



2024 Baseball Rules Committee Meeting Proposed Rules Changes

RULES CHANGES

No.	Page	Rule Ref	Proposed Changes with Rationale	Submitted By	Pass	Fail	No Action
1	13	1-3-2c1	<p>ART. 2 . . . The bat shall have the following characteristics and components.</p> <p>Sub-articles a-b remains the same.</p> <p>c. Each bat not made of a single piece of wood shall:</p> <p>1. Have a safety grip made of cork, tape (no smooth, plastic tape) or commercially manufactured composition material. The grip must extend a minimum of 10 inches, but not more than 18 inches, from the base of the knob. Slippery tape or similar material shall be prohibited. Resin, pine tar or any drying agent are permitted to enhance the hold <u>on the bat</u>, only on the grip <u>not to exceed beyond 18 inches from the base of the knob</u>. Molded grips are illegal.</p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>Risk minimization. This allows the batter to have better control over their bat, so it does not slip out of their hands due to moisture or perspiration.</p>	B. Elliot Hopkins, Indianapolis, IN			
2	18	2-10-1	<p>Change:</p> <p>ART. 1 . . . A charged conference is a meeting which involves the coach or a non-playing representative <u>or a player</u> of the team and a player or players of the team. Defensive (3-4-1); Offensive (3-4-2).</p>	Don Corr, Thomaston, GA			



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			<p>Rationale:</p> <p>The change is necessary if 3-4-1 Charged Conference is approved.</p> <p>Other Rules Affected: Rule: 3 Section: 4 Article: 1</p>			
3	25	2-28-2	<p>Change:</p> <p>ART. 2 . . . A live ball delivered to the batter is a pitch. The term implies a legally delivered ball unless otherwise stated. When a pitcher commits a balk and completes the delivery to the batter, or delivers an illegal pitch, it is not considered a pitch, because the ball became dead at the time of the infraction. <u>or otherwise makes a play on a runner, it is a delayed dead ball. See Rule 6-2-4 and 6-2-5 for a list of balks.</u></p> <p><u>See Rule 6-2-5 PENALTY for enforcement of the balk rule.</u></p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>By calling an immediate dead ball on a balk, the offense may be denied the advantage, in the event of an extra base hit and other situations, of additional bases including scoring runners. Under the new rule, the offensive team would have the ability to take the most advantageous result. Additionally, by simply giving the offense a choice, the new rule would be easy to enforce.</p> <p>See Appendix A for examples that illustrate the differences between the current rule on balks and the proposed rule change.</p>	Robert Brown, North Highlands, CA	Additional Sponsors: Mark Garrett, mcgarrett1954@gmail.com, AR	



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See Appendix B for umpire mechanics under the proposed rule change.

[EDITOR'S NOTE: The 2024 NFHS Baseball Rule Book does not have appendices that reflect the submitter's above references.]

Due to the various rules and case book situations affected, I went through and made suggestions on changes to these various rules and case book situations in detail. Also, I added the various balks which are listed throughout various rules and incorporated them into Rule 6-2-4 Balk a through f and added those balks into items g through s so that all balks would be in Rules 6-2-4 and 6-2-5. And included a PENALTY section under Rule 6-2-5 PENALTY (Articles 4 and 5) to explain briefly how the dead ball balk penalty would be enforced, similar and consistent with Catcher's Obstruction.

Other Rules Affected:

Rule: 5 Section: 1 Article: 1
Rule: 5 Section: 1 Article: 2
Rule: 6 Section: 1 Article: 3
Rule: 6 Section: 2 Article: 4
Rule: 6 Section: 2 Article: 51

Case Book Situations Affected:

Rule: 6 Section: 1 Article: 1 Situation: B
Rule: 6 Section: 1 Article: 1 Situation: E
Rule: 6 Section: 1 Article: 3 Situation: F
Rule: 6 Section: 2 Article: 4 Situation: COMMENT B
Rule: 6 Section: 2 Article: 5 Situation: B
Rule: 6 Section: 2 Article: 5 Situation: C



