

DIFFERENCES 2009			
BASEBALL 2009	BASEBALL	SOFTBALL	SOFTBALL 2009
RULE 1	RULE REF	RULE REF	RULE 1
No similar rule	-	1-1-2d	16' circle MUST be drawn around pitcher's plate
Catcher's box 8'x 43" from point of plate	1-2 Diag.	1-1-4 Diag.	Catcher's box 10'x 8'5" from back of batter's box
Field Dimensions			Field Dimensions
Batter's box 4'x 6'	1-2 Diag.	1-1-4 Diag.	Batter's box 3'x 7'
Catcher's box 8'x 43" from point of plate	1-2 Diag.	1-1-4 Diag.	Catcher's box 10' x 8'5" from back line of batter's box
Bases 90' 3' lane 45'	1-2 Diag.	1-1-4 Diag.	Bases 60' 3' Lane 30'
Coaches box 20'x 5' 15' from foul line	1-2 Diag.	1-1-4 Diag.	Coaches box 15' 8' from foul line
Non permanent lines Must be white	1 2 2		No color listed in rules
Pitcher's mound 10" high, synthetic material allowed	1-2-6	Csebk. 10-2-3 Sit.B	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	1-3-1	1-3-1& 6	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	1-3-4	1-5-1 to 9	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	1-3-3	1-5-3	ALL bats MUST have safety grip. Min.10" Max 15"
No similar rule		1-5-9	On deck batter allowed only two bats
Face Mask optional	1-5-2	1-6-6	Face Mask mandatory
Min. length to weight required.	1-3-4		No similar rule
Gloves			Gloves
Non-adult warming up pitcher at ANY location must wear mask & throat protector	1-5-4	1-7-3	Non-adult warming up pitcher WITHIN CONFINES of field must wear mask & throat protector.
Glove color restriction for pitcher only	1-3-6	1-4-2	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	1-5-7,5-1-2g 8-3-4	1-4-2, 8-8-15	Use of illegal glove option: result of play or batter bats again

	<u>RULE 2</u>	<u>RULE 2</u>	
No similar rule		2-2-3	Blocked ball becomes dead ball
Bat held motionless in strike zone NO STRIKE	Casebk.7.2.1Sit B	2 -8 2	Bat held over plate MUST be withdrawn or STRIKE is called
No change in definition of a catch.One foot in dead ball area, GOOD CATCH	2-9-1	2-10-1d	No catch with one foot in contact entirely in dead ball area.
Imaginary line drawn from first to third, ball strikes ground beyond this line is fair ball	2-5-1b		No similar rule
No similar rule		2-16	Crow hop-Illegal replanting of pivot foot-ILLEGAL PITCH
Foul tip may be caught by any FIELDER	2-16-2	2-25-2	Foul tip may only be caught by catcher i.e. SHARPLY & DIRECTLY SOME UMPIRE JUDGEMENT INVOLVED
No similar rule		2-33	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	2-18, 5-1-1k	2-43-2	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		2-45	Determines when pitcher is in 16'circle
If a fielder misplay a batted ball, fielder has greater responsibility for avoiding contact with the runner	8-4-2g	2-47-3	Initial play includes deflected batted ball by pitcher ONLY
No similar rule		2-51-1,2	SLAP HIT NOT a bunt by rule
Strike zone: top halfway between shoulders and waistline to knees	2-35-	2-56-3	Strike zone: forward arm pit to TOP of knees
Unreported substitute no penalty	2-36-2	2-57-2 3-6-7 PEN.	Unreported substitute, TEAM WARNING
Intentional base on balls may be given at any time	2-4-3	2-63-1	No intentional base on balls,all pitches must be delivered

