

HUFF-N-PUFFERS

CHANGES TO Official Guide and Playing Rules for 202334

All Rules Change Requests were reviewed by The Rules Committee, evaluated, either Recommended or Not Recommended, then presented to The Governing Board for acceptance/rejection.

This document lists ONLY the changes – to make them easy to identify.

All players are expected to be familiar with *all* the rules, which should be studied and can be downloaded at www.huff-n-puffers.com/Rules-and-Regulations.html

1.5 Pitcher's Safety Screen

A pitcher's safety screen will be used ~~in all divisions~~:

– In Division I, seven (7)-feet tall,

– In other Divisions, six (6)-feet tall, but by vote of Managers may adopt 7-feet.

~~– Placement is centered on the pitching rubber, sixteen (16) feet in front of the rubber.~~

– In Division I, fifteen (15) feet,

– In other Divisions, sixteen (16) feet.

7.1 Legal Pitch

A legal pitch is a minimum of six (6) feet from the ground when it passes the screen and a maximum of twelve (12) feet from the ground. In Division I, the ball must pass over the screen.

8.1 Courtesy Runners

Any player in the lineup may be a Courtesy Runner. Each may courtesy run not more than one (1) time per inning, any number of times per game. He must replace the batter at the base he safely occupies, but BEFORE the next pitch. Effect: Once officially in after the first pitch, if discovered as illegal, Runner is out.

A first Courtesy Runner may be replaced by a second, only until the first pitch.

8.2 Runner-For-Batter

...The Runner-For-Batter cannot run on the hit past 1st base. ~~If violated, he has liability to be forced or tagged out.~~

Effect:

– if the Runner is off 1st base, he may be tagged or forced at 1st.

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– if the Runner occupies a base beyond 1st, the Defense may appeal (before the first pitch) and the Umpire will call the Runner out. Otherwise he is safe.

Exception:

Should the live ball leave live ball territory, like other Runners, the Runner-For-Batter is awarded bases:

- overthrown or intentionally carried by a fielder – two (2), or
- unintentionally carried by a fielder – one (1) base.

...A Runner-For-Batter will start with his body directly behind home plate at the “V” of the fence, where the WHITE & RED MARKER will hang. His starting point shall be no less than eight (8) feet from the back of home plate.

8.5 Physical Contact

A runner shall not be called out for contact with a ~~defensive player~~Defender unless, in the Umpire’s judgment:

- A. the ~~defensive player~~Defender was in contact with the Strike Zone Board, or
- B. on a Defender not involved in the play, the runner deliberately hit or could reasonably have been expected to minimize or avoid the contact under the circumstances and failed to do so, or
- C. the runner impeded a Defender trying to field/catch the ball.

8.8 Outfield Play

An outfielder cannot throw out a batter by throwing directly to 1st base. ~~The throw must be~~ or relay inged through an infielder.

15.3 Format [for Playoffs]

~~An end-of-season single-elimination playoff among the second-to-fifth-place teams (2/5, 3/4, w/w). The winner plays the first-place team, best-of-three-games, for the season championship. Each Division will determine prior to each season by vote of Division Director and Managers. Each Division may be different.~~

17.1 Rule Changes

Rule changes will only be considered before each season begins, to be submitted by the end of the February General Meeting. ...

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