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4	34	3-3-2	<p>ART. 2 . . . A coach who is ejected shall leave the vicinity of the playing area immediately and is prohibited from further contact, direct or indirect, with the team during the remainder of the game. The coach may return when requested to attend to an ill or injured player.</p> <p><u>PENALTY: Failure of the ejected coach to comply shall result in forfeiture of the game.</u></p> <p>Rationale: Clarity that an ejection is a serious violation of sportsmanship and game decorum.</p>	Pat Gebhart, Mechanicsburg, PA			
5	32	3-4-1	<p>Change:</p> <p>ART. 1 . . . Each team, when on defense, may be granted not more than three <u>six</u> charged conferences during a seven-inning game, without penalty, to permit coaches <u>no more than (3) of which include a coach</u> or their non-playing representatives, without penalty, to permit coaches, or players to confer with a defensive player or players. In an extra inning game, each team shall be permitted one charged conference each inning while on defense without penalty. The number of charged conferences permitted is not cumulative. A request for time for this purpose shall be made by a coach, player, substitute or an attendant. Time granted for an obviously incapacitated player shall not constitute a charged conference. Prior to accumulating three charged conferences in seven innings or less, a conference is not charged if the pitcher is removed as pitcher.</p> <p><u>PENALTY: After three six charged conferences or after three charged conferences involving a coach or non-playing representative, in a seven-inning game, or for any charged conference in excess of one in each extra inning, the pitcher shall be removed as pitcher for duration of the game.</u></p>	Don Corr, Thomaston, GA			



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			<p>Rationale:</p> <p>Utilizing the rule change will improve the pace of play, while still allowing the coaches' conferences to continue as currently written. Currently there is not a limit on defensive charged conferences between players. This will prevent teams from stalling when weather or darkness is approaching.</p> <p>Other Rules Affected: Rule: 2 Section: 10 Article: 1</p>			
6	34	3-4-2	<p>Change:</p> <p>ART. 2 . . . Each team, when on offense, may be granted not more than one three charged conferences per <u>seven-inning game</u> to permit the coach or any of that team's personnel to confer with base runners, the batter, the on-deck batter or other offensive team personnel. The umpire shall deny any subsequent offensive team requests for charged conferences. <u>A batter requesting time out for legitimate health concerns should be granted. Should the game go into extra innings, one offensive conference per inning will be permitted plus any unused conferences from the previous seven innings.</u> Umpires will track offensive timeouts on the lineup card.</p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>Currently each team gets 3 defensive & 7 offensive timeouts X 2 teams that is 20 + the other teams 3 defensive timeouts = 26 potential timeouts not including players conferences which are never tracked at all.</p>	<p>Bob Leader, Manakin Sabot, VA</p> <p>Additional Sponsors: Bob Leader, oldump5@comcast.net, VA Jason Frazier, hit1out34@gmail.com, VA</p>		



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			<p>This will allow teams to have offensive conferences multiple times in an inning yet still restrict unnecessary conferences just because they have them to use as the rule is currently written. When on offense, the team still gets to confer with players and coaches during defensive conferences which could be up to +7 conferences anyway.</p> <p>Health & injury timeouts are not included in new rule.</p> <p>This will help the pace of play from 2024 POEs</p>			
7	35	4-1-3	<p>Change:</p> <p>ART. 3 . . . Before game time, the home team and then the visiting team shall deliver their respective batting orders in duplicate to the umpire-in-chief. The umpire then shall permit inspection by both head coaches and/or captains if available. Each team's lineup card shall list a minimum of nine <u>eight</u> players to start the game. (See 4-4-1f for game to continue with less than nine players.) The substitution regulations, as in Rule 3, are then in effect.</p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>We have several small schools who have difficulty fielding nine players on occasion. They are not competing for a state championship; they just want students to play. The current rule prevents umpires from starting the game.</p>	George Demetriou, Colorado Springs, CO		



