

NSA Canada Rule changes for 2020

Rule 5, sec 3, note 1

Existing wording:



NOTE I: The game is officially over when BOTH umpires have left the playing field.

EXCEPTION: Run Rules: All classes will use twenty (20) runs after three (3) innings, fifteen (15) runs after four (4) innings, and ten (10) runs after five (5) or more innings. If the home team is ahead by the above listed runs after 2 1/2, 3 1/2 or 4 1/2 innings, the home team shall be declared the winner and the game declared complete. If the home team is trailing, by any number of runs, they must bat in their half of the inning.

New Wording:

NOTE I: The game is officially over when:

- a. All umpires assigned to the game have left the playing field
- b. A new game has started on the playing field
- c. The home plate umpire declares that the game is over

EXCEPTION: Run Rules: All classes will use twenty (20) runs after three (3) innings, fifteen (15) runs after four (4) innings, and ten (10) runs after five (5) or more complete innings. If the home team is ahead by the above listed runs after 2 1/2, 3 1/2 or 4 1/2 innings, the home team shall be declared the winner and the game declared complete.

Rule 2, Sec 3, G

Existing Wording:

A commitment line shall be drawn four (4) feet up the third base foul line from the point of home plate closest to third base parallel to the first base foul line.

New Wording:

A commitment line shall be drawn eight (8) feet up the third base foul line from the point of home plate closest to third base parallel to the first base foul line.

Rule 2, Sec 3, H

Existing Wording:

Once a runner has touched or crossed this commitment line they must proceed home. Any attempt to reverse their path or stop their forward progress will result in the runner being called out

New Wording:

Once a runner has touched or crossed this commitment line they must proceed home. Any attempt to reverse their path or stop their forward progress will result in the runner being called out.

EXCEPTION: A runner is permitted to return to third base to tag up on a caught fly ball



Rule 7, Sec 1, B – co-ed areas

Existing Wording:

When a male batter is walked, intentionally or unintentionally, the male batter is awarded first and second bases and the following female batter has the option to bat or walk.

New Wording:

When a male batter is walked, intentionally or unintentionally, the male batter is awarded first and second bases and the following female batter has the option to bat or walk. This option must be declared to the home plate umpire immediately after ball four is declared on the male batter and may not be changed once declared.

Rule 1, Sec 10

Existing Wording:

EXCEPTION: The ball remains alive in the Men's Major and AA Divisions---Rule removed

Rule 1, Sec 31, B

Existing Wording:

A fielder, while not in possession of the ball, or in the act of fielding a batted ball, or about to receive a thrown ball, impedes the progress of a baserunner who is legally running the bases.

New Wording:

A fielder, while not in possession of the ball, or not in the act of fielding a batted ball, or not about to receive a thrown ball, impedes the progress of a baserunner who is legally running the bases.

Rule 1, Sec 38

Existing Wording:

STRIKE MAT: The strike mat shall be made of rubber or other suitable materials. It shall be a rectangle, 24" wide by 36" long and shall have a cut out to allow it to sit on the ground behind home plate. The sides shall be parallel to the inside of the batters boxes. The strike mat is considered part of the ground for purposes of determining if a ball is fair or foul.

New Wording:

STRIKE MAT: The strike mat shall be made of rubber or other suitable materials. It shall be a rectangle, 24" wide by 36" long. The sides shall be parallel to the inside of the batter's boxes and shall cover home plate with the front of the strike mat aligned with the front of home plate. The strike mat is considered part of the ground for purposes of determining if a ball is fair or foul.



Rule 3, Sec 2

Existing Wording:

Along with the logo, the ball must be stamped with a co-efficient .47, .44, .40 (mandatory in 2004), or less and must be black-stitched.

New Wording:

Along with the logo, the ball must be stamped with a co-efficient .52, .47, .44, .40, or less and must be black-stitched.

Rule 3, Sec 6, A

Existing Wording:

Ball caps or visors must be alike and must be worn properly. Caps or visors are not mandatory, but when worn by one or more players, all caps or visors must be identical and must be a team cap or visor. All headgear must be of the same predominant colour and worn as intended by the manufacturer. Hard plastic visors, bandannas, and handkerchiefs, on their own, are not approved headgear.