	<u>RULE 3</u>	<u>RULE 3</u>	
Numbers must be at least 8" high	1-4-3	3-2-2	Numbers must be at least 6" high.
Pitcher may NOT wear a white or gray exposed undershirt at any time. Caps MUST be worn, Shorts not listed.	1-4-1&2, 6-2-1i	3-2-5 & 7b	NO restrictions for color of pitcher's undershirt Headwear NOT required.Caps, visors and headbands MAY be mixed Shorts and skirts allowed.
No mention of lower undergarments		3-2-7a	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	1-4-2	3-2-9	NO item on PITCHING hand, wrist, arm & thighs deemed distracting may be worn-- UMPIRE JUDGEMENT
No similar rule		3-3-2	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	1-1-5, 3-1-1	3-3-2	Pitcher not required to pitch to one batter to return as pitcher
Line up changes reported to UIC and scorekeeper.	1-1-5	3-3-3	Line up changes reported to UIC.
Sub may not reenter	3-1-3	3-3-5	ANY player may reenter once
Designated Hitter DH : REFER TO RULE	3-1-4	3-3-6	Designated Player Flex DP/ FLEX REFER TO RULE:
Head Coach NOT at pre game; RESTRICTED TO BENCH	3-2-4.	3-5-1PEN.	Game May NOT start Untill HEAD COACH attends pregame
Coach must be in team uniform in coaches box	3-2-1	3-5-3	Coach NOT required to be in team uniform. School colors or khaki, black, white gray or fleece is acceptable
Illegal equip. removed only PLAYER penalized coach not entered in penalty	1-5-1 7-4-1a	1-4 to 7; 3-2: 3-6-1	Illegal equip. used after first penalty and warning, player and COACH restricted to bench
Unreported sub no penalty	2-36-2	3-6-12 PEN	Unreported sub TEAM WARNING second offense COACH and PLAYER restricted
No mention in rules		3-6-17, 3-6-17PEN	Removing ANY boundry line Off. Strike Def. ball on second offense player and COACH are restricted
Defensive malicious contact IMMEDIATE DEAD BALL	5-1-1m	3-6-18 PEN.	Defensive malicious contact DELAYED DEAD BALL

	<u>RULE 4</u>	<u>RULE 4</u>	
No similar rule		4-1-4	Ball rotation is mandatory
	<u>RULE 5</u>	<u>RULE 5</u>	
Pitch striking runner-Dead ball	5-1-1a		Technically impossible- pitch to strike runner
Retired runner interferes-If uncertain who might be played on runner closest to home declared out if it prevents double play	5-1-1e, 8-4-2g	5-1-1e,8-6-18	Retired runner interferes: Runner closest to home is out if it prevents double play
Ball touching DESIGNATED media area:occupied or NOT, DEAD BALL	5-1-1l	5-1-1o	Ball touching OCCUPIED designated media area: Dead Ball
Illegal pitch or balk- DEAD immediately	5-1-1k	5-1-2a	Illegal pitch delayed dead ball- coach has options
Dead ball not alive until pitcher is in pitching position	5-1-4	5-1-4	Dead ball alive when pitcher has ball in circle - ump calls "play"
	<u>RULE 6</u>	<u>RULE 6</u>	
REFER TO RULE COMPLETE UNDERSTANDING			REFER TO PITCHING RULE FOR COMPLETE UNDERSTANDING
1. Two pitching positions- Wind up and Set	6-1-1	6-1-1	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	6-1-2	6-1-2	Once hands separate pitch MUST be delivered
1 In wind up position pitcher may step back with non pivot foot	6-1-2	6-1-2	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	6-1-3	6-1-3	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			3. No mention of where pitcher may stop
MAY reverse forward motion		6-1-4c	No stop or reversal of forward motion
NO similar motion		6-1-4d	Arm may drop to side and rear prior to windmill motion
No similar rule		6-1-4e	Pitcher may not wind up after release of pitch Illegal pitch

By state association adoption pitching limits required	6-1-6		No similar rule
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Balk - No pitch- Dead immediately	5-1-1k	6-2-1 to 3	Illegal pitch-delayed dead ball
Illegal pitch no one on: ball. Runner on: balk	6-1-1 PEN.	6-1-1,2,3,4	Illegal pitch- ball and runners advance
Runner(s) on balk- DEAD BALL immediately Illegal pitch or balk BALL DEAD IMMEDIATELY NO PITCH	5-1-1k 6-1-1,2,3 PEN.	6-2-3 6-2-3 EXCEPTION	Illegal pitch is delayed dead ball- Coach has options Coach has option if batter hits ILLEGAL PITCH
Quick pitch -No pitch Balk with runner on	6-1-1	6-2-4b	Quick pitch-No pitch
Quick pitch Illegal pitch	6-1-1 PEN.	6-2-4b & c	Runner leaves base before pitch is released & quick pitch NO PITCH. Runner leaves base before release of pitch- OUT
No similar rule		6-2-5	No one on Catcher MUST return pitch to pitcher: Penalty: Ball
Sub pitcher allowed 8 pitches	6-2-2 EXCPT.	6-2-5	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	6-1-4	6-2-6	Pitch dropped backswing or forward motion:live ball, batter may swing legally. Runner may advance at own risk
No penalty listed		6-2-5 PEN.	Ball for each pitch in excess of five during warm up
Pitcher may throw to base in set position	6-1-3	6-2-7	In pitching position may NOT throw to base
No mention in rule		6-2-8	If fielder takes position in batter's line of vision with unsporting intent ILLEGAL PITCH
By state association adoption pitching limits required	6 1 6		No similar rule
Intentionally PITCH close: may WARN or EJECT	6 2 3		No mention in rule