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			<p>This is in conjunction with the change submitted for 4-4-1f.</p> <p>Other Rules Affected: Rule: 4 Section: 4 Article: 1f</p>			
8	37	4-4-1	<p>Change:</p> <p>ART. 1 . . . A game shall be forfeited to the offended team by the umpire when a team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. is late in appearing or in beginning play after the umpire calls "Play." State associations are authorized to specify the time frame and/or circumstance before a forfeit will be declared for a late arrival by one of the teams; or b. refuses to continue play after the game has started; or c. delays more than a reasonable amount of time in resuming play, or in not obeying the umpire's order to remove a player, <u>coach or team personnel</u> for violation of the rules; or d. persists in tactics designed to delay or shorten the game; or e. willfully and persistently violates any of the rules after being warned by the umpire; or <p>Rationale: Clarity that an ejection is a serious violation of sportsmanship and game decorum. Companion rule with 3-3-2 rule proposal</p>	Pat Gebhart, Mechanicsburg, PA		
9	38	4-4-1f	<p>Change:</p> <p>ART. 1 . . . A game shall be forfeited to the offended team by the umpire when a team:</p> <p>Sub-articles a-e remain the same.</p>	George Demetriou, Colorado Springs, CO		



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			<p>f. is unable to provide at least nine <u>eight</u> players to start the game or cannot provide eight players to finish the game; or</p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>We have several small schools who have difficulty fielding nine players on occasion. They are not competing for a state championship; they just want the students to play. The current rule prevents the umpires from starting the game.</p> <p>Other Rules Affected: Rule: 4 Section: 1 Article: 3</p>			
10	41	5-1-1k	<p>Change:</p> <p>ART. 1 . . . Ball becomes dead immediately when: Sub-articles a-j remain the same.</p> <p>k. a balk or an illegal pitch is committed; or</p> <p>Renumber sub-articles l-n.</p>	Don Corr, Thomaston, GA		



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			<p>Rationale: To coincide with the Rule change proposal #14</p>			
11	41	5-1-2g (New)	<p>Change: (New)</p> <p><u>g. a balk or an illegal pitch is committed.</u></p> <p>Rationale: To coincide with the Rule change proposal #14</p>	Don Corr, Thomaston, GA		
12	40	Dead Ball and Delayed Dead Ball Table	<p>Change: 20. All runners advance one base. Batter remains at bat.....6-2-4, 6-2-5, 8-3-1a, 8-3-5a <u>If enforced all runners advance one base. Batter remains at bat....6-2-4, 6-2-5, 8-3-1a, 8-3-5a</u></p> <p>Rationale: To coincide with the Rule change proposal #14</p>	Don Corr, Thomaston, GA		
13	53	Baserun ning Awards Table	<p>Change: ONE BASE (runners) 1. Add (*) to Balk Items 2-7 remain the same.</p> <p>Rationale: To coincide with the Rule change proposal #14</p>	Don Corr, Thomaston, GA		
14	45	6-2-4	<p>Change:</p> <p>ART. 4 . . . Balk. If there is a runner or runners, any of the following acts by a pitcher while the pitcher is touching the pitcher’s plate is a balk; <u>. A balk is a delayed dead ball.</u></p>	Don Corr, Thomaston, GA		



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- a. Any feinting toward...put out a runner.

PENALTY (a-f) - The ball becomes dead and each runner must advance one base.

1. If the balk is immediately followed by a pitch that permits the batter and each runner to advance a minimum of one base, the balk is ignored and the ball remains live.
2. If a balk immediately is followed by a wild throw by the pitcher to a base that permits a runner(s) to advance to or beyond the base to which that runner is entitled, the balk shall be acknowledged. The umpire will call the balk in the usual manner, but shall not call "Time" until all play has ceased.
3. If only the runner advances to or beyond the base to which he is entitled because of a wild pitch after a balk, the balk is still acknowledged.

Note 1: After a balk that is followed by a base hit or a wild throw to a base or the plate, a runner who misses the first base to which the runner is advancing and who, before the next pitch, is called out on appeal, shall be considered as having advanced one base for the purpose of this rule.

Note 2: A runner(s) may advance beyond the base that is entitled at the runner's own risk.

Note 3: When a balk occurs, the pitch is nullified and the batter will resume with the at-bat with the count that existed unless:

a) The wild pitch was ball four on which all runners (including the batter-runner) advanced one base.

b) The wild pitch was strike three on which the batter and all other runners advanced one base.

