

# The Game

## Appeal Play-

**A. An appeal** play is a play on which an umpire may not make a decision until requested by a manager, coach or player. The appeal must be made before the next legal or illegal pitch or before the pitcher and all infielders have clearly vacated their normal fielding positions and have left fair territory on their way to the bench or dugout area. On the last play of the game, an appeal can be made until the umpires leave the field of play.

### B.Types

1. Missing a base.
2. Leaving a base on a caught fly ball before the ball is first touched.
3. Battling out of order.
4. Attempting to advance to second base after making a turn at first base (Umpire's judgment).
5. After the third out in order to nullify a run.

**Sliding** -- Sliding or diving into 1<sup>st</sup> base or the Scoring Plate is not permitted, and such players will be called out. However, a player may slide or dive into second and third bases and when returning to a base, except the Scoring Plate.

**Foul Tip** -- A batted ball which goes directly from the bat, not higher than the batter's head, to the catcher's hand(s) or glove and is legally caught by the catcher batter is out. NOTE: Any batted ball that goes directly from the bat, not higher than the batter's head to any part of the catcher's body or equipment other than the hand(s) or glove is a foul ball and dead. A batter will be called out on the 1<sup>st</sup> foul ball after the 2<sup>nd</sup> strike.

**Illegally Batted Ball** -- An illegally batted ball occurs when the batter hits the ball fair or foul and:

- A. The entire foot is completely outside the lines of the batter's box and on the ground.
- B. Any part of the foot is touching home plate.
- C. An illegal or altered bat is used.

## Courtesy Runners --

- (1) USING COURTESY RUNNERS. Any player on the roster can run at any time. A courtesy runner may be used for a base runner at any time, but the same courtesy runner may not be used more than once per inning. Any courtesy runner found running more than once per inning will be called out.
- (2) USING A RUNNER ON BASE. A runner who is replaced with a courtesy runner may not be used as a courtesy runner for the remainder of the inning.
- (3) COURTESY RUNNER REPLACEMENT. A courtesy runner may not be replaced by another courtesy runner, except for injury causing removal of the original courtesy runner permanently from the game.
- (4) COURTESY RUNNER COMING TO BAT WHILE ON BASE: A courtesy runner on base when it is his turn to bat will be declared out. The runner will be removed from the base and the courtesy runner cannot be substituted. The courtesy runner called out does not lose his turn at bat.

(5) COURTESY RUNNER OFFICIALLY IN THE GAME. If a courtesy runner is determined illegal, he will be called out upon touching the base and no other courtesy runner will be allowed. The original runner may not now return as the runner.

**Double 1<sup>st</sup> Base** -- An out can only be recorded on the white portion of 1<sup>st</sup> base. The runner must run to the orange portion of the base if a play is being made, unless the defensive player is blocking the orange base, in which case the runner may go to the white base to avoid contact. If the runner touches the white base while a play is being made, the runner is out. Umpires call. NO APPEAL.

**Foul Ball 3<sup>rd</sup> Strike** -- If the ball is caught with less than 2 outs, runners may tag and advance at their own risk. It is a 'live' ball.

**International Tie Breaker Rule** -- When the teams are tied and going into extra innings, each team starts each inning with a runner on second base. That base runner is the batter-runner (player at bat) when the last out was made in the previous inning, and no substitute or courtesy runner may replace him until he has reached third base. Important: If the last batter out cannot continue to play because of injury, illness, etc., he will be declared out and the next previous batter out will be the tie-breaker runner.

**Infield Fly** -- A fair fly ball (not including a line drive) which can be caught by an infielder with ordinary effort when first and second bases or first, second and third bases are occupied before two are out. Any defensive player who positions himself in the infield at the start of the pitch shall be considered an infielder for the purpose of this rule. The infield fly is ruled when the ball reaches the highest point based on the position of the closest infielder regardless who makes the play. When it seems apparent that a batted ball will be an infield fly, the umpire shall immediately declare "Infield Fly. The batter is out" for the benefit of the runners. If the ball is near a foul line, the umpire shall declare "Infield Fly. The batter is out if fair." The ball is alive and runners may advance at the risk of the ball being caught. The runner can tag up and advance once the batted ball is touched (prior to catching), the same as on any fly ball. If a declared infield fly becomes a foul ball, it is treated the same as any foul.

**Obstruction** -- Obstruction is the act of:

- A. A defensive player or team member which hinders or prevents a batter from striking at or hitting a pitched ball.
- B. A fielder, who is not in possession of the ball, in the act of fielding a batted ball, nor about to receive a thrown ball, which impedes the progress of a runner or batter-runner who is legally running bases.