpire must allow the ball status to remain live unless he judges the runner was at risk of additional injury.
- As soon as the umpire saw the runner was injured he should have called time. The runner is not out and remains at 2B.

Rule Reference: 5.2.1(d) and Case Play 5.2.1 Situation D

62. With a runner at 1B, the pitcher starts to pitch but loses control of the baseball. The ball rolls but stops before it crosses a foul line.

- This is an illegal pitch and the ball is immediately dead. A ball shall be awarded to the batter and the runner remains at 1B.
- This is a balk. The ball is immediately dead and the runner is awarded 2B.
- A ball shall be called. The ball remains live and the runner can advance at his own risk.
- There is no infraction.

Rule Reference: 6.1.2, 6.1.4 and 6.2.4, Case Play 6.1.2 Situation A, NFHS Rule Interpretations Situation 15 <https://nfhs.org/resources/sports/baseball-rules-interpretations-2025>

63. With a runner at 1B, the pitcher starts to pitch but loses control of the baseball. The ball rolls completely across a foul line.

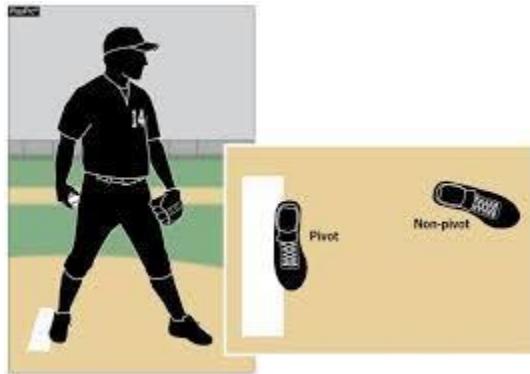
- a. This is an illegal pitch and the ball is immediately dead. A ball shall be awarded to the batter and the runner remains at 1B.
- b. This is a balk. The ball is immediately dead and the runner is awarded 2B.
- c. A ball shall be called. The ball remains live and the runner can advance at his own risk.
- d. There is no infraction.

Rule Reference: 6.1.2, 6.1.4 and 6.2.4, Case Play 6.1.2 Situation A, NFHS Rule Interpretations Situation 15 <https://nfhs.org/resources/sports/baseball-rules-interpretations-2025>

64. The pitcher's pivot foot alone determines whether the pitcher is in the set position or the windup position.

- a. True
- b. False

Rule Reference: 6.1.1



65. The pitcher is in the set position.

- a. True
- b. False

Rule Reference: 6.1.1 and 6.1.3



66. Both sets of feet positioning are legal windup positions

- a. True
- b. False

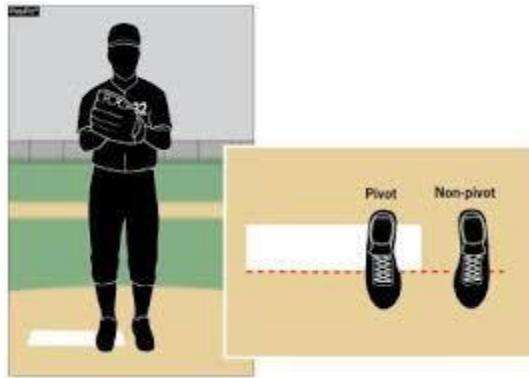
Rule Reference: 6.1.1 and 6.1.2



67. The umpire sees the pitcher position his feet as shown above.

- a. This is a legal windup position.
- b. This is a legal set position.
- c. This is not a legal pitching position.

Rule Reference: 6.1.1, 6.1.2, & Case Play 6.1.2 Situation J



68. The umpire sees the pitcher position his feet as shown above.

- a. The is a legal windup position.
- b. This is not a legal position.

Rule Reference: 6.1.1

69. The pitcher is in the windup position. Team B has a runner at 1B.

- a. The pitcher can step directly to 1B to attempt to pick the runner off.
- b. The pitcher must step backwards off of the pitcher's plate to attempt to pick the runner off.