In both situations (a) and (b) above, play proceeds without



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			<p><u>reference to the balk, because all runners (including the batter-runner) advanced one base on the pitch after the balk.</u></p> <p>Note 4: <u>If the balk is followed by a wild pitch that allows a runner to attempt to go beyond the base that he would have been awarded because of the balk, the runner advances at his own risk; he is either safe or out as a result of the play. The balk is still “acknowledged” as it relates to the batter and he will resume the at-bat with the count that existed when the balk occurred.</u></p> <p>Rationale: A balk being an immediate dead ball may in some instances penalize the offense for an infraction by the defense. In cases where an infraction by the pitcher occurs and a pitch is delivered, the immediate dead ball prevents the offense from hitting the ball or advancing on a wild pitch. This proposal looks to correct that.</p> <p>Other Rules Affected: Rule: 5 Section: 1 Article: 1K Rule: 8 Section: 3 Article: 1a</p> <p>Case Book Situations Affected: Rule: 6 Section: 2 Article: 4 Situation: Comment B Rule: 6 Section: 2 Article: 5 Situation: Situation B</p>			
15	48	7-3-5	<p>Change:</p> <p>ART. 5 . . . Interferes with the catcher’s fielding or throwing by:</p>	Bob Madison, Brooklyn Center, MN		



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			<p>PENALTY: When there are two outs, the batter is out. When there are not two outs and the runner is advancing to home plate, if the runner is tagged out, the ball remains live and interference is ignored. Otherwise, the ball is dead and the runner is called out. When an attempt to put out a runner at any other base is unsuccessful, the batter is out and all runners must return to bases occupied at the time of the pitch. If the pitch is a third strike and in the umpire's judgment interference prevents a possible double play (additional outs), two may be ruled out. <u>If the pitch is a third strike and a runner attempting to advance is not tagged out, that runner shall be ruled out because of the batter's interference. [8-4-2g, 8-4-2l(1)]</u></p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>As the rule currently reads there is no penalty for the batter committing interference. He is out on strikes and if his teammate is attempting to steal, it would actually encourage the batter to commit interference, helping his teammate advance while knowing there is no penalty for him to do so. This creates an unfair advantage for the offensive and offending team. It also creates a possible injury scenario for the catcher. Making the change would also make the rule conform with the same type of penalty referenced in 8-4-2g and 8-4-2l(1).</p> <p>Other Rules Affected: Rule: 8 Section: 4 Article: 2g Rule: 8 Section: 4 Article: 1 Rule: 7-3-5 Section: Article: Situation:</p>			
16	54	8-3-1a	<p>Change:</p> <p>ART. 1 . . . Each runner other than the batter-runner (who is governed by 8-1-2) is awarded one base when:</p>	Don Corr, Thomaston, GA		



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			<p>a. There is a balk <u>A balk is enforced</u> (6-1-4, 6-2-4) or a pitch strikes a runner (5-1-1a);</p> <p>Rationale: To coincide with the Rule change proposal #14</p>				
17	56	8-4-1g1	<p>Change:</p> <p>ART. 1 . . . The batter-runner is out when:</p> <p>Sub-articles a-f, h-k remain the same.</p> <p>g. the batter-runner runs outside the three-foot running lane (last half of the distance from home plate to first base), while the ball is being fielded or thrown to first base; or</p> <p>1. This infraction is ignored if it is to avoid a fielder who is attempting to field the batted ball or if the act does not interfere with a fielder or a throw <u>batter-runner is out of the running lane on the opposite side of the lane from which the throw is made.</u></p> <p>2. Remains the same.</p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>Risk minimization. Batter-runners are being coached to run out of the running lane more often to make the throw difficult. Even if the throw is successful, the action can enable another runner(s) to advance during the play. If the infraction is ignored, the offense gains, even with the out by advancing another runner. Defensive coaches are coaching their catchers or infielders to throw at the batter-runner and to hit them, thus drawing the interference call and the resulting out while now having the other runner(s) return.</p>	B. Elliot Hopkins, Indianapolis, IN			



