



# Greater Lawrence Baseball Umpires Association



Rules Clinic and Test Review  
March 12, 2026

# Can I still appeal?

MLB 5.09c

Any appeal under this rule must be made before the next pitch, or any play or attempted play. If the violation occurs during a play which ends a half-inning, the appeal must be made before the defensive team leaves the field. An appeal is not to be interpreted as a play or an attempted play.

WHAT IS A PLAY?

An attempt to retire a runner.

A balk is treated a play.

“Err” means throwing the ball out of play



# Pre Game- Presented by Phil Cultrera

"LOOK LIKE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU ARE DOING"

## UMPIRES PRE-GAME MEETING

\* Arrive in parking lot, 25-30 minutes before the first pitch.

1. Park near your partner

2. Introduce yourself

3. Socialize, get changed

4. Plate and base umps - look the same

5. Talk about game responsibilities. A. foul lines, B. working V, C. tag-ups,

D. going out, E. infield fly, F. communication G. walk to the field together

# THE PLATE MEETING- GROUND RULES

5-10 minutes before game time, you and your partner should be at home plate.

1. At home plate, plate ump stands behind home plate faces the field and base ump is infield in front of HP facing plate ump. Plate ump calls coaches and captains for ground rules. Plate ump introduces himself and partner. Coaches and captains introduce to each other.
2. For ground rules, home team coach gives them starting at the backstop. Go around the field ending where you started. Along the way, plate ump asks if there are any questions.
3. When completed with ground rules, plate ump asks for any last minute questions, if none "Good luck to both teams, let's have a good game."



# INTERFERENCE?

A batter is out for illegal action when He interferes with the catcher's fielding or throwing by stepping out of the batter's box or making any other movement that hinders the catcher's play at home base. This interpretation states that, as long as the batter does not intentionally interfere with the throw, then, if the batter is standing in the batter's box and he or the bat is struck, then there is no infraction and the ball is still alive and in play.



# THE INFIELD FLY RULE

## CONDITIONS

- R1 and R2  
or  
bases loaded
- less than two outs

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# BATTER ACTION

- fair fly ball
- not a bunt
- not a line drive

# JUDGEMENT

- .can be caught by an infielder with ordinary effort
- no arbitrary geographical limitation

[Clip 1](#)

[Clip 2](#)

[Clip 3](#)

# UMPIRES' DUTIES

- . Communicate before the pitch.
- Pause, read, react. Wait until apex.
- U1 and PU point skyward.
- PU yells “Infield Fly!” or “Infield Fly if fair!”

# RULES

Batter is out.

- Force is removed.

- Runners advance at their own risk:

- If Infield Fly is caught, runners must retouch.

- If Infield Fly is not caught, advancing or retreating runners must be tagged.

- Bases are safe havens for runners.

# Interference on Infield Fly

Official Baseball Rules: “If interference is called during an Infield Fly, the ball remains alive whether the ball is fair or foul. If fair, both the runner who interfered with the fielder and the batter are out. If foul, even if caught, the runner is out and the batter returns to bat.”



In a foul ball situation, you can't award the batter first base. On a batted ball, a batter can advance to a base only if the ball is fair.

In the Infield Fly Rule scenario, if the ball remained fair, the batter would be out per the IFR and the runner who interfered would be out.

In a foul ball situation, there is no IFR. Therefore, you can only call the runner out for interfering with the defensive player and declare the play dead.

As for the consequences of the pitch, a strike would be called on the batter as in any other foul ball.

PRESENTER: ROB PRUNIER

Batting Out of Order

GLBUA Clinic

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# Batting Out of Order

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# Batting out of Order Rule (OBR)

## **Batting Out of Turn**

(1) A batter shall be called out, on appeal, when he fails to bat in his proper turn, and another batter completes a time at bat in his place.

(2) The proper batter may take his place in the batter's box at any time before the improper batter becomes a runner or is put out, and any balls and strikes shall be counted in the proper batter's time

# Batting out of Order Rule (OBR) 2

(3) When an improper batter becomes a runner or is put out, and the defensive team appeals to the umpire before the first pitch to the next batter of either team, or before any play or attempted play, the umpire shall (1) declare the proper batter out; and (2) nullify any advance or score made because of a ball batted by the improper batter or because of the improper batter's advance to first base on a hit, an error, a base on balls, a hit batter or otherwise.

# Batting out of Order Rule (OBR)3

(4) If a runner advances, while the improper batter is at bat, on a stolen base, balk, wild pitch or passed ball, such advance is legal.

(5) When an improper batter becomes a runner or is put out, and a pitch is made to the next batter of either team before an appeal is made, the improper batter thereby becomes the proper batter, and the results of his time at bat become legal.

# Batting out of Order Rule (OBR)4

(6) When the proper batter is called out because he has failed to bat in turn, the next batter shall be the batter whose name follows that of the proper batter thus called out.