Rule Reference: 6.1.2

70. The pitcher gets a number sequence from his coach while off the pitcher's plate. The pitcher then steps on the pitcher's plate and immediately brings his hands together, pauses briefly, then begins to pitch.

- a. Legal.
- b. Not legal.

Rule Reference: 6.1.1 and NFHS Rule Interpretations 2022 -Situation 14

<https://assets.nfhs.org/umbraco/media/5546364/2022-baseball-rules-interpretations-final.pdf>

71. Team A has runners at 1st and 2nd (R1 and R2), and the batter has a 1-1 count. As the pitcher starts to deliver a pitch to the batter, the pitcher commits a balk. The base umpire points at the pitcher and says, "That's a balk!". The pitcher delivers the pitch anyway, and the batter hits a double to right center field. Both R1 and R2 score on the hit.

- a. The offensive coach has the option to take the results of the play or the penalty for the balk.
- b. Since the balk was called, the ball status is immediately dead. The results of the play are nullified and the penalty for the balk is enforced. R2 is awarded 3B, R1 is awarded 2B, and the batter remains at bat with a 1-1 count.

Rule Reference: 6.1.1 PENALTY

72. After the 1st inning, the starting pitcher is allowed a maximum of five warmup pitches.

- a. True
- b. False

Rule Reference: 6.2.2(c) Exception

73. A substitute pitcher is allowed a maximum of 8 warmup pitches if the substitution occurs during an inning, or at the beginning of the next defensive half inning if the substitution was made in between innings.

- a. True
- b. False

Rule Reference: 6.2.2(c) Exception

74. There is a runner at 1B. The batter is legally in the batter's box, apparently ready to hit, with a 1-0 count. The pitcher starts his delivery. The batter backs up and now has one foot completely out of the batter's box. The pitcher stops his delivery.

- a. This is a balk. The pitcher must deliver a pitch once he starts his delivery. The runner is awarded 2B.
- b. This is an illegal action on the part of the batter. A strike will be charged to the batter. The runner remains at 1B.
- c. Because the batter had only one foot outside of the batter's box, this is nothing. The umpire shall call time and reset the pitcher, batter, and runner.

Rule Reference: 6.2.4(d)(1)(a)

75. There is a runner at 1B. The batter is legally in the batter's box, apparently ready to hit, with a 1-0 count. The pitcher starts his delivery. The batter backs up and now has one foot completely out of the batter's box. The pitcher continues his delivery and makes a pitch that is outside of the strike zone.

- a. Since the pitcher continued with the pitch, the ball remains live and umpire will call the pitch a ball because it was outside of the strike zone. The count is now 2-0.
- b. Since the pitcher continued with the pitch, the ball remains live and umpire shall call the pitch strike whether the pitch was in the strike zone or not. The count is now 1-1.

Rule Reference: 6.2.4(d)(1)(a)

76. There are runners at 1B and 3B. The pitcher fakes a throw to third and disengages the pitcher's plate. The pitcher then spins and fakes a throw to first.

- This is a balk. The pitcher cannot fake a throw to first.
- This is legal.

Rule Reference: 6.2.4(a) and (b) and NFHS Rule Interpretations 2013 – Situation 8

<https://ihsaa-static.s3.amazonaws.com/baseball/2013%20NFHS%20BASEBALL%20RULES%20INTERPRETATIONS.pdf>

-	Name	#	Position	Sub
1	Dio	6	3	
2	Halford / Page	12 / 18	1 / DH	
3	Mercury	22	7	
4	Peart	44	9	
5	Ulrich	19	6	
6	Hetfield	7	3	
7	Iommi	29	2	
8	Rhoads	31	5	
9	Wylde	2	4	
	SUBSTITUTES			
	Hammett	4		
	Petrucci	99		
	Hanneman	41		
	King	27		

77. Above is Team A's lineup. Team A is on offense. The first batter is #44 Peart, and he walks. The next batter that steps into the batter's box is #7 Hetfield. On the first pitch Peart steals 2B. Hetfield takes the pitch for a ball. The next pitch is a wild pitch, and Peart advances to 3B. On the third pitch Hetfield gets a base hit and Peart scores. At this point the head coach for Team B appeals to the umpire that Team A batted out of order. The umpire agrees, as Ulrich should have batted after Peart.

