

BASEBALL 2008		SOFTBALL 2008
No similar rule		16' circle MUST be drawn around pitcher's plate
Catcher's box 8'x 43" from point of plate		Catcher's box 10'x 8'5" from back of batter's box
Field Dimensions		Field Dimensions
Batter's box 4'x 6'		Batter's box 3'x 7'
Catcher's box 8'x 43" from point of plate		Catcher's box 10' x 8'5" from back line of batter's box
Bases 90' 3' lane 45'		Bases 60' 3' Lane 30'
Coaches box 20'x 5' 15' from foul line		Coaches box 15' 8' from foul line
Pitcher's mound 10" high, synthetic material allowed		Pitcher's plate flush with ground. No synthetic Material allowed.
Ball Dimensions		Ball Dimensions
5 to 5 ½ oz. 9 to 9 ¼" Cover MUST be leather and white. COR may not exceed .555		6 ¼ to 7oz. 11 7/8"to 12 1/8" cover may be synthetic. Optic color ball allowed. COR .47 or lower. COR may not be mixed Compression identical for all balls in game
Bat Dimensions		Bat Dimensions
36" max. length 2 5/8" diam. Non-wood bats must meet (BESR) standard. Wood bats Max. Diam 2 3/4".. NO MENTION OF HANDLE SHAPE		34" max. length 2¼" Diam. MUST have ASA 2004 performance label 2000 may be allowed HANDLE MAY BE ROUND OR OVAL
METAL bats MUST have a safety grip. Min.10" Max. 18" and meet BESR exit speed		ALL bats MUST have safety grip. Min.10" Max 15"
No similar rule		On deck batter allowed only two bats
Face Mask optional		Face Mask mandatory
Min. length to weight required.		No similar rule
Non-adult warming up pitcher at ANY location must wear mask & throat protector		Non-adult warming up pitcher WITHIN CONFINES of field must wear mask & throat protector.
Glove color restriction for pitcher only		NO player may wear optic color, gray or white glove TWO TONE GLOVE ALLOWED
Use of illegal glove has penalty of two or three bases		Use of illegal glove option: result of play or batter bats again
No similar rule		Blocked ball becomes dead ball
One foot in dead ball area, GOOD CATCH		No catch with one foot in contact entirely in dead ball area.

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Imaginary line drawn from first to third, ball strikes ground beyond this line is fair ball		No similar rule
No similar rule		Crow hop-Illegal replanting of pivot foot-ILLEGAL PITCH
Foul tip may be caught by any FIELDER		Foul tip may only be caught by catcher i.e. SHARPLY & DIRECTLY SOME UMPIRE JUDGEMENT INVOLVED
No similar rule		LEAP- both feet air borne at time of pitch- illegal pitch
Illegal pitch declared only with no one on; with runner on BALK :NO Pitch		Illegal pitch only type of pitch delivered not in accordance with rule. When pitch is not ignored, batter awarded additional ball. This is a Delayed dead ball.
No similar rule		Determination when pitcher is in 16'circle
If a fielder misplay a batted ball, fielder has greater responsibility for avoiding contact with the runner		Initial play includes deflected batted ball by pitcher ONLY
No similar rule		SLAP HIT NOT a bunt by rule
Unreported substitute no penalty		Unreported substitute, TEAM WARNING
Pitcher may NOT wear a white or gray exposed undershirt at any time. Caps MUST be worn, Shorts not listed.		Pitcher MAY wear WHITE or GRAY exposed undershirt under certain conditions. Headwear NOT required. Caps, visors and headbands MAY be mixed. Shorts or skirts allowed
No mention of lower undergarments		Exposed upper and lower undergarments need NOT be same color.
No item on BOTH hands,wrists or arms may be worn,if distracting to batter		NO item on PITCHING hand, wrist, arm & thighs deemed distracting may be worn-- UMPIRE JUDGEMENT
No similar rule		sub;DP for FLEX or FLEX for DP MUST REPORT to UIC
Pitcher or sub required to pitch to one batter or side retired to return to pitch		Pitcher not required to pitch to one batter to return as pitcher
Line up changes reported to UIC and scorekeeper.		Line up changes reported to UIC.
Sub may not reenter		ANY player may reenter once
Designated Hitter DH : REFER TO RULE		Designated Player Flex DP/ FLEX REFER TO RULE:
No similar rule		Game May NOT start Until HEAD COACH attends pregame
Unreported sub no penalty		Unreported sub TEAM WARNING
		second offense COACH and PLAYER restricted
No mention in rules		Removing ANY boundary line Off. Strike Def. ball
		On second offense player and COACH are restricted
Defensive malicious contact IMMEDIATE DEAD BALL		Defensive malicious contact DELAYED DEAD BALL