(7) When an improper batter becomes a proper batter because no appeal is made before the next pitch, the next batter shall be the batter whose name follows that of such legalized improper batter. The instant an improper batter's actions are legalized, the batting order picks up with the name following that of the legalized improper batter

# Recap

- Proper batter is the one declared out
- Timing of the appeal is critical
  - Too early (before he finishes his “at bat”).
  - Too late (improper batter completes his “at bat” but there is a pitch or a play/attempted play. In this case, that batter is “legalized” and the
  - Right on time (immediately after the improper batter completes their “at bat”).

# Our Lineup

Abel	6
Baker	7
Charles	DH
Daniel	8
Edward	3
Frank	9
George	5
Hooker	2
Irwin	4
Josh	(1)

Abel	6
Baker	7
Charles	1 / DH
Daniel	8
Edward	3
Frank	9
George	5
Hooker	2
Irwin	4

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Abel	6
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# The Problem

In the third inning, Baker leads off and Daniel comes to the plate. With the count 2 and 1, the defensive coach realizes there's a problem and comes out to the plate umpire and says "They are batting out of order."

What is the ruling?

# Our Lineup

Abel	6
Baker	7
Charles	1 / DH
Daniel	8
Edward	3
Frank	9
George	5
Hooker	2
Irwin	4

# Solution

In the third inning, Baker leads off and Daniel comes to the plate. With the count 2 and 1, the defensive coach realizes there's a problem and comes out to the plate umpire and says "They are batting out of order."

What is the ruling?

**Appeal is TOO EARLY. Offense replaces Daniel with Charles.**

# Our Lineup

Abel	6
Baker	7
Charles	1 / DH
Daniel	8
Edward	3
Frank	9
George	5
Hooker	2
Irwin	4

# The Problem

In the third inning, Hooker is due up and Irwin bats instead. He rips a double and knocks in Frank from first. The defense immediately appeal that Irwin batted out of order.

What is the ruling?

# Our Lineup

Abel	6
Baker	7
Charles	1 / DH
Daniel	8
Edward	3
Frank	9
George	5
Hooker	2
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# The Solution

In the third inning, Hooker is due up and Irwin bats instead. He rips a double and knocks in Frank from first. The defense immediately appeal that Irwin batted out of order.

What is the ruling?

**This is a correct appeal. Hooker is declared out. Frank returns to first base. Irwin is now the proper batter.**

# Our Lineup

Abel	6
Baker	7
Charles	1 / DH
Daniel	8
Edward	3
Frank	9
George	5
Hooker	2
Irwin	4

# The Problem

In the seventh inning, Frank is due up, but Baker bats in his place. Baker strikes out. Charles comes up and hits a double. The defense comes out now and says that they have been batting out of order.

What is the ruling?

# Our Lineup

Abel	6
Baker	7
Charles	1 / DH
Daniel	8
Edward	3
Frank	9
George	5
Hooker	2
Irwin	4

# The Solution

In the seventh inning, Frank is due up, but Baker bats in his place. Baker strikes out. Charles comes up and hits a double. The defense comes out now and says that they have been batting out of order.

What is the ruling?

**This appeal is TOO LATE. The first pitch to Charles legalized**

# Our Lineup

Abel	6
Baker	7
Charles	1 / DH
Daniel	8
Edward	3
Frank	9
George	5
Hooker	2
Irwin	4

# The Problem

With two out in the third inning, Irwin is due up, but Abel bats and strikes out. Before the first pitch is thrown in the fourth inning, the defense comes out and says that they batted out of order to end the previous inning.

What is the ruling?

# Our Lineup

Abel	6
Baker	7
Charles	1 / DH
Daniel	8
Edward	3
Frank	9
George	5
Hooker	2
Irwin	4

# The Solution

With two out in the third inning, Irwin is due up, but Abel bats and strikes out. Before the first pitch is thrown in the fourth inning, the defense comes out and says that they batted out of order to end the previous inning.

What is the ruling?

**This appeal is TOO LATE. Any appeal has to be made before**

# Our Lineup

Abel	6
Baker	7
Charles	1 / DH
Daniel	8
Edward	3
Frank	9
George	5
Hooker	2
Irwin	4

# The Problem

In the fifth inning, Edward is due up, but Michael bats in his place. The defensive coach waits for Michael to walk and then comes out and appeals the batting out of order. The umpire asks the offense “Who is Michael?” and the coach explains he is going it to replace Edward.

What is the ruling?

# Our Lineup

Abel	6
Baker	7
Charles	1 / DH
Daniel	8
Edward	3
Frank	9
George	5
Hooker	2
Irwin	4

# The Solution

In the fifth inning, Edward is due up, but Michael bats in his place. The defensive coach waits for Michael to walk and then comes out and appeals the batting out of order. The umpire asks the offense “Who is Michael?” and the coach explains he is going it to replace Edward.

What is the ruling?

# Video Resource

- [GHSA Umpire Classroom - Batting out of Order](#)