

Behind the Mask – Table 1

What are the definitions of the following: On-deck batter, Batter, Batter-Runner, Runner, and Retired Runner?

Behind the Mask – Table 2

What are the definitions of the following: Substitute, Unreported Substitute, Illegal Substitute, and Projected Substitute?

Behind the Mask – Table 3

First Part: What is a Force Play (definition)? What can cause a Force Play to be off for a runner? What can cause a Force Play to be back on for a runner?

Second Part: What is the definition of a Timing Play?

Behind the Mask – Table 4

What gear does the plate umpire need when working?
What gear does a base umpire need when working?
What are the approved uniform(s) for high school softball?

Behind the Mask – Table 5

What do you discuss with our partners during a pre-game? What do you discuss with the coaches at plate talk?

Answers

Table 1:

(Rule 2 Section 5) On-deck Batter - The on-deck batter is a player of the offensive team entitled to occupy the on-deck circle closest to her dugout. A single on-deck batter shall remain in her team's on-deck circle while the opposing pitcher is warming up.

(Rule 2 Section 5) Batter - The batter is the player of the team at bat who is entitled to occupy either of the two batter's boxes.

(Rule 2 Section 5) Batter-runner - The batter-runner is a player who has finished her time at bat until she is put out or playing action ends.

(Rule 2. Section 50) Runner - A runner is an offensive player who is advancing to, touching or returning to a base.

(Rule 2. Section 50) Retired Runner - A retired runner is a player who has scored, or who has been put out and who is still in live-ball territory.

Table 2 (Rule 2 Section 57)

Substitute - A substitute is a player not listed on the lineup as a starter but who may legally replace a starting player; any player who enters or reenters the game; the DP when the DP plays defense for the FLEX; or the FLEX when the FLEX plays offense for the DP.

Unreported Substitute - An unreported substitute is a substitute who has a legal right to participate in the game but has not reported to the umpire prior to her participation (3-6-7). All substitutions must be reported to the umpire.

Illegal Substitute - An illegal substitute is a player who enters or re-enters the game without eligibility to do so (illegal re-entry); a player who re-enters the game in the wrong position in the batting order; (F.P.) the FLEX who enters the game as a batter or runner in a different position in the batting order than the DP; or a player who violates the courtesy-runner rule.

Projected Substitute - A projected substitute is the act of entering a substitute without first removing a player from that position in the lineup.

Table 3 Part 1 (Rule 2 Section 24)

ART. 1 . . . A force play is a play in which a runner (or two or three runners) loses the right to the base occupied and is forced to advance because the batter becomes a batter-runner.

ART. 2 . . . For a given runner, a force play ends as soon as the runner touches the next base or a following runner is put out.

ART. 3 . . . If a batted ball is caught before it touches the ground there can be no force play(s).

ART. 4 . . . If a forced runner, after touching the next base, except home, retreats for any reason towards the base she had first occupied, the force play is reinstated and she may again be put out if the defense tags the base to which she is forced.

Table 3 Part 2 (Rule 2 Section 63)

A timing play is a play when the last out of an inning is not the result of a force out and the exact time of the out may or may not allow a run to score. If a runner should touch home base an instant before the last out (which is not a force out) is made, then the run would be scored. If a runner should touch home base an instant after the last out then no run would be scored.

Table 4 (Rule 10 Section 4)

ART. 1 . . . Umpires working the plate in fast pitch shall wear a throat protector that is part of or attached to the mask and extends far enough to adequately protect the throat. An attached throat protector must be commercially manufactured, properly attached, unaltered and worn properly. A mask is recommended for slow pitch. A chest protector is recommended in fast pitch.

ART. 2 . . . The proper uniform for an umpire consists of a powder blue shirt (pullover or button style), heather gray ~~or navy blue slacks~~, navy blue jacket, pullover knit sweater, cap, and ball bag (plate umpire only). Shoes, socks and belt

shall be black. If an undershirt is worn under the powder blue shirt, it shall be white and short sleeved.

ART. 3 . . . Casts, splints and braces may be worn, if padded.