

# FAIRFIELD COUNTY UMPIRES RULES IN REVIEW



2025  
Volume 1



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan 26, 8 am to noon- RUS Session #4 of 10  
Feb 2, 8 am to noon- RUS Session #5 of 10  
Feb 19, 7pm – Meeting #1 at Notre Dame HS

CAGEWORK AVAILABLE AT ALL RUS SESSIONS  
Come get yourself ready for the season

## LET'S GO TO REPLAY! RULES-BASED VIDEOS (click links to view)

There are 2 components to a catch:

### FIRM AND SECURE POSSESSION

It is not firm and secure possession if the ball comes out involuntarily.

No catch!

### AND CONTINUING ACTION COMPLETED

Continuing action is usually by the fielder reaching into the glove, thus demonstrating voluntary release. Not of his own doing, but this fielder did not complete the play.

Safe at first!

Rule 2-9-1, Case plays 2.9.1 A B C

[Bonus video](#)



## RULES SPOTLIGHT

### TIMING RULES

15.04

- WARMUP PITCHES (6-2-2 EXC)
  - New pitchers (starters in the first inning and new relievers)
    - 8 throws in ONE MINUTE, timed from the first throw
  - Returning pitchers (starter or reliever)
    - 5 throws in ONE MINUTE, timed from the last out
- "PITCH CLOCK"
  - The pitcher must pitch or attempt a play within 20 SECONDS of receiving the ball PENALTY- BALL (6-2-2-c)
  - The batter must be ready within 20 seconds after the pitcher has received the ball PENALTY- STRIKE (7-3-1)

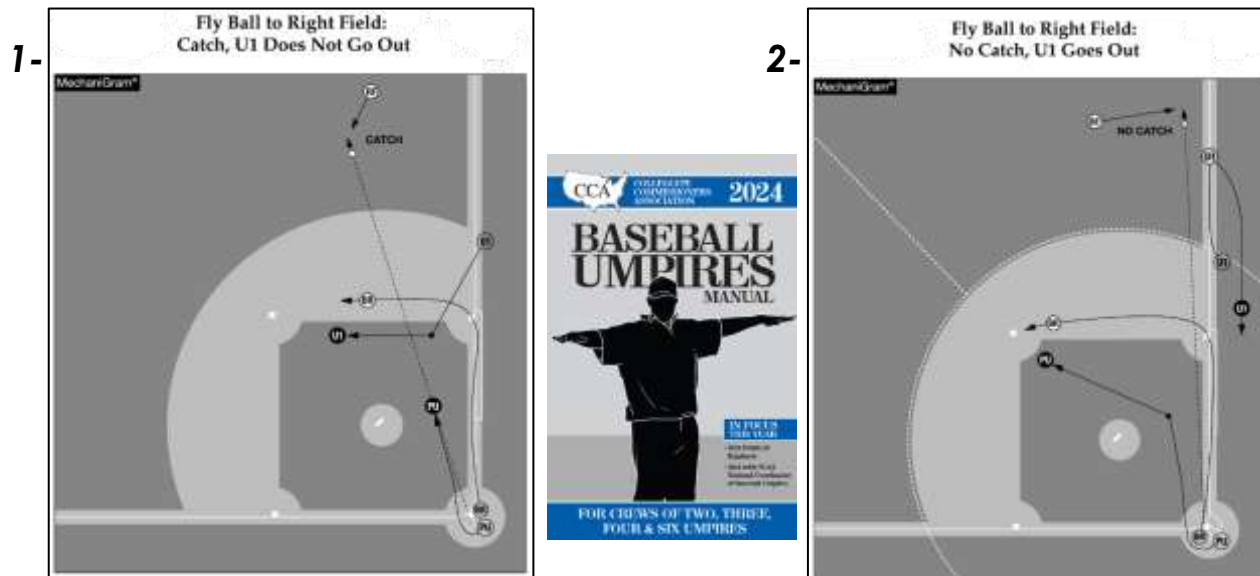
**YES, THERE IS A CLOCK IN HS BASEBALL!!  
NO STOPWATCH REQUIRED... yet**

## MECHANICS CORNER

### PLATE UMPIRE MOVEMENTS

#### FLY BALLS TO RIGHT WITH NO RUNNERS ON BASE

- With no runners on base, there are 2 umpires and 2 prime elements to cover:
  - The batter-runner and the baseball
- P must come out from the plate in the direction of the ball on ALL fly balls.
- U1 decides fly ball coverage and will go out on trouble balls in his area
  - 1- If U1 takes the runner (COMES IN), P has responsibility of the catch
  - 2- If U1 takes the ball (GOES OUT), P has the runner at all bases.



VIDEO EXAMPLES (click to view): [FLY BALLS TO RIGHT](#)

- 0:36 Excellent job by P
- 0:54 U1 out, P still in the dirt, That's a **big** problem if no catch.
- 1:12 U1 out, P takes BR into third base on a triple.

BEST WISHES TO

MANNING LANDECK

AS HE IS CURRENTLY  
WORKING ON HIS CRAFT  
IN FLORIDA AT THE  
WENDELSTEDT UMPIRE  
SCHOOL



# RULES QUIZ (answers below)

1. During the pregame conference
  - a. Head coaches verify that all players are legally equipped and using only legal equipment
  - b. Lineup cards are exchanged and checked.
  - c. Umpires share an expectation of good sporting behavior throughout the game
  - d. All of the above
2. As long as the face and throat are adequately protected, it is not mandatory for the catcher's mask and helmet combination to have dual ear flaps
  - a. True
  - b. False
3. The head coach has been complaining about the officiating for most of the game. In the sixth inning, the base umpire has had enough and ejects the coach. Is this legal?
  - a. Yes, a coach may be ejected at any time for violations of 3-3-1
  - b. No, the warning may be verbal or written. The umpire should have given the offending coach a verbal warning at the time of the offense, then if he continues the behavior, the umpire can decide to issue a written warning and restriction, or ejection if the misbehavior is severe enough.

4. Jones, the batter at the plate, is 4 for 4 with 2 home runs. The head coach wants to give Jones an intentional base on balls.
  - a. The pitcher must pitch 4 balls to the batter
  - b. The Head Coach must make this request before a pitch is thrown
  - c. The Head Coach may make this request after a pitch is thrown
  - d. The Head Coach may not make the request, only the catcher
5. The ball remains live and in play when the umpire gives the "do not pitch" signal
  - a. True
  - b. False
6. First and third bases shall be 90 feet from home plate measured
  - a. From the front of the base to the front edge of home plate
  - b. From the middle of the base to the middle of home plate
  - c. From the back edge of the base to the apex of home plate.
  - d. From the back edge of the base to the front edge of home plate

*Most important rule for umpires is always "BE IN POSITION TO SEE EVERY PLAY." Even though your decision may be 100% right, players still question it if they feel you were not in a spot to see the play clearly and definitely.*

**OFFICIAL BASEBALL RULES, "GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS TO UMPIRES"**



Volume 25-1 quiz answers:  
1 d (2-10-2 and 4-1-3-a/b), 2 b (1-5-4), 3 b (3-3-1 PEN)  
4 b (2-4-3, 5 b (5-1-1-h)) 6 c (1-2-1)