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No similar rule		Ball rotation is mandatory
Retired runner interferes-If uncertain who might be played on runner closest to home declared out if it prevents double play		Retired runner interferes: Runner closest to home is out if it prevents double play
Ball touching DESIGNATED media area: occupied or NOT, DEAD BALL Illegal pitch or balk- DEAD immediately		Ball touching OCCUPIED designated media area: Dead Ball Illegal pitch delayed dead ball- coach has options
Dead ball not alive until pitcher is in pitching position		Dead ball alive when pitcher has ball in circle - ump calls "play"
1. Two pitching positions- Wind up and Set		1. One pitching position
2. Set position one: foot must be in contact with plate		2. One or two feet must be in contact with plate
3. Not mentioned		3. Shoulders in line with first and third
4. No time limit mentioned		4. Ball must be held in both hands from 1 to 10 seconds
5. No mention		5. Both feet must be within 24" of plate
Wind up position hands may separate		Once hands separate pitch MUST be delivered
1 In wind up position pitcher may step back with non pivot foot		1. Pitcher must START step back BEFORE hands come together. Step MAY end BEFORE or AFTER hands come together
2. NO mention of crow hop or leap		2. Crow hop and leap are illegal
3. 24" limitation not mentioned		3. Step MUST be forward within 24" length of plate
1. May or may not deliver underhand		1. Delivery MUST be underhand
2. Illegal pitch immediate dead ball		2. Illegal pitch: delayed dead ball.
3. In set position pitcher may not stop above chin level MAY reverse forward motion NO similar motion No similar rule		3. No mention of where pitcher may stop No stop or reversal of forward motion Arm may drop to side and rear prior to windmill motion Pitcher may not wind up after release of pitch Illegal pitch
Balk - No pitch- Dead immediately		Illegal pitch-delayed dead ball
Illegal pitch no one on: ball. Runner on: balk		Illegal pitch- ball and runners advance
Runner(s) on balk- DEAD BALL immediately		Illegal pitch is delayed dead ball- Coach has options
Illegal pitch or balk BALL DEAD IMMEDIATELY NO PITCH Quick pitch -No pitch Balk with runner on		Coach has option if batter hits ILLEGAL PITCH Quick pitch-No pitch

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Quick pitch Illegal pitch		Runner leaves base before pitch is released & quick pitch NO PITCH. Runner leaves base before release of pitch- OUT
No similar rule		No one on - Catcher MUST return pitch to pitcher: Penalty: Ball
Sub pitcher allowed 8 pitches		All pitchers allowed only 5 warm up pitches. There are exceptions
Pitch dropped during delivery crosses foul line: no one on BALL does not cross line NO PITCH Runner on: BALK		Pitch dropped backswing or forward motion: live ball, batter may swing legally. Runner may advance at own risk
No penalty listed		Ball for each pitch in excess of five during warm up
Pitcher may throw to base in set position		In pitching position may NOT throw to base
No mention in rule, but may be obstruction		If fielder takes position in batter's line of vision with unsporting intent ILLEGAL PITCH
After a pitch (legal or illegal) or a play or attempted play by defense, defense loses right to appeal		Only after a pitch (legal or illegal) defense loses right to appeal batting out of order
Batter MUST keep one foot in box (some exceptions)		No similar rule
Batter must take position within 20 seconds		Batter must take position within 10 seconds
Batter interferes with catcher, he still has opportunity to throw out runner		If batter interferes with catcher DEAD ball immediately
No similar rule		Use of an illegal bat: Batter is out-ANY outs made on play stand.
Broken, dented, cracked bat removed with NO penalty		Broken, cracked, dented bats are illegal
Batted fair ball strikes runner on base in front of fielder OUT		Runner in contact with base struck by batted fair ball NOT OUT
Batter struck by illegal pitch or balk NOT AWARDED base		Batter struck by legal or illegal pitch is awarded base
Batter/runner may retreat to HOME before being declared out		Batter/runner STEPS backward to avoid, delay tag Out dead ball
No similar rule		Fielder loses possession on tag, ball goes dead-- award 1 base
Obstructed runner awarded at least one base in advance, ball remains alive for other runners.		Obstructed runner awarded base would have reached. Dead ball if runner is tagged out before reaching base
After dead ball runner need NOT remain on base		After dead ball runner must remain on base until pitch is released

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If a fielder drops a batted ball, the fielder has the greater responsibility for avoiding contact with the runner"		If a runner makes contact with fielder attempting to field batted ball, runner is interfering if fielder can make a play by step & reach even in subsequent attempt
Runner interferes prevents obvious double play batter/runner out also		Runner interferes in an obvious attempt to prevent a double play, immediate succeeding runner is OUT.
Batted ball passes INFIELDER no other INFIELDER has chance for out runner not out. (batted ball hits runner while off base)		Batted ball passes INFIELDER and an OUTFIELDER has chance to field & make an out. RUNNER IS OUT. (VERY UNUSUAL circumstance) NFHS INTERPRETATION
Retired runner interferes prevents obvious double play batter/runner out		Retired runner interferes to prevent play on another runner, runner closest to home out also
No similar rule		Look-back rule certain restrictions for batter/runner and runners
Diving is illegal		Diving is legal