- Hefield is declared out.
- Ulrich is declared out.
- Peart's run stands.
- Peart is returned to 1B.
- Peart is returned to 3B.
- A and D.
- A and C.
- B and E.

- i. B and C

Rule Reference: 7.1.1, 7.1.2

78. Following the above sequence, who should the umpire direct to bat after the penalty is applied?

- a. Ulrich
- b. Hetfield
- c. Iommi

Rule Reference: 7.1.2(4)



79. The batter attempts to bunt the ball, misses, and is hit by the pitch.

- a. The ball status is immediately dead. The batter is awarded 1B.
- b. The ball status remains live. The batter is charged with a strike.
- c. The ball status is immediately dead. The batter is charged with a strike.

Rule Reference: 7.2.1(b)



80. The batter attempts to check his swing. The pitched ball hits the batter. The ball status is immediately dead. If the umpire judges the batter struck at the ball, he is charged with a strike.

- a. True
- b. False

Rule Reference: 7.2.1(b)



81. The batter extends his arm away from his body to intentionally allow a pitch to touch him.

- a. The ball status is immediately dead. The batter is automatically charged with a strike.
- b. The status is immediately dead. The pitch is either a ball or strike based on where it would have been had the batter not allowed it to touch him.

Rule Reference: 7.3.4 and Case Play 7.4.4 Situation C

82. The batter must try to move out of the way of a pitch that would otherwise hit him.

- a. True
- b. False

Rule Reference: 7.3.4 and Case Play 7.3.4 Situation D



83. Team A is on offense and has a runner at 2B (R2). R2 attempts to steal 3B on the pitch.

The batter lets the pitch go by and stands still. The catcher receives the pitch and attempts to throw to third base. The ball hits the batter, who still hasn't moved.

- a. This is interference. The batter must make an attempt to get out of the way.
- b. This is not interference. The batter is entitled to maintain his position in the batter's box. The ball remains live and all play stands.

Rule Reference: 7.3.5 and Case Play 7.3.5 Situation E



84. Team A is on offense and has a runner at 1B (R1) with one out and a 1-0 count on the batter. R1 attempts to steal 2B on the pitch, which is called a strike. The batter swings at the pitch and misses, and his momentum takes him across the plate. The catcher receives the pitch and attempts to throw to second base, and there is contact between

the catcher and batter that the umpire judges to be interference. The catcher completes the throw and R1 is safe on the play at 2B.

- a. The ball was immediately dead when the catcher had contact with the batter. The batter is declared out for interference. R1 is returned to 1B.
- b. The ball was immediately dead when the catcher had contact with the batter. R1 is declared out for the batter's interference. The batter remains at bat with a 1-1 count.
- c. The ball remains live until the play attempt on R1 is complete. Since R1 was not put out, the ball then becomes dead. The batter is declared out for interference and R1 is returned to 1B.
- d. The ball remains live until the play attempt on R1 is complete. Since R1 was not put out, the ball then becomes dead. R1 is declared out for the batter's interference, and the batter remains at bat with a 1-1 count.

Rule Reference: 7.3.5(a) and Case Play 7.3.5 Situation B



85. Team A is on offense and has a runner at 1B (R1) with one out and a 1-0 count on the batter. R1 attempts to steal 2B on the pitch, which is called a strike. The batter swings at the pitch and misses, and his momentum takes him across the plate. The catcher receives the pitch and attempts to throw to second base, and there is contact between the catcher and batter that the umpire judges to be interference. The catcher completes the throw and R2 is called out on the play at 2B.

- a. The ball was immediately dead when the catcher had contact with the batter. The batter is declared out for interference. R1 is returned to 1B.
- b. The ball was immediately dead when the catcher had contact with the batter. R1 is declared out for the batter's interference. The batter remains at bat with a 1-1 count.
- c. The ball remains live until the play attempt on R1 is complete. Once R1 was put out on the initial play, the ball becomes dead and the batter is also declared out.

d. The ball remains live until the play attempt on R1 is complete. Since R1 was put out on the initial play, the interference is ignored. The ball remains live and all play stands.

