

5. A runner may not leave the base until the ball is struck. It is not intended to call a runner out for lifting his leg to scratch his ankle. But if a player, in an attempt to get a quick start, has his momentum pull him off the base even by just a few inches on a swing and a miss or a taken pitch, he is out. The first base coach has first base and the third base coach has second and third.

Rule IX Protests

Rule X Umpires

1. Plate umpire - None. A standard home plate mat will be used. Balls that hit the mat are a strike. Balls that hit the plate are a ball. Balls that hit both are a strike. The call is made by the catcher. Fair and foul balls are also called by the catcher.
2. Field umpires - None. Out/safe calls are made at first and home by the first base coach. Second and third base are the province of the third base coach. If no coach is present, the call is made by the defensive player covering the base.