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18	57	8-4-2b2	<p>Change:</p> <p>ART. 2 . . . Any runner is out when the runner:</p> <p>b. does not legally slide 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 in a direct line between the bases; or</p> <p>1. Remains the same.</p> <p>2. Runners are never required to slide, but if a runner elects to slide, the slide must be legal. (2-32-1, 2) Jumping, hurdling, and leaping are all legal attempts to avoid a fielder as long as the fielder is lying on the ground. Diving over a fielder is illegal.</p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>Diving is covered in 8-4-2d but the real problem is not duplication. In 8-4-2b2, the penalty is stated as interference with an immediate dead ball. In 8-4-2d, there is an option to keep the ball live if there is no interference.</p>	George Demetriou, Colorado Springs, CO			
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EDITORIAL CHANGES

No.	Page	Rule Ref	Proposed Changes with Rationale	Submitted By	Pass	Fail	No Action
19	16	1-5-3	<p>Change:</p>	B. Elliot Hopkins, Indianapolis,			



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			<p>ART. 3 . . . The catcher shall wear, in addition to a head protector, a mask with a throat protector, body/chest protector that <u>has been certified by SEI to meets</u> the NOCSAE standard at the time of manufacture, protective cup (male only), and baseball protective shin guards. The SEI/NOCSAE mark is required on all body/chest protectors that <u>has been certified by SEI and meets</u> the NOCSAE standard at the time of manufacture that will be used in high school competition. Please see the accompanying mark.</p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>Clarity. NOCSAE has requested that we modify the language for clarity of the certification process.</p>	IN			
20	26	2-32-1 & 2	<p>Change:</p> <p>ART. 1 . . . A legal slide can be either feet first or head first. If a runner slides feet first, at least one leg and buttock shall be on the ground. If a runner slides, he must slide within reach of the base with either a hand or a foot. A runner may slide or run in a direction away from the fielder to avoid making contact or altering the play of the fielder (8-4-2b).</p> <p>ART. 2 . . . A slide is illegal if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. the runner uses a rolling, cross-body or pop-up slide into the fielder, or b. the runner’s raised leg is higher than the fielder’s knee when the fielder is in a standing position, or c. except at home plate, the runner goes beyond the base and then makes contact with or alters the play of the fielder. At home plate, it is permissible for the slider’s momentum to carry him through the plate in a straight line (baseline extended), or d. the runner slashes or kicks the fielder with either leg, or 	George Demetriou, Colorado Springs, CO			



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			<p>e. the runner tries to injure the fielder, or f. the runner, on a force play, does not slide on the ground and in a direct line between the two bases <u>or in a direction away from the fielder to avoid making contact or altering the play of the fielder (8-4-2b).</u></p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>The third sentence of Art 1 is obsolete and is superseded by 2f. I don't think we care how far out a player slides on a tag play.</p> <p>The last sentence of Art 1 has been moved to 2f as it applies there. Leaving it in Art 1 creates a conflict with 2f.</p>				
21	33	3-3-1 PEN.	<p>Change:</p> <p>PENALTY: The umpire shall warn the offender unless the offense is judged to be major, in which case an ejection shall occur. A warning may be verbal or written recorded. If written recorded, the offender shall be restricted to the bench/dugout for the remainder of the game. If a coach has previously received a verbal warning, the coach shall receive a written recorded warning (10-2-3j) and be restricted to the bench/dugout for the remainder of the game. If a coach has previously received a written recorded warning, the coach shall be ejected for any subsequent offense. Any offense judged to be major in nature shall result in an immediate ejection. For coaches who violate f (1-5), g, h, l, j or k, the umpire may: (1) issue a verbal warning to the offender, (2) issue a written recorded warning to the offender (any offender receiving a written recorded warning shall be restricted to the bench/dugout for the remainder of the game), or (3) eject the offender for a major offense. For violation of f (6) both the head coach and offending coach shall receive a written recorded warning and be restricted to the dugout for the remainder of the game unless the offense is so severe the umpire may eject the offender and restrict or eject the head coach. A coach may</p>	George Demetriou, Colorado Springs, CO			



