

The Myth	The Facts	Rule Ref
A pitch that touches the ground before reaching the plate cannot be hit.	A pitch that bounces prior to reaching the plate cannot be a called strike. However, it can still be a swinging strike, a foul ball, a called ball, or a clean hit.	Definitions (pitch) Definitions (strike)
The batter is not awarded first base if hit by a pitch after it bounces.	Hit by pitch is hit by pitch. So long as the batter is not swinging at the pitch, he is awarded first base if touched by a pitched ball. All of the normal features of the hit-by-pitch rule apply when the pitch bounces first.	Rule 5.05(b)(2) Definitions (pitch)
The hands are part of the bat.	The hands are not part of the bat; they are part of the batter. If a pitched ball hits the batter's hands while trying to avoid being hit, you have a batter hit-by-pitch. The ball is dead and the batter is awarded first base. If the batter is swinging at the pitch when hit, you do not have hit-by-pitch. You have a strike. The ball is dead , but there is no base award; and, if it's strike three, the batter is out.	Rule 5.09(a)(6) Definitions (person) Definitions (touch) Definitions (strike (e))
When over-running first base, the batter-runner must veer to the right into foul territory.	The batter-runner may cross first base and veer in any direction, provided the runner makes no attempt (not even a feint) to advance to second. After over-running or over-sliding first base, the runner is required to return to the base immediately.	Rule 5.09(b)(4) Rule 5.09(b)(11)
If a batted ball hits home plate, it's a foul ball.	Home plate is fair territory, as are the foul lines and first and third bases. A batted ball striking home plate is like any other batted ball and has no bearing on the determination of fair or foul.	Rule 2.01 Definitions (fair ball) Definitions (foul ball)
The ball is dead on a foul-tip.	A foul-tip is <i>not</i> a foul ball, and the ball is not dead. It is a live ball strike (strike three, if appropriate), and all activities of a live ball are available. Be sure you know the definition of a foul-tip.	Definitions (foul tip) Definitions (foul ball) Definitions (strike) See also Foul Ball/Foul Tip
If the batter does not pull the bat out of the strike zone while in the bunting position, it's an automatic strike.	A batter must make an attempt to contact the ball with the bat (to "offer" at the pitch) for a pitch that is out of the strike zone to be called a strike. In the bunt position, a pitch that does not pass through the strike zone, and which is not offered at, is a called ball and the defense believe the ball was offered at.	Definitions (strike)
The batter is out if a bunted ball hits the ground and bounces back up and hits the bat while the batter is holding the bat.	Two things here. First off, the bat doesn't hit the ball a second time; rather, it's that ball that rebounds and hit the bat. Foul ball . That is, IF the batter is still in the batter's box. However, if the batter has left the batter's box and the ball hits the bat (or the batter-runner, for that matter), then he's out.	Rules 5.09(a)(8) Rule 6.01(a)(2)

<p>A runner is out if he slaps hands or high-fives other players or base coach when rounding the bases.</p>	<p>That's just ridiculous. The issue is coach's interference, wherein a base coach physically assists a running in advancing or retreating. A high-five is not an assist and is not an infraction. Note, too, that on a home run the only out that can occur is if one runner passes another runner on the base path, or if a runner is called out on appeal for failing to touch a base.</p>	<p>Rule 6.01(a)(8)</p>
<p>Tie goes to the runner.</p>	<p>At first base or on a force, the runner must beat the ball to the bag.</p>	<p>Rule 5.06(a)(1)</p>
<p>A runner may not steal on a foul-tip.</p>	<p>A foul tip is not a foul ball. A foul tip is a live ball (and a strike) and runners may advance at their peril. You must be sure to understand the difference between a foul ball and a foul tip.</p>	<p>Definitions (foul tip) Definitions (foul ball) Definitions (strike)</p>
<p>The runner is always safe (protected) if touched by a batted ball while he is touching a base.</p>	<p>The base does not protect a base runner from being called out for interference when he is touched by a batted ball. If the base runner is touched by a batter fair ball, the runner is out for interference, irrespective of contact with the base. by the ball while in contact with a base.</p>	<p>Rule 5.06(c)(6) Rule 5.09(b)(7) Definitions (infield fly)</p>
<p>A runner is out if he runs out of the baseline to avoid a fielder who is fielding a batted ball.</p>	<p>Wrong. In fact, a base runner is required to do whatever is needed to avoid a fielder who is fielding a batted ball.</p>	<p>Rule 6.01(a)(9) Rule 5.09(b)(1) See also Basepath & Running Lane</p>
<p>Runners may not advance when an infield fly is called.</p>	<p>This is a common misconception about the infield fly rule. The result of an infield is only this: the batter is out whether the ball is caught or not, so that runners are not forced off their bases. In all other respect this is just an ordinary fly ball. If caught, the runners must tag, and may then advance at their peril. If not caught, the runners are not required to tag up, of course, and again, may advance at their peril.</p>	<p>5.09(a)(5) 5.09(c)(1) Definitions (infield fly) See also Infield Fly Rule</p>
<p>On a force out or appeal, you must tag the base with your foot.</p>	<p>So long as you have secure possession of the ball "in hand or glove," you can touch the base with any part of your body.</p>	<p>Rule 5.09(b)(6) Definitions (person) Definitions (tag) Definitions (force play) See also Tags</p>
<p>If the fielder's feet are in fair territory when he touches a batted ball, it is a fair ball.</p>	<p>In baseball, fair/foul is determined by the position of the ball, not the player, with respect to the foul lines at the moment the ball is first touched.</p>	<p>Definitions (fair ball) Definitions (foul ball) See also Foul Ball/Foul Tip</p>

<p>When in the set position, the pitcher must come to a complete stop before making a pick-off throw.</p>	<p>In the set position, the pitcher must come to a complete stop before delivering a pitch; however, when stepping and throwing to a base on a pickoff attempt, he is not required to come to a complete stop as he moves to the set position.</p>	<p>Rule 5.07(a)(2) Rule 6.02(a)(13)</p>
<p>The pitcher must step off (disengage) the rubber before making a pick-off throw.</p>	<p>The pitcher may step and throw to a base for a pickoff attempt from the set position without disengaging the rubber. Note that when a pitcher disengages the rubber, he is no longer a "pitcher," but an ordinary fielder.</p>	<p>Rule 6.02(a)(3)</p>
<p>The home plate umpire can overrule other umpires' calls.</p>	<p>No umpire may overrule another umpire's call. An umpire may, at his discretion, seek out advice or consult with another umpire on a play, but is under no obligation to do so.</p>	<p>Rule 8.02(b, c)</p>