



2026 NSA Fast Pitch Rule Changes as of November 6, 2025 Convention Vote  
All changes will be EFFECTIVE January 1, 2026

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Rule 5, Section 10: Add: The use of artificial noisemakers is not allowed during championship play

Rationale: Was not previously in the rule book

Rule 1, Section 32, New: Add: Violation of the Courtesy Runner rule

Rule 4, Section 8, Penalty: Add: Using the wrong courtesy runner is an out and must be appealed before crossing home plate

Rationale: Another identification of the use of an Illegal Player

Rule 4, Section 9, \*\*\*Penalty: Add: A player who is on the roster but not on the lineup card and enters the game without notifying the umpire is considered an illegal player. They are declared out and added as a substitute on the lineup card

Rationale: Changed the penalty for Illegal Player to just an out

Rule 3, Section 6, Penalty: Add: Once the game starts and it is discovered that the team awarded home team, based on being in compliance, is not in compliance, the coach will be ejected for the remainder of the game

Rationale: Added a penalty, to penalize the team being awarded Home under false pretenses.

Rule 5, Section 11 New: Add: A one-way communication device (transmitter) may be used to relay signals/plays to the offense and defense.

- a. Approved wearable may be worn by all players.
- b. Approved earpiece may be worn by the catcher.
- a. When on offense, the coach (from either the dugout or coaches box) may transmit signals.



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- b. When on defense, the coach (from the dugout) may transmit plays.
- c. If a device fails, all repairs and replacements will be made when the player is off the field.

**PENALTY:** If the transmitter is discovered on the field, or repair/replacement is attempted on the field, or 2 way communication is discovered, the first violation is a warning to the head coach. The second violation will be an ejection of the head coach.

**Rationale:** This is an emerging technology within the sport and the Coaches/players asked for this rule change.

**Rule 7 Section 1 and 11/Rule 8 Section 11 Delete/Add:** Delete: the player is ejected from the game. Add: the player is declared out.

**Rationale:** Changed penalty to align with other player declared out situations.

**Rule 8, Section 2, Exception:** Add: If in the umpire's judgement the batter intentionally moves into the path of the pitched ball, the pitch (dead ball) shall be called a strike or ball depending on the location of the pitch and the batter shall remain at bat.

**Rationale:** The previous rule, as written, awarded the batter first base.

**Rule 8, Section 8 (j):** Add: leaves the field of play (enters dugout or any dead ball area)

**Rationale:** Returning to a missed bag after going into dead ball territory is not allowed.

**8u modified:** Add: All pitching will be done by the coach.

**Rationale:** Having coach pitch in ITB will keep flow of game consistent.