Rule Reference: 7.3.5(a) and Case Play 7.3.5 Situation B



86. The batter swings at a pitch and misses. The bat hits the catcher as the batter is finishing his swing.

- a. This is backswing interference.
- b. The is follow-through interference.
- c. This is catcher's obstruction.

Rule Reference: 7.3.5(c)

87. The batter for Team A enters the batter's box with an illegal bat. Before a pitch is thrown, the catcher tells the umpire the bat is illegal. The umpire inspects the bat and determines it is illegal.

- a. Because a pitch had not been thrown, the bat is removed from the game and the umpire shall issue a team warning to Team A.
- b. Because the batter did not complete an at bat, the bat is removed and the umpire shall issue a team warning to Team A.
- c. The batter is immediately declared out. The head coach is restricted to the dugout unless this is the 2nd illegal bat offense of the game. If it is the 2nd offense, the head coach is ejected.
- d. The batter is immediately declared out and ejected. The head coach is also ejected.

Rule Reference: 7.4.1(a), 4.1.3(b) PENALTY, and NFHS Baseball Rules

Interpretations Situation 1

88. Team A has a runner at 2B (R2), and there are no outs. The batter hits a single to right field. R2 attempts to score and is thrown out at the plate, and the batter is now at 1B. Before the next pitch the catcher tells the umpire that the batter that just hit the ball used an illegal bat. The umpire inspects the bat and determines it is illegal.

- a. The batter is declared out. R2's out is nullified and he is returned to 2B. The head coach for Team A is warned, unless it is the second offense.
- b. The batter is declared out for the illegal bat. The out on R2 also stands. The head coach for Team A is warned, unless it is a second offense. Play continues with two outs and nobody on base.
- c. The head coach for Team B has the option of taking the result of the play (R2 out and the batter at 1B), or the penalty (the batter out and R2 returned to 2B). In either case, the head coach for Team A is warned, unless it is the second offense.

Rule Reference: 7.4.1(a), 4.1.3(b) PENALTY

89. The batter has a count of 1 ball and 2 strikes. The batter bunts the ball and the bunted ball goes into foul territory and stops.

- a. This is strike three.
- b. Because there were already two strikes, the bunted ball is simply foul and the batter remains at bat with a 1-2 count.

Rule Reference: 7.4.1(e)



90. Team A has a runner on 3B and no outs. The batter hits a ground ball to the first baseman, who is playing in. The batter runs towards 1B as the first baseman runs towards him. As this is happening, the runner from third tries to score. The first baseman looks like he is going to have a chance to tag the batter-runner and make a play on the runner coming to the plate, but the batter-runner stops just before the tag and starts to retreat towards home. The first baseman eventually runs him down and tags him between the plate and first base, and the runner from third was able to score without a play.

- a. As soon as the batter runner started to retreat, the ball status is dead. The batter runner is out and the runner is returned to 3B.
- b. This is a legal running play by the batter runner. The ball remains live and the result of the play stands.

Rule Reference: 8.1.1 and Case Play 8.1.1 Situation A

91. Team A has a runner at 2nd base (R2). During a swing, the batter's bat touches the catcher's glove. The umpire calls obstruction. The batter hits the ball anyway and hits a ground ball into right field. R2 reaches third base easily and continues to home to try and score. The throw home is in time and R2 is called out. The batter-runner attempts to go to 2B on this play and is thrown out also.

- a. The ball is immediately dead as soon as the obstruction occurred. All of the playing action is nullified. The penalty for the obstruction is applied.
- b. The ball remains live following the obstruction call. After all play ends, the offensive head coach has the option to take the result of the play or the penalty for obstruction.
- c. The ball remains live following the obstruction call. Since R2 advanced a base safely and the batter reached a base safely, the obstruction is ignored. Both outs made on the play stand and offense does not get an option.

