

Behind the Mask – Table 1

With R1 on first, B8 erroneously bats in place of B7. The error is discovered by the opposing team (a) after B8 has received two strikes, or (b) after B8 has received a base on balls or is hit by a pitch, or (c) after B8 has hit a foul that is caught or has hit safely to advance R1, or (d) after a pitch has been delivered to B9.

What's the call?

Behind the Mask – Table 2

With R1 on second base and R2 on first, it is B3's turn to bat but B5 erroneously bats. Before the discovery of the irregularity, the improper batter, B5, hits safely. R1 advances home, R2 advances to second and B5 advances to first. The irregularity is discovered by F6 before a pitch to the next batter.

What's the call?

Behind the Mask – Table 3

In the top of the fourth inning, the batting order is A. Smith, B. Jones, S. Holley and T. Cooper, but the first batter in the inning is S. Holley, who singles. The next batter is A. Smith, who also singles. B. Jones follows, making the first out. It is now discovered that S. Holley should be the next batter, but she is on second base. The defensive team appeals batting out of order and requests that S. Holley be declared out.

What's the call?

Behind the Mask – Table 4

In the first inning, the DP-L. Jones, listed in the fourth spot of the batting order, hits a double. Substitute-C. Cooper replaces DP-L. Jones on second base. In the fourth inning, substitute-A. Green bats for C. Cooper and has a 1 and 1 count. The coach elects to replace A. Green with the FLEX-B. Smith.

Is this a legal or illegal procedure? Would there be anything else the umpire would need to consider?

Behind the Mask – Table 5

Team A is using 10 players in its lineup, with the DP-L. Jones batting third. FLEX-B. Smith is playing right field and is a very fast runner. In the first, third and sixth innings, DP-L. Jones gets on base and, in each case, the FLEX-B. Smith is put in to run. Is this legal?

Is this a legal or illegal procedure? Would there be anything else the umpire would need to consider?

Answers

Table 1 - 7.1.1.C

RULING: In (a) B7 takes the place of B8 at the plate with a two-strike, no ball count. If R1 has advanced by stealing or by a wild pitch while the wrong batter was batting, it is a legal advance. In (b) and (c) B7 is out. B8 is removed from base and bats again with no balls or strikes. R1 shall return to the base occupied at the time of the pitch. In (d) no correction is made and B7 and B8 do not bat again until their regular time. (7-1-2 Penalty)

Table 2 - 7.1.2.E

RULING: B3 is declared out. R1 returns to second, R2 to first and B5 is removed from first base. The next batter is B4, who will be followed by B5. (7-1-2 Penalty)

Table 3 - 7.1.2.I

RULING: Several batters have actually batted out of order before the defensive team makes its appeal. When the defensive team did not appeal batting out of order before the next pitch to A. Smith, S. Holley's turn at bat became legal. When a pitch was thrown to B. Jones, A. Smith's turn at bat became legal, making B. Jones the proper batter; the batting order corrected itself. S. Holley should be the next batter, but since several batters have batted out of order it is too late to appeal. When several players bat out of order before discovery, so that a player's time at bat occurs while she is on base, her turn in the batting order is skipped without penalty and the batter who follows her in the order, T. Cooper, is the next batter. (7-1-2 Penalty 6)

Table 4 - 3.3.6 Situation C

RULING: Legal procedure. The FLEX may replace the DP at any time during the game. This will reduce the number of players from ten to nine.

Table 5 – 3.3.6 Situation E

RULING: It is legal for the defensive position player (FLEX) to do this since she never left the game. However, it would be illegal for the starting DP-L. Jones to return to bat in the sixth inning since she was used earlier in the third inning. This is a violation of the re-entry rule.