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			<p>leave the bench/dugout to attend to a player who becomes ill or injured. In f (7), the state association shall determine appropriate action.</p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>The use of the term "written warning" implies a written warning is physically given to the coach. Changing it to "recorded warning" more accurately describes what will occur - the umpire will record the warning on his lineup card or notebook.</p> <p>Umpires have an image problem with the so called "cop mentality" so it would be nice to avoid the inference umpires are issuing citations to coaches.</p>				
22	45	6-2-4g (NEW)	<p>Change: (NEW)</p> <p>ART. 4 . . . Balk. If there is a runner or runners, any of the following acts by a pitcher while he is touching the pitcher's plate is a balk:</p> <p>Sub-articles a-f remain the same.</p> <p><u>g. while on the pitcher's plate, bring the pitching hand in contact with the mouth</u></p> <p><u>Note: Illegal pitch with no runners.</u></p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>To clarify 6.2.1A and B and synchronize with 6-2-1e.</p>	George Demetriou, Colorado Springs, CO			



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			<p>Other Rules Affected: Rule: 6 Section: 2 Article: 1e</p>				
23	44	6-2-1e	<p>Change:</p> <p>ART. 1 . . . Illegal acts include:</p> <p>Sub-articles a-d, f-l remain the same.</p> <p>e. <u>when not engaged on the pitcher's plate,</u> bringing the pitching hand in contact with the mouth without distinctly wiping off the pitching hand before it touches the ball.</p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>To clarify the distinction made in 6.2.1A and B.</p> <p>Other Rules Affected: Rule: 6 Section: 2 Article: 4</p> <p>Case Book Situations Affected: Rule: 6 Section: 2 Article: 1 Situation: A Rule: 6 Section: 2 Article: 1 Situation: B</p>	George Demetriou, Colorado Springs, CO			
24	50	8-1-1e	<p>Change:</p> <p>ART. 1 . . . A batter becomes a runner with the right to attempt to score by advancing to first, second, third and home bases in the listed order when:</p> <p>Sub-articles a-d remain the same.</p>	George Demetriou, Colorado Springs, CO			



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			<p>e. the catcher or any other defensive player obstructs him. The coach or captain of the team at bat, after being informed by the umpire-in-chief of the obstruction <u>and his options</u>, shall indicate whether or not he elects to decline the obstruction penalty and accept the resulting play. Such election shall be made before the next pitch (legal or illegal), before the award of an intentional base on balls, or before the infielders leave the diamond. Obstruction of the batter is ignored if the batter-runner reaches first and all other runners advance at least one base.</p> <p>Sub-articles 1. and 2. remain the same.</p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>Under NCAA and pro rules, the umpire is not required to speak to the coach about play or penalty. If the coach does not come forward to decline the penalty, the penalty is enforced even though it may not be the best option. HS coaches should not be expected to understand the nuances of this rule and as a professional courtesy, umpires should explain the choices to the coach.</p>				
25	55	8-3-3e	<p>Change:</p> <p>ART. 3 . . . Each runner is awarded:</p> <p>Sub-articles a-d, f remain the same.</p>	B. Elliot Hopkins, Indianapolis, IN			



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			<p>e. bases as determined by the umpire, who shall also impose such penalties as in the umpire's judgment will nullify the act of spectator interference with any thrown or batted ball. The ball shall become dead at the moment of the interference (8-3-3a-d). It is not spectator interference if a spectator physically hinders a fielder who is reaching into dead ball area to make a play on a batted or thrown ball.</p> <p><u>e. Bases as determined:</u></p> <p>(1) <u>By the umpire, who shall also impose such penalties as in the umpire's judgment will nullify the act of spectator interference with any thrown or batted ball. The ball shall become dead at the moment of the interference (8-3-3a-d). It is not spectator interference if a spectator physically hinders a fielder who is reaching into dead ball area to make a play on a batted or thrown ball.</u></p> <p>(2) <u>With the occurrence of offensive malicious contact, runner(s) will be awarded appropriate base(s) per umpire's judgment.</u></p> <p>Rationale: Clarification.</p>				
26	Case Book - 86	8-4-2	<p>Change:</p> <p>Situation Y</p> <p>R1 is close enough to second base (within sliding distance) and chooses <u>not</u> to slide.</p> <p>Rationale:</p>	Don Corr, Thomaston, GA			