	RULE 7	RULE 7	
After a pitch (legal or illegal) or a play or attempted play by defense, defense loses right to appeal	7-1-2 PEN.	7-1-2 2.	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)	7-3-1		No similar rule
Batter must take position within 20 seconds	7-3-1.	7-3-1.	Batter must take position within 10 seconds
Batter interferes with catcher, he still has opportunity to throw out runner	7-3-5c	7-4-4 & 5-1-1q	If batter interferes with catcher DEAD ball immediately
Use of illegal bat:Defense may take penalty or result of play	7-4-1a	7-4-2 PEN.	Use of an illegal bat:Batter is out-ANY outs made on play stand.
Broken, dented, cracked bat removed with NO penalty	1-3-5	1-5-8	Broken, cracked, dented bats are illegal
	RULE 8	RULE 8	
Intentional base on balls may be awarded with any count	2-4-3	8-1-1c	All pitches MUST be delivered- NO intentional walk
Batted fair ball strikes runner on base in front of fielder OUT	8-4-2k	8-2a3.	Runner in contact with base struck by batted fair ball NOT OUT
Batter struck by illegal pitch or balk NOT AWARDED base	2-28-2	8-1-2b	Batter struck by legal or illegal pitch is awarded base
Batter/runner may retreat to HOME before being declared out	casebook 8.1.1A	8-2-8	Batter/runner STEPS backward to avoid, delay tag Out dead ball
No similar rule		8-4-3f EXCEPT. 1	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.	8-3-2	8-4-3 1	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	8-2-8	8-5-1 to 6	After dead ball runner must remain on base until pitch is released
Batter is out when runner interferes with a foul fly ball.	8-2-8	8-5-1 to 6	Runner is out when interfering with a foul fly ball.
If a fielder drops a batted ball, the fielder has the greater responsibility for avoiding contact with the runner"	8-4-2g	2-47-3 8-6-10a	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	8-4-2g	8-6-10PEN.	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)	8-4-2k	8-6-11	Batted ball passes INFIELDER and an OUTFIELDER has chance to field & make an out.RUNNER IS OUT. (VERY UNUSUAL circumstance) NFHS INTERPRETATION
Loose equipment on field causes interference umpire decision award or penalty	1-5-4 PEN	8-6-15	Loose equipment offensive: runner played on out. defensive-overthrow
Retired runner interferes prevents obvious double play batter/runner out	8-4-1h PEN.	8-6-18 Pen.	Retired runner interferes to prevent play on another runner, runner closest to home out also
No similar rule		8-7-1,2,3	Look-back rule certain restrictions for batter/runner and runners
Use of illegal glove 3 BASES BATTED BALL-2 BASES THROWN BALL	8-3-3a,b,c	8-8-15 1.	Use of illegal glove, coach has option of result of play or batter bats over
On base on balls batter MUST not over run first -liable to be tagged out	8-2-7	8-8-9	Batter MAY over run first on base on balls- not liable to be tagged out
By state assn. adoption courtesy runner may be used	Speed up rules	8-9-1	Courtesy runner allowed by rule
Diving is illegal	8-4-2d PEN.	Casebk. 8.3.1F	Diving is legal
Injured courtesy runner MAY be replaced by another C/ R	EXCEPTION	8-9 EXCEPTION	Injured courtesy runner MAY NOT be replaced by a C/R
	<u>RULE 9</u>		
ALL RUN SCORING RULES ARE THE SAME			ALL RUN SCORING RULES ARE THE SAME
	<u>RULE 10</u>	<u>RULE 10</u>	
UMPIRE undershirt must be BLUE, if worn		10-4 2.	UMPIRE undershirt must be WHITE, if worn