New Wording:

Ball caps or visors must be worn properly. Hard plastic visors, bandannas, and handkerchiefs, on their own, are not approved headgear.

Rule 3, Sec 6, C

Existing Wording:

Numbers must be worn on all uniforms. No players on the same team may wear identical numbers.

New Wording:

Numbers may be worn on all uniforms. If used, no players on the same team may wear identical numbers and all numbers must be the same format.

Rule 4, Sec 1, A, 1

Existing Wording:

A team must have the required number of players present in the team area to start or continue a game. Players listed in the starting lineup and not available at game time may be substituted for and re-entered later.

1. Official lineup cards are to be completed and submitted to the official scorekeeper or the umpire at the start of each game. The lineup shall contain the first and last name, position, and uniform number of each player.



New Wording:

A team must have the required number of players present in the team area to start or continue a game. Players listed in the starting lineup and not available at game time may be substituted for and re-entered later.

1. Official lineup cards are to be completed and submitted to the home plate umpire at the start of each game. The lineup shall contain the first and last name and uniform number (if used) of each player.

Rule 4, Sec 5

Existing Wording:

A PLAYER IN THE STARTING LINEUP SHALL BE officially in the game when his/her name has been entered on the official score sheet, or has been announced. The following regulations govern the substitution of players:

New Wording:

A PLAYER IN THE STARTING LINEUP SHALL BE officially in the game when his/her name has been entered on the official score sheet and this has been presented to the home plate umpire. The following regulations govern the substitution of players:

Rule 5, Sec 10

Existing Wording:

OPTIONAL: A .44 or .40 core ball may be used in all NSA Canada play. Rule removed see rule 3, sec 2

Rule 5, Sec 12

Existing Wording:

ANY BALL TOUCHED BY a defensive player, which then goes over the fence in fair territory, shall not be included in the total of over the fence home runs.

New Wording:

ANY BALL TOUCHED BY a defensive player, which then goes over the fence in fair territory before striking the ground, shall not be included in the total of over the fence home runs.

Note: Once a four base award has been declared by the home plate umpire all runners may proceed to their dugout and a run will be scored for each runner.

Rule 6, Sec 3, E

Existing Wording:

EXCEPTION: Men's Major and AA: The catcher does not need to return the ball to the pitcher. Rule Deleted

Rule 7, Sec 6, H

Existing Wording:

Any pitched ball that contacts any part of home plate, regardless of if it hits a part of the strike mat. Rule Deleted

Rule 7, Sec 9, H

Existing Wording:

EFFECT: IF less than two (2) outs, a delayed ball signal will be given and the ball will remain alive. Rule Deleted

CO-ED Rule 4, Sec 2

Existing Wording:

NOTE I: When a team is using the "EP", and in the event a player or players are removed for any reason during the course of the game, if no substitution is available, the player removed shall be scored as an out when his/her turn comes up in the batting order. All auto outs are considered to be female players for purposes of the walk rule.

New Wording:

NOTE I: When a team is using the "EP", and in the event a player or players are removed for any reason during the course of the game, if no substitution is available, the player removed shall be scored as an out when his/her turn comes up in the batting order. All auto outs are to be considered the same gender as the players removed for purposes of the walk rule.

Rule 6, Sec 9

Existing Wording:

THERE SHALL BE ONLY ONE CHARGED CONFERENCE between the manager or other team representative from the dugout, with each and every pitcher in an inning. The second charged conference shall result in the removal of the pitcher from the pitching position for the remainder of the game.

New Wording:

THERE SHALL BE ONLY ONE CHARGED CONFERENCE between the manager or other team representative from the dugout, with each and every pitcher in an inning. There shall only be one charged conference between each and every pitcher and more than one defensive player at a time in an inning. These

conferences are defined as a second charged conference and in either of these cases shall result in the removal of the pitcher from the pitching position for the remainder of the game.

New rules

Rule 7, Sec 9, K

If on a fly ball they fail to advance toward first base or remain in the batter's box.

Rule 8

Add the following:

NOTE II: A courtesy runner may be used for the pitcher if he/she is on base with two (2) out and is using exposed safety equipment excluding a mask. The courtesy runner MUST BE the last out of the same gender as the pitcher. This rule applies only to pitchers that have been in the game in prior innings and have been wearing their protective gear.