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			<p>Correct error in Case Book.</p> <p>Case Book Situations Affected: Rule: 8 Section: 4 Article: 2 Situation: Y</p>				
27	57	8-4-2e	<p>Change:</p> <p>ART. 2 . . . Any runner is out when the runner:</p> <p>Sub-articles a-d, f-s remain the same.</p> <p>e. initiates malicious contact:</p> <p>1. Malicious contact always supersedes obstruction. Runner(s) will be awarded appropriate base(s) per umpire's judgment.</p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>Clarification. Irrelevant text.</p>	B. Elliot Hopkins, Indianapolis, IN			

OTHER CHANGES

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28	69	1-5-1	<p>Change:</p>	Bob Leader, Manakin Sabot, VA



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		<p>Rules by State Association Adoption</p> <p><u>It is required that all base coaches wear a helmet. Play will not continue until compliance with this rule is met.</u></p> <p><u>It is recommended that the helmet meets NOCSAE standards.</u></p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>Safety for all coaches on the field</p> <p>Case Book Situations Affected: Rule: 1 Section: 5 Article: 1 Situation: C</p>	Additional Sponsors:
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29 69 NEW Change:

(NEW) Warnings, Restrictions and Ejection Table

Column n1	Activity	References	Penalties	Page ref.
1.	<u>Deliberately remove batting helmet in live-ball territory while ball is live; Non-adult ball shagger not wearing batting helmet live or dead ball territory</u>	<u>1-5-1</u>	<u>Warn coach; eject individual who subsequently violates for that team</u>	<u>14.</u>
2.	<u>Not wearing the required catcher's equipment;</u>	<u>1-5-4</u>	<u>Failure to wear proper equipment after ordered by the umpire, player shall be ejected;</u>	<u>15.</u>
3.	<u>Discovery of illegal substitute</u>	<u>3-1-1</u>	<u>While on offense: Player declared out and restricted to bench/dugout for remainder of game; re-entry to game of restricted player shall result in player called out and ejection.</u>	<u>27.</u>
-	-	-	<u>While on defense: Player restricted to bench/dugout for remainder of game; re-entry of restricted player shall result in ejection</u>	-
4.	<u>Coach who is not in the uniform of the team;</u>	<u>3-2-1</u>	<u>Restricted to bench/dugout; (except to attend to injured or ill player)</u>	<u>29.</u>
5.	<u>Head coach must attend pre-game conference, if available;</u>	<u>3-2-4</u>	<u>Head coach restricted to dugout (except to attend to sick or injured player)</u>	<u>29.</u>
-	<u>Coach, player, substitute, attendant or other bench personnel shall not:</u>	-	-	-
6.	<u>leave the dugout during live ball for unauthorized purpose;</u>	<u>3-3-1a</u>	<u>Warn coach of team involved; next offender is ejected;</u>	<u>30.</u>
7.	<u>fake a tag without the ball;</u>	<u>3-3-1b</u>	<u>Same as 6.; also obstruction in 3-3-1b</u>	<u>30.</u>
8.	<u>carelessly throw a bat;</u>	<u>3-3-1c</u>	<u>Same as 6.</u>	<u>30.</u>
9.	<u>wear bandannas;</u>	<u>3-3-1d</u>	<u>Same as 6.</u>	<u>30.</u>