Rule Reference 8.1.1(e)

92. Team A is on offense and has runners on 1st and 3rd (*R3 and R1*) and two outs. The batter hits a double and misses 1B when he rounds to go to 2B. R3 scores, and R1 stops at 3B. The ball is returned to the infield, and the shortstop is walking the ball back to the pitcher. The first baseman starts calling for the ball to make an appeal on the missed base. R1, now on third base, is told by his coach to get in a rundown, which he does. R1 is not put out on the rundown and makes it back to third. The umpire judges the offense initiated the play. Team B is granted time after all of this happens and makes proper dead ball appeal that the batter-runner missed 1B.

- a. Because the defense did not immediately appeal and made a play on R1 first, they are no longer allowed to appeal the missed base. The appeal is denied and the result of the play stands.
- b. Because the offense initiated the play, the defense retained the ability to appeal. The batter-runner shall be called out on appeal. The run doesn't score.

Rule Reference: 8.2.1 Penalty

93. Team A is on offense and has runners on 1st and 3rd (*R3 and R1*) and two outs. The batter hits a double and misses 1B when he rounds to go to 2B. R3 scores, and R1 stops

at 3B. The ball is returned to the infield, and the shortstop is walking the ball back to the pitcher. The shortstop instead makes a quick throw to 3B to try and get an out on R1 who had rounded 3B and was returning to the base, resulting in a rundown. R1 is not put out on the rundown and makes it back to third. The umpire judges the offense did not initiate this play. Team B is granted time after all of this happens and makes proper dead ball appeal that the batter-runner missed 1B.

- a. Because the defense did not immediately appeal and made a play on R1 first, they are no longer allowed to appeal the missed base. The appeal is denied and the result of the play stands.
- b. Because the offense initiated the play, the defense retained the ability to appeal. The batter-runner shall be called out on appeal. The run doesn't score.

Rule Reference: 8.2.1 Penalty

94. Team A has a runner on 1B (R1). The batter hits a ground ball through the right side of the infield. R1 misses second base as he tries to get to third base. The ball and runner arrive at 3B close together and the runner is called safe after a close play. The defense requests and is granted time. After time is called, the offensive coach at 3B tells the runner to go back to 2B, knowing he missed the base.

- a. This is legal. The defense must properly make a dead ball appeal before the runner touches 2B.
- b. In this situation, the runner's return to 2B is not legal. If the defense makes a proper dead ball appeal, the runner will be declared out, even if he has already touched 2B.

Rule Reference: 8.2.6(d)(1)

95. Team A has bases loaded (R1, R2, and R3) with two outs. The batter hits the ball into the right field gap. R3, R2 and R1 all score without a play. The batter-runner stops at 3B. The defense successfully appeals that the batter-runner missed 1B.

- a. All three runs count.
- b. No runs score.

Rule Reference: 8.2.6 (k)

96. Team A has bases loaded (R1, R2, and R3) with two outs. The batter hits the ball into the right field gap. R3, R2 and R1 all score without a play. The batter-runner stops at 3B. The defense successfully appeals that the batter-runner missed 2B.

- a. All three runs count.
- b. No runs score.

Rule Reference: 8.2.6 (k)

97. Team A has bases loaded (R1, R2, and R3) with one out. The batter hits a deep fly ball to the outfield that is eventually caught. All three runners advance a base after the catch, with R3 scoring, R2 now at 3B, and R1 now at 2B. The defense successfully appeals that R2 left 2B early.

- a. R3's run does not count.
- b. R3's run does count.

Rule Reference: 8.2.6 (h)

98. Team A has a runner at 1B (R1) and no outs. The batter hits a ground ball to the first baseman. R1 takes a step off of 1B, then retreats to 1B and stands on it. The first baseman tags R1, who is still standing on the base. After tagging R1, the first baseman steps on the 1st base.

- a. R1 is out, even though he was standing by himself on 1B. The batter-runner is also out because the first baseman then touched the base before the batter-runner arrived..
- b. R1 is not out on the tag because the batter-runner had not yet reached 1st base. The batter-runner is out because the first baseman stepped on the base.

