

To: iuaumpires@iuaumpires.com
Subject: RE: Electronic Baseball/Softball Rules Book

Gentlemen,

For those computer and cell phone savvy users, there are links to **FREE NFHS ELECTRONIC RULE BOOKS (Baseball and Softball)**. These e-Books can save you time and headache with their ease of use. You can find them on the **IUAUMPIRES.COM** website and the **NFHS Publications** site.

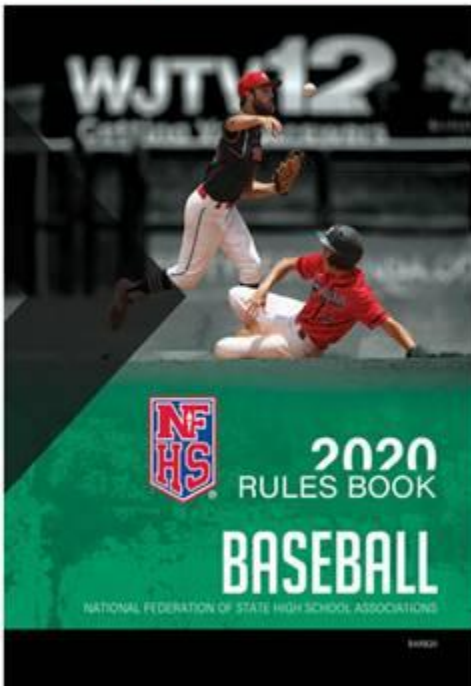
BASEBALL rules e-Books:

1. Find it from the IUA menu **“Umpire Resources – Rules”**.



2. Click on the book, it will send you to UmpireBible.com which is an NFHS electronic rule book site which is the electronic version of the book we paid for at the IUA members meeting.

**National Federation of State
High School Associations**



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3. I prefer this method most because UmpireBible can save you time by following the links to specific rules then click on any associated rule's link.
4. If you use a browser like Google Chrome, you can use the BACK and FORWARD arrows to switch between rules like 7-2-1 and 2-5-1.

Section 2 - STRIKES, BALLS AND HITS

7-2-1 A strike is charged to the batter when:

- a. a pitch enters any part of the strike zone in flight and is not struck at;
- b. a pitch is struck at and miss (if the pitch touches the batter);
- c. a pitch becomes a foul when the batter has less than two strikes;
- d. a pitch becomes a foul tip (even on third strike) or a foul from an attempted bunt;
- e. a batter delays ([6-2-4d-1](#) and [7-3-1](#)); or
- f. A foul ball or a fair hit (which may be a bunt) occurs when a pitch is touched by the bat of the batter who is in his box ([2-5-1](#), [2-16-1, 2](#)).

Links to other rules

Links to other rules

- 5. Using your browser functions, you can also **FIND** words within each Rule by pressing **CTRL-F** then type in a word like “interference”.
- 6. As an example when FINDing a word like “interference”, 5 occurrences appear.



PENALTY: For infraction of Articles 7-3-2 and 7-3-3, the ball becomes dead immediately and the batter is out.

7-3-4 Permit a pitched ball to touch him.

PENALTY: The batter remains at bat (pitch is a ball or strike) unless pitch was a third strike or ball four.

7-3-5 Interfere with the catcher's fielding or throwing by:

- a. leaning over home plate,
- b. stepping out of the batter's box,
- c. making any other movement, including follow-through **interference**, which hinders actions at home plate or the catcher's attempt to play on a runner, or
- d. failing to make a reasonable effort to vacate a congested area when there is a throw to home plate and there is time for the batter to move away.

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 (8-4-2g).

7-3-6 If the bat breaks and is hit by the ball or hits a runner or a fielder, no **interference** shall be called. If a whole bat is thrown and interferes with a defensive player attempting a play, **interference** will be called.

CTRL-F

5 is somewhere down the page

For
and Baseball:

Softball

7. The NFHS makes the rules and case books for high school sports and activities available online in the Publications Library. You must be a paid member of an NFHS Member Association (Coaches or Fine Arts) or a state staff member to view this content. Member Officials are to use the NFHS HUB at the following URL: <http://nfhs.arbitersports.com>

8. Go into Arbiter and click on NFHS Central Hub

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Dave Zipkin
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9. It will bring you to this page and click on PUBLICATIONS.

The image shows the top section of the NFHS Officials Association website. On the left is the NFHS logo, followed by the text "OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION" and "POWERED BY Arbitersports". On the right, there are links for "SWITCH VIEWS", "SUPPORT", "MY ACCOUNT", and "SIGN OUT", along with user information: "Dave Zipkin (Official)", "NFHS", and "Group ID: 105401". Below this is a dark navigation bar with buttons for "MAIN", "WELCOME", "VIDEO", "PUBLICATIONS", "CONTACT", "TESTING", and "COURSES". A red arrow points to the "PUBLICATIONS" button. Below the navigation bar is a banner with the text "NFHS Officiating CENTRAL HUB" and three small images of officials.

10. It will take you to this page and from here you click on your sport.



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- RULE 9 SCORING - RECORD KEEPING

Currently Viewing: 5-1-1

All of these links are clickable



- Case Ruling
- Note
- Link to Article

ART. 1 . . . Ball becomes dead immediately when:

- a. a pitch touches a batter or his clothing ([8-1-1d](#)), a runner ([8-3-1a](#));
 - 1. The ball becomes dead even though the batter strikes at it ([8-1-1d](#)).
- b. the ball is illegally batted ([7-3-2](#) and [7-4-1a](#)) or is intentionally struck a second time with the bat as in [8-4-1d](#);
- c. the batter enters the batter's box with an illegal bat;
- d. a foul ball ([2-16-1](#)):
 - 1. touches any object other than the ground or any person other than a fielder; or
 - 2. goes directly from the bat to the catcher's protector, mask or person without first touching the catcher's glove or hand;
 - 3. or becomes an uncaught foul; or
- e. there is interference by a runner, batter-runner ([8-4-1g](#)), or a retired runner ([3-3-1m](#), [8-4-1a](#), h or [8-4-2b](#), e, f, g or k), the batter ([7-3-5](#)), or by any person ([3-2-3](#));
- f. a fair batted ball:
 - 1. touches a runner or an umpire before touching any fielder and before passing any fielder other than the pitcher,
 - 2. touches a runner after passing through or by an infielder and another infielder could have made a play on the ball,
 - 3. touches a spectator,

12. There are also options for you to buy your own e-Book \$6.00 at Amazon at <https://www.nfhs.org/articles/rules-books-and-case-books-available-as-e-books/>

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By on February 10, 2020

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