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10.	<u>hit the ball to players on defense after game starts;</u>	<u>3-3-1e</u>	Same as 6.	<u>30.</u>
11.	<u>Commit unsportsmanlike acts including but not limited to; inciting spectators, use of profanity, intimidation, behavior not in accordance with spirit of fair play, being in live ball territory during opponent's infield practice, taunting, etc.;</u>	<u>3-3-1f(1.-5.)</u>	<u>Umpire may warn the offender first; warning may be <i>verbal</i> or <i>written</i>; if written, offender restricted to dugout/bench for remainder of game; Coach who previously received verbal warning, shall received written warning and restriction; Coach who previously received written warning and restriction shall be ejected; Any offense judged to be major in nature shall result in immediate ejection;</u>	<u>30.</u>
12.	<u>enter the area behind the catcher while opposing pitcher and catcher are in their positions;</u>	<u>3-3-1g</u>	Same as 11.	<u>30.</u>
13.	<u>use of any object in the coach's box other than stop-watch, hard-copy rule book or scorebook;</u>	<u>3-3-1h</u>	Same as 11.	<u>30.</u>
14.	<u>be outside the dugout/bench or bullpen area if not batter, runner, on-deck batter in coach's box or one of nine defensive players;</u>	<u>3-3-1i</u>	Same as 11.	<u>30.</u>
15.	<u>any member of coaching staff who is not the head coach leaves the vicinity of dugout or coach's box to dispute an umpire's judgment call;</u>	<u>3-3-1f.6</u>	<u>Both the head coach and offending coach shall receive written warning and restriction to dugout unless offense by assistant coach offense is judged so severe that assistant coach shall be ejected and head coach is also restricted to dugout.</u>	<u>30.</u>
16.	<u>confronting or directing unsportsmanlike conduct to the umpires after the game has concluded and until the umpires have departed the game site;</u>	<u>3-3-1f.7</u>	<u>State association determines appropriate action;</u>	<u>30.</u>
17.	<u>charge an umpire;</u>	<u>3-3-1j</u>	Same as 11.	<u>30.</u>
18.	<u>use amplifiers or bullhorns to coach;</u>	<u>3-3-1k</u>	Same as 11.	<u>30.</u>



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			<u>19.</u> <u>deliberately throw a bat, helmet, etc.,;</u>	<u>3-3-1l</u>	<u>Eject offender</u>	<u>31.</u>
			<u>20.</u> <u>initiate malicious contact on offense or</u> <u>defense;</u>	<u>3-3-1m</u>	<u>If on offense, ball is dead, player declared</u> <u>out and ejected; if on defense, player is</u> <u>ejected and umpire rules out or safe on the</u> <u>play and base awards;</u>	<u>31.</u>
			<u>21.</u> <u>call 'Time' or commit act to cause a balk;</u>	<u>3-3-1n</u>	<u>Eject offender</u>	<u>31.</u>
			<u>22.</u> <u>use tobacco or tobacco-like products on</u> <u>field;</u>	<u>3-3-1o</u>	<u>Eject offender</u>	<u>31.</u>
			<u>23.</u> <u>leave positions or bench area during a</u> <u>fight or physical confrontation;</u>	<u>3-3-1p</u>	<u>Eject offender, unless a coach is attempting</u> <u>to prevent a fight or restore order.</u>	<u>31.</u>
			<u>24.</u> <u>have physical contact, spit, kick dirt or</u> <u>engage in any physical action toward an</u> <u>umpire;</u>	<u>3-3-1q</u>	<u>Eject offender</u>	<u>31.</u>
			<u>25.</u> <u>Player's loosening up to bat shall remain</u> <u>in area of their team's on-deck circle while</u> <u>pitcher warming up. (1-2-3)</u>	<u>3-3-3</u>	<u>Team warning issues to offending team's</u> <u>coach; next offender for that team is ejected</u>	<u>31.</u>
			<u>26.</u> <u>Batter enters batter's box with illegal bat;</u>	<u>4-1-3b</u>	<u>Illegal bat penalty per (7-4-1a) and head</u> <u>coach shall be restricted to dugout for</u> <u>remainder of game; subsequent violations</u> <u>shall also result in ejection of head coach</u> <u>and designated head coaches thereafter;</u>	<u>34.</u>
			<u>27.</u> <u>Infractions by the pitcher including:</u> <u>applying a foreign substance to the ball,</u> <u>spitting on the ball or glove, defacing the</u> <u>ball, discoloring the ball with dirt;</u>	<u>6-2-1 (a-</u> <u>d)</u>	<u>The umpire may eject the pitcher. The ball is</u> <u>dead and if pitched it is an illegal pitch;</u>	<u>42.</u>
			<u>28.</u> <u>Pitcher delaying the game by throwing to</u> <u>any player other than the catcher, when</u> <u>the batter is in the box, unless it is an</u> <u>attempt to retire a runner;</u>	<u>6-2-2a</u>	<u>After a verbal warning, the pitcher shall be</u> <u>ejected;</u>	<u>42.</u>



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29. Pitcher intentionally pitches close to a batter;

6-2-3

Pitcher shall be ejected if the act is judged intentional. If there is doubt the umpire may first warn the pitcher;

43.