Rule Reference: 8.2.8 (a)

99. Team A has runners at 1st and 2nd (R1 and R2) and no outs. The batter hits a ground ball to the shortstop, who starts an attempt at a 6-4-3 double play. The 2nd baseman catches the ball and records the out at 2B, then throws the ball towards 1B. The throw is wild, and the ball goes into the dugout. R2 is standing at 3B at the end of the play.

- a. R3 is awarded home, and the batter-runner is awarded 2B.
- b. R3 is awarded home, and the batter-runner is awarded 3B.

Rule Reference: Baserunning Awards Table

100. The batter has an 0-2 count. There are no runners on base. On the next pitch the batter swings and misses at a pitch in the dirt. The pitch hits the catcher's shin guard and ricochets up the first base line. Because the third strike was not caught, the batter-runner starts to run to first. The batter-runner collides with the deflected baseball while running to first, and the ball is deflected away from the catcher. The batter-runner reaches 1B safely. The umpire judges the batter-runner and ball contact unintentional.

- a. This is interference. The ball status is immediately dead and the batter-runner is declared out immediately.
- b. This is not interference. The ball remains live and the result of the play stands.

Rule Reference: 8.4.1(a)

MECHANICS

- 1) While fair/foul and catch/no catch are the first things that can happen on a play, those calls do not automatically call for an umpire to leave their position. On plays that will be extremely close, the umpire should go out to rule.
 - a) True
 - b) False

Reference: 5.1G

- 2) Umpire mechanics and movement should not be based on secondary play possibilities.
 - a) True
 - b) False

Reference: 5.1C

- 3) Crew communication before every new hitter and during play situations is critical.
 - a) True
 - b) False

Reference: 5.1I

- 4) Umpires are expected to call plays from the precise locations, or nearly precise locations, presented in the manual.
 - a) True
 - b) False

Reference: 5.5

- 5) **(2-Man) BALK**, Plate Umpire should concentrate on:
 - a) LHP stepping to the plate
 - b) LHP Coming to a complete stop
 - c) RHP coming to a complete stop
 - d) RHP gaining ground and distance on the jump turn
 - e) RHP closing their front shoulder before the jump turn
 - f) RHP breaking their front knee before the jump turn
 - g) All of the above
 - h) None of the above

Reference: 7.2A

- 6) **(2-Man) BALK**, Base Umpire should concentrate on:
 - a) LHP Coming to a complete stop

- b) RHP gaining ground and distance on the jump turn
- c) RHP breaking their front knee before the jump turn
- d) All of the above
- e) None of the above

Reference: 7.2B

7) There are four conditions that require an umpire to go to the outfield:

- a) True
- b) False

Reference: 7.3c

8) (**2-Man**) Overthrow responsibility belongs to the plate umpire with one exception.

- a) True
- b) False

Reference: 7.4

9) (**2-man**) Once you go out, do not return until the play is complete with one exception.

- a) True
- b) False

Reference: 7.3D4a

10) (**2-man**) When position on the infield, U1 may cross the base path to observe catch/no catch on a trouble ball.

- a) True
- b) False

Reference: 7.3D5

11) (**3-man**) In some situations, an umpire positioned in the middle of the diamond may cross the basepaths and head into the outfield for better coverage.

- a) True
- b) False

Reference: 8.1.3

12) (**2-man**) R1, ground ball, double play attempt. If R1 is safe at second and attempts to advance to third, PU has responsibility for play at third if ball and runner come together. PU is responsible for all plays at home.

- a) True
- b) False

Reference: 7.6.4 PU

13) (**3-Man**) No runners on. PU has not outfield responsibility. U1 dictates coverage.

- a) True
- b) False

Reference: 8.6.1

14) **(3-Man)** Umpires will automatically go out on all fly balls with or without runners on base.

- a) True
- b) False

Reference: 8.4

15) **(3-Man)** Runners on first. U1 is in the "A" position. U3 is required to be in the B position at all times.

- a) True
- b) False